

Melissa McCracken

[Research Gateⁱ](#) | [Academiaⁱⁱ](#)
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EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy** **Geography. Anticipated in 2019**
Oregon State University; Corvallis, OR
Advised By: Aaron T. Wolf, Ph.D.
Dissertation: *Defining “Effectiveness” in the Evaluation of Transboundary Water Cooperation.*
- Master of Science** **Water Security and International Development with Distinction. 2013.**
University of East Anglia; Norwich, United Kingdom.
Advised By: Mark Zeitoun, Ph.D.
Thesis title: *The Impact of the Water Footprint of Qat on Yemen’s Water Resources.*
- Bachelor of Science** **Summa Cum Laude in General Engineering. 2010.**
California Polytechnic State University; San Luis Obispo, CA.
Minor in Anthropology & Geography.
- Certificates** Graduate Certificate in College and University Teaching. Expected 2018.
Oregon State University; Corvallis, OR
- Graduate Certificate in Water Conflict Management and Transformation. 2017.
Oregon State University; Corvallis, OR
- Introduction to Collaborative, Interest-Based Problem Solving for Mediators. 2016.
32-hr Basic Mediation Training
Neighbor-to-Neighbor; Corvallis, OR

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2017** Social Justice Education Initiative
Oregon State University; Corvallis, OR
- 2016** Water Diplomacy Workshop
M.I.T-Harvard University; Boston, Massachusetts
- 2012** Graduate Student Workshop on Socio-Environmental Synthesis
Interdisciplinary Proposal Writing and Collaboration Workshop
National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC); Annapolis, Maryland
- 2012** Global Water Footprint Standard Training Course
Water Footprint Network; Amsterdam, Netherlands

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2017-Present** Water Governance Thematic Group Member, Water Youth Network

- *Research youth's role in transboundary water cooperation*
- *Collaborate with other members globally to develop presentations, workshops, and events at global water forums and conferences*

- 2016** Intern supervised by Angela Klauschen, Global Water Partnership Secretariat, Stockholm
- *Research and write GWP Technical Background Paper evaluating SDG 6.5.2 and methods for measuring transboundary cooperation*
 - *Publication "Measuring transboundary water cooperation: options for Sustainable Development Goal Target 6.5" TEC Background Paper 23*

Established with other interns the GWP Internship Programme and Scholarship Funding

- 2014-Present** Graduate Research Assistant to Dr. Aaron Wolf, OSU
- *Manage the Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database*
 - *Conduct research on treaties, events, and river basin delineations*
 - *Manage student employees and interns, edit and create webpages using Adobe Dreamweaver and Drupal, produce maps with ESRI ArcGIS*

- 2013-2014** Environmental Consulting Researcher, Marstel-Day, LLC
- *Conduct research, analysis, stakeholder engagement, writing, and compilation of encroachment studies for military installations*

- 2010-2011** Research Assistant to Dr. Benjamin F. Timms, Cal Poly
- *Compiled and analyzed satellite imagery on forest cover change in Jamaica utilizing ERDAS Imagine and ESRI ArcGIS software*
 - *Wrote a successful grant proposal for high resolution satellite imagery and co-authored a paper on research results (see below)*

- 2008-2011** Study Session Leader in Calculus and Physics, Cal Poly
- *Tutored and mentored students on study skills and exam preparation*

- 2008** Ocean Engineer Intern, SPAWAR Systems Center: San Diego, CA
Office of Naval Research – Naval Research Enterprise Intern Program
- *Organized, analyzed, and managed data for naval research projects*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Associate: OSU Honors College

- Spring 2016: GEO 335H Introduction to Water Science and Policy
- *Co-instructor of record, develop course content, lectures, assignments*

Graduate Teaching Assistant: OSU College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences

- Fall 2014, 2015: GEO 335 Introduction to Water Science and Policy
- *Guest lecture, assist students with assignments, grading*

- Fall 2015: GEO 599 Multi-Track Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation
- *Manage and organize course materials, assist students*

Guest Lecturer: OSU College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences

- Spring 2018: GEOG 344H Introduction to Water Science and Policy
- *Defining Water Security and the Sustainable Development Goals Lecture*

Spring 2016, 2017, 2018: GEOG 440 Water Resources Management in the US

➤ *California Water Management Lecture*

Spring 2016, 2017, 2018: GEOG 541 International Water Resources Management

➤ *Defining Transboundary River Basins, Measuring Transboundary Water Cooperation Lectures*

All terms 2015-2016: GEO 300 Sustainability for the Common Good

➤ *Water Security and Water Footprinting Lecture*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Transboundary Water Management

International Freshwater Treaties

Sustainable Development Goals

Political Geography

Water Cooperation and Conflict

Water Governance and Water Security

Water Footprinting

International Relations

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

McCracken, Melissa and Chloé Meyer. 2018. "Monitoring of Transboundary Water Cooperation: Review of Sustainable Development Goal Indicator 6.5.2 Methodology." *Journal of Hydrology*. 563: 1-12.

McCracken, Melissa and Aaron T. Wolf. 2018. "Revisiting International River Basins of the World." Manuscript in preparation.

