

Featured Faculty for March 2011



Mark Carper at Faculty Colloquia discussing his research study.

Dr. Mark Carper, Assistant Professor, Geography/Environmental & Society

Dr. Carper's interests include international political economy; processes and effects of globalization; international environmental issues; resource management; interrelationship between society, technology and the environment; social theory and geography; gendered perspectives in geography; and issues of language, ethnicity and identity in the Slavic world. His regional focus has been on Russia and Eastern Europe, with a thematic concentration on socioeconomic transition and with a focus on his adopted territory for research, Bulgaria. These pursuits have encompassed area studies, language training, and travel.

Dr. Carper attended Oklahoma State University for his BA degree (1990); received his M.S. in Geography from Ohio State University (1998); and his Ph. D. at the University of Kansas (2004). He was the recipient of a Fulbright scholarship (2002-2003) for dissertation research (Household energy management strategies in Bulgaria's transitioning energy sector), AND served as an exchange student at Lund University, Sweden (1997) and participated in Board of European Students of Technology (BEST) Summer Program in Environmental Case Studies in Kosice, Slovak Republic; July 1997.

The Food Security project also includes students Zoe Meade, Danielle Giles, Kent Spiers, Brittany Murphy, Kaustav Kakati, and Rebecca Barker. The students who are distributing the surveys are "citi-certified" meaning they have completed the Institutional Review Board training to understand the protocols and restraints of research guidelines to protect human subjects. The team will finish up surveys in April or May and begin the data analysis. Data will also be gathered on food outlets that will be classified into "types" such as local markets, national chains, convenience stores, etc. and mapped using a GIS system. Professor Carper and his team are working with the [Alaska Food Policy Council](#).

At the University of Alaska Anchorage Dr. Carper teaches introductory world regional and physical courses as well as People, Places, and Ecosystems; Political Geography; The Slavic World; and Field Studies in Geography: A Balkan Inquisition: Contemporary Geography and Development of the Balkan Peninsula

Areas of expertise: International environmental issues, political economy & globalization, Eastern Europe, the Balkans.