

# Jeffrey W. Lash

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## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

I am a geographer with a life-long passion for travel and teaching. In 1992 I earned a B.A in Art History from the University of Texas at Austin. I then studied in San Francisco at Transworld Teachers where I received a certificate to teach English as a Second Language and did so in San Jose, Costa Rica. In 1994, I started my graduate career at Texas State University at San Marcos, and began working with the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education. I earned a master's degree in geography education in 1996. I then took a leave of absence, moved to Morocco and taught geography at Al Akhawayn University. I returned to Texas State in 1997 and completed a Doctor of Philosophy in Geography in 2001. In the same year, I accepted an appointment at the University of Houston-Clear Lake (UHCL) and founded the Geography Program and implemented a BS in Geography as well as a Minor in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). At UHCL, I have taught over a dozen different geography courses, directed field study programs on three continents, and established an interdisciplinary GIS laboratory. As a scholar, I focus on human development through geography education and geospatial technology. I have been awarded two Fulbright Scholarships one to the University of Belgrade in Belgrade, Serbia (2009-2010), and the other to the University of Johannesburg, South Africa (2019). Currently, I serve as the President of the National Council of Geographic Education.

## DEGREES and CERTIFICATIONS

- 2001 Ph.D., Geography, Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas  
Dissertation: "Exporting Education: The Case of the American University in Cairo"  
Advisor: Dr. David Stea  
Natoli Dissertation of the Year Award - National Council for Geographic Education, 2002
- 1996 Master of Applied Geography, Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas  
Project Title: "Children in the Woods: Teaching Undergraduate World Regional Geography"  
Advisor: Dr. Richard Boehm
- 1993 Teacher of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Certificate  
Transworld Teachers, San Francisco, California
- 1992 B.A., Art History, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Association of Geographers  
American Geographical Society  
National Council for Geographic Education  
National Council for the Social Studies  
Texas Council for the Social Studies  
Serbian Geographic Society

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2007-Present	Associate Professor of Geography, University of Houston-Clear Lake (UHCL)
2019-2020	Fulbright Scholar, University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa
2009-2010	Fulbright Scholar, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
2001-2007	Assistant Professor of Geography, UHCL
1999	Research Fellow, American University in Cairo, Cairo, Egypt
1998, 2000	Ph.D. Graduate Research Assistant, Geography Department, Texas State University
1997	Assistant Professor of Geography, Al Akhawayn University, Ifrane, Morocco
1994-1996	Ph.D. Graduate Teaching Assistant, Texas State University
1993	English Teacher, Centro Linguistico Conversa, San Jose, Costa Rica

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

2001-Present	Geography Program Director, UHCL
2016-2017	Chair, Department of Social and Cultural Sciences, UHCL

## ELECTED OFFICES

2021-Present	President, National Council for Geographic Education
2019-2020	President-Elect/President, National Council for Geographic Education
2017-2019	Treasurer, National Council for Geographic Education
2016-Present	Director, National Council for Geographic Education

## RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

human geography, geography education, geospatial technologies, historical geography of the Balkan peninsula, regional geographies (Texas, United States, Latin America, Africa, Eastern Europe), field methods

## PUBLICATIONS

### ***Editorships***

Guest Editor, *The Geography Teacher*, 2018(1)  
Co-Editor, *Southwestern Geographer*, 2005-2009

### ***Peer-Reviewed Articles and Chapters***

Lash, Jeff. Writing for the *Geographical Review*. "From Chalk to Cloud: Geography Education and the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution in South Africa."

Lash, Jeff. Writing for the *Geography Teacher*. "Giants Maps and Competency-base Assessment in Geography Education."

Lash, Jeff and Julie Wakefield. 2020. "Geography: Why It Matters by Alexander B. Murphy: A Jigsaw R.A.C.E. Activity in AP Human Geography." *Geography Teacher*, Vol. 17, (2), 64-67.

Ickes, Joan, Jeff Lash and Kelly O'Neal-Hixson. 2020. "Common Professional Language: A critical piece for communicating, promoting, and researching clinical experiences in professional development schools," (in) *Exploring Cultural Competence in Professional Development Schools*. Information Age Publishing: Charlotte, NC (pp.179-204).

Lash, Jeff. 2013. "Situating Texas' World Geography End-of-Course Exam in the Ecosystem of American Geography Education." (in) *Review of International Geographical Education Online*, Vol. 3, (3) Winter, 265-298.