Timms, Benjamin, James Hayes, and **Melissa McCracken**. 2013. "From Deforestation to Reforestation: Applying the Forest Transition to the Cockpit Country of Jamaica." *Area* 45 (1): 77-87.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS AND ARTICLES

McCracken, Melissa. 2018. "Shared Water Conflict and Cooperation." In Earth Systems and Environmental Sciences Module of the *Encyclopedia of Environmental Health, 2e*. Eds Jerome Nriagu. Manuscript accepted for production.

Altingoz, Mehmet, **Melissa McCracken**, Suren Gevinian, and Aaron T. Wolf. 2018. "Case Study on the Kura-Araks Basin: Arpaçay/Akhuryan Dam and Water Quality in the Basin" in *Promoting Development in Shared River Basins: Case Studies from International Experience*. World Bank. 2018.

McCracken, Melissa. 2017. *Measuring transboundary water cooperation: options for Sustainable Development Goal Target 6.5*. Technical Background Paper. No. 23. Global Water Partnership.

BOOK CHAPTERS

McCracken, Melissa, Laura Peters, and Aaron T. Wolf. 2018. "Megatrends in Shared Waters in 2030 and Beyond." In *Assessing Global Water Megatrends*. Springer: Singapore.

McCracken, Melissa and Aaron T. Wolf. 2016. "The Water Diplomacy Perspective." *HydroDiplomacy, Legal and Institutional Aspects of Water Resources Governance: From the International to the Domestic Perspective*. Training Manual. UNESCO-IHP. 2016.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations and Activities

- Graduate Student Panel. OSU Graduate Student Orientation. Panel Presenter. Oregon State University. 10 September 2018. Corvallis, OR, USA.
- “The Great Lakes and Water Diversions: A Timely Matter in Our Changing Environment.” Panel Presenter. Public Interest Environmental Law Conference. 1-4 March 2018. Eugene, OR, USA.
- UNESCO-IHP, Joint Session on “Monitoring transboundary water cooperation: how the dedicated SDG indicator helps.” Panel Presenter. World Water Week. 27 August – 1 September 2017. Stockholm, Sweden.
- Global Water Partnership East Africa. “Transboundary Water Cooperation and the Sustainable Development Goals.” Water Governance and International Water Law (IWL) Training for Improved Transboundary Water Management in Africa. 5-7 June 2017. Entebbe, Uganda.
- Global Water Partnership. “Transboundary Water Cooperation and the Sustainable Development Goals.” Regional Workshop on Transboundary Water Cooperation in the Context of the SDGs in South Asia and Beyond. 23-25 May 2017, Pokhara, Nepal.
- Geneva Water Hub, UNESCO Chair on Hydropolitics at University of Geneva, and WMO’s HydroHub. “Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database and Hydropolitical Data” Round Table on Data for Water, Peace and Security. March 2017. Geneva, Switzerland.
- Interview with KBOO Community Public Radio. 2015. “Water, Qat, and Yemen,” Radio Program, May 2015, Portland, OR.
- “Water Design Challenge.” 2015. Stakeholder Expert for High School Students in Participating in a Water Design Challenge. March 2015. Pittsburg, PA.

Presentations & Workshops

- Abbas, Shabana, Faduma Ali, Natalija Fisher, **Melissa McCracken**, and Dewi Dimiyati. 2018. “Ensuring Intergenerational Policy Dialogue for Achieving SDG 6.” Side Event at the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. July 2018. New York, NY.
- McCracken, Melissa**, Melva Trevino Pena, and Alejandra Sanchez. 2018. “Creating Spaces to Unpack Diversity: The CEOAS Professional Learning Community.” Presentation Ethnic Studies Student Research Symposium. April 2018. Oregon State University. Corvallis, OR.
- McCracken, Melissa**. 2018. “Defining Transboundary Water Cooperation: A look at SDG 6.5.2.” Paper Presentation Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers. April 2018. New Orleans, LA.
- McCracken, Melissa**, Linda Downsborough, Dacotah-Victoria Splichalova, Elsah Dhliwayo, Sindy Mthimkhulu, Tinashe Rimau, and Machaya Chomba. Collaborative Workshop between Oregon State University and Monash South Africa on “Addressing Gaps to Attain Water Security.” International Water Association’s Young Water Professionals Conference. December 2017. Cape Town, South Africa.
- McCracken, Melissa**. 2016. “Revisiting the World’s International River Basins.” Presentation Geography Day. May 2016. Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.

