

# Tiffany Cousins, MUP

[Tiffany.ACousins@gmail.com](mailto:Tiffany.ACousins@gmail.com)

[Google Scholar Profile](#)

## Education

Ph.D. Planning, Governance, and Globalization, Virginia Tech 2025  
Disaster Resilience and Risk Management Scholar

Master of Urban Planning, Texas A&M University 2016  
Graduate Certificate in Environmental Hazard Management  
Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Bachelor of Science Geosciences; Geography University of Connecticut 2014  
Concentration: Geophysics; Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

## Research Interests:

pluvial flooding, flood mapping and modeling, natural hazards, disaster management, environmental planning, GIS methodology, participatory planning

## Research Experience:

Virginia Tech

- Disaster Resilience and Risk Management Scholar (Dr. Margret Cowell, Dr. Jen Irish)
  - 2021 Natural Hazards Workshop Poster Session: Not Everyone Can Social Distance
    - producing maps of the ratio of Black deaths during Covid-19
- Disaster Resilience and Risk Management Scholar (Dr. Margret Cowell)
  - 2019 ACSP: How Chief Resilience Officers Shape Resilience Strategies In The Era Of 100RC
    - Data curation
    - Qualitative data coding
    - Assisted with writing original draft preparation

Texas A&M University

- Participatory Mapping Project Manager (09/2014 – 06/2016)
  - Designed and developed a data collection process for gathering rainfall data
  - Training high school students to use Collector for ArcGIS
  - Developed and deployed maps through ArcGIS Online, Survey 123, Collector for ArcGIS for in-field data collection
  - Other contributions: Neighborhood surveying – interviewed community on their awareness of climate change, designed route map to complete interviews using Network Analysis

## Teaching Experience:

Adjunct Instructor, Hofstra University

- Introduction to Digital Mapping
- Intermediate GIS

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Virginia Tech 2019–2020, 2020–2021*

- Land Use and Environment: Planning and Policy (80–100 students);
- Law and the Environment (40–50 students)
- Grading, guest lecture, office hours when needed, attended classes to provide support to the

professor when needed

## Professional Affiliations:

2023–2027 International Sociological Association (ISA) Newsletter Editor for RC39 Sociology of Disasters

## Industry Experience:

- GIS Lab Director, *Hofstra University*
  - Initiated an issue management system to monitor and maintain hardware and software in departmental facilities weekly and as needed.
  - Monitor and maintain the hardware and software in Department GIS labs by coordinating GIS supply orders, assisting with student poster preparation for class presentations and conferences, and overseeing student assistants' organization of classroom tools and maps as needed.
- GIS and Research Analyst, *New York State Governor's Office of Storm Recovery*
  - Provide project management support throughout research projects.
  - Geospatial Data Specialist: assisted in data quality management and ad hoc data analysis to support program operations, service area mapping, and national objection determination. It also serves as an ad hoc mapping analyst for non-CDBG-DR grant applications and supports mapping the Match programs.
  - Unmet Needs Analysis
  - Flood Inundation Mapper: developing flood inundation methodology for Hurricane Ida to support grant needs using FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) data
- Geospatial and Natural Hazards Specialist, *Blue Glacier Security & Intelligence, LLC*
  - Geospatial analysis for the company's enterprise security risk assessments
  - Developed the company's first [interactive risk assessment](#) maps
  - Initiated the development of a location-based safety and security app
  - GIS strategic planning
- Graduate Research Assistant, *William Averette Anderson Fund*
  - A comparison of vulnerability maps used by federal agencies to allocate climate resilience resources. (in collaboration with Headwaters Economics)
    - Compare three climate vulnerability maps and assess what they tell us and how they can be used to support decision-making and equitable investments in climate resilience.
    - Team's data engineer – writing Python scripts to prep data for us to use in the analysis
- GIS Analyst, Bay Park Data Solutions
  - Creating Story Maps
  - Building models to automate yearly processes
  - Developing surveys in Survey 123 for data collection
- GIS Sub-contractor, *Consultant Dr. Sophonie Milande Joseph*
  - producing maps for African Nova Scotian Housing Needs Assessment and Strategy
  - provide GIS mapping services for the [Little Caribbean Cultural Resources Survey](#)
    - population change and community characteristics of Little Caribbean from 1970 to 2020 using Census Decennial data

## Publications:

- Cowell, M., & Cousins, T. (2022). Equity and the Chief Resilience Officer in the era of 100 Resilient Cities: A qualitative comparative analysis of US resilience strategies. *Cities*, 131, 103946.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2022.103946>

- Meyer, M. A., Hendricks, M., Newman, G. D., Masterson, J. H., Cooper, J. T., Sansom, G., ... Cousins, T. (2018). Participatory action research: tools for disaster resilience education. *International Journal of Disaster Resilience in the Built Environment*, 9(4–5), 402–419.  
<https://doi.org/10.1108/IJDRBE-02-2017-0015>

### **Posters, Presentations, and Lectures:**

- 2024 Spatial Data Science Conference Bootcamp NYC: Leveraging Python for Spatial Data Science
- ISA World Congress 2023: Utilizing Citizen Participation to Manage Pluvial Flooding
- URBP 7871R-01 Spring 2023: Lecture on GIS and Coastal Flood Management @ Hunter College
- 2022 NSBPA Northeast Coastal Conference: "Hurricane Sandy – 10 Years Later": Shoreline Resiliency: Reducing Risk & Avoiding Loss in Coastal Communities
- 2021 Natural Hazards Workshop Poster Session: Not Everyone Can Social Distance
- ESRI Black History Month 2020: Accessing Neighborhood Flooding
- 2019 ACSP: How Chief Resilience Officers Shape Resilience Strategies In The Era Of 100RC