- Lash, Jeff. 2013. "Mapping Geographic Literacy in Texas." (in) *Papers in Applied Geography*, Vol. 36, 117-126.
- Lash, Jeff. 2010. "Teaching the Political Geography of the Balkans to American University Students." *Proceedings of the Territorial Aspects of Development of Serbia and Neighbouring Countries International Scientific Meeting*, Divčibare, Serbia.
- Lash, Jeff. 2010. "Reflections on the Art of Teaching Landscape Exploration," (in) *Papers in Applied Geography*. Vol. 33, 324-332.
- Lash, Jeff. 2009. "Teaching Geography in the Field: Experiential Education and the Continuum of Theory, Practice and Policy," (in) *Proceedings of the International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation*. Madrid, Spain.
- Lash, Jeff. 2008. "Living on the Fringe of Ecotourism: Children's Lifeworlds in Sarapiquí Canton, Costa Rica," (in) *Children's Lifeworlds: Locating Indigenous Voices*. Robertson, M.E. & Gerber, R. (Eds). Nova Scientific: New York.
- Lash, Jeff. 2006. "Wandering but not Lost: Geography Education through Research Ecotourism in Costa Rica," (in) *Proceedings of the Symposium of the Commission on Geographical Education of the International Geographical Union*. International Geographical Union: Brisbane, Australia.
- Lash, Jeff. 2005. "Singapore: The Most Globally Integrated Place on Earth." *Special Focus on Globalization in AP Human Geography*, New York: CEEB.
- Lash, Jeff. 2004. "Finding our Place: Thoughts on the Value of Geography." *Journal of Geography*. Vol. 103, (5) 222-224.
- Lash, Jeff. 2003. "Exporting Education: The Case of the American University in Cairo," (in) *The New Geography of Human Mobility - Inequality Trends?* Ishikawa, Yoshitaka and Armando Montanari (eds.). International Geographical Union: Rome, Italy.
- Lash, Jeff, and Pamela Wridt. 2002. "Geography, Culture, and Knowing: Hybridity and the Production of Social and Cultural Knowledge," (in) *Geography, Culture and Education*. Gerber, Rod, and Michael Williams (eds). Kluwer Academic Publishers: Dordrecht, The Netherlands.
- Lash, Jeff. 2001. "Backwards in High Heels: Liberal Education at the American University in Cairo." *Research in Geographic Education* 3(1): 86-91.

## **RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS and INVITED TALKS**

### ***International***

- 2019 "Promoting Spatial Thinking with Giant Maps." ESRI Education Summit, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2019 "Using Giant Maps to Bridge the Digital Divide in Geography Education." ESRI Southern Africa User Conference. Drakensburg, South Africa.
- 2019 "Hurricane Harvey: A Personal Geography." Environmental Management Seminar, University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2018 "Evaluating ArcGIS Professional Development for Teachers." International Geographical Union Congress, Québec City, Québec, Canada.
- 2010 "American Ethnic Geographies" Lecture Series, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia.
- 2009 "Historical Geography of the United States," Lecture Series, University of Pecs, Pecs, Hungary.
- 2009 "Good Fences Make Good Neighbors: An Examination of 21st Century American Border Policy in Brownsville, Texas." International Conference on Cross-border Partnerships with Special Regard to the Hungarian-Romanian-Ukrainian Tripartite Border, Debrecen, Hungary.
- 2009 "Teaching the Political Geography of the Balkans to American University Students." International Symposium on the Territorial Aspects of Development of Serbia and Neighbouring Countries, Divčibare, Serbia.

2009 "Teaching Geography in the Field: Experiential Education and the Continuum of Theory, Practice and Policy," International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation. Madrid, Spain.

