

# Wei Zhai, Ph. D

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[Urban AI + Resilience Lab](#) | [Google Scholar](#) | [ResearchGate](#) | [UTSA Homepage](#)

Urban Climate Resilience | Environmental Planning | Urban Data Science | Urban AI | Climate Justice

## EDUCATION

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- 08/2017 – 05/2021    *University of Florida (Outstanding International Student Award)*  
Ph. D, Urban and Regional Planning
- 08/2017 – 05/2020    *University of Florida*  
M.Eng., Computer Engineering
- 09/2015 – 06/2017    *Tsinghua University (Excellent Thesis Award)*  
Master of City Planning
- 09/2010 – 06/2015    *Hunan University (with Distinction)*  
B.Eng., Urban Planning

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 08/2022 – Present    Assistant Professor (Tenure-track), School of Architecture and Planning  
*The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA)*
- 05/2023– Present    Associate Director, Center for Urban and Regional Planning Research  
*The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA)*
- 05/2021 – 07/2022    Assistant Professor (Tenure-track), Department of Geography  
*Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU)*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- 08/2016 - 05/2017    Assistant Planner  
*China Academy of Urban Planning and Design*
- 08/2014 - 11/2014    Intern Planner  
*China Academy of Urban Planning and Design*
- 06/2013 - 09/2013    Intern Architect  
*Architecture Design & Research Institute of Hunan University Co., Ltd*

## JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

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(Total: **45**, 1st-author: **17**, Google Scholar citations: **1014**, H-index: **18**, Student/Postdoc supervised)

- #45                    Ye, X., **Zhai, W.**, Du, J., Van Zandt, S., Ye, Y. (2024). Authentic or Artificial Intelligence? Faculty's perspectives on the ChatGPT's Impact on U.S. Urban Planning Ph.D. Programs. *Frontiers of Urban and Rural Planning*.
- #44                    Tang, J., Wang, J., Li, J., Zhao, P., Lyu, W, **Zhai, W.**, Yuan, L., Wan, L., Yang, C. (2024). Predicting human mobility flows in response to extreme urban floods: A hybrid deep learning model considering spatial heterogeneity. *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems*.

- #43 Shi, Y., **Zhai, W.**, Yan, Y., Wang, X. \* (2024). The Influence of Proximity on the Evolution of Urban Innovation Networks in Nanjing Metropolitan Area, China: A Comparative Analysis of Knowledge and Technological Innovations. *ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information*.13(8):273.
- #42 Qin, H., **Zhai, W.\***, Tang, J. (2024). Influences of Social Networks, Demographics, and Evacuation Duration on Evacuation Decisions: Insights from Ohio and Pennsylvania. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*. (\*Corresponding author)
- #41 Lu, Y., Zhai, G., **Zhai, W.** (2024). Quantifying urban spatial resilience using multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA) and back propagation neural network (BPNN). *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*. 104694.
- #40 Huang, H., Lu, Z., Fan X., **Zhai, W.\***, Zhang, L., Xu, D., Liu, Z. et al. (2024). Urban heatwave, green spaces, and mental health: A review based on environmental health risk assessment framework. *Science of the Total Environment*. 174816. (\*Corresponding author)
- #39 Liu, Y., Peng, Z.R., **Zhai, W.** (2024) Autonomous Shuttle Acceptance in American Suburban Contexts: A Revealed Preference Study in Lake Nona, Florida. *Travel Behavior and Society*, 37, 100865.
- #38 **Zhai, W.\***, Liu, M., Han, Y. (2024). Dynamic neighborhood isolation and resilience during the pandemic in America’s 50 largest cities. *Cities*, 153, 105260.
- #37 Wang, Y., He, Z., **Zhai, W.**, Wang S., Zhao, C.\* (2024). How do the 3D urban morphological characteristics spatiotemporally affect the urban thermal environment? A case study of San Antonio. *Building and Environment*, 111738.
- #36 Lopez Ochoa, E., Brown, K.\*, Lee, R.J., **Zhai, W.** (2024). Quantifying the spatial aggregation bias of urban heat data. *Urban Climate*, 55, 101945.
- #35 Lopez Ochoa, E.\*, **Zhai, W.** (2024). Housing perceptions and code enforcement: An assessment of demolition orders using street view imagery and machine intelligence. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 0739456X241233976.
- #34 **Zhai, W.**, Hu, W.\*, Yuan, Z. Li, Y. (2023). Examining disaster resilience perception of social media users during the billion-dollar hurricanes. *Natural Hazards*. 120(1), 701-727.
- #33 **Zhai, W.\***, Yu, H., Song, C. (2023). Disaster misinformation and its corrections on social media: Spatiotemporal proximity, social network, and sentiment contagion. *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*, 114(2), 408-435.
- #32 **Zhai, W.**, Gao, S., Liu, M., Wei, D. (2023). Examining the Effects of Climate Change Perception and Commuting Experience on the Willingness to Pay for Micro-transit Service in Tampa, FL. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 10(1), 1-10.