- McCracken, Melissa.** 2016. "Revisiting the World's International River Basins." Paper Presentation Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers. April 2016. San Francisco, CA
- McCracken, Melissa.** 2015. "The Impact of the Water Footprint of Qat on Yemen's Water Resources." Presentation Geography Day. May 2015. Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.
- McCracken, Melissa** and Rachael Davee. 2015. "Comparing Management Strategies on the Columbia and Colorado Rivers." Poster Presentation Hydrophiles Annual Water Symposium. Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.
- McCracken, Melissa.** 2015. "The Impact of the Water Footprint of Qat on Yemen's Water Resources." Presentation International Security in the 21st Century Conference, April 2015, Portland State University, Portland, OR.
- McCracken, Melissa.** 2013. "The Global Water Consumption of the Illicit Drug Trade." Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. April 2013. Los Angeles, CA.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- 2018** OSU Global Beaver Initiative's Global Citizenship Award
- 2018** OSU Women's Center Student Leadership Award
- 2018** Richard A. Herbert Memorial Scholarship from the American Water Resources Association
- 2017** Muckleston Award for Travel at Oregon State University's Geography Department
- 2017** Sylff Graduate Fellowship for International Research from the Oregon Sasakawa Young Leaders' Fellowship Fund (Sylff)
- 2017** Olen Paul Matthews and Kathleen A. Dwyer Fund for Water Resources Award from the Water Resources Specialty Group, American Association of Geographers
- 2016** Partial Funding Award for attendance to Water Diplomacy Workshop
- 2015** Muckleston Award for Travel at Oregon State University's Geography Department
- 2013** Graduated with Distinction in Water Security and International Development from University of East Anglia.
- 2012** School of International Development Master's Dissertation Prize at University of East Anglia
- 2010** Graduated Summa Cum Laude General Engineering from Cal Poly
- 2010** GeoEye Foundation Imagery Grant for *Ikonos 2* and *GeoEye-1* imagery of the Cockpit Country of Jamaica
- 2008** Award for Recognition of Service from SPAWAR System Center

CONFERENCES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

- United Nations High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.
July 2018. New York, NY, USA.

Ethnic Studies Student Research Symposium.

April 2018. Oregon State University. Corvallis, OR, USA.

Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers.

April 2018. New Orleans, LA, USA

Global Workshop: Moving forward transboundary water cooperation: Building on its benefits.

February 2018. Hosted by: UNECE Water Secretariat, Estonia Ministry of the Environment, Serbia Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Netherlands Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, and the Geneva Water Hub. Geneva, Switzerland.

International Young Water Professionals Conference.

December 2017. Hosted by: The International Water Association. Cape Town, South Africa.

World Water Week.

August/September 2017. Hosted by: Stockholm International Water Institute. Stockholm, Sweden.

Round Table on Data for Water, Peace and Security.

March 2017. Hosted by: Geneva Water Hub, UNESCO Chair on Hydropolitics at University of Geneva, and WMO's HydroHub. Geneva, Switzerland.

Budapest Water Summit.

November 2016. Hosted by: Government of Hungary and World Water Council. Budapest, Hungary.

International Symposium on Water Diplomacy.

November 2016. Hosted by: International Centre for Water Cooperation and Stockholm International Water Institute. Stockholm, Sweden.

Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers.

April 2016. San Francisco, CA, USA.

International Security in the 21st Century Graduate Student Conference.

April 2015. Hosted by: Ashburn Institute, Portland State University. Portland, OR, USA.

Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers.

April 2013. Los Angeles, CA.

Water Security Conference.

November 2011. Hosted by: University of East Anglia and the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage. London, UK.

SERVICE

Summer 2018 Graduate Teaching Assistant Mentor: OSU Graduate School

- *Co-lead, design, and advise incoming graduate teaching assistants as part of the OSU Graduate School's New Student Orientation. Demonstrate and explore first day teaching tips.*

2017-Present Co-Founder of the CEOAS Professional Learning Community: CEOAS, OSU
 ➤ *Facilitated discussion series that explores topics related to social justice and equity in the sciences in higher education. The aim is to create a more inclusive environment in higher education - for students, faculty, and staff. <https://unpackingdiversity.wixsite.com/ceoas>*

2016-Present Graduate Student Mentor: CEOAS Academic Mentoring Program
 ➤ *Mentored, advised, and guided undergraduate students interested in geography and pursuing graduate school.*

2016-Present Graduate Student Advisory Council: OSU Graduate School
 ➤ *Advise and develop strategies relating to graduate student experience at OSU. Represent College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences (CEOAS) graduate students to OSU Graduate School.*

2014-Present Graduate Student Committee: CEOAS, OSU
 ➤ *Manage, review, and issues travel award grants for graduate students*
 ➤ *Liaise and relay student comments to college administration*

Fall 2015 Member of Student Sub-committee: CEOAS Promotion and Tenure Committee
 ➤ *Review student letters of evaluation and provide recommendation*

2010-2011 Personal Tutor: Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
 ➤ *Tutor for high school students in physics.*

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity	American Water Resources Association
International Water Resources Association	International Water Association
Association of American Geographers	National Society of Collegiate Scholars Alum

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

ArcGIS software	Drupal
ERDAS IMAGINE	Microsoft Office Suite

LANGUAGES

English (Native)	Spanish (Basic Conversational)
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ⁱ Research Gate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Melissa_Mccracken3

ⁱⁱ Academia: <https://oregonstate.academia.edu/MelissaMcCracken>

ⁱⁱⁱ Personal Website: <https://mjmcCracken.wixsite.com/waterresearch>

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^v Twitter: <https://twitter.com/intnlwaters>