**National**

- 2018 "ArcGIS Online and the Professional Development of Primary and Secondary Teachers." Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2017 "Everything You Need to Know About Teaching Geography with Drones." Annual Meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- 2017 "ArcGIS Online and the Professional Development of Primary and Secondary Teachers." Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2017 "Advanced Placement Human Geography – Addressing the Challenges of Professional Development of Teachers." Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2016 "Teaching Geography with Digital Maps." Annual Meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education, Tampa, Florida.
- 2016 "Geo-what? Exploring Best Practices for Teacher Professional Development in Geospatial Technology." Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, San Francisco, California.
- 2015 "Using an ESRI Web Map Application to Disseminate Geographic Literacy Assessment Data: A Feasibility Study of Clear Creek Independent School District, Texas." Annual Meeting of the Association of Applied Geographers, San Antonio, Texas.
- 2015 "Mapping Geographic Social Studies Literacy in Clear Creek Independent School District, Texas." ESRI Education Summit, ESRI User's Conference, San Diego, California.
- 2014 "Mapping Geographic Literacy in Texas – Poster Presentation." ESRI Users Conference, San Diego, California.
- 2014 "Mapping Geographic Literacy in Texas." ESRI Education Summit, ESRI User's Conference, San Diego, California.
- 2014 "A Spatial Analysis of Geographic Literacy in Texas." Annual Meeting of the Association of Applied Geographers, Tampa, Florida.
- 2014 "Mapping Geographic Literacy in Texas." Annual Meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education, Memphis, Tennessee.
- 2013 "Mapping Geographic Literacy in Texas." Annual Meeting of the Association of Applied Geographers, Annapolis, Maryland.
- 2013 "Situating Texas' World Geography End-of-Course Exam in the Ecosystem of Geography Education." Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Los Angeles, California.
- 2013 "Using the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness to Improve Geographic Literacy." Annual Meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education, Denver, Colorado.
- 2012 "Texas' World Geography End-of-Course Exam." Annual Meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education, San Marcos, Texas.
- 2012 "Jovan Cvijić: Serbia's Forgotten Geographer." Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, New York, New York.
- 2011 "What happened to Yugoslavia?" Annual Meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education, Portland, Oregon.
- 2010 "Reflections on the Art of Teaching Geography in the Field." Annual Meeting of the Association of Applied Geographers, Ft. Worth, Texas.
- 2009 "Teaching Geography in the Field: Experiential Education and the Continuum of Theory, Practice and Policy." Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Las Vegas, Nevada.

### **Regional, State, Local**

- 2018 "Teaching with ArcGIS Online." Annual Meeting of the Texas Council for Social Studies, Houston, Texas.
- 2017 "Integrating Maps with the Study of Literature." Harris County Department of Education, Houston, Texas.
- 2017 "Teaching Map Reading and Interpretation." Friends of Geography Professional Development Conference for High School Geography Teachers, Houston, Texas.
- 2016 "Teaching Social Studies with Digital Maps." Annual Meeting of the Texas Council for Social Studies, Corpus Christi, Texas.
- 2015 "Exploring Earth's Physical Geography with Digital Maps." Annual Meeting of the Texas Council for Social Studies, Fort Worth, Texas.
- 2014 "Raul's Cuba: An ArcGIS Online Story Map." Annual Meeting of the Texas Council for Social Studies, Galveston, Texas.
- 2013 "In Dreams Begins Responsibility: STAAR and the Future of Social Studies." Keynote Address, Sixth Annual Region 4 Social Studies Conference, Houston, TX.
- 2013 "Using the Results of the 2013 STAAR World Geography End-of-Course Exam." Annual Meeting of the Texas Council for Social Studies, San Antonio, Texas.
- 2013 "Using the GeoHistoGram to Teach About Southeast Asia." Annual Meeting of the Texas Council for Social Studies, San Antonio, Texas.
- 2012 "Tilapia and Shrimp: Understanding the Globalization of Seafood." Annual Meeting of the Texas Council for Social Studies, Las Colinas, Texas.

### **RECENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHERS**

- 2020 "Teaching AP Human Geography," AP Human Geography Teacher Training Institute, University of Texas-San Antonio.
- 2019 "Geoinformatics for Teachers," Gauteng Department of Education, South Africa.
- 2018 "Teaching AP Human Geography," AP Human Geography Teacher Training Institute, Rice University.
- 2018 "Teaching AP Human Geography," AP Human Geography Teacher Training Institute, University of Houston.
- 2017 "Digital Mapping with ArcGIS Online." Texas Alliance for Geographic Education, (Multiple locations: Houston, San Marcos, San Antonio, Denton)
- 2017 "Teaching AP Human Geography," AP Human Geography Teacher Training Institute, University of Houston.
- 2016 "Teaching AP Human Geography," AP Human Geography Teacher Training Institute, Rice University.
- 2016 "Teaching AP Human Geography," AP Human Geography Teacher Training Institute, University of Texas-San Antonio.
- 2016 "Teaching Social Studies with Digital Maps." Texas Alliance for Geographic Education, (Multiple locations: Houston, San Antonio, Edinburg, Kilgore)
- 2016 "Teaching Social Studies with Digital Maps." Region 4 Social Studies Conference, Houston, TX.
- 2015 "Teaching Social Studies with Digital Maps." Workshop Series Presented for the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education at Texas Educational Services Centers in El Paso, Edinburg, Richardson, Houston, Kilgore, Victoria, and San Antonio.
- 2015 "Teaching Economic Geography and Development in AP Human Geography," AP Human Geography Training Institute, University of Texas-San Antonio.
- 2015 "Teaching High School Social Studies with Digital Maps." Texas Alliance for Geographic Education, Texas State University.

