

Kyle Davis

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OBJECTIVE STATEMENT

My goals are twofold: teaching college-level geography courses in ways that foster student engagement and interest while using spatial frameworks to conduct research on political science, cultural phenomena, and demographic change. To achieve this, I plan to obtain a PhD in Geography by 2028.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Political Science / Electoral Geography
- Population Geography
- Cultural and Historical Geography
- Geopolitics
- Southern United States
- Western United States
- Latin America

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Geography <i>University of Kansas</i>	In progress since 2025 Lawrence, KS
Master of Arts in Geography <i>University of Kansas</i> GPA: 3.85	2023 – 2025 Lawrence, KS
Bachelor of Arts in Geography: Tourism Studies <i>Brigham Young University</i> GPA: 3.87	2017 – 2023 Provo, UT

PUBLICATIONS

Davis, K.S. Digital Sinkholes: Cenote Tourism and Social Media Geotagging in the Yucatán Peninsula. *Journal of Latin American Geography* [forthcoming].

Davis, K.S. 2026. Epic Fury redirected: Iranian reprisals against the Arab Gulf states during the 2026 Iran War. *Small Wars & Insurgencies*, 37(6):1297-1321.

Davis, K.S. 2026. The Humid Republic in the Age of Trump: Changes in Southern Presidential Voting Patterns, 2016–2024. *Geographical Review*, 1–23.

Davis, K.S. 2026. Electoral Readjustments of the Trump Era: Shifts in County-Level Voting Patterns, 2016–2024. *GeoJournal*, 91(3):89.

Davis, K.S., Otterstrom, S.M., and Reeves, D. 2025. Imported Toponymy and the FamilySearch Place Name Database: Mapping North American Communities with European Capital Namesakes. *Cartographica: The International Journal for Geographic Information and Geovisualization*, 60(2):78-92.

Davis, K.S. 2025. Homeless Republicans: Haley Voters and the 2024 Presidential Primary in Coastal South Carolina. *Southeastern Geographer* 65(1):101-118.

Davis, K.S. 2024. The Big Peach Divided: Demographic-Electoral Transitions and Geographic Polarization in Atlanta Metropolitan Area Counties. *Southeastern Geographer* 64(3):312-332.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Kansas Lawrence, KS
Graduate Teaching Assistant for Intro GIS (Geog 358) Aug 2026 – Present

- Supervised in-person lab.

Graduate Teaching Assistant for Physical Geography Lab (Geog 105) Aug 2025 – Jul 2026

- Supervised in-person and online lab formats.
- Taught physical geography using hands-on activities.

Graduate Teaching Assistant for Culture & Health (Geog 201) Aug 2023 – May 2025

- Graded 120-150 assignments per week.
- Coordinated with students who fell behind on class work to get them caught up.
- Assisted in transition of the course from fully online to hybrid learning model.
- Experience with in-person teaching and online class format.

Brigham Young University Provo, UT
Teaching Assistant, Department of Geography Sept 2021 – Apr 2023

- Covered 3 regional geography courses: North America, Latin America, and Europe.
- Created assignments and training materials to teach geographic concepts.
- Graded tests, essays, and other work for more than 20 students per semester.
- Led 3-4 discussions and test reviews each term.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Brigham Young University Provo, UT
Research Assistant, Department of Geography Dec 2017 – May 2023 (intermittent)

- Contributed findings to 2 geographic journal articles.
- Recorded data for more than 200 historic highway markers.
- Constructed a literature review and pioneered statistical methods for article on toponymy.

PRESENTATIONS

Kyle Davis. 2026. “The Humid Republic in the Age of Trump: Changes in Southern Presidential Voting Patterns, 2016–2024”. Association of American Geographers (AAG), Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. March.

Kyle Davis. 2026. “Digital Sinkholes: Cenote Tourism and Social Media Geotagging in the Yucatán Peninsula”. Conference of Latin American Geography (CLAG), Annual Meeting, Puerto Vallarta, MX. January.

Kyle Davis. 2023. “Now Growing Grapes: The Post-2012 Political Realignment of Orange County from Red to Purple”. Utah Conference of Undergraduate Research (UCUR), Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT. February.

Kyle Davis. 2022. “Red Halo in Retreat: The Emerging Republican Trend in Georgia’s Exurban Counties”. Mary Lou Fulton Conference, Provo, UT. December.

Kyle Davis and Samuel Otterstrom. 2022. “From Borrowing to Creating: The Evolution of American Toponyms, 1600 – 1870”. Association of American Geographers, Great Plains / Rocky Mountains Division Meeting, Denver, CO. October.

Kyle Davis. 2021. “Utahan, Utahn, Utahite: Evaluating Cultural Contrasts in the Beehive State”. Utah Conference of Undergraduate Research (UCUR), Annual Meeting [Virtual]. January.

Kyle Davis. 2018. “Similar Stories, Different Tales: Comparing Historical Highway Markers in Western and Eastern Oregon”. Mary Lou Fulton Conference, Provo, UT. April.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad-hoc reviewer for <i>Political Behavior</i> (1 manuscript review)	2026
Ad-hoc reviewer for the <i>Southeastern Geographer</i> (2 manuscript reviews)	2025

HONORS & AWARDS

Sherman & Irene Dreiseszun Scholarship / Harry S. Truman Foundation (\$5,000)	2026
Outstanding Thesis Project Award (\$375)	2025
AAG World Geography Bowl Winning Team (GPRM Division)	2023
Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research: Best in Social Sciences Poster Award (\$300)	2023
Tuttle Scholarship Award (\$3,060)	2022-2023
Winter Teaching Assistant Award (\$500)	2022

REFERENCES

Barney Warf
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Professor, Department of Geography and Atmospheric Science
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