

Claudia Valencia-Uribe

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Water resources management and policy, nonprofit management, stakeholder engagement, environmental justice, procedural justice, mixed methods

EDUCATION

- 2025
(expected) **Ph.D. in Urban and Environmental Planning and Policy**
University of California, Irvine
Advisor: Nicola Ulibarri
Committee: Michael Méndez, David L. Feldman, Walter J. Nicholls
Dissertation: *Understanding nonprofit engagement in water resource management during periods of drought*
- 2016 **Master of Public Policy (MPP)**
University of California, Irvine
- 2014 **B.A. in Political Science**
B.S. in Economics
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 Ulibarri, N., **Valencia-Uribe, C.**, Sanders, B.F., Schubert, J., Matthew, R., Forman, F., Allaire, M., and Brady, D. 2023. "Framing the Problem of Flood Risk and Flood Management in Metropolitan Los Angeles." *Weather, Climate, and Society*. 15 (1): 45–58. <https://doi.org/10.1175/WCAS-D-22-0013.1>.

WORKING PAPERS

- In prep **Valencia-Uribe, C.**, Chunga Pizarro, C., & Méndez, M. Growing Adaptability among Undocumented Communities during Climate-Induced Disasters: An Analysis of the Role of Migrant-Serving Organizations.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, & AWARDS

2024-2025	UC-HSI DDI President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship Award (\$47,000 – awarded to two students at UC Irvine)
2024	Meier PMRC Travel Inclusion Award (\$1,500)
2023	Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM) Equity and Inclusion Fellowship (\$1,500)
2021-2022	Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship Honorable Mention (twice)
2020-2025	Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship (financial support for five academic years – most prestigious diversity fellowship awarded at UC Irvine)
2020	UCI Diversity Recruitment Fellowship (\$5,000)
2020	UCI Minority Serving Institution Supplement (\$10,500)
2013	Cal Poly Pomona Norman Williamson Jr. Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000)
2013	Cal Poly Pomona Bruce E. Wilson Memorial Scholarship (\$500)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Valencia-Urbe, C. “Understanding nonprofit engagement in water resource management during periods of drought.” Public Management Research Conference (PMRC), Seattle, WA, June 26-29, 2024. (Panel presentation)

Valencia-Urbe, C. “Nonprofits as proactive actors: A qualitative approach to understanding engagement in water resource management during periods of drought.” West Coast Nonprofit Data Conference, Phoenix, AZ, April 19-20, 2024. (Panel Presentation)

Valencia-Urbe, C. “Drought problem framing: A study of the multiple ways nonprofit organizations experience and understand drought in California.” Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 9-11, 2023. (Poster)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2023 **Graduate Student Researcher** | UC Irvine Samueli School of Engineering
Advisor: Dr. Amir AghaKouchak & Dr. Nicola Ulibarri
Project: Rincon Beach Sea Level Rise Adaptation Study
- Prepared a literature review for a study on coastal erosion in California to understand the issue's implications on surrounding communities, ecosystems, and wildlife.
 - Identified best practices to engage diverse stakeholders in policy making, which was timely given the state's decision to begin drafting policies to address coastal erosion.

- 2022 **Graduate Student Researcher** | UC Irvine School of Social Ecology
 Advisor: Dr. Michael Méndez
 Project: Understanding the Impacts of Climate Change on Undocumented Migrants
- Established relationships with nonprofit practitioners throughout California to seek their participation in a study analyzing the impacts of climate change on undocumented immigrants.
 - Developed an interview guide, conducted interviews, transcribed interview recordings, and analyzed the transcriptions using NVivo.
- This work resulted in a first-authored manuscript, which will be submitted to *The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* by September 2024.
- 2021 **Graduate Student Researcher** | UC Irvine School of Social Ecology
 Advisor: Dr. Nicola Ulibarri
 Project: CoPe EAGER: Modeling the Social Ecology of Coastal Flood Risk
- Facilitated focus groups with flood control districts, city planners, nonprofit organizations, and other flood-related decision-makers.
 - Evaluated flood decision-makers' primary concerns around flood exposure, vulnerability, and management in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Region.
- This work resulted in one publication in the *Weather, Climate, and Society* journal, and was funded by the National Science Foundation.
- 2015-2016 **Data Analyst** | UC Irvine Labor Center (formerly the UCI Community & Labor Project)
- Managed sets of surveys conducted on day laborers in Orange County.
 - Prepared reports summarizing preliminary findings, which were presented to stakeholders.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Winter-Spring 2024 **Student Mentoring, School of Social Ecology, UC Irvine**
- Mentored a Research Assistant (RA) who was recruited to support the distribution of a statewide survey as part of my dissertation research.
 - Provided a research experience for an undergraduate student who was interested in developing skills that can be applied to a career and future graduate program.
 - Outlined instructions and expectations, and regularly met to discuss progress, address any questions about the role, and generally to talk about my RA's experiences as an undergrad, offer guidance, and refer her to resources to promote her success.
- Teaching Assistant, Dept. of Urban Planning & Public Policy, UC Irvine**
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| Spring 2023 | Environmental Analysis and Design (undergraduate) | Dr. Stephen Gibson |
| Spring 2022 | Statistical Analysis in Social Ecology (undergraduate) | Dr. Karna Wong |
| Winter 2022-23 | Introduction to Urban Studies: Crisis and the City (undergraduate) | Dr. Hun Kim |
| Fall 2021 | Environmental Governance (undergraduate) | Dr. Nicola Ulibarri |
| Winter 2016 | Social Mobilization, Power and Justice (graduate) | Dr. David S. Meyer |

