

Rebecca L. Powell, Ph.D.

Rebecca Powell is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Environment. Her research focuses on developing tools to characterize land-surface properties and monitor land-cover change using satellite and aerial imagery. She contributes to several interdisciplinary projects investigating ecosystem change in a variety of regions worldwide, including the Amazon floodplain, East African savannas, and North American forests.

Rebecca teaches core courses for the Geographic Information Science program in the Department of Geography. She also teaches an interdisciplinary first-year seminar that investigates global sustainability issues, and occasionally offers a seminar on “Just Sustainabilities” as a capstone course for the sustainability minor.

Rebecca has participated on the Sustainability Council since its inception in 2008, and has served as Council Chair or co-Chair for three academic years. She co-chaired the Chancellor’s Engaging Community Task Force: Expanding Sustainability on Campus, and contributed to the initial stages of the DU IMPACT 2025 strategic plan implementation.

Rebecca earned her doctorate in Geography in 2006 from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She has a M.A. in Secondary Science Education from the University of Mississippi, and a B.A. in Physics from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota.