

# ZURI B. GARCIA

## CONTACT



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Englewood, CO

## LANGUAGES

- Spanish Fluency

## SKILLS

- Hazard Mitigation
- Project Management
- Outreach
- Conflict Resolution
- Event Planning
- Data/Statistical Analysis

## SOFTWARE

- Microsoft Office
- ArcGIS, QGIS
- R
- Adobe InDesign
- Adobe Photoshop

## AFFILIATIONS

- American Planning Association (APA)
- North Carolina APA Chapter

## EDUCATION

### The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

*M.A in City and Regional Planning*

2022

Specialization: Land Use and Environmental Planning

Honors: Departmental Scholarship (2020), American Planning Association Scholarship (2021)

Focus: Land use and environmental policy, natural hazards and climate resiliency, preparedness and mitigation, environmental and social justice frameworks

Thesis: Analysis of Extreme Flood Event Impacts on Poultry Farms

Certificate: Climate Resilience and Disaster Mitigation

### The University of Texas at Austin

*B.S in Applied Learning and Development*

2012

Honors: President's List, Margaret Alexander Steiner Endowed Full Tuition Scholarship

Focus: Bilingual education, social-emotional learning, and classroom management

## EXPERIENCE

### UNC, City and Regional Planning Department

*Graduate Research Assistant*

*Aug. 2021 – Dec. 2022*

- Co-led research project for The Department of City and Regional Planning focused on consumer pattern analysis
- Prepared and communicated with distinct audiences regarding research progress, findings, and data analysis orally and in writing
- Effectively met multiple deadlines and utilized keen problem-solving skills to ensure a quality product and project success
- Compiled and distilled secured data from the National Transportation Secure Data Center, and managed data integrity

### UNC, Public Policy Department

*Graduate Research Assistant/Consultant*

*Fall 2021*

- Recruited respondents and conducted qualitative interviews for a resiliency and recovery project researching hurricane impacts on local communities
- Facilitated process to ensure respondents understood their protections under UNC's Institutional Review Board (IRB) regulations

## **Courtyard by Marriott, Bistro**

*Lead Attendant in Boone, NC*

*Dec. 2020 – June 2021*

- Promoted to Lead within two months of hire after showing strong leadership, work ethic, and interpersonal skills
- Supervised teams of 2-3 during shifts and supported employees' individual growth
- Effectively balanced overlapping responsibilities such as lead, cashier, cook, barista, and caterer
- Ensured restaurant compliance with state food and safety regulations

## **Austin Independent School District, Dawson Elementary**

*2nd Grade, Dual Language Teacher in Austin, TX*

*2014 – 2019*

- Developed and delivered bilingual curriculum for 23+ diverse learners
- Created systems to collect and analyze data on student performance and curriculum efficacy
- Used project management principles to identify student/teaching needs, set objectives, monitor progress, evaluate performance, and make necessary adjustments
- Strategized and allocated resources, prepared the classroom budget to ensure cost efficiency
- Designed and directed gardening and coding programs in response to school enrichment gaps
- Institutionalized and headed community clean-up event by effectively organizing students, parents, teachers, and non-profit sponsors
- Produced and facilitated professional training curriculum for 20+ educators

## **Workers Defense Project, Adult Education and Training (AET)**

*Lead Organizer in Austin, TX*

*2013 – 2014*

- Increased AET program worker member participation by 250+ members
- Revamped membership intake process, including the collection and recording of dues, leading to an unprecedented amount of dues collected
- Activated and engaged members in policy campaigns, ESL classes, OSHA-10 and Know Your Rights trainings utilizing relational organizing strategies
- Managed member database to support cross-team recruitment goals
- Formed partnerships with labor leaders, state and local agencies, Spanish language media, and other community partners to support organizational goals
- Developed and directed all cultural, outreach, and organizational events
- Supervised interns and volunteers; created and coordinated their work plans

## **RESEARCH/PROJECTS**

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- How Does Governance Influence Community Climate Risk: Policy, Politics, International Scales
- Climate Change Adaptive Alternatives to the Ike Dyke in Galveston, TX
- Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment in Kinston, NC
- A Spatial Analysis of Flood Vulnerability in the Catawba River Basin, NC
- Policy to Improve Wildfire Suppression in California
- [Advancing Equity: Puerto Rico's History and Development](#)

## **PUBLISHED WORK**

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Coastal Resilience Center: [Equity Recommendations to Combat Hazard Uncertainty](#)

## **LEADERSHIP**

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<b>Member</b>	UNC Black Graduate and Professional Student Association	Fall 2020 – Spring 2023
<b>Senator</b>	ASU Graduate Student Government Association	Fall 2019
<b>Chair</b>	Dawson Elementary Campus Innovation Coach	Fall 2017 – 2019