



## EDUCATION

<b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology</b> Ph.D. in Urban Studies and Planning <i>Area: City Design and Development</i> Department of Urban Studies and Planning	2020 AUG-PRES	<b>Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México</b> Bachelor of Architecture (Merit Diploma) Taller Jorge Gonzalez Reyna Facultad de Arquitectura	2009-2014 AUG-JUL
<b>Harvard University</b> Master in Design Studies (Risk and Resilience) Master of Architecture in Urban Design Graduate School of Design	2016-2019 AUG-MAY	<b>Czech Technical University in Prague</b> Academic Exchange Bachelor of Architecture Faculty of Architecture	2012-2013 AUG-JUL

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

<b>Disaster Recovery Researcher   PKG + Lena and Yu Sing Jung (1962) Fund Fellowship   Coatepetelco, Mexico</b> Disasters on the Ground (w/ community partner, Doña Laura Leyva)   <a href="http://denilopez.com/essay/">denilopez.com/essay/</a> Conducted base ethnographic and photographic research to support project development. Co-designed retail space for a family's cumulative disaster recovery in an indigenous municipality. Fundraised \$7,000 USD through social media and MIT-based fellowships. Assembled and managed design team and construction budget, as well as community-based relationships. <i>In collaboration with Betzabe Valdés, Nadyeli Quiroz, Adriana Otero, and John Wagner</i>	2021 JAN-PRES
<b>Science and Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction Technical Advisor</b> <b>United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction   Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean</b> Assistant Consultant (mentor: Irasema Alcántara Ayala)   <a href="http://eird.org/americas/index-eng.html">eird.org/americas/index-eng.html</a> Published <i>Key recommendations for a strengthened use of science and technology in DRR in the Americas and the Caribbean</i> . Organized the <i>Disaster Risk Reduction Online Dialogue Series</i> . Supported the implementation of a Regional Science and Technology Advisory Group (RSTAG) action plan. Designed and implemented online survey for 288 specialists to inform the creation of a regional DRR research agenda.	2021-2022 MAY-JAN
<b>Research Assistant   MIT Noman B. Leventhal Center for Advanced Urbanism   Cambridge, Massachusetts</b> The Equitable Resilience Framework   <a href="http://lcau.mit.edu/news/equitable-resilience-framework">lcau.mit.edu/news/equitable-resilience-framework</a> <i>Pillar 3: Climate Change Communications (mentor: Sarah Williams)</i> Developed a transmedia, data-action oriented framework to systematically study climate change communications. Set research priorities for the ERF Pillar 3 proposal for the MIT Climate Grand Challenges Initiative. <i>Cross-Cutting Pillars: Design (mentor: Janelle Knox-Hayes)</i> Designed overall report, diagrams, and graphic style for the Equitable Resilience Framework.	2021 JUN-AUG
<b>Research/Teaching Assistant   Harvard University + IADB   Cambridge, Massachusetts</b> Public Space Agency in Informal Settlements (mentor: Belinda Tato)   <a href="http://gsd.harvard.edu/person/belinda-tato/">gsd.harvard.edu/person/belinda-tato/</a> Established a framework for discerning social and spatial patterns in public spaces of Argentinian informal settlements. Co-designed <i>Public Space as a Catalyst for Change in Informal Settlements: The Case of Argentina</i> , a Spring 2019 seminar. Created graphic analyses of worldwide case studies to be included in a publication by the IADB.	2019-2020 OCT-JUL
<b>Co-Lead Researcher   Pasa La Voz + Harvard University, Graduate School of Design   Oaxaca, Mexico</b> Post-Earthquake Recovery (mentors: Diane E. Davis, Lorena Bello Gómez, Michael Hooper)   <a href="http://bichechediudxa.com/">bichechediudxa.com/</a> Founded student-led research initiative to co-produce information in five disaster-prone communities in Oaxaca. Developed a participatory methodology including surveys, interviews, workshops, and cartographic analyses. Designed a traveling exhibition with open information forums to raise awareness and share results in each community. Created an online information repository, and participated in publications and presentations to share research findings.	2017-2020 NOV-JUL
<b>Research Assistant   Harvard University, Graduate School of Design   Cambridge, Massachusetts</b> Publication and Graphics (mentor: Ann Forsyth)   <a href="http://research.gsd.harvard.edu/new-towns/">research.gsd.harvard.edu/new-towns/</a> Managed graphic production and organization for "Toward 21 <sup>st</sup> Century New Towns: Past, Present, Prospects", a Penn Press book edited by professors Ann Forsyth and Richard Peiser.	2017-2018 SEP-MAY

