

DEONDRE SMILES, PH.D.

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University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

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Tribal Affiliation: Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

EDUCATION

- 2016-2020** Ph.D, Geography, The Ohio State University
Dr. Kendra McSweeney, advisor.
Dissertation: “*Decolonized Afterlife*: Towards a New Understanding of the Political Processes Surrounding Indigenous Death”
- 2014-2016** M.L.S., Global Indigenous Studies, University of Minnesota Duluth
Dr. Joseph Bauerkemper, Dr. Nathan Clough, co-advisors.
- 2008-2013** B.E.S., Geography, Saint Cloud State University

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2021-** Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, University of Victoria
Affiliate Faculty, Indigenous Nationhood Program, University of Victoria
- 2020-21** President’s Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of History, The Ohio State University

RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 2021-:** Affiliated Faculty/Co-Investigator, CLEAR Lab, Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador, St. John’s, NL, Canada
- Summer 2017:** Temporary Research Assistant, University of Minnesota School of Medicine, Duluth
- 2014-2015:** Research Assistant, Education Department, University of Minnesota Duluth

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Publications

- Smiles, D**, 2018. “...to the grave...’-Autopsy, settler structures and indigenous counter-conduct.” *Geoforum* (91): 141-150. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2018.02.034>

(In review) O’Leary, H., **Smiles, D.**, El Sayed, M., & Parr, S. “‘I Can’t Breathe:’ The Invisible Slow Violence of Breathing Politics in Minneapolis before Floyd” Submitted with approval from SI editors to *Special Issue on Air Quality of Society and Natural Resources*.

Non-Refereed Publications

Smiles, D., 2022. “Autopsy and state violence: Implications in the death investigation of George Floyd”. *Agitate!* <https://agitatejournal.org/article/autopsy-and-state-violence-implications-in-the-death-investigation-of-george-floyd/>

Yanchapaxi, MF., M. Liboiron, K. Crocker, **D. Smiles**, and E. Tuck. "Finding a good starting place: An interview with scholars in the CLEAR Lab." *Curriculum Inquiry* 52, no. 2 (2022): 162-170.

Smiles, D. & M. Pesses, 2022. “Speaking Indigenous Geographies”. *Pacifica (Fall/Winter 2021-22)*: 6-9.
http://www.apcgweb.org/sites/default/files/editor_uploads/files/pacifica_fw_2122_compressed.pdf

Smiles, D., 2021. “Erasing Indigenous History, Then and Now”. *Origins* 15(1).
<https://origins.osu.edu/article/erasing-indigenous-history-then-and-now>

Smiles, D., 2021. “‘Shoals of ‘unsettlement’; A review of *The Black Shoals: Offshore Formations of Black and Native Studies* by Tiffany Lethabo King”. *Society+Space*.
<https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/shoals-of-unsettlement-a-review-of-the-black-shoals-offshore-formations-of-black-and-native-studies-by-tiffany-lethabo-king>

Smiles, D., 2021. “Guest editorial: George Floyd, Minneapolis and Spaces of Hope and Liberation.” *Dialogues in Human Geography* 11(2). <http://doi.org/10.1177/20438206211027466>

Smiles, D., 2020. “The Settler Logics of (Outer) Space.” *Society+Space Blog*.
<https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/the-settler-logics-of-outer-space>

Arceño, M.A., **D. Smiles**, K. Yotebieng, T. Velez, J.P. Wilson, E. Bailey, A. Mazumdar, K. McSweeney. 2020. “(Too) great expectations? On fieldwork, guidelines, and ethics in Human Geography.” *Agitate! Blog*. <https://agitatejournal.org/too-great-expectations-on-fieldwork-guidelines-and-ethics-in-human-geography-by-mark-anthony-arceno-deondre-smiles-emelie-bailey-anurag-mazumdar-thelma-velez-j-p-wilson-kelly-yotebieng-k/>

Smiles, D., 2019. “Listening to Native Radio.” *International Journal of Listening* 33(3), 142-147, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10904018.2019.1628645>

Book/Report Chapters

Smiles, D, 2020. "Ethical and Respectful Engagement between Medical Examiners/Coroners and Indigenous Families and Communities." In *MMIWG2 & MMIP Organizing Toolkit*. Sovereign Bodies Institute.

Tham, J, and **D. Smiles**, 2019. "Rhetorical Augmentation: Public Play, Place and Persuasion in *Pokémon Go*." In *The Pokémon Go Phenomenon: Essays on Public Play in Contested Spaces*, edited by Andrew Kulak, Jamie Henthorn, Kristopher Purzycki and Stephanie Vie. Jefferson, North Carolina: MacFarland & Company, Inc.

Book Reviews

Smiles, D, 2021. *Repatriation and Erasing the Past* by Elizabeth Weiss and James W. Springer. *Transmotion* 7 (1): 221-228.

<https://journals.kent.ac.uk/index.php/transmotion/article/view/993/1919>

Smiles, D, 2020. *Standing Up To Colonial Power: The Lives of Henry Roe and Elizabeth Bender Cloud* by Renya K. Ramirez. *Great Plains Quarterly* 40 (3): 242. <https://doi.org/10.1353/gpq.2020.0036>

Smiles, D, 2019. *Seven Myths of Native American History*, by Paul Jentz. *American Indian Quarterly* 43 (4): 477-480. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5250/amerindiquar.43.4.0477>

Smiles, D, 2018. *In Divided Unity: Haudenosaunee Reclamation at Grand River* by Theresa McCarthy. *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* 41(3): 151-153. <https://doi.org/10.17953/0161-6463-41.3.139>

Media Articles

Smiles, D, 2022. "[Counterpoint: The duty of education is truth, however discomfoting.](#)" *Star Tribune*, January 20. *Op-ed*.

Smiles, D, 2020. "[The 2020 U.S. Census and Indigenous peoples.](#)" *OSU Department of Geography blog* (blog).

Smiles, D, 2020. "[Respectful Engagement During Fieldwork.](#)" *OSU Department of Geography blog* (blog).

Smiles, Deondre, 2017. "[In response: From one millennial to another: Lose your privilege.](#)" *Duluth News Tribune*, October 14. *Op-ed*.

COURSES TAUGHT (Instructor of record unless noted):

University of Victoria Department of Geography

Spring 2023:

GEOG 491: Indigenous Environmental Activism (*taught as part of Clayoquot Sound Field School*)

Fall 2022:

GEOG 391: Indigenous Geographies
GEOG 211: Political and Economic Geography

Spring 2022:

GEOG 590: Independent Study
GEOG 391: Indigenous Geographies
GEOG 388: World Regional Geography

Fall 2021:

GEOG 491: Advanced Topics in Geography-Indigenous Environmental Activism

The Ohio State University Department of History

Spring 2021:

HIST 5700: Special Topics in History-Indigenous Environmental Activism
(*cross-listed with GEOG 5801: Environmental Conservation*)

The Ohio State University Department of Geography

Summer 2020:

GEOG 2750: World Regional Geography (Online)

Spring 2020:

GEOG 2750: World Regional Geography (Online)

Fall 2019:

GEOG 2750: World Regional Geography (Online)

Spring 2019:

GEOG 4193: Independent Studies-Second Year Transformational Program-
Fieldwork (Co-Instructor)

Fall 2018:

GEOG 2800: Our Global Environment (Lab Session Instructor)

Fall 2017:

GEOG 2800: Our Global Environment (Lab Session Instructor)

University of Minnesota Duluth Department of Writing Studies

Spring 2016:

WRIT 1120: Introduction to College Writing

Fall 2015:

WRIT 1120: Introduction to College Writing

GUEST LECTURES

University of Western Ontario

GEOG 2411: Indigenous Environments, Spring 2022

San Diego Miramar College

Department of Anthropology guest lecture, Fall 2021

California State University, San Bernardino

ETHS 1000: Introduction to Ethnic Studies, Fall 2021

University of North Dakota

School of Medicine and Health Science guest lecture, Spring 2021

Algoma University

Geography and Geology Program guest lecture, Spring 2021

Gustavus Adolphus College:

GEOG 101: Human Geography, Fall 2020

Allegheny College:

ENVSC 352: Environmental Justice, Fall 2020

University of British Columbia:

GEOG 211: State of the Earth, Spring 2020

Mayville State University:

World Regional Geography, Spring 2020

World Regional Geography, Fall 2019

The Ohio State University:

Goldberg Center Workshop: "'Ideas of Race and Racism in American and World History", Summer 2021

GEOG 7102: Fieldwork, Spring 2021

GEOG 7102: Fieldwork, Spring 2020

GEOG 2400: Economic and Social Geography, Spring 2019

GEOG 2800: Our Global Environment, Fall 2018 (Two lectures)

GEOG 3701: Making of the Modern World, Spring 2017

INVITED TALKS (SELECTED)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Department of Geography colloquium series, Spring 2022

University of Minnesota Duluth

Department of American Indian Studies colloquium series, Spring 2022

University of Victoria

John Albert Hall Lecture Series, Spring 2022

Rutgers University

Geography colloquium series, Spring 2022

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Geography colloquium series, Spring 2022

Idaho State University

(Re)Cultivating & (Re)Newing Reciprocal Research workshop, Spring 2022

University of Missouri

Native American Heritage Month talk, Fall 2021

University of Delaware

Department of Geography and Spatial Sciences Seminar, Fall 2021

Georgia State University

“Data Literacy as a Tool for Social Justice” panel, Fall 2021

Texas State University

Department of Geography Open Seminar, Fall 2021

University of Glasgow (co-sponsored with Scottish Graduate School of Arts and Humanities and the Centre for Doctoral Training in Celtic Languages)

“Exploring multidisciplinary approaches to Indigenous methodologies: Scotland and beyond” workshop, Summer 2021

University of Nevada-Reno

Geography Colloquium Speaker Series, Spring 2021

Michigan State University

Department of Geography, Environment and Spatial Sciences Colloquium, Spring 2021

West Virginia University

Department of Geology & Geography Colloquium, Spring 2021

University of Washington

Department of Geography Colloquium, Spring 2021

University of Arizona

School of Geography, Development & Environment Colloquium, Spring 2021

University of Wisconsin-Madison:

Yi Fu Tuan Lecture, Fall 2020

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Environmental Stewardship Talk, Fall 2020

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Departmental Service:

2021-2022

Member, Undergraduate Affairs Committee, UVic Department of Geography

2020-2021

Ad-Hoc Diversity Officer—Admissions Committee, OSU Department of History

2019-2020:

President, OSU Geography Graduate Organization

2018-19:

Treasurer, OSU Geography Graduate Organization

University Service:

2021-22:

Acting Departmental Representative, Dean’s Advisory Forum on Indigenization, UVic Faculty of Social Science

Member, Indigenous Advisory Committee-Collective Bargaining Agreement, UVic Faculty Association

2020-21:

Co-Advisor, OSU Indigenous Community of Graduate and Professional Students

2017-20:

President, OSU Indigenous Community of Graduate and Professional Students

Member, OSU American Indian Studies Advisory Committee

Elected/Appointed Service:

2021-2025:

Editorial Board Member, *Native American and Indigenous Studies*

2021-2024:

Member, Student Award and Scholarship Committee, American Association of Geographers

2021-2023:

Member, Board of Trustees, Leech Lake Tribal College

2020-2022:

Board Member, Geography of Religion & Beliefs Systems, American Association of Geographers

2020-2022:

Chair, Indigenous Peoples Specialty Group of the American Association of Geographers

2020:

AAG COVID-19 Task Force, 'Members' Subcommittee

2019-2020:

Chair-Elect, Indigenous Peoples Specialty Group of the American Association of Geographers

2017-19:

Secretary, Indigenous Peoples Specialty Group of the American Association of Geographers

2016-17:

Student Representative and Social Media Manager, Indigenous Peoples Specialty Group of the American Association of Geographers

Journal Peer Reviewer:

Aisthesis: Honors Student Journal

Annals of the American Association of Geographers

Annals of Tourism Research

Anthropology of Work Review

Antipode

Cartography and Geographic Information Science

Environment and Planning D: Society and Space

Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space

Environment and Planning F: Philosophy, Theory, Models, Methods and Practice

Geoforum

Humanities and Social Sciences
International Indigenous Policy Journal
PLOS ONE
Space Policy
Territory, Politics, Governance

ADVISING AND MENTORSHIP

Graduate:

University of Victoria

Ph.D. Candidacy Exam Chair:

Wil Patrick (2021)

Committee Member

Helia Sepat-pour (Department of Psychology, Master's Degree, 2022)

Christine Todd (Department of Geography, PhD, in progress)

Jagiellonian University (Kraków, Poland)

Karlijn Koerpershoek (Ph.D., Cultural Anthropology of Outer Space, in progress)

Undergraduate:

The Ohio State University

Committee Member:

Erin Broderick, Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (Honors Thesis, 2021)

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

2022 OAH Annual Meeting, March 31st-April 3rd (Boston, Massachusetts)

- Presenter, "Autopsy and Indigenous Peoples: Consolidation of Power via Medical Knowledge in the Settler Colonial State"

