

# KATHERINE G. RAIANO

+1.603.465.8370 • [kat.raiano@gmail.com](mailto:kat.raiano@gmail.com) • New Hampshire, Washington DC

---

## EDUCATION

**American University**, College of Arts and Sciences (CAS)

December 2024

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies, Minor in Transcultural Literature Studies

*Honors:* School of Public Affairs (SPA) Leadership Program

Relevant Courses and Projects:

- **Edible Campus Initiative Independent Study** - Worked with two other dedicated students to catalog plants in the American University Arboretum. Made a map using ArcGIS software. Researched edible and medicinal uses of identified plants. Created educational materials and lead a tour to highlight our findings
- **SPA Leadership Project 2nd year** - Researched Indigenous stewardship in the DMV area, met with members of federally recognized tribes in Virginia to discuss statewide conservation efforts
- **AU Community Garden Walnut Foraging Event** - Lead an educational event at a community garden workday to learn about sustainable or honorable foraging through readings and foraging black walnuts on campus
- **Stop Line 3 Alternative Break** - Attended a student-lead educational program that collaborated with speakers from the White Earth Nation to learn about resistance to line 3 and take actions which included publishing a list of demands from the university regarding the treatment of Indigenous peoples, speaking with faculty to include more Indigenous curriculum, writing to elected officials in Congress and the DC City Council about highlighted issues like the VAWA tribal protections and land acknowledgements
- **SPA 370 Energy Policy** - Learning about the political, social, and economic realities of environmental policies and laws especially those relating to the current energy production system and clean energy transition
- **ENVS 160 Biodiversity and Ecosystems** - Gained a background in environmental science and methods such as statistical analysis, data entry and excel, data collection, and soil and water testing methods
- **AMST 320 Federal Indian Law and Legacies** - Using a multidisciplinary approach to understand how federal Indian law has contemporary effects in the lives of modern Indigenous people in the US
- **Core 105 Being Indigenous** - learned about contemporary colonialism and Indigenous erasure with the overall goal of global decolonization in mind
- **Literature 225 Writers in Print and in Person** - Read diverse literature across genres and met with local authors to learn about how and why any given story is told and published

**Milford High School**, Milford, NH

June 2020

- *Honors and Activities:* Graduated Summa Cum Laude & 8th in class, GPA: 4.3/4.5, National Honor Society
- Academic World Quest: Model G20 Summit Full Tuition (Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK)
- National History Day Senior Project: Marilla Ricker, 1st state female attorney - New Hampshire State Champion
- Milford High School Kaley Speech Contest Winner

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Data Collection and Entry - Little Falls Watershed Alliance - Bethesda, MD**

November 2022 - Present

- Working with another student to test water quality, measure stream flow velocity, and enter data for multiple streams within the Little Falls Watershed

**Research Assistant - Indigenous DC Project - American University**

September 2022 - Present

- Working with other research assistants and a professor to schedule and carry out oral history interviews to add to the Indigenous DC walking tour app
- Will edit oral history videos so they can be added to the app

**Project Intern - Smithsonian Gardens Learning by Leading - Washington, DC**

February 2022 - May 2022

- Helped schedule and run interviews with professionals in gardening/horticultural/agricultural fields to create audio for a careers in gardening podcast
- Organized methods and wrote a podcast handbook for future interns to use

**Member and Teaching Assistant - SPA Leadership Program - American University**

September 2020 - Present

- Working with other TAs and faculty to facilitate a meaningful leadership experience for second year students
- Collaborated with off campus organizations and experts to develop awareness and solutions for the mental health issues refugees face

- Collaborated with local Indigenous nations to promote an environmental policy that is respectful of sacred sites and traditional practices

**Education Director - AU Garden Club - American University** September 2021 - Present

- Providing readings and planning activities for weekly garden workdays related to gardening, foraging, ecology etc.
- Developing educational material and working on projects such as an educational archive and cookbook to supplement work done in the growing season
- Working as a member of the executive board to facilitate club administration and moving the garden to a permanent space on campus

**Executive Board - AU Beekeeping Society - American University** October 2021 - May 2022

- Worked on the special projects team to facilitate bee-related events such as open hives and certification classes
- Studied to become a District of Columbia Beekeeper's Alliance certified beekeeper

**Volunteer - New Hampshire Fish and Game - Durham, NH** May 2022

- Aided in the annual river herring run data collection conducted in NH's coastal rivers and fish ladders
- Learned about NH's dams/dam removal, the ecological impact of industries, and anadromous fish species

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

**Volunteer - New Hampshire Youth Movement - Manchester, NH** November 2020 - Present

- Intermittently volunteered for various initiatives including canvassing to overturn New Hampshire's "divisive concepts ban" that censors teachers and government workers from discussing racism and sexism, helping with protests, signing petitions, and voting for organization endorsements in state races

**Executive Board - Club Taekwondo - American University** December 2021 - Present

- Learning Taekwondo curriculum including self defense, sparring drills, and poomsae (forms)
- Carrying out duties required to run club activities including procuring a practice space, facilitating travel, filling out reports etc.

**Marching Band Drum Major - Milford High School Marching Band** July 2019 - May 2020

- Led & conducted 60-piece marching band for games and competitions: 5/5-star Drum Major rating, Maine Band Directors Association Finals.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Sales Associate - Eastern Mountain Sports - Peterborough, NH** May 2022 - August 2022

- Learned about a variety of outdoor sports and gear to accurately inform consumers partaking in outdoor activities

**Line Cook - Hilltop Cafe, Wilton, NH** February 2021 - August 2021

- Worked an egg station, a grill station, and did prep work for a restaurant of 24-55 people

**Lifeguard, Swim Instructor - Town of Milford - Keyes Pool - Milford, NH** June 2018 - August 2020

- Kept watch over 20-30 young swimmers to ensure fast response when distress situations arose.
- Led instructional swim classes for children ages 4 to 9

**Cashier/Sales Associate - Lowes - Amherst, NH** July 2020 - September 2020

- Processed transactions between \$0.50 and \$1,500.00 for appliance and home improvement purchases
- Provided outstanding customer service

## Skills

- Gardening and Plant Identification
- Educational Outreach
- Data Collection
- Data Entry
- Basic Statistical analysis

- Excel
- Research in a Variety of Mediums
- Public Speaking
- Leadership
- Communication
- Creative and Professional Writing
- Culinary Skills
- First Aid
- Customer Service
- Point of Sale Systems
- Beekeeping