

ANGELA SERRANO

Sociology Program | School of Social Sciences
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

2021— Assistant Professor of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

EDUCATION

2021 Ph.D. Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
Dissertation: The Power of Oil Palm: Violence, Inequality, and Small-Scale Farmers' Search for Alternatives in Colombia
Committee: Jane Collins, Michael Bell, Elizabeth Hennessy, Diana Ojeda, Nan Enstad

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."

- Co-winner of the Olsen Student Paper Award, Section on Environmental Sociology, American Sociological Society
- Honorable Mention for the Brent K. Marshall Student Paper Award, Society for the Study of Social Problems

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

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

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

2021 Assistant Professor Support Fund, Universidad de los Andes
2021 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

- 2020 Honorable Mention, 2020 Student Paper Award, Sociology of Agriculture and Food Research and Interest Group, Rural Sociological Society
- 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

- 2020 “Economía Global y Agricultura Campesina: Riesgos y Oportunidades.” Colombia in the Global Economy course. Universidad de los Andes. Bogota, Colombia, Feb 19.
- 2019 “El Papel del Sindicalismo en el Desarrollo Rural a Partir del Cultivo de Palma.” Launch event for the report “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.” PAVIVIR (Pasiones, Vicios y Virtudes) course, 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

- 2021 “Small-Scale Farmers Growing Oil Palm: Mobilizing Local Knowledge to Confront Global Risks.” International Sociological Association Forum of Sociology. Virtual Conference. February 23-28.

- 2020 “La Violenta Estructuración de una Cadena de Valor: Producción de Valor y Desigualdades en la Industria de Aceite de Palma en Colombia.” Congreso Colombiano de Sociología. Virtual Conference. December 9-11.
- 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

International Sociological Association

Rural Sociological Society

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics

Professional Service

- 2021 Co-organizer, 2021 Journal of Peasant Studies Writeshop
- 2020 Co-organizer, “Cosmopolitan Localism: Situated Practices Circulating in World Systems”, Section on Political Economy of the World-System, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
- 2020 Reviewer for “Decent Work in a Globalized Economy: Lessons From Public and Private Initiatives”, International Labour Organization
- 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

- 2021 Serrano Angela. “Trabajadores de la palma luchas para que el Estado proteja su derecho al trabajo”. *Verdad Abierta*. April 19.
- 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 Sobra para Protestar.” *elespectador.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.” *elespectador.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