

Contact Me

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What I'd Like to Do

I am a mapper and an educator. I have many diverse skillsets that make me well suited for a job in Cartography, GIS, Graphic Design, Data Graphics and Journalism, Web Mapping, UI/UX Design, or Web Development generally as well as Teaching, Document Writing, Tutorial Writing, and Curriculum Design. I enjoy using my skills to have an impact and make a difference.

My Education and Training

Ph.D. candidate in Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison (expected graduation August, 2017). Dissertation: Best Practices for Teaching Open Web Mapping Technologies.

M.S. Cartography/GIS, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2013). Thesis: Online Participatory Mapping for Landscape Values in the Bad River Watershed.

B.S. Outdoor Education/Natural History, Environmental Studies Teaching, and Biology Teaching, Northland College (2005). Graduating GPA: 3.95.

H.S. Diploma: Clark Montessori High School, Cincinnati, Ohio (2001).

Awards and Honors I've Received

- University of Wisconsin-Madison Graduate Assistant Innovation in Teaching Award 2015
- First Place, Assoc. of Am. Geographers Cartography Specialty Group Honors Student Paper Competition
- Wisconsin Land Information Association Best Thematic Map Award 2013
- Wisconsin Land Information Association Damon Anderson Memorial Scholarship
- University of Wisconsin-Madison Geography Department Trewartha Research Award
- Summa cum laude, Northland College
- Alpha Chi and Veritas Honor Societies
- Outdoor Education Department Merit Award
- Northland College Academic Scholarship
- Morris K. Udall Scholar

Samples of My Work

Samples of my map and web design work are available on my portfolio website, <http://northlandia.com>. I also maintain tutorials and commentary on my blog at <http://northlandia.wordpress.com>. More projects are available on my GitHub site, <https://github.com/northlandiguana>. My work has been featured in *The Huffington Post* and *The New York Times* among other outlets.

My Work History

1. Course Lecturer, UW-Madison Geography Department (2016)

Job duties: developing and delivering online lecture material and administering assessments for two courses: *Our Digital Globe: GIScience and Technology* (Summer, 2016) and *Geocomputing* (Python-based GIS scripting course; Fall, 2016).

2. Research and Project Assistant, UW-Madison Cartography Lab. (2015-16)

Job duties: researching new web mapping technologies for use in Geography courses; rewriting Interactive Cartography course labs using Open Web technologies; building a situated learning mobile web application; building a research application for testing the perception of uncertainty on thematic maps; building a wikimap of herding corridors in Senegal; writing lab curriculum for Interactive Cartography online course; building a web map-based survey application framework.

- 3. Teaching Assistant, UW-Madison Geography Department (2011-2017)**
Job duties: teaching lab and discussion sections for: *Global Physical Environments* (5 semesters; 3 as Head TA), *Geocomputing* (1 semester), *Interactive Cartography and Geovisualization* (2 semesters; received campus-wide Innovation in Teaching Award)
- 4. Editor, *Edge Effects* Digital Magazine, UW Center for Culture, History, and Environment (2016-17)**
Job duties: edit and second-edit pieces from contributors and work with editorial team to recruit and schedule new material (published at <http://edgeeffects.net>).
- 5. Research Assistant, UW Sea Grant Institute (2012)**
Job duties: researching web mapping technologies and writing best practices for coastal atlas web mapping.
- 6. Staff Member, Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice (2012-14)**
Job duties: maintaining organization website, creating website content, and community organizing.
- 7. Science Teacher and Paraprofessional, Lake Superior High School, Duluth, MN (2010-11)**
Job duties: teaching high school science electives and assisting in a special education classroom.
- 8. Summer School Physical Science Teacher, Duluth Central High School, Duluth, MN (2010)**
Job duties: teaching 9th grade physical science over a six-week credit-recovery program.
- 9. Environmental Educator, Hartley Nature Center, Duluth, MN (2009)**
Job duties: leading outdoor education day camps and school programs for children ages 7-12.
- 10. Retail Staff, Northern Lights Books and Gifts, Duluth, MN (2007-10)**
Job duties: selling books, assisting customers, receiving, stocking, maintaining events calendar and website.
- 11. Syndicated Author, Zenith City Weekly, Duluth, MN (2007-11)**
Job duties: writing a regular news column and occasional feature writing.
- 12. Wisconsin DNR Limited Term Employee, Big Bay State Park, LaPointe, WI (2003-06)**
Job duties: collecting entrance fees, registering campers, patrolling park, campground and picnic area maintenance, naturalist interpretation.

My Useful Skills

My #1 skill: ADAPTABILITY. I pick up new skills fast, a crucial asset amidst breakneck technology change.

Desktop Software I'm adept with: various GIS packages (ESRI products, QGIS, GDAL, PostGIS, etc.), Adobe design software (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, Acrobat, etc.), various text editors and preprocessors, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, etc.), Apache web server, PostgreSQL database management.

Web Mapping and Data Graphics tools I use a lot: Leaflet, D3, MapBox, Carto.

Other Web Development tools I use: GitHub, Wordpress, Drupl, Bootstrap, Backbone, Underscore, jQuery.

Programming Languages I'm fluent in: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, Python, ActionScript, some Java.

Did I mention I'm a teacher? I have taught numerous subjects at every level of education from kindergarten to graduate school, published numerous tutorials, and done award-winning curriculum design work. See work history.

I have excellent written and oral communication skills. This is not just a requirement to make it through grad school, but a result of my experience as a writer and editor in journalistic, web, and peer-review contexts and as a frequent presenter at professional conferences.

I work well alone or in collaboration with others. I have worked in teams on several projects; see my web portfolio for examples.

I bake a mean batch of chocolate chip cookies.