- #31 Fan, P., Chun, K. P.\*, Mejia, A., Tan, M. L., **Zhai, W.**, Yetemen, O. (2023). Identifying the impacts of land-use spatial patterns on street-network accessibility using geospatial methods. *Geographical Analysis*, 118(2), 1573-1594.
- #30 Chen, P., **Zhai, W.\***, Yang, X (2023). Enhancing Resilience and Mobility Services for Vulnerable Groups Facing Extreme Weather: Lessons Learned from Snowstorm Uri in Harris County, Texas. *Natural Hazards*. 1-22. (\*Corresponding author)
- #29 Gao, S., **Zhai, W.\*** (2023). Assessing Adaptation Planning Strategies of Interconnected Infrastructure under Sea-level Rise by Economic Analysis. *Frontiers of Architectural Research*, 12(5), 892-905. (\*Corresponding author)
- #28 Peng, Z.R.\*, Lu, K., Liu, Y., **Zhai, W.** (2023). The Pathway of Urban Planning AI: From Planning Support to Plan-Making. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. 0739456X231180568.
- #27 Zhong, G., Zhai, G.\*, Chen, W., Lin, X., **Zhai, W.** (2023). Spatial allocation of shelters considering the blockage effect on roads under earthquake. *Natural Hazards Review*, 25(1), 04023050
- #26 Hu, W., Wang, S., & **Zhai, W.** (2023). Human-centric vs. technology-centric approaches in a top-down smart city development regime: Evidence from 341 Chinese cities. *Cities*, 137, 104271.
- #25 Liu, X., **Zhai, W. \*** (2023). The Effect of Built Environment on Urban Park Visits during the Early Outbreak of COVID-19. *Transport Findings*. (\*Corresponding author)
- #24 Gao, S., **Zhai, W. \***, & Fu, X. (2023). Green space justice amid COVID-19: Unequal access to public green space across American neighborhoods. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 11, 230. (\*Corresponding author)
- #23 **Zhai, W.\*** (2022). A multi-level analytic framework for disaster situational awareness using Twitter data. *Computational Urban Science*, 2(23):2-15.
- #22 **Zhai, W.\***, Yue, H., Deng, Y. (2022). Examining the Association between Urban Green Space Visitation and Viral Transmission of COVID-19 during the Early Outbreak. *Applied Geography*, 147, 102768.
- #21 Huang, H., Li, Y., Zhao, Yi., **Zhai, W.\*** (2022). Analysis of the Impact of Urban Summer High Temperatures and Outdoor Activity Duration on Residents' Emotional Health: Taking Hostility as an Example. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 10.
- #20 Fu, X., Li, C., **Zhai, W.\*** (2022). Using Natural Language Processing to Read Plans: A Study of 78 Resilience Plans From the 100 Resilient Cities Network. *Journal of the American Planning Association*. (\*Corresponding author)
- #19 Li, S. A.\*, **Zhai, W.**, Jiao, J., & Wang, C. K. (2022). Who loses and who wins in the ride-hailing era? A case study of Austin, Texas. *Transport Policy*, 120, 130-138.

