

Jay Atkins
PhD. Candidate
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University of Georgia
Department of Geography
210 Field Ave #204, Athens GA 30602

Education

PhD., Geography, University of Georgia. Athens, GA. Expected Fall 2026.

M.A., Anthropology, New School for Social Research. New York, NY. Spring 2012.

B.A., Anthropology, Georgia State University. Atlanta, GA. Spring 2010.

Positions

University of Georgia (Athens, GA)

2025-2026	Instructor, Department of Geography
2022-2024	Teaching assistant, Department of Geography
2021-2022	Research assistant, Department of Geography

Georgia State University (Atlanta, GA)

2015-2018	Instructor (adjunct), Department of Social Sciences
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Georgia Perimeter College (Clarkston, GA)

2012-2015	Instructor (adjunct), Department of Cultural and Behavioral Sciences
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New School for Social Research (New York City, NY)

2011-2012	Research assistant, Department of Anthropology
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Courses Taught

GEOG 1101, Introduction to Human Geography, University of Georgia
GEOG 1111L, Introduction to Physical Geography Lab, University of Georgia
ANTH 1102, Introduction to Anthropology, Georgia State University
ANTH 1102, Introduction to Anthropology, Georgia Perimeter College

Invited Course Co-facilitator:

PLAN 8430, Urban Infrastructure Seminar, University of Georgia College of Environment and Design

Publications

Peer reviewed journal articles:

- 2026 **Atkins, J.** *At the Confluence of River and City: Urbanization, Modernity, and the Political Ecology of Urban Rivers*. Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Water 13, no. 1: e70050. <https://doi.org/10.1002/wat2.70050>.
- 2026 **Atkins, J.** *Convict leasing and streetcar suburbs: unfree labor, New South urbanism, and the making of modern Atlanta*. Planning Perspectives, 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02665433.2026.2658695>

Presentations, Panels, and Invited Lectures

Presentations at Professional Meetings:

- 2026 *Foundations of Exclusion: Convict Leasing and the Planning of Modern Atlanta*. 21st Biennial International Planning History Society Conference: Atlanta Crossroads. Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, July 2026.
- 2026 *"A Great Industry on the Chattahoochee": Chattahoochee Brick Company, West Atlanta Waterways, and the Political Ecologies of Convict Leasing*. 13th Annual Atlanta Studies Symposium. Atlanta, GA, May 2006.
- 2026 *New South, New Natures: Chattahoochee Brick and the Political Ecology of Convict Leasing in Atlanta, 1868-1908*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA. March 2026.
- 2026 *Political Ecologies of Convict Leasing: Race, Labor, and the Transformation of Nature in the New South*. Integrative Conservation Conference. University of Georgia, February 2026.
- 2025 *Convict Leasing and Streetcar Suburbs: Unfree Labor, New South Urbanism, and the Making of Modern Atlanta*. Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. Lexington, KY. Paper. (November 23-24).
- 2014 *Never Legal/Always Free: The Political Economy of Unpermitted Building Occupation*. Paper presented at "Queering the Quotidian: Differential and Contested Spaces Within Neoliberalism" 2nd annual symposium of the Society for Radical Geography, Spatial Theory, & Everyday Life. Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, March 2014.
- 2012 *Out of the Shelters and into Homes: Direct Action Housing Movements in New York City*. Panel discussion at Annual Suburban Studies Conference at Kennesaw State University. April 2012.

Sessions Chaired at Professional Meetings:

2026 *City Building and Oppression*. 21st Biennial International Planning History Society Conference: Atlanta Crossroads. Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, July 2026.

Invited Lectures:

2025 *Chattahoochee River as Racial Infrastructure: Expendable Geographies, Expendable Bodies along Atlanta's Chattahoochee Industrial Corridor*. Invited Lecture given to PLAN 8430, Urban Infrastructure Seminar, University of Georgia. February 2025.

2009 *Dignity, Rage, and Antibiotics in La Clinica Guadalupe: An Ethnographic Account of the Zapatista Autonomous Healthcare System in Chiapas, Mexico*. Invited lecture given to ANTH 4460 *Health and Culture*. Georgia State University. May 2009.

Honors and Awards

Dissertation Research Grant, American Association of Geographers. \$1000	2026
Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, University of Georgia	2026
Graduate School Travel Award, University of Georgia. \$800	2026
Summer Research Grant, University of Georgia. \$1500	2025
Summer Research Grant, University of Georgia. \$1,000	2024
University Scholarship, New School for Social Research. \$10,000	2010

Service

2023-2026 Peer Reviewer, *Frontiers in Human Dynamics*, section *Environment, Politics and Society; Urban Studies*

2025 Research and report writing, Master of Urban Design and Planning Accreditation Report, University of Georgia College of Environment and Design

Affiliations

American Association of Geographers
Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers
American Planning Association