

The University of Louisville Department of Geographic and Environmental Sciences stands in solidarity with transgender and nonbinary students. We uphold the [University of Louisville's definition of diversity](#) and encourage our campus community to critically reflect on this definition, and what it means to truly build a Cardinal Community of Care. As we write this in early March 2023, [several bills](#) are making their way through the Kentucky legislature that will have serious impacts on the well-being of trans youth in our state. Simultaneously, many other states have either proposed or adopted similar legislation. Such legislation is anticipated to have serious impacts on the mental and physical health of young people in our state and contributes to a climate of intolerance, something [we have already seen](#) in our larger campus community.

To our trans and nonbinary students: you are welcomed and valued, just as you are. We appreciate who you are and are glad to have you in our classrooms and communities. We strive to provide a safe place for you as you pursue higher education.

For students, faculty, and staff interested in finding more resources and supportive communities on campus:

- [UofL Trans Rights Alliance](#)
- [UofL Counseling Center](#)
- [Sexuality and Gender Alliance](#)
- [UofL LGBTQ+ Faculty and Staff Association](#)

Significant scholarship in Geography addresses the ways that LGBTQ+ people navigate the spaces of everyday life, often showing how LGBTQ+ people are harmed by spaces of intolerance, but can thrive in spaces of acceptance. For example, [The Queer and Trans Geographies Specialty Group](#) of the American Association of Geographers promotes “the exchange of ideas and information about theoretical, pedagogical, and methodological work and interests on topics relating to queer and trans studies/theories, gender, and sexuality within and beyond geography.”

To see some examples of recent relevant scholarship, check out the list below:

- [Bhattacharya \(2021\)](#). “Becoming an ally and understanding the geographies of gender identity: lessons from fieldwork” in *The Geographical Bulletin*.
- [DasGupta et al. \(2021\)](#). “Pedagogies of Queer and Trans Repair: Letters from Queer Geographic Classrooms” in *ACME*.
- [Davies et al. \(2018\)](#). “Sexuality, space, gender, and health: Reviewing geographical approaches to well-being in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer populations” in *Geography Compass*.
- [Giesecking \(2020\)](#). *A Queer New York*.
- [Mearns et al. \(2020\)](#). “Trans experiences of a university campus in northern England” in *Area*.
- [Oswin \(2015\)](#). “World, City, Queer” in *Antipode*.
- [Statham and Scuzzarello \(2023\)](#). “Transgender Kathoey and gay men using tourist/zone scenes as ‘social opportunities’ for nonheteronormative living in Thailand” in *Gender, Place & Culture*.

- [Swab and Giesecking \(2022\)](#). “Toward Queering the Map 2.0: A Conversation with Michael Brown, Lary Knopp, and Bo Zhao” in ACME.
- [Whittemore \(2022\)](#). “Finding queer life through allies: the geography and intentions of mainstream-oriented, ostensibly LGBTQ-supportive businesses in a smaller metropolitan area of the US South” in the Annals of the American Association of Geographers.
- See also the [Gender, Sexuality, and Space Reading List](#) curated by Jack Giesecking.