- #18 Lin, Y., Peng, C.\*, Shu, J., **Zhai, W.**, & Cheng, J. (2022). Spatiotemporal characteristics and influencing factors of urban resilience efficiency in the Yangtze River Economic Belt, China. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 1-20.
- #17 **Zhai, W. \***, Peng, Z. R., & Bai, X. (2021). Prototypical Resilience Projects for Postdisaster Recovery Planning: From Theory to Action. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 0739456X211048928.
- #16 **Zhai, W. \***, & Yue, H. (2021). Economic resilience during COVID-19: An insight from permanent business closures. *Environment and Planning a: Economy and Space*, 54(2), 219-221.
- #15 Han, Y., Mao, L., Chen, X., **Zhai, W.**, Peng, Z. R., & Mozumder, P. (2021). Agent-based Modeling to Evaluate Human–Environment Interactions in Community Flood Risk Mitigation. *Risk Analysis*. 42(9), 2041-2061.
- #14 Yuan, F., Li, M., Liu, R., **Zhai, W.**, & Qi, B. (2021). Social media for enhanced understanding of disaster resilience during Hurricane Florence. *International Journal of Information Management*, 57, 102289.
- #13 **Zhai, W.\***, Fu, X., Liu, M., & Peng, Z. R. (2021). The impact of ethnic segregation on neighbourhood-level social distancing in the United States amid the early outbreak of COVID-19. *Urban Studies*, 00420980211050183.
- #12 **Zhai, W. \***, Liu, M., Fu, X., & Peng, Z. R. (2021). American inequality meets COVID-19: Uneven spread of the disease across communities. *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*, 111(7), 2023-2043.
- #11 Bai, X., Steiner, R. L., & **Zhai, W.\*** (2021). Beyond Neighborhood Design: Exploring the Effects of Smart Growth on Older Adults’ Travel Behavior over Time. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 0739456X211020352.
- #10 Fu, X., & **Zhai, W. \*** (2021). Examining the spatial and temporal relationship between social vulnerability and stay-at-home behaviors in New York City during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Sustainable cities and society*, 102757. (\*Corresponding author)
- #9 **Zhai, W.\***, & Peng, Z. R. (2020). Damage assessment using google street view: evidence from hurricane michael in mexico beach, florida. *Applied geography*, 123, 102252.
- #8 **Zhai, W.**, Peng, Z. R., & Yuan, F. (2020). Examine the effects of neighborhood equity on disaster situational awareness: Harness machine learning and geotagged Twitter data. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 48, 101611.
- #7 **Zhai, W.**, Liu, M., & Peng, Z. R. (2020). Social distancing and inequality in the United States amid COVID-19 outbreak. *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space*, 53(1), 3-5.
- #6 **Zhai, W.**, & Peng, Z. R. (2020). Where to buy a house in the United States amid COVID-19?. *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space*, 53(1), 9-11.

- #5 Bai, X., **Zhai, W.\***, Steiner, R. L., & He, Z. (2020). Exploring extreme commuting and its relationship to land use and socioeconomics in the central Puget Sound. *Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment*, 88, 102574.
- #4 Gu, C., Ye, X., Cao, Q., Guan, W., Peng, C., Wu, Y., & **Zhai, W.** (2020). System dynamics modelling of urbanization under energy constraints in China. *Scientific Reports*, 10(1), 1-16.
- #3 **Zhai, W.**, Bai, X., Shi, Y., Han, Y., Peng, Z. R., & Gu, C. (2019). Beyond Word2vec: An approach for urban functional region extraction and identification by combining Place2vec and POIs. *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems*, 74, 1-12. **(ESI top 1% Highly Cited Paper)**
- #2 **Zhai, W.**, Bai, X., Peng, Z. R., & Gu, C. (2019). From edit distance to augmented space-time-weighted edit distance: Detecting and clustering patterns of human activities in Puget Sound region. *Journal of Transport Geography*, 78, 41-55.
- #1 **Zhai, W.**, Bai, X., Peng, Z. R., & Gu, C. (2019). A bottom-up transportation network efficiency measuring approach: A case study of taxi efficiency in New York City. *Journal of Transport Geography*, 80, 102502.

## BOOK REVIEW

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- #1 **Zhai, W.** (2018). How to Kill a City: Gentrification, Inequality, and the Fight for the Neighborhood, by Peter Moskowitz. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 84(2), 203-203.

## BOOK CHAPTER

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- #1 Peng, Z. R., **Zhai, W.**, & Lu, K. (2022). Smart, Sustainable, and Resilient Transportation System. *New Thinking in GIScience*, 319. Springer. USA.

## EXTERNAL GRANTS

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(Total external grant amount: \$ 1.86M; My proportion in total: \$640K)

- 2024/2025 **Co-PI.** Sensor Air Temperature and Air Quality Evaluation related to Urban Heat Island Mitigation Measure Implementation. *City of San Antonio*. [250,000 USD, ~20% my proportion, w/ PI: Esteban Lopez Ochoa, Co-PIs: Neil Debbage, Kristen Brown, Farzad Hashemi]
- 2024/2025 **PI.** [CIVIC-PG Track A: Create an Ethical Urban Digital Twin to Co-design Heat Mitigations for Integrated Indoor and Outdoor Environments](#). *National Science Foundation*. [75,000 USD, w/Esteban Lopez Ochoa, Ryun Jung Lee, Paul Rad, Xinyue Ye, Neil Debbage, Farzad Hashemi]
- 2024-2027 **Co-PI/UTSA PI.** [Excellence in Research: Implementing Urban Digital Twins with Responsible Foundation AI for Community Resilience](#). *National Science Foundation*. [1,000,000 USD, ~29% UTSA proportion, w/ PI, Xishuang Dong; Co-PI, Xinyue Ye, Lijun Qian, Pamela Obiomon; UTSA Co-PI: Esteban Lopez Ochoa]

