

DR. GRACE E. MUELLER

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RESEARCH	Economic and labour geography; local economic development; urban labour markets; social reproduction; qualitative methods; South Asia and UK	
EDUCATION	University of Cambridge 2025 Ph.D., Economic Geography (<i>Viva passed with no corrections in December 2025</i>) Thesis: <i>Being Dignified: Understanding Socio-Spatial Exploitation and Agency in Nepali Domestic Work</i> – Supervised by Bhaskar Vira and Anna Barford	
	University of Edinburgh 2019 M.Sc., International Development (<i>with distinction</i>) Dissertation: <i>Radical Entrepreneurship: Challenging Caste-Based Discrimination and Socio-Structural Constraints to Inclusion in Rural Bangladesh</i> – Supervised by Juli Huang	
	University of Texas at Austin 2016 B.Sc., Communication Studies Bridging Discipline Certificate: Social Entrepreneurship and Nonprofits <i>Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society</i>	
RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT	University of Cambridge , Postdoctoral Research Associate 2026-present Postdoctoral research developing educational materials for school curriculum on sustainable development from Discovery Channel India documentary series.	
	International Labour Organization , Research Consultant 2021, 2023 Co-authored chapter on racial discrimination in the workplace; led semi-structured interviews and developed case study on active labour market policies in Indonesia.	
	Asian Development Bank , Senior Research Analyst 2020-2021 Led multi-country study of COVID-19 impacts among young people, including analysis of 1400 diary entries and collaboration with national policymakers.	
PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES	[4] “Entrepreneurship As Struggle: The Crises and Politics of Entrepreneurial Becomings” (2025) <i>Economic Anthropology</i> with Juli Huang, Jacqui Bassett, Paige Chisholm & Hanna Geary. [3] “Caring through translation: a dialogue on ethics and inclusivity in cross language research” (2024) <i>International Journal of Qualitative Methods</i> with Aashma Baniya. [2] “Mortgaged futures: fractured livelihoods and youth debts during COVID-19” (2024) <i>Journal of Youth Studies</i> with Anna Barford, Gerard McCarthy, Helen Osborne, Andi Pratiwi, Kaajal Pradhan & Soniya Shrestha. [1] “Disaster diaries: Qualitative research at a distance” (2023) <i>International Journal of Qualitative Methods</i> with Anna Barford, Helen Osborne, Kaajal Pradhan, Rachel Proefke, Soniya Shrestha & Andi Pratiwi. <i>Forthcoming:</i> Domestic work and unfreedom: Theorizing capitalist variegation within South Asia – for <i>Progress in Human Geography</i> (target submission: July 2026) <i>Forthcoming:</i> Interdependence and relational obligation: becoming a domestic worker in urban Nepal – for <i>Antipode</i> (target submission: October 2026) <i>Forthcoming:</i> Invisible and under-pressure: hidden temporalities of ‘work-time’ – for <i>International Journal of Political Economy</i> (target submission: December 2026) <i>Forthcoming:</i> From markets to ecosystems: local labour exchange for the future of decent work – for <i>Economic Geography</i> (target submission: March 2027)	

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT OUTPUTS	“Didilai Didiko Sandesh” Short Film (2024). <i>Facebook</i> with anonymized domestic workers, DCINE & Cambridge Creative Encounters. 900K+ views.		
	“Racial Discrimination in the World of Work.” Report Chapter (2023). <i>International Labour Organization</i> with the Gender, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (GEDI) Branch.		
	“Labour Market Policies, Youth and COVID-19”. Policy Brief (2021). <i>International Labour Organization</i> with A. Barford, A. Coutts, Brockie K. and Hamada, N.		
	“Youth in a Time of Crisis: Livelihood diaries from Nepal and Indonesia during COVID-19.” Policy Brief (2022). <i>Restless Development</i> .		
GRANTS AND AWARDS	RGS-IBG Economic Geography Research Group Travel Award (£350)	2026	
	Skoll World Forum Steward, University of Oxford	2026, 2019	
	Economic and Social Research Council PhD Scholar (£17,000 annually)	2021-25	
	Cambridge International Trust Scholar (£10,000 annually)	2021-25	
	Stamps Foundation Scholar, Queens’ College (£2,000 annually)	2021-25	
	Cambridge Creative Encounters Programme Finalist	2023	
	Queens’ College Travel Award (£1,000)	2023	
	Queens’ College Subject Fund Award (£500)	2022	
	William Vaughn Lewis Fund Prize	2022	
	Philip Lake II Fund Awardee (£2,180)	2022-24	
	Rotary International Global Grant (awarded \$30,000)	2021	
	Dissertation Award of Distinction, University of Edinburgh	2019	
	Dean’s List, University of Texas at Austin	2012-16	
National Collegiate Scholar Award, University of Texas at Austin	2012-16		
ACADEMIC TEACHING	University of Cambridge, Department of Geography <i>Lecturer</i>		
	Ethnography Masterclass (MPhil students)(with Mike Hume)	2025	
	<i>Supervisor (Small Group Teaching)</i>		
	Geographies of Work and Employment (Undergrad Year 3)(with Mia Gray)	2023-24	
	Auto/Ethnographic Methods – Dissertation Supervision (Undergrad Year 2)	2023-24	
	Economic Geography (Undergrad Year 1)(with Graham Denyer-Willis)	2024	
	Geographies of Hope (Undergrad Year 3)(with Emma Mawdsley)	2022	
	Development Theories and Practices (Undergrad Year 2)(with Emma Mawdsley)	2022	
	Tribhuvan University, Gender Studies (Nepal) <i>Invited Guest Lecturer</i>		
	Research in Practice (with Bindu Pokharel)	2023	
	CONFERENCES AND PANELS ORGANIZED	The Future of (Decent) Work in the Global South – Panel <i>American Association of Geographers</i> with Debangana Bose	2024
		Navigating South Asian Workspace – Panel <i>Institute for Human Development</i> Global Conclave with Bhaskar Vira, Debangana Bose, Garima Sahai & Kate Brockie	2024
		Re-Working Work: Labour & Livelihoods in the Global South – Conference <i>University of Cambridge</i> with Kate Brockie, Katarzyna Cieslik & Anna Barford	2022
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	12th Annual Summer Institute in Economic Geography (July 2026)	2026	
	RGS-IBG, <i>United Cities, Divided Workers</i> Panel Selectee (September 2026)	2026	
	52nd Annual Conference on South Asia, <i>University of Wisconsin-Madison</i>	2024	
	American Association of Geographers	2024	
	Global Conclave, <i>Institute for Human Development</i>	2024	
	Youth Employment Research Forum, <i>International Labour Organization</i>	2023	
	Graduate Seminars, <i>Max Planck-Cambridge Centre for Ethics, Economy & Social Change</i>	2022	
RSAI World Congress	2021		

AFFILIATIONS	Yale Macmillan Center South Asian Reading Group, Participant	2024-present
	Yale Anthropology, Visiting Scholar	2024
	American Association of Geographers, Economic Geography, Member	2023-present
	Cambridge Society for Economic Pluralism, Member	2021-26
	Cambridge Queens' College, Member	2021-26
	Cambridge Working Lives Lab, Member	2021-26
	Stamps Foundation, Research Fellow	2021-26
	Economic and Social Research Council, Research Fellow	2021-26
Rotary International Foundation, Global Grant Scholar	2021-26	
INVITED TALKS	<i>Asian Development Bank</i> , Indonesia & Nepal Resident Missions, Policy Workshop	2021
	<i>Asian Development Bank</i> , Youth for Asia Symposium, Panel Speaker	2021
	<i>University of Cambridge</i> , Challenges in the Global South, Seminar Speaker	2021
	<i>Asian Development Bank</i> , Social Development Group, Webinar Speaker	2021
CERTIFICATES & TRAINING	Rethinking Labour Agency in a Globalized World of Work	2022
	<i>University of Oslo</i> – Certificate, 18 hours (Instructors: Neil Coe & David Jordhus-Lier)	
	Co-Producing Urban Research in the Global South	2022
	<i>University College London</i> – Certificate, 22 hours	
	Global Trends for Business and Society	2018
<i>University of Pennsylvania</i> – Certificate, 11 hours		
Humanitarian Response in Conflict and Disasters	2018	
<i>Harvard Extension School</i> – Certificate, 15 hours		
DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE	Postgraduate Communications Representative	2024-25
	Geographies of Lunch Daily Social Organizer	2023-2025
	Decent Work and Youth Livelihoods Thematic Cluster Organizer	2021-24
	Postgraduate Cohort Representative	2021-22
FIELDWORK	Hetauda, Nepal	2022-23; 24
	Kulaura, Bangladesh	2019
	Port Au Prince, Haiti	2016
RESEARCH TOOLS	Languages: Nepali (B1 speaking, reading, writing); Spanish (A1 speaking, reading, writing) Softwares: Atlas.ti; NVivo; Miro; Adobe Creative Suite	