**Research Associate | Reality Gives + International Travel Community Service Fellowship | Mumbai, India**  
Community Needs Survey Design (Volunteer) | [realitygives.org/](http://realitygives.org/)  
Designed cross-sectional survey focused on understanding educational and urban design needs in Dharavi using Qualtrics.

2017  
JUN-AUG

**Design Researcher | National Autonomous University of Mexico + Solar Decathlon Europe | Versailles, France**  
Housing and Urbanization Research Project (mentor: Honorato Carrasco) | [arquitectura.unam.mx/casa.html](http://arquitectura.unam.mx/casa.html)  
*Team Mex (CASA UNAM): Contest Captain (Competition Coordinator) and Architectural Design Co-Director*  
Designed housing prototype and competition pavilion that reflected extensive social and urban research results.  
Collaborated with multiple engineering disciplines to implement low-energy consumption strategies in the prototype.  
Managed all team activities during the competition stage held in Versailles, France.  
Directed the creation, drafting, and translation of the six reports presented to each jury before their visit to the prototype.

2013-2014  
AUG-JUL

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Teaching Assistant | Massachusetts Institute of Technology, DUSP | Cambridge, Massachusetts**  
Course 11.271 - Indigenous Environmental Planning | [dusp.mit.edu/subject/spring-2022-11171](http://dusp.mit.edu/subject/spring-2022-11171)  
Managed overall logistics and helped solidify syllabus for the course led by Lawrence Susskind and Gabriella Carolini.  
Co-taught the module on *Integrated Risk Management* with Tomás Chiñas Santiago (Zapotec community partner).  
Coordinated partnerships with MIT Solve Fellows: Kristin Welch, Nonabah Lane, Camille Griffith, and Moñeka De Oro.

2022  
JAN-MAY

**Teaching Assistant | Massachusetts Institute of Technology, DUSP | Cambridge, Massachusetts**  
Course 11.THG - Thesis Clinics for Master of City Planning Students | [dusp.mit.edu/subject/fall-2021-11thg](http://dusp.mit.edu/subject/fall-2021-11thg)  
Designed course curriculum alongside Prof. Brent D. Ryan and Bridget Burns.  
Co-taught research design workshops centered on question development, methods, and related topics.  
Coordinated faculty participation during introductory modules.

2021  
JUN-DEC

**Teaching Assistant | Massachusetts Institute of Technology, DUSP + CoLab | Cambridge, Massachusetts**  
Course 11.237 - Participatory Action Research (PAR) 2: Methods | [dusp.mit.edu/subject/spring-2021-11237](http://dusp.mit.edu/subject/spring-2021-11237)  
Managed overall logistics and helped solidify syllabus for the course led by Dayna Cunningham and Katrin Kaeufer.  
Co-taught the module on *Narratives* with Xiomara Alvarez (co-teaching assistant).  
Assisted and graded students in Spanish as they collaborated with Colombian partners.