2024-2025	<b>Co-PI.</b> <a href="#">Continued Evaluation of Cool Pavement as an Urban Heat Mitigation Measure.</a> <i>City of San Antonio</i> . [120,000 USD, ~20% my proportion, w/ PI: Neil Debbage, Co-PIs: Ryun Jung Lee, Esteban Lopez Ochoa]
2024	<b>PI.</b> <a href="#">Using immersive virtual reality experiences to communicate flood risks.</a> <i>Natural Hazards Center</i> . [10,000 USD, ~60 % my proportion, w/ Marcio Giacomoni, Haoming Qin]
2024-2025	<b>Co-PI.</b> <a href="#">A Taxonomy of Vacancy: Are Underutilized Commercial Strips the Answer to San Antonio Housing Shortage?</a> <i>SOM Foundation</i> . [40,000 USD, ~40 % my proportion, w/ PI: Ian Caine, Co-PIs: Christine Quattro, Esteban Lopez Ochoa, Rudy Niño]
2024-2025	<b>Co-PI.</b> A Proposal to Retrofit Vacant and Underutilized Commercial Strips with Multifamily Housing? <i>City of San Antonio</i> . [20,000 USD, ~40 % my proportion, w/ PI: Ian Caine, Co-PIs: Christine Quattro, Esteban Lopez Ochoa, Rudy Niño]
2024-2025	<b>Co-PI.</b> <a href="#">Enabling Informed Site Selection for Environmental Harm Mitigation.</a> <i>City of San Antonio</i> . [50,000 USD, ~20 % my proportion, w/ PI: Kristen Brown, Co-PIs: Ryun Jung Lee, Esteban Lopez Ochoa, Neil Debbage]
2024-2025	<b>Co-PI.</b> <a href="#">Comprehensive Downtown Plan and Historic District Guidelines for Freeport, Texas.</a> <i>City of Freeport</i> . [70,000 USD, ~5 % my proportion, w/ PI: Ian Caine, Co-PIs: Thomas Tunstall, Ann McGlone]
2023-2024	<b>Co-PI.</b> How Can We Direct City Resources Toward the Areas Most Impacted by Extreme Heat? <i>City of San Antonio</i> . [34,994 USD, ~25 % my proportion, w/ PI: Kristen Brown, Co-PIs: Ryun Jung Lee, Esteban Lopez Ochoa]
2023-2024	<b>Co-PI.</b> Evaluating the Urban Heat Mitigation Potential of the San Antonio Cool Pavement Pilot: Phase I. <i>City of San Antonio</i> . [143,520 USD, ~20% my proportion, w/ PI: Neil Debbage, Co-PIs: Ryun Jung Lee, Esteban Lopez Ochoa]
2021-2024	<b>PI.</b> Measurement of neighborhood resilience to flooding and evaluation of planning strategies in a dynamic context. Young Scientists Scheme. <i>National Natural Science Foundation of China</i> (43,000 USD, ~100% my proportion, award withdrawn due to moving to UTSA).
2021-2024	<b>PI.</b> Disaster Misinformation Sharing on Social Media in a Highly Regulated Context: The Impact of Tight Information Control and Efficacy of Official Corrections in China. <b>Early Career Scheme</b> , <i>Hong Kong Research Grant Council</i> [72,000 USD, award withdrawn due to moving to UTSA, ~100% my proportion].
2020-2021	<b>PI.</b> <a href="#">Prediction of American's mobility under extreme weather events using artificial intelligence.</a> <b>AI for Earth Grant</b> , <i>Microsoft</i> (10,000 USD, ~100% my proportion).

## INTERNAL GRANTS

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2023-2024	<b>Co-PI.</b> Calibrating satellite data with ground environmental metrics: A pilot in San Antonio's Historic Westside? <i>UTSA Connect Grant</i> . [125,000 USD, ~10 % my proportion, w/ PI: Esteban Lopez Ochoa; Co-PI: Ryun Jung Lee]
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2023-2024	<b>PI.</b> Using immersive virtual reality experiences of extreme weather events to communicate climate change risks. <i>UTSA Seed Grant</i> . [ <b>5,000 USD</b> , ~60 % my proportion, w/ Marcio Giacomoni]
2021-2022	<b>PI.</b> Enhancing community resilience through social network analysis. <i>Hong Kong Baptist University Seed Grant</i> . [ <b>12,000 USD</b> , 100 % my proportion]

## PENDING GRANTS

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2025-2029	<b>Co-PI.</b> SRS RN: Sustainable Regional Systems for Central Texas (SRS4CenTex). <i>National Science Foundation</i> . [ <b>9,156,383 USD</b> , ~8 % my proportion, w/PI Soe Myint, Co-PIs Jason Julian, Chenghao Wang, Lee Ann Kahlor]
2024-2027	<b>Co-PI.</b> From space to community action: Remote Sensing and Digital Twins for empowering communities towards heat and air quality resilience and advocacy. <i>NASA</i> . [880,000 USD, ~10% my proportion, w/PI: Esteban Lopez Ochoa, Co-PIs: Peyman Najafirad, Adolfo Matamoros, Kristen Brown, Ryun Jung Lee, Farzad Hashemi, Maryam Gholamalitabarfirouzjaei]
2024-2027	<b>Co-PI.</b> Austin CARES- Climate Adaptation and Resilient communitiES. <i>NASA</i> . [800,000 USD, ~5% my proportion, w/PI: Dev Niyogi, Co-PIs: Oluponmile Olonilua, Junfeng Jiao, Patrick Bixler, Sergio Castellanos, Zong-Liang Yang]

## UNSUCCESSFUL (MAJOR) EXTERNAL GRANT BIDS

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2024/2025	<b>Institution PI.</b> Climate Resilience Center for the Austin-San Antonio Passageway (CliC-ASAP). <i>Department of Energy</i> . [ <b>1,000,000 USD</b> , ~12.5% my proportion, w/PI, Soe Win Myint (TXST), Co-PIs, Jason Julian (TXST), Eunsang Cho (TXST), Changhao Wang (OU), Mark Budolfson (UT Austin)]
2023/2024	<b>Co-PI.</b> SCC-IRG Track 2: Cyber-Physical-Human Framework for Transportation Safety and Equity in Underserved Communities via Artificial Intelligence of Things. <i>National Science Foundation</i> . [ <b>1,500,000 USD</b> , ~20% my proportion, w/PI, Jiannan Cai, Co-PIs, Samer Dessouky, Yuanxiong Guo, Roger Enriquez]
2022/2023	<b>PI.</b> Documenting the climate resilience of African American communities by collecting oral histories. <i>National Endowment for the Humanities</i> . [ <b>150,000 USD</b> , ~60% my proportion, w/ Co-PI, Jasmine Harris].
2022/2023	<b>PI.</b> Faith-based Solutions: Disaster Resilience for African American Communities. <i>Henry Luce Foundation</i> . [ <b>300,000 USD</b> , ~60% my proportion, w/ Co-PI, Jasmine Harris].
2022/2023	<b>Co-PI.</b> Urban heat island modeling and socioeconomic outcome modeling: The case of San Antonio, TX. <i>NASA</i> . [ <b>1,702,002 USD</b> , ~10% my proportion, w/ PI: Swanand Bhagwat (Southwest Research Institute), Co-PI: David Chambers (Southwest Research Institute); Co-PI: Roger Enriquez, Co-PI: Kristen Brown, Co-PI: Ryun Jung Lee, Co-PI: Esteban Lopez Ochoa].

2022/2023	<b>PI.</b> Rescue-Hispanics: Harvesting Spanish speakers' hurricane rescue-seeking messages from social media with deep learning. <i>Climate Change AI Grant</i> . [ <b>150,000 USD</b> , ~34% my proportion, w/ Co-PI, Anthony Rios, Co-PI, Isaura Contreras Rios].
2022/2023	<b>PI.</b> Uncovering the Impacts of E-Commerce Growth on the Location Choice of Warehousing Facilities: Before, During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic. <i>Amazon Research Awards</i> . [ <b>80,000 USD</b> , ~50% my proportion, w/ Co-PI: Kailai Wang].
2022/2023	<b>PI.</b> Urban Green Space Use Pre- and Post- COVID-19 Lockdown and its Effects on Residents' Health: Coupling Big Data and Small Data. <i>Lincoln Institute of Land Policy</i> [ <b>34,950 USD</b> , ~100% my proportion].

