

# ANGELA SERRANO

Department of Sociology | Department of Community and Environmental Sociology  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
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## EDUCATION

- 2021 Ph.D. Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA  
*Dissertation:* The Prospects of Oil Palm: Smallholders' Livelihoods in Global Value Chains  
*Committee:* Jane Collins, Michael Bell, Elizabeth Hennessy, Diana Ojeda, Nan Enstad  
*Exams:* Sociology of Agrofood Systems (distinction), Sociology of Economic Change and Development  
*Ph.D. Minor:* Critical Environmental Studies  
*Directed Study:* Centro Interdisciplinario de Estudios sobre Desarrollo, Universidad de los Andes, Bogota, Colombia. *Advisor:* Diana Ojeda
- 2015 M.A. Geography (distinction), King's College London, UK
- 2012 B.A. Political Science, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia
- 2012 B.S. Economics, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Environmental Sociology, Political Economy, Agriculture, Food Systems, Participatory Research, Qualitative Research Methods, Latin America.

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2019 Serrano, Angela. "Making a Market: Creating Space for Investors through Farmland REITS." *Journal of Political Ecology*. 26(1): 559-613.
- 2019 Serrano, Angela & Andrew Brooks. "Who Is Left Behind in Global Food Systems? Local Farmers Failed by Colombia's Avocado Boom." *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space* 2(2): 348-367.

Manuscripts in Preparation (available upon request)

Serrano, Angela. "Violence in Global Value Chain Governance: Producing Social Hierarchies and Value for Palm Oil Corporations."

Serrano, Angela. "Materializing Inequality: The Production of Environmental Risks for Small-Scale Oil Palm Growers."

Serrano, Angela. "Small-Scale Farmers Growing Oil Palm: Mobilizing Local Knowledge to Confront Global Risks."

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2020 Visiting Researcher, International Center for Tropical Agriculture, remote work
- 2020 Project Assistant, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
- 2016-17 Research Assistant, Department of Community and Environmental Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
- 2010-12 Research Assistant, 'Debates on Poverties', Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 2020 Adjunct Professor, School of Social Sciences, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia
- 2020 Teaching Fellow, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
- 2017-19 Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
- 2018 Trainer for incoming Communications-B Teaching Assistants, Writing Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

- 2020 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2020 Graduate Student Research and Travel Grant, Center for Culture, History, and the Environment, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2019 Mellon-Wisconsin Fall Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2019 Doctoral Dissertation Award, Rural Sociological Society
- 2019 Student Research Grant, The Graduate School, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2019 Crowe Scholarship for Graduate Student Dissertation Research, Department of Community and Environmental Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2018 Scott Kloeck-Jenson Pre-Dissertation Travel Fellowship, The Institute for Regional and International Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2018 Graduate Student Summer Mini-Grant Program, Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2018 Nave Short-Term Field Research Grant, Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2018 Crowe Scholarship for Pre-Dissertation Research Award, Department of Community and Environmental Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2018 Graduate Student Research Travel Grant, Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2017 Crowe Scholarship for Graduate Student Travel Award, Department of Community and Environmental Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2019 Kolb Memorial Scholarship, awarded to an outstanding graduate student in Community and Environmental Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2019 Havens Memorial Award for Graduate Students from Developing Nations, Department of Community and Environmental Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2018 Eric Wolf Prize for the best article-length paper, Political Ecology Society
- 2018 Nomination for Early Excellence in Teaching Award, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2017 Master's Thesis Award, Colombian Studies Association
- 2015 Best Thesis Award for the MA/MSc Geography program, King's College London

## PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

### Invited

- 2019 “El Papel del Sindicalismo en el Desarrollo Rural a Partir del Cultivo de Palma.” Lanzamiento del informe del Centro Nacional de Memoria Histórica “Y a la vida por fin daremos todo”, Universidad de los Andes. Bogota, Colombia, May 28.
- 2019 “Persistencia del Campesinado en el Capitalismo: Debates Teóricos y Retos Actuales.” Curso Libre y de Extensión PAVIVIR (Pasiones, Vicios y Virtudes), Universidad Externado de Colombia. Bogota, Colombia, May 22.
- 2018 “Behind Smooth and Tasty Avocados: Consumer Choices, Government Opportunities, and Farmers’ Livelihoods.” Food and Social Justice course. Edgewood College. Madison, WI. October 25.

### Conferences

- 2019 “Perspectivas del Campesinado frente a la Palma de Aceite: Movilizando Conocimiento Local para Enfrentar Retos Globales.” Regional Studies Association. Bogota, Colombia. September 30-October 1.
- 2019 “The Prospects of Oil Palm: Peasant Resilience in Global Value Chains.” Rural Sociological Society. Richmond, VA, August 7-10.
- 2019 “Making a Market: Creating Space for Investors through Farmland REITs.” Society for Applied Anthropology. Portland, OR, March 19-23.
- 2017 “Claiming the Right to the City Beyond the City: The Role of Agrarian Social Movements.” American Sociological Association. Montreal, Canada. August 12-15.
- 2017 “Beyond Price: Farmers' Livelihoods and the Political Economy of Avocado.” Society for the Study of Social Problems. Montreal, Canada. August 11-13.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Professional Affiliations

- American Sociological Association (ASA)
- Rural Sociological Society (RSS)

## Professional Service

- 2020 Co-organizer, “Cosmopolitan Localism: Situated Practices Circulating in World Systems”, Section on Political Economy of the World-System, ASA Annual Meeting.
- 2019-2020 Student Representative, Development Committee, Rural Sociological Association
- 2018 Chair, taskforce to select plagiarism detection software, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

## COMMUNITY SERVICE (Selected)

- 2019— Advisor, Sintraproaceites, San Alberto, Cesar, Colombia
- 2017 Translator, Corporación Regional Yariguíes Grupo de Estudios Extractivos y Ambientales del Magdalena Medio, Barrancabermeja, Colombia
- 2017 Advocate, Workers' Rights Center of Madison, WI
- 2016 Advocate, Eastern Service Workers' Association, Trenton, NJ
- 2014 Yoga instructor, Casa de Igualdad de Oportunidades Puente Aranda, Bogota, Colombia

## MEDIA

### Author

- 2020 Serrano, Angela. “Can Small-Scale Farming Save Oil Palm?” *Edge Effects Magazine and Podcast*. February 20.
- 2019 Serrano, Angela. “Paro Nacional: Razones y Detonantes de Sobre para Protestar.” *espectador.com*. December 4.

### Mentions

- 2020 Kaljur, Lauren. “Who’s Really Paying for Your Avocado?” *Asparragus Magazine*. September 15 (mention).
- 2019 Velasco, Diana, Vanessa Sarmiento & Samara Díaz. “Líderes Sindicales de la Palma: 40 años de Lucha por Derechos.” *Lapazenel terreno.com*. September 11 (mention).
- 2019 Colombia2020. “Pudimos Contar Nuestra Lucha!: así fue el Lanzamiento del Informe que el Centro de Memoria no Priorizó.” *espectador.com*. May 28 (mention).

## LANGUAGES

Spanish (native); English (fluent); French (limited working proficiency)

Software: NVivo, SPSS

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

- 2013 Analyst for the Sustainable Cities Unit, Findeter S.A, Bogota, Colombia
- 2012 Advisor for the Office of International Affairs, Mayor's Office, Bucaramanga, Colombia