

**Alyssa Sklar** (she/her)

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### **Current Position**

2024- Librarian for Geospatial Systems and Data, GIS Lab, Vanderbilt University  
2021- Cartographic Designer, self-employed

### **Education**

2025 **Master of Science in Information**, University of Michigan  
Concentration in Libraries, Archives, and Digital Curation

2024 **Master of Science in Environment and Sustainability**, University of Michigan  
Concentration in Geospatial Data Sciences  
Excellence in Sustainability Honors

2020 **Bachelor of Art in Geography**, *magna cum laude*, DePaul University  
Concentration in Geographic Information Systems/Geotechnology  
Minor in Architecture and Urbanism

### **Certificate**

Expected 2026 Museum Studies Certificate, School of Professional Studies, Northwestern University  
2024 Graduate Teacher Certificate, Center for Research on Learning and Teaching,  
University of Michigan  
2020 Geographic Information Systems Certificate, DePaul University

### **Referred Works**

Platt, L., Rybarczyk, G., & Sklar, A. (2026). Safe routes, stressful streets and scenic greenways: What e-bicyclists tell us about urban infrastructure. [Forthcoming].

Rybarczyk, G., Sklar, A., Platt, L., & Yan, X. (2025). E-bicyclist experiences in motor city: A mixed computational and content analysis approach for understanding sustainable micromobility. *Case Studies on Transport Policy*, 22. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cstp.2025.101581>

### **Non-Referred Works**

McKay, HD, Sklar, A., & Knight, C. (2025). GIS x business librarian collaboration: Mapping new opportunities. *Ticker: the academic business librarianship review*, 10(1).  
<https://doi.org/10.3998/ticker.7420>

Sklar, A., & Curry-Johnson, S. (2025). Geospatial discovery and collaboration: Vanderbilt's GIS Lab. *Western Association of Map Librarians Information Bulletin*, 56(2).  
<https://waml.org/waml-information-bulletin/volume-56-number-2/vanderbilts-gis-lab/>

### **Map Design**

Custer, L. A. (2026). Constructed visions: Georgia O’Keeffe, architecture, and the city beyond the frame. In *Georgia O’Keeffe: Architecture* (exhibition catalog). Detroit Institute of Arts. [Forthcoming].

Custer, L. A. (2025). Locating Blackness in John Sloan’s Neighborhood Scene. In J. M. Saggese & G. D. Shaw (Eds.), *Blackness, the Ashcan School, and Modern American Art (In the Round)*. *Panorama: Journal of the Association of Historians of American Art*, 11(1). <https://doi.org/10.24926/24716839.19804>

Israeli, Y. (2024). Petition and response as social process: Royal power, justice and the people in late medieval Castile (c. 1474–1504). *Past & Present*, 262(1), 3-44. <https://doi.org/10.1093/pastj/gtad003>

### **Press**

Library News Online. (2025). GIS Lab story map celebrates 150 years of place, progress and possibility at Vanderbilt. *Vanderbilt University Library News Online*. <https://newsonline.library.vanderbilt.edu/2025/11/gis-lab-story-map-celebrates-150-years-of-place-progress-and-possibility-at-vanderbilt/>

Library News Online. (2024). Heard Libraries to explore the art of cartography Nov. 18–2. *Vanderbilt University Library News Online*. <https://newsonline.library.vanderbilt.edu/2024/11/heard-libraries-to-explore-the-art-of-cartography-nov-18-21/>

### **Exhibits**

(November 2024). “Art of Cartography: Historical Maps for Modern Inquiry” [Exhibit]. Vanderbilt University, Jean and Alexander Heard Libraries, GIS Day & Geography Awareness Week, Nashville, Tennessee.

(May 2024). “Pages to Places: Literary Maps” [Exhibit]. University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

(February 2024). “Ye Olde and Ancient Mappes” [Exhibit]. University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

(January 2024). “Water, Water, Everywhere” [Exhibit]. University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

(October 2023). “Lines on the Land: Mapping Borders and Boundaries” [Exhibit]. University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

(July 2023). “cARTography: the artistry of maps” [Exhibit]. University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

(June 2023). “Are We There Yet? Vintage Travel Maps and Guidebooks” [Exhibit]. University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

(May 2023). “Going Medieval On You: A Cartographic Journey” [Exhibit]. University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

(April 2023). “Mapping the Beauty and Fragility of Our Planet” [Exhibit]. University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

(March 2023). “Illustrating the World: Pictorial Maps from the Clark Library Collection” [Exhibit]. University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

(February 2023). "Mapping Black America: The Great Migration and Other 20th Century Journeys" [Exhibit]. University of Michigan, Stephen S. Clark Library, Open House Exhibit, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

### **Presentations**

**Sklar, A.** (March 2026). Micromobility in Motor City: Centering E-Bicyclist Experiences in a Car-Dependent Urban Context [Oral presentation]. American Association of Geographers (AAG) Annual Conference, San Francisco, California.