## TEACHING

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Fall /2024	<b>Instructor</b> , URP 5453 Urban and Regional Sustainability
Fall/2024	<b>Instructor</b> , URP 5363 Urban Planning Methods I
Spring/2024	<b>Instructor</b> , URP 5463 <a href="#">Environmental Planning and Assessment</a> (UTSA, 4.86/5.0)
Fall /2023	<b>Guest Critic</b> , Arc 6126 Advanced Design Studio I
Fall /2023	<b>Instructor</b> , URP 5453 <a href="#">Urban and Regional Sustainability</a> (UTSA, 4.67/5.0)
Fall/2023	<b>Instructor</b> , URP 5363 Urban Planning Methods I (UTSA, 4.88/5.0)
Spring/2023	<b>Instructor</b> , URP 5463 Environmental Planning and Assessment (UTSA, 4.83/5.0)
Fall/2022	<b>Instructor</b> , URP 5363 Urban Planning Methods I (UTSA, 5.0/5.0)
Spring/2022	<b>Instructor</b> , GEOG7060 Contemporary Geography Research Seminar (HKBU, 4.5/5.0)
Spring/2022	<b>Instructor</b> , GEOG4086 Urban and Environmental Planning (HKBU, 4.4/5.0)
Spring/2022	<b>Instructor</b> , GCAP3026 Field Studies for Environmental Issues (HKBU, 4.5/5.0)
Fall/2021	<b>Instructor</b> , GEOG1005 Geography and the Contemporary World (HKBU, 4.3/5.0)
Fall/2021	<b>Instructor</b> , GEOG7060 Contemporary Geography Research Seminar (HKBU, 4.4/5.0)
Spring/2021	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , URP 6821 Transportation and Land Use Model (UF, 4.2/5.0)
Spring/2019	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , URP 6821 Transportation and Land Use Model (UF, 4.0/5.0)
Fall/2020	<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , DCP Doctoral Core 4 (UF)
Fall /2020	<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , Doctoral Core 3: Dissertation Preparation (UF)
Fall /2020	<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , Advanced Design, Construction and Planning Research II (UF)
Spring/2020	<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , DCP 7794 Doctoral Seminar (UF)



Spring/2019      **Guest Lecturer, DCP 7794 Doctoral Seminar (UF)**

## **STUDENTS/SCHOLAR MENTORED AND SUPERVISED**

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### *Postdoctoral Scholars*

2023 Fall      **Huanchun Huang**, Ph. D in Urban Planning, Tianjin University, UTSA

### *Visiting Scholars*

2021-2022      **Guangchun Zhong**, Ph. D in Urban Planning, Nanjing University, Visiting Ph. D student, HKBU

### *Ph. D Students*

2023-      **Haoming Qin**, Ph. D student in Civil Engineering, UTSA (Committee Chair)

### *Master Students*

2024      **Juan Alvarez**, M.S. in Urban and Regional Planning, UTSA

2024      **Michelle Garza**, M.S. in Urban and Regional Planning, UTSA

2023      **Emma Jones**, M.S. in Urban and Regional Planning, UTSA

2023      **Anamika Awadhesh Kumar**, M. Arch, UTSA (Committee Member)

2023      **Salomon Mendoza**, M.S. in Urban and Regional Planning, UTSA

2023      **Andra Nava-Garcia**, M.S in Environmental Science, UTSA (Committee Member)

### *Undergraduates*

2021-2022      **Ka Hei Chan**, Compare other New Towns: Explore the traffic and planning situation of Kwun Tong, HKBU

2021-2022      **Ling Yu Fung**, Heritage conservation and benefit in Hong Kong (Tai Kwun), HKBU

2021-2022      **Ka Fai Lee**, A study of "Lantau tomorrow vision" and its environmental consequences: is this development project necessary in Hong Kong, HKBU

2021-2022      **Suet Man Loo**, A study of Chinese mansion in Hong Kong and its value in conservation, HKBU

2021-2022      **Po Yan Siu**, The Spatial Patterns and Cultural Value of Street Performances in Hong Kong, HKBU

2021-2022      **Wing Sang Tsang**, The pattern and trends of road accident in Hong Kong, HKBU

## **AWARDS & HONORS**

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05/2021	University of Florida - Paul and Malea Zwick Graduate Student Award
05/2020	2020 DCP Research Symposium - Best Poster Award
05/2020	Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning - Travel Award
05/2020	University of Florida - Outstanding International Student Award
06/2014	Urban Design Competition, National Steering Committee of Urban and Rural Planning Education - Excellence Award
06/2014	Urban Transportation Competition, National Steering Committee of Urban and Rural Planning Education - Excellence Award
08/2014	11th Excellent Design Exhibition of Hunan Province - First Prize Design Award