2021  
FEB-APR

**UPD Instructor | Harvard University, Graduate School of Design | Cambridge, Massachusetts**  
Design Discovery - Urban Planning and Design | [designdiscovery.gsd.harvard.edu/](http://designdiscovery.gsd.harvard.edu/)  
Co-designed a six-week course on urban planning and design, coordinated by Stephen Gray, Asst. Prof. of Urban Design.  
Taught daily studio lessons to a group of 11 students from a broad range of ages, lifestyles, and training.  
Led lectures and discussions on urban resilience, research methods, graphic representation, and communication skills.

2019  
JUN-AUG

**Teaching Assistant | Harvard University, T.H. Chan School of Public Health | Boston, Massachusetts**  
Course EH251 - Public Health in Megacities: The Environmental Dimension | [publichealthinmegacities.wordpress.com/](http://publichealthinmegacities.wordpress.com/)  
Managed overall logistics for winter travel course to Mexico City taught by Enrique Cifuentes and Douglas Dockery.  
Designed and produced Student Travel Guide, including syllabus, maps, contacts, and travel recommendations.

2017-2018  
AUG-FEB

**Project Architect | JSa (Javier Sánchez) | Mexico City, Mexico**  
Residential Complex Design | [www.jsa.com.mx/proyectos](http://www.jsa.com.mx/proyectos)  
*Antigua Cementera & Juan de la Barrera 25-27 | Housing Developments | Puebla, Mexico & Mexico City, Mexico*  
Led final design stages, developed construction details, and managed consulting experts in building components.  
Managed the construction documentation development, architecture, and engineering teams.

2016  
FEB-JUL

**Architectural Designer | Estudio Lamela | Mexico City, Mexico**  
Airport and Residential Design | [lamela.com/en/](http://lamela.com/en/)  
*Tijuana International Airport | Expansion and Refurbishing | Tijuana, Mexico | September, 2015 - February, 2016*  
*Nomad Living Polanco | Mixed-use LEED Certified Complex | Mexico City, Mexico | February - August 2015*  
Assistant project architect during schematic design and design development stages.  
Developed construction plans and sections related to architectural design and structural details using a CAD platform.

2015-2016  
FEB-FEB

**Junior Architect | PuntoSur Estudio Multimedia | Mexico City, Mexico**  
Construction Documentation Development for Sordo Madaleno Architects | [sordomadaleno.com/](http://sordomadaleno.com/)  
Created a CAD drawing platform for organization, printing quality, and proper use of layers and software tools.  
Developed construction plans related to architectural and structural design using a CAD platform.

2014-2015  
AUG-JAN

Conceptualization and Production of International Design Competition Entries | [dmp.com.mx/](http://dmp.com.mx/)

Plaza Pedro Moreno | Co.ARQ Open International Ideas Competition (1<sup>st</sup> Place) | Guadalajara, Mexico

New Contemporary Art Museum | [AC-CA] Open International Competition | Buenos Aires, Argentina

Participated in initial design and urban research stages to generate a solid architectural and urban design approach.

Created competition layout, led overall graphic and image design, and produced conceptual 2D and 3D diagrams.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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### PKG Fellowship (IAP)

Post-disaster recovery research, design, and construction

MIT | Coatepec, Mexico, 2022

### Lena and Yu Sing Jung (1962) Fund Fellowship

Post-disaster recovery research, design, and construction

MIT, DUSP | Coatepec, Mexico, 2022

### Presidential Graduate Fellowship

Ph.D in Urban Studies and Planning

MIT, DUSP | Cambridge, Massachusetts, 2020

### Beyond Reconstruction (J-Term Grant)

Traveling exhibition on post-disaster reconstruction in Oaxaca

Diane E. Davis, Harvard University, GSD | Oaxaca, Mexico, 2019

### Penny White Project Fund (Summer Research Grant)

“Alternatives for Rubble Management along the *Los Perros* River”

Harvard University, GSD | Oaxaca, Mexico, 2018

### David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (Grant)

“Alternatives for Rubble Management along the *Los Perros* River”

Harvard University | Oaxaca, Mexico, 2018

### International Travel Community Service Fellowship

Research volunteer for Reality Gives, