GEO 873 Seminar in Human Geography

Get publication-ready work from this course, working with survey data, writing about the connection between people and place in agriculture, and answering your own research questions.

Instructor: Dr. Sandy Marquart-Pyatt (marqua41@msu.edu)

Thu: 4:10-7:00 PM

How resilient are farms and farmers to changes in social and political processes, environmental conditions, and the policy-making process? We can answer these questions (and more!) in this course, using almost ten years of longitudinal data from across the Midwest.

Description: This graduate seminar in human geography emphasizes nature-society studies and political geography. Human geography studies the connection between people and place, with particular emphasis on how these interrelations vary spatially and temporally across social, political, cultural, and environmental contexts.

New in spring 2026, this seminar will focus on academic writing and publishing using survey data.



More on our Data: We will be analyzing data from a longitudinal/panel dataset of growers across the Midwest. The MSU Panel Farmer Survey (PFS) began in 2017 and has surveyed ~2000 farmers in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio annually for the last nine years. We have farmer responses on values and perceptions, practice adoption, and policy views.

Research on topics in human geography; survey data analysis; applications with emphasis on academic writing and research projects.

Prerequisites: none; interest in survey data recommended