## CONFERENCES/INVITED TALKS/WORKSHOPS

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07/2024	<b>Zhai, W.</b> (Presenter). Virtual Reality for Flooding Perception. <i>49th Natura Hazards Workshop, Broomfield, CO, USA.</i>
10/2023	<b>Zhai, W.</b> (Presenter). Climate Gentrification in Houston after Hurricane Harvey. <i>2023 ACSP Conference. Chicago, USA.</i>
06/2023	<b>Zhai, W.</b> (Participant). Climate Gentrification in Houston after Hurricane Harvey. <i>2023 JPER Writing Workshop. College Station, TX, USA.</i>
04/2023	<b>Zhai, W.</b> (Presenter). Walkable but not walkable? A geospatial relationship between urban environment and heat exposure through the lens of equity in San Antonio, Texas (Leading author: Dr. Ryun Jung Lee). <i>2023 UAA Conference. Nashville, TN, USA.</i>
03/2023	<b>Zhai, W.</b> (Presenter) Climate Gentrification in Houston after Hurricane Harvey. <i>Annual Meeting of AAG. Denver, CO, USA.</i>
12/2022	<b>Zhai, W.</b> (Invited Speaker). Using Data Science to Understand Disaster Resilience. Panel Discussion on Emerging Urban Research Topics. <i>Northeast Normal University, Changchun, China.</i> (Online, Hosted by Dr. Chunhong Zhao)
11/2022	<b>Zhai, W.</b> (Invited Speaker). Community resilience and social vulnerability in the United States during the COVID-19, <i>Nanjing University Post and Telecommunication, Nanjing, China.</i> (Online, Hosted by Dr. Wei Chen)
10/2022	<b>Zhai, W.</b> (Presenter & Panelist). Spatiotemporal patterns and social networks of disaster misinformation sharing and its correction. <i>Checking the Fact-Checkers: A Global Perspective, Hong Kong.</i> (Online, Hosted by Celine Song)
10/2022	<b>Zhai, W.</b> (Invited Speaker). Using Data Science to Understand Disaster Resilience. <i>Florida International University ORDER-CRISP research group, Miami, FL, USA.</i> (Online, Hosted by Prof. Pallab Mozumder)

- 09/2022 **Zhai, W.** (Invited Speaker). Urban Resilience: Definitions, Approaches, and Agendas. *City University of Hong Kong*, Hong Kong SAR. (Online, Hosted by Dr. Wanyang Hu)
- 09/2022 **Zhai, W.** (Invited Speaker). From Ph.D. Student to Faculty: The Trajectory of My Research Agenda. *Texas A&M University at College Station*, College Station, TX, USA. (Hosted by Prof. Xinyue Ye)
- 06/2022 **Zhai, W.** (Presenter). The impact of ethnic segregation on neighbourhood-level social distancing in the United States amid the early outbreak of COVID-19. *The 16th International Association for China Planning (IACP) Conference*. Wuhan, China. (Online)
- 02/2022 **Zhai, W.** (Job Talk). Using Data Science to Enhance Urban Climate Resilience. *Utah State University*.
- 02/2022 **Zhai, W.** (Job Talk). Using Data Science to Enhance Urban Resilience. *University of Texas at San Antonio*.
- 02/2022 **Zhai, W.** (Presenter). The impact of ethnic segregation on neighbourhood-level social distancing in the United States amid the early outbreak of COVID-19. *Annual Meeting of AAG*. New York City, NY, USA.
- 11/2021 **Zhai, W.** (Presenter). Damage assessment using google street view image. *City+ Conference*. Milan, Italy.
- 10/2021 **Zhai, W.** (Presenter). Beyond Word2vec: An approach for urban functional region extraction and identification by combining Place2vec and POIs. 3. *The 15th International Association for China Planning (IACP) Conference*. Nanjing, China.
- 11/2020 **Zhai, W.** (Presenter). Prediction of American's Mobility under Extreme Weather Events using Artificial Intelligence. *AI for Earth Digital summit*. Online.
- 11/2020 **Zhai, W.** (Presenter). Prototypical resilience projects for post-disaster recovery planning. *Annual Conference of ACSP*. Online.
- 10/2019 **Zhai, W.** (Session Moderator). Land use and transportation connections. *Annual Conference of ACSP*. Greenville, SC, USA.
- 10/2018 **Zhai, W.** (Presenter). Measure the local and global commuting efficiency: An exploratory analysis of taxi commuting in New York City. *Annual Conference of ACSP*. Buffalo, NY, USA.
- 04/2018 **Zhai, W.** (Presenter). An approach for urban functional region identification and extraction: Combining Word2vec model and multisource data. *Annual Meeting of AAG*, New Orleans, LA, USA.

