

ANISHA KHANDOKAR

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Gainesville, Florida

EDUCATION

University of Florida | Gainesville, FL

August 2026 – May 2030

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Geography

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

August 2024 – August 2026

Master of Community and Regional Planning GPA: 3.90/4.00

University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

May 2022 – June 2023

M.S. Geography and Environment (Urban & Regional Planning & Development) CGPA 3.52/4.00

University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

January 2017 – April 2022

B.S Hons. Geography And Environment, CGPA 3.43/4.00

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Graduate Research Assistant, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

Aug 2024 – July 2026

- Investigated the short- and long-term impact of the 2019 Nebraska historic flood on rural communities' social-media engagement, using mixed-methods analysis to identify information gaps and effective outreach strategies.
- Evaluated high-risk residential structures within the 1 % annual-chance (100-year) floodplain, synthesizing Geo AI building detection and GIS risk mapping with on-site assessments to prioritize mitigation investments.
- Conducted policy and planning research by evaluating Wetland Program Plans, reviewing comprehensive rural hazard-mitigation plans, and translating technical findings into policy briefs and presentations for state agencies, legislators, and local stakeholders.
- Designed, administered, and analyzed community-engagement surveys and focus groups on walkability, transit access, and health equity to develop data-driven planning recommendations.

PUBLICATIONS

Khandokar, A., Mason, J.B., Singh, R., Jahangeer, J., Lee, J., Andrews, J., Jahan, R., Noor, M., Joshi, P., Nam, Y., Tang, Z., (2026). **"Social Media Adoption in Urban and Rural Flood Risk Management: Evidence from Nebraska's 2019 Flood-Affected Regions,"** Human Settlements and Sustainability, Advance online publication.

Noor, M. A., Mason, J. B., Singh, R., Jahangeer, J., Lee, J., Andrews, J., **Khandokar, A.,** Jahan, R. N., Joshi, P., Nam, Y., & Tang, Z. (2026). **Evaluating the preparedness of local zoning regulations for flood risk reduction in the most affected local jurisdictions in Nebraska.** Journal of Urban Planning and Development, 152(4).

GRADUATE REPORTS AND PLANNING PROJECTS

Lincoln, NE

Community Engagement Report for Ogallala's Comprehensive Plan Update

- Led community engagement designing surveys and hosting stakeholder open houses and synthesized findings to diagnose needs and deliver data-driven, actionable recommendations.
- Evaluated regional land use, housing, socioeconomic, and employment trends; authored a report that integrated feedback into prioritized recommendations and implementation steps.

Regional Context Report for Ogallala City, Nebraska

- Conducted community outreach and data collection to assess urban development challenges.

Walkability Assessment in Lincoln

- surveys conducted and community engagement to assess pedestrian accessibility.
- Authored report for city planners

Antelope Creek Neighborhood Housing Condition Field Report

- Conducted field assessment using a standardized, close-ended questionnaire to document exterior housing conditions (roof, façade, windows/doors, yard, code-compliance indicators).
- Wrote the report, summarizing close-ended field survey results with basic maps and condition ratings.

GIS-Based Model for Selecting Park locations in Sarpy County: A Suitability Analysis

- Built a GIS based suitability model using the Weighted Linear Combination method; prepared and weighted data layers and performed raster overlay.
- Produced suitability maps and a brief report highlighting priority areas in the northeast and center of Sarpy County and the overall score range.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH & FIELDWORK PROJECTS

Dhaka, Bangladesh

- **Assessing the Cooling Effects of Urban Green Spaces in Dhaka City Using Geospatial Techniques, 2023**
[master's Thesis]

Evaluated temporal variability of the green space contribution index in reducing Land Surface Temperature (LST). Employed Google Earth Engine for LST measurement and ArcGIS/ERDAS Imagine for NDVI and Contribution Index calculations. Analyzed the changing relationship between vegetation and temperature over time

- **Land Use Pattern and Socio-economic Condition of Mandra Mauza, Munshiganj, 2021***
Examined land use characteristics and investigated socio-economic conditions. Explored the interrelationship between changing land use patterns and local socio-economic characteristics.
- **Geomorphological and Environmental Characteristics of Sonadia and Maheshkhali Islands of Bangladesh, 2019***
Studied sediment dynamics in the Bay of Bengal, conducting lithostratigraphic and vegetation surveys. Estimated Maheshkhali Island's slope and used GIS methods to characterize physical properties (salinity, pH, visibility) of the Bay of Bengal
- **Local People's Access to Safe Drinking Water: A Study at Bagerhat, 2018***
Explored and investigated the sources of safe drinking water and local people's adaptation strategies to safe drinking water scarcity using detailed, semi-structured questionnaire.
- **Case Study of Jamdani Palli, 2017***
Assembled comprehensive data regarding socio-economic conditions of Jamdani Weavers using semi-structured questionnaires. Investigated geographical characteristics and access to utilities.

**[These field studies were conducted as part of coursework during undergraduate studies]*

PRESENTATION AT MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

- **Khandokar, A. (2026, March 6). Planning for Resilience: Mapping Flood Exposure and Communicating Risk.**
Oral Presentation at the **Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association (NPZA) Annual Conference**, Kearney, NE.
- Tang, Z., Mason, B.J., Nam, Y., Lee, J., Singh, R., Andrews, J., Noor, M.A., Jahan, R.N., **Khandokar, A.**, Joshi, P., Jahangeer, J., 2025, **Promoting Integrating Planning for Flood Mitigation and Community Resilience, League of Nebraska Municipalities-2025 Midwinter Conference**, February 25, 2025, Lincoln, NE. (Invited presentation)
- Tang, Z., Mason, B.J., Nam, Y., Lee, J., Singh, R., Andrews, J., Noor, M.A., Jahan, R.N., **Khandokar, A.**, Joshi, P., Jahangeer, J., 2025, **Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association Annual Conference**, March 5, 2025, Kearney, NE. (Presentation)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- **Negussie Negawo Memorial Award, College of Architecture, University of Nebraska–Lincoln (May 2026)**
Awarded in recognition of outstanding achievement and promise within the college.
- **Tau Sigma Delta Bronze Medal, College of Architecture, University of Nebraska–Lincoln (May 2026)**
Awarded in recognition of outstanding achievement and promise within the college.