2022 AAG Annual Meeting, February 25-March 1st (Virtual)

- Discussant, "Political Geography Plenary: Farhana Sultana speaks on the unbearable heaviness of climate coloniality"
- Organizer, "Antipod Season 2 Roundtable: Abolition and COVID-19"
- Organizer, "Black and Indigenous Geographies of Latin America: Perspectives, Methods, and Community"
- Organizer, "Geographic Indigenous Futures 1/2"
- Organizer, "Indigenous Legal Geographies"
- Organizer, "Territory and Indigenous Futures"
- Panelist, "Challenges, opportunities and future visions of indigenization in geographic research: Perspectives from Indigenous research leaders"

- Panelist, “Land Grab-Plantation Universities: Against colonial grounds”
- Panelist, “Lenapehoking: Seed Rematriation, a Conversation with Joe Baker, Executive Director of Lenape Center”
- Panelist, “Restoring Néske’emāne - A Film Screening and Panel Discussion”
- Panelist, “Seven Ethics Against Capitalism: Towards a Planetary Commons - Author Meets Critics”
- Presenter, “‘Nooks and Crannies’: Archives as a space of ‘critical groundedness’”

2021 International Astronomical Congress, October 25-29 (Virtual/Dubai, United Arab Emirates)

- Panelist, “Rethinking the sustainability and inclusiveness of space exploration through the design of space habitats”

2021 Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG) Annual Meeting, June 7-11 (Virtual/Prince George, British Columbia, Canada)

- Presenter, “Paul Bunyan and Settler Colonial ‘Whitewashing’ of Indigenous environments”

2021 AAG Annual Meeting, April 7-11, 2021 (Virtual)

- Presenter, “Decolonized Afterlife’ and Tribal Cultural Resource Preservation”
- Panelist, “Author Meets Critics: Feminist Geography Unbound”
- Panelist, “Author Meets Critics: Tiffany King’s ‘The Black Shoals: Offshore Formations of Black and Native Studies’”
- Panelist, “Desirable Futures I: Time As Possibility, Practice, Politics (Opening Panel)”
- Panelist, “Land Grab Universities: US Colonialism, the Morrill Act, and Land Back organizing”
- Panelist and Organizer, “More than Mentoring: Towards A More Equitable and Just Geography”
- Panelist, “Terrestrial Environments of Outer Space I”
- Organizer, “Landscapes of Indigenous Resistance I & II”

2020 AAG East Lakes Division Annual Meeting, October 29-30, 2020 (Virtual/Bowling Green, Ohio)

- Presenter, “Listening to Native Radio”

Gdo Akiiminaan Ganawendanaan/Taking Care of Our Land Symposium, May 6-9, 2019 (Sault Sainte Marie, Ontario, Canada)

- Presenter, “*Niviidosemaa Aanikoobijiganag*-Walking With Ancestors: Anishinaabe bodies in the settler colonial state”

2019 AAG Annual Meeting, April 3-7, 2019 (Washington, D.C.)

- Organizer and Panelist, “Mentoring the Next Generation of Indigenous Geographers”

2018 AAG East Lakes Division Annual Meeting, October 18-19, 2018 (Ada, Ohio)

- Presenter, “*Niviidosemaa Aanikoobijiganag*-Walking with Ancestors: Anishinaabe bodies in the settler colonial state”

2018 AAG Annual Meeting, April 10-14, 2018 (New Orleans, Louisiana)

- Presenter, “Hidden Violence: Quotidian Indigenous Resistance in Settler Structures”

Dimensions of Political Ecology VIII, February 22-24, 2018 (Lexington, Kentucky)

- Presenter, “Hidden Violence: Quotidian Indigenous Resistance in Settler Structures”

2017 AAG Annual Meeting, April 5-9, 2017 (Boston, Massachusetts):

- Presenter, “...to the grave...’—Governmentality, Biopolitics and Indigenous Counter-Conduct.
- Panelist, “How Geography Can Inform Social Change And Political Movements: Example Of How Geospatial Analysis Can Describe Standing Rock Human Rights Violations For Indigenous People And Water Security Threat To The Missouri River Basin“

OSU Geography Department Graduate Research Day, March 31, 2017:

- Presenter, “...to the grave...’--Governmentality, Biopolitics and Indigenous Counter-Conduct

2016 AAG Annual Meeting March 29-April 2, 2016 (San Francisco, CA):

- Presenter, “...to the grave...’---Governmentality, Biopower and Indigeneity”

St. Cloud State University Undergraduate Research Colloquium April 16, 2013 (St. Cloud, MN)