**Sklar, A.** (October 2025). Ethical Tensions in Geographic Places Names and the Role of Information Professionals [Oral presentation]. North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS) Annual Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.

Robbins, N., Curry-Johnson, S., **Sklar, A.** (October 2025). From Maps to Medicine: Using Spatial Data & Maps for Health Applications [Panel]. Southern Chapter of the Medical Librarian Conference, Nashville, Tennessee.

Rybarczyk, G., & **Sklar, A.** (September 2025). Bridging the Modal Gap: E-bicycle Integration Strategies for Car-Dependent Regions: Lessons from Metro-Detroit, Michigan [Oral presentation]. Cycling and Society Conference, Glasgow, Scotland.

Knight, C., **Sklar, A.**, Curry-Johnson, S., McKay, H.D., & Castle, J. (April 2025). The Power of Place: The Academic Library as a Hub of Community-Engaged GIS [Poster]. Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**Sklar, A.**, & Curry-Johnson, S. (March 2025). Libraries as Spaces for Geospatial Scholarship: Case Studies of Community-Engaged GIS at Vanderbilt University Libraries [Poster]. American Association of Geographers (AAG) Annual Conference, Detroit, Michigan.

McKay, H. D., Knight, C., Martinez, J. P., **Sklar, A.**, & Curry-Johnson, S. (October 2024). Making the Case for GIS in Business School Curricula [Poster]. Southeast Data Librarian Symposium (SEDLS).

**Sklar, A.**, Rybarczyk, G., & Platt, L. (September 2024). E-Bike Rider Sentiments: A Spatial Analysis of Textual Data [Poster]. FOSS4G North America Conference, St. Louis, Missouri.

**Sklar, A.** (November 2023). Beyond Symbolology: Identifying Subtextual Narratives in Pictorial Maps [Oral presentation]. Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, East Lakes Division, Oregon, OH.

Estabrook, T., Schluter, C., **Sklar, A.**, & Zemanek, L. (April 2022). Characterizing the Urban Tree Canopy of Ann Arbor, Michigan [Oral presentation]. University of Michigan, School for Environment and Sustainability, Capstone Conference, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**Sklar, A.** (October 2019). Urban Remote Sensing & Superblocks: a case study of Barcelona, Spain [Poster]. Annual Meeting of the American Associations of Geographers, West Lakes Division, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

## **Teaching and Facilitation**

*Vanderbilt University*

Instructor, Chemical and Physical Biology Program, School of Medicine

- CPBP 8306-05: Probabilistic Inference in Biology (Fall 2025)

GIS Lab workshops, Jean and Alexander Heard Libraries, 2024-

- Plan, prepare materials for, and teach one-shot library workshops, including (*select few*): Coordinate Systems and Map Projection Essentials; Creating Study Area Maps for Research; Digitizing Map Features Workshop; Geospatial Visualizations: Designing for Impact; How to use Historical Maps in GIS; Introduction to ArcGIS Online; Introduction to ArcGIS StoryMaps; Introduction to GIS with ArcGIS Pro; IPUMS Data: Accessing Census and Geographic Information; Mapping in R: Crafting Interactive Maps with Leaflet; Making Maps with Python: Automating GIS Tasks.

Instructional sessions, Jean and Alexander Heard Libraries, 2024-

- Prepare and teach one-shot instructional sessions on geospatial tools and practices for credit-bearing courses, including (*listed alphabetically*): CORE 2500: From Mountains to Sea; DS 5390: Data Storytelling and Communications; EHLP 8140: Social Context of Educational Leadership and Policy; ENGL 3659: Cultures of the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands; GSS 2245: Feminist Geography; HART 2815: Digital Heritage; HART 3810: Exhibiting Historical Art; LAS 2150W: Afro-Diasporic Futures; MHS 2280: AI & Environment; MHS 6400: Quantitative Research Methods; MHS 7000: Interdisciplinary Research Methods; PUBH 5515: Introduction to Public Health Informatics; SOC 9367: Special Topic Seminar on Social Processes and Social Change.

*University of Michigan*

Graduate Student Instructor, School of Information

- SI 544: Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis (Fall 2023)

Graduate Student Instructor, Earth and Environmental Science Department

- EARTH 408: Introduction to GIS in the Earth Sciences (Winter 2021, Fall 2021, Winter 2022, Fall 2022, Winter 2023)

*DePaul University*

Teaching Assistant

- GEO 344: Spatial Analysis for Sustainability (Spring 2020); GEO 345: Programming in Python (Winter 2020); GEO 242: Community GIS (Fall 2019)

## **Funding and Awards**

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Conference Scholarship, Minneapolis, MN, 2025

Creative Inquiry Grant, The Curb Center for Art, Enterprise, and Public Policy at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, 2024 - \$2,500

Engagement, Career Training, and Outreach (ECO) Award from the Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research (CIGLR) through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Cooperative Agreement NA220AR4320150, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 2023 - \$7,982