- 2014 “Beyond the Paper Map: Teaching Geographic Information Systems (GIS) with ArcGIS Online.” Annual Meeting of the Texas Council for Social Studies, Galveston, Texas.
- 2014 “Teaching AP Human Geography,” AP Human Geography Training Institute, University of Texas-San Antonio.
- 2014 “Raul’s Cuba: A Map-based Approach,” World Geography Professional Development Workshop, World Affairs Council Houston.
- 2013 “Teaching AP Human Geography Section 6: Industrialization and Economic Development,” AP Human Geography Training Institute, University of Texas-San Antonio.
- 2013 “Technology Applications for Social Studies,” Social Studies Workshop, Rice University Center for College Readiness, Houston, Texas, 2013.
- 2012 “Jovan Cvijić and the Making of Modern Geography.” World Geography Workshop, ESC 6, Huntsville, Texas. 2012.

## **UNIVERSITY TEACHING**

### ***University of Houston-Clear Lake, Houston, Texas***

Geography of Costa Rica, Geography of Latin America, Geography of Texas, Geography of the Middle East and North Africa, Geography of the North America, Geography of Turkey, Global Geography, World Regional Geography, Economic Geography, Teaching Geography, Human Geography, Modern Physical Geography, Political Geography, Urban Geography, Fundamentals of GIS, Advanced GIS, GIS Project Design and Implementation, Fieldwork in Geography, Map Reading and Interpretation

### ***Al Akhawayn University, Ifrane, Morocco***

Economic Geography, Political Geography, World Regional Geography

### ***University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa***

Geoinformatics, GIS for Environmental Management, GIS for Teachers, Web GIS

### ***San Jacinto Community College, Houston, Texas***

World Regional Geography

### ***Study Abroad/Domestic Field Study Program Direction***

- Brazil 2008
- Costa Rica 2003, 2004, 2012, 2014
- Cuba 2014
- London 2016
- South Africa 2019
- South Dakota 2012
- Texas 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
- Turkey 2011

## **EXTERNAL GRANTS**

- 2019 Fulbright Scholarship, Council for the International Exchange of Scholars, \$78,000
- 2009 Fulbright Scholarship, Council for the International Exchange of Scholars, \$52,000
- 2007 Teacher Training Grant, National Geographic Education Foundation: \$44,129

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### ***International/National***

- 2018-2020 State of Texas Geography Education Steward, National Geographic Society
- 2010-Present Editorial Board, Bulletin of the Serbian Geographical Society
- 2008-2015 Recording Secretary, Gamma Theta Upsilon
- 2015-2016 Advanced Placement Human Geography Reader, College Board

### ***Regional/State***

- 2010-2018 Executive Board Member, Texas Alliance for Geographic Education
- 2003-2020 Moderator, Chief Judge, Texas State Geography Bee, National Geographic Society
- 1996 Geography Education Curriculum Consultant, TI-IN Television Network

## **HONORS and AWARDS**

- 2015 Inductee, Phi Beta Delta, Honor Society for International Scholars
- 2013 Piper Teaching Award Nominee, University of Houston-Clear Lake
- 2012 Presidential Citation Award, Gamma Theta Upsilon, International Geography Honor Society
- 2012 Higher Education Distinguished Teaching Award, National Council for Geographic Education
- 2007 Piper Teaching Award Nominee, University of Houston-Clear Lake
- 2006 International Initiatives Outstanding Service Award, University of Houston-Clear Lake
- 2006 Distinguished Service Award, Texas Alliance for Geographic Education
- 2003 Meritorious Service Key Award, University of Houston-Clear Lake
- 2002 Dissertation of the Year, National Council for Geographic Education

## **LANGUAGE and COMPUTER SKILLS**

Languages:

Spanish (Proficient), Serbian (Beginner), Arabic (Beginner)

Software Proficiencies:

Adobe Acrobat Pro, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, ArcGIS 10.8, ArcGIS Pro 2.7, ArcGIS Online, ArcGIS Hub, Black Board, Dreamweaver, EndNote, Microsoft Office, QuickBooks, SPSS, WordPress