## EDITOR & REVIEWER SERVICE

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2024- **Early Career Editor**, [\*Journal of Planning Education and Research\*](#)

2024 **Editorial Board Member**, *Scientific Reports*

2022-2024	<b>Editorial Board Member</b> , <i>Travel Behaviour &amp; Society</i>
2024 Jan-Sep	<b>Guest Editor</b> , Sustainable Transportation in the Climate-change Era, <i>Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment</i>
2023 Jan-Dec	<b>Guest Editor</b> , <a href="#">Moving Toward Climate-resilient Mobility</a> , <i>Travel Behaviour &amp; Society</i>
2023-	<b>Editorial Board Member</b> , <i>Humanities and Social Sciences Communications</i>
2019-	<b>Ad-hoc Journal Reviewer</b> Nature Human Behavior Nature Cities Annals of the American Association of Geographers Applied Geography BMJ Global Health Computers, Environment, and Urban Systems Cities Computational Urban Science Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction International Journal of Information Management International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health International Journal of Geo-Information Journal of Planning Education and Research Journal of Advanced Transportation Journal of Cleaner Production Journal of Geographical Sciences International Journal of Digital Earth Land Landscape and Urban Planning npj Urban Sustainability Plos One Remote Sensing Sustainability Scientific Reports Science of the Total Environment Sustainable Cities and Society Travel Behavior and Society The Professional Geographer Transportation
2022-	<b>Thesis Reviewer for Tongji University</b> <b>Gwendoline Charreau</b> , Thesis Title: <i>The influence of the built environment on community flood resilience- Case study of Ile-De France Region.</i>  <b>Aymeric Brouez</b> , Thesis Title: <i>Climatic vulnerability assessment of active mobility and resilient planning: Case study of Amsterdam.</i>

2024	<b>External Reviewer</b> for Transportation Cybersecurity Center for Advanced Research and Education (Department of Transportation UTC Center)
2023	<b>External Reviewer</b> for Southeastern Transportation Research, Innovation, Development & Education Center (Department of Transportation UTC Center)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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2023-	<b>Committee Member</b> , Ed McClure Award for Best Masters Student Paper, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP)
2021-2022	<b>Executive Committee Member</b> , Hong Kong Geographical Association

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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2023-	Faculty Advisor, Urban Planning Student Association, UTSA
2023-2025	Committee Council, Center for Urban and Regional Planning Research (CURPR), UTSA
2022-	MSURP Admission Review Committee for School of Architecture and Planning, UTSA
2022 Fall	R Programming Boot Camp for KLESSE College of Engineering and Integrated Design, UTSA
2022 Fall	Common Book ( <i>Six Drawing Lessons</i> ) Panel Discussion for School of Architecture and Planning, UTSA
2021 Fall	Doctoral Program Admission Committee for Department of Geography, Hong Kong Baptist University.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

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2024	<b>San Antonio Express-News</b> , UTSA professors' research explores bias in housing demolitions and code enforcement. <a href="https://www.expressnews.com/business/real-estate/article/san-antonio-housing-demolitions-utsa-research-bias-19363140.php">https://www.expressnews.com/business/real-estate/article/san-antonio-housing-demolitions-utsa-research-bias-19363140.php</a>
2023	<b>City of San Antonio</b> , City of San Antonio Cool Pavement Pilot Program, <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJHVPW1gYww">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJHVPW1gYww</a>
2022	<b>American Planning Association</b> , Reading Plans With Machines for Improved Efficiency, <a href="https://www.planning.org/blog/9260046/reading-plans-with-machines-for-improved-efficiency/">https://www.planning.org/blog/9260046/reading-plans-with-machines-for-improved-efficiency/</a>
2022	<b>LSE US Center</b> , Ride-hailing services can make travel easier for disadvantaged communities in low-density transit deserts, <a href="https://bit.ly/3xPV9Zw">https://bit.ly/3xPV9Zw</a>
2021	<b>HKBU News</b> , Managing disasters with artificial intelligence, <a href="https://bunews.hkbu.edu.hk/news/people/managing-disasters-with-artificial-intelligence">https://bunews.hkbu.edu.hk/news/people/managing-disasters-with-artificial-intelligence</a>

- 2020 **University of Florida URP News**, <https://dcp.ufl.edu/urp/microsoft-ai-for-earth-grant/>
- 2020 **University of Florida iAdapt News**, <https://dcp.ufl.edu/iadapt/poor-and-black-neighborhoods-express-different-attitudes-towards-the-hurricane/>
- 2020 **University of Florida iAdapt News**, The Change of Mobility in Poor and Wealthy Counties in the United States Amid Covid-19 Outbreak <https://dcp.ufl.edu/iadapt/hello-world-2/>
- 2019 **University of Florida URP News**, Measuring Citywide Transportation Efficiency, <https://dcp.ufl.edu/urp/measuring-citywide-transportation-efficiency/>

## **CERTIFICATES**

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- 2023 **NSF-NHERI CONVERGE:** Broader Ethical Considerations for Hazards and Disaster Researchers
- 2023 **NSF-NHERI CONVERGE:** Public Health Implications of Hazards and Disaster Research