- Poster, “The Graduate Geographic Hinterland of St. Cloud State University”

OTHER INVOLVEMENT IN PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

2022 IndigiData Workshop, June 13-17 (Mobridge, South Dakota)

- Faculty Member

2022 Canadian Museums Association National Conference, April 26-27, 2022 (Virtual)

- Speaker on panel about Indigenous cultural resource management

“What Will Life Become?” symposium, April 21-22, 2022 (Los Angeles, California)

- Speaker on panel “Futures in Outer Space”

Cultural and Ancestral Geographies (University of Tulsa/Gilcrease Museum)

- Research stream leader/facilitator of 3 workshops & virtual symposium, Spring/Summer 2022

2021 IndigiData Workshop, June 15-19 (Virtual)

- Faculty Member

Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, October 24-27, 2019 (Atlanta, Georgia)

- Conference Participant

Mentoring Our Own Native Scientists, September 19-21, 2018 (Lawrence, Kansas)

- Workshop Participant

OSU Geography Department Community Panel, “The Politicization of Science”, March 23, 2017

- Panelist

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- **2022 ESA Annual Meeting Diversity and Inclusion Award:** Full support to attend 2022 ESA Annual Meeting and associated diversity and inclusion events
- **2022 AAG Socialist and Critical Geographies Specialty Group James Blaut Award:** \$500 award
- **University of Minnesota President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship Program:** Awarded postdoctoral fellowship in Department of American Indian Studies, Duluth campus, 2020 (declined).
- **Ohio State Sesquicentennial Student Scholar Leadership Program:** Awarded competitive academic scholarship, 2019/2020 academic year.
- **Ford Foundation:** Honorable Mention, Dissertation Fellowship competition, 2019.
- **Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe:** Awarded competitive academic scholarship Fall 2008-Fall 2019.
- **Minnesota Indian Scholarship Program:** Awarded competitive scholarship through Minnesota Indian Scholarship program, Fall 2008-Spring 2016
- **UMD Master of Liberal Studies program:** Departmental scholarship for academic achievement, Fall 2014
- **UMD Graduate School Travel Award:** \$400 USD to travel to 2016 AAG Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA
- **UMD Master of Liberal Studies Travel Award:** \$250 USD to assist with registration and travel to 2016 AAG Annual Meeting
- **UMD Geography Departmental Travel Award:** \$250 USD to travel to 2016 AAG Annual Meeting

RESEARCH FUNDING:

- **2022: University of Victoria Internal Research Grant:** \$6556 CAD to support activities related to writing SSHRC Insight Development Grant application.
- **2022: American Philosophical Society Phillips Fund for Native American Research:** \$3500 USD to carry out archival fieldwork in Minnesota.
- **2022: Salish Sea Fellowship (Western Washington University):** \$10,000 USD to convene research symposium focusing on environmental issues in Salish Sea region.
- **2022: University of Victoria Engaged Learning Fund Grant:** \$3500 CAD for relationship building with local First Nations

- **2022: University of Victoria Travel Fund:** \$1350 CAD to travel to Boston for 2022 OAH Annual Meeting
- **2021-23: *Placing Science: Implementing Feminist, Indigenous, and Decolonial Theories of Place and Land in the Laboratory.*** SSHRC Insight Grant # 435-2017-0567. PI: Max Liboiron; Co-Is: Charles Mather (Memorial University, Geography), Michelle Murphy (University of Toronto, Women & Gender Studies), Deondre Smiles (University of Victoria); Collaborators: Carissa Brown (Memorial University, Geography), Chelsea Rochman (University of Toronto, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology), & Richard Chavolla (Elder, Kumeyaay Nation). Amount of award: \$293,633 CAD [Status: in progress, became collaborator with UVic appointment after grant was already awarded]
- **2021: University of Victoria:** \$15,000 CAD for startup research costs.
- **2019: Cobell Graduate Summer Research Fellowship:** Awarded \$5000 USD for summer dissertation research.
- **2018: OSU Geography Rayner Award for Fieldwork:** \$3500 USD for summer fieldwork.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2022-present: Ecological Society of America (ESA)

2020-present: Organization of American Historians (OAH)

2019-present: Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG)

2017-present: Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA)

2015-present: American Association of Geographers (AAG)

AAG Specialty Group Affiliations:

- Indigenous Peoples Specialty Group (IPSG)
- Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group (CAPE)
- Geography of Religion & Belief Systems Specialty Group (GORABS)