


EVAN KURAS

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EDUCATION

- University of Massachusetts, Amherst, College of Natural Resources** | 4.00 GPA Amherst, MA | Feb 2019
M.S. in Environmental Conservation; Environmental Policy and Human Dimensions concentration
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow (3-years of full merit-based funding)
- Boston University, College of Arts and Sciences & Kilachand Honors College** | 3.88 GPA Boston, MA | May 2014
B.A. in Biology; Ecology and Conservation Biology specialization
- Summa Cum Laude; Dean's List; Trustee Scholarship (full tuition merit-based award)

EVALUATION & RESEARCH

- Independent Evaluation Consultant** Jun 2018 - Jun 2019
Cambridge, MA
- Worked with program staff to articulate theories of change, devise evaluation strategies, develop evaluation instruments, collect and analyze data, and share findings with stakeholders through written reports and presentations. Clients include...
 - Save the Children Thailand: Road Safety Project - Bangkok, Thailand
 - Trees for Watertown: Teens for Trees 2019 Program - Watertown, MA
 - Watertown Health Department Community Wellness Programs - Watertown, MA
 - Trees for Watertown: Teens for Trees 2018 Program - Watertown, MA
 - Instruments and methods include online surveys, photovoice focus groups, interviews, participant observation, daily logs, and qualitative comparative analysis
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Graduate Student/Program Evaluator** Jan 2016 - May 2018
Springfield, MA
- With teachers, developed logic model and theory of change for "ECOS" env. science program
 - Evaluated ECOS impact in 10 urban elementary schools via surveys, GIS analysis, and interviews
 - Uncovered patterns in what students do after ECOS and associated inequities in such outcomes
 - Authored 55-pg. report and presented results to teachers, administrators, and community groups
 - Created research-informed bilingual resource for parents to reinforce ECOS activities
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Graduate Student Researcher** Oct 2016 - Dec 2018
Amherst, MA
- Identified, coded, and interpreted 84 case studies among 34 cities via fuzzy-set Qualitative Comparative Analysis to uncover global patterns linking biodiversity with social inequality
 - Sourced external city-level data from the UN, World Bank, and NASA
 - Managed team of 7 faculty collaborators and 4 undergraduate research assistants
 - Synthesized key mechanisms driving inequality and proposed typologies for urban planners
 - Shared findings via 2 conference presentations and 1 peer-reviewed paper (in review)
- Boston University and Arizona State University, Researcher** Sep 2012 - Aug 2016
Boston, MA
Phoenix, AZ
- Developed novel method to monitor personal heat exposure via portable temperature sensors
 - Piloted protocol in Boston with 23 participants then scaled method four-fold in Phoenix
 - Conducted qualitative interviews and ethnographic field observations
 - Discovered within-group variability and unmeasured risk factors for a public health hazard
 - Shared findings via personalized reports and creative outreach events
 - Popularized a new approach through 4 publications (1 in prep.) and 7 conference presentations

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Environmental Education: Organized and trained environmental educators to advocate for federal funding, including a DC lobby day; Led summer camps for children to explore nature at the Urban Ecology Center in Milwaukee, WI

Mentorship: Mentored and supervised 22 undergraduate research assistants for the above projects, producing 1 podcast, 1 blog post, and 8 conference posters

Relevant Coursework: Biostatistics, Survey Design & Implementation, Qualitative Research Methods, Methods in GIS

Professional Membership: Greater Boston Evaluation Network, Massachusetts Environmental Education Society, North American Association for Environmental Education

Language: Conversational in Spanish; Teaching Assistant for Tropical Ecology Program (Ecuador - spring 2015), Workaway volunteer on family farms (Spain - winter 2019)