- Winter-
Spring 2014
- Tutor, Dept. of Economics, Cal Poly Pomona**
Economics Tutor (undergraduate)
- Provided tutoring for students in introductory micro- and macroeconomics courses.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2024-2025 **Mentor** | Next Gen Pathways with Graduate Division at UC Irvine
- Collaborate with newly admitted students to establish expectations and goals to ensure they receive the needed support as they navigate graduate school.
 - Tailor each mentorship plan to the unique needs of every student and offer guidance on topics like working with their advisor, finding motivation during graduate school, and easing nerves around graduating and finding a job.
- 2024-2025 **Department Representative** | UC Irvine Social Ecology Graduate Student Association (SEGSA)
- Represent and communicate the interests and concerns of graduate students in the School of Social Ecology to faculty and staff.
 - Support the development of quarterly planning meetings and initiatives.
 - Organize events for graduate students to promote community and friendship across departments.
- 2023-2024 **Mentor** | Chican@/Latin@ Staff Association (CLSA) Mentorship Program
- Provide a social support network to undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds and careers.
 - Host meetings and gatherings to ensure students have a space to express their concerns and ask questions regarding their academic experiences.
- 2021 **Mentor** | Water UCI Middle School Challenge
- Supported students by teaching them about the most pressing water issues of our time.
 - Guided students as they designed an innovative approach to water conservation and provided feedback on their projects.
 - Helped students prepare presentations that outlined their projects and clearly communicated their ideas.
- 2019 **MBA Fellow & Mentor** | Riordan Fellows Program at UCLA Anderson School of Management
- Supported high school students by providing information and other resources to guide them as they apply for college.
 - Engaged with first generation college students interested in pursuing a graduate degree and career in business management.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2017-2020 **Public Affairs Associate** | Pechanga Development Corporation. Temecula, CA.
- Tracked and researched legislation related to tribal issues including natural resources, cultural resources, and gaming.
 - Prepared reports for tribal leaders and staff members briefing them on important legislation and providing recommendations on the best course of action.
 - Supported the development of a scholarship program for students from non-federally recognized tribes, a state campaign program for sports-betting, and an opposition campaign for a proposed hydroelectric dam project that threatened culturally sensitive land.
- 2017-2020 **Staff Member** | Tribal Alliance of Sovereign Indian Nations. Patton, CA.
- Prepared position letters on a variety of issues addressed to government agencies as well as state and federal legislators.
 - Organized events where tribal leaders from across California gathered to discuss issues affecting Indian Country including protecting cultural resources, sacred sites, gaming rights, and tribal sovereignty.
- 2015 **Policy Intern** | Department of Planning & Zoning. Garden Grove, CA.
- Assisted the Planning Division and Community Development Department on projects related to affordable housing, transportation, and water management.
 - Analyzed planning projects and their consistency with state regulations, like CEQA.
- 2013 **Constituent Liaison Officer** | District Office of Assemblyman Mike Morrell. Rancho Cucamonga, CA.
- Participated in outreach efforts to understand constituent concerns.

SKILLS

- Software NVivo, Stata, SPSS, QuestionPro
- Language Spanish (native proficiency), English (fluent)
- Certificates Student Success Mentor Training from *Mentor Collective* at UC Irvine
Community-based research from the *Newkirk Center for Science & Society* at UC Irvine
Preparing for a Faculty Career from *Graduate Division* at UC Irvine

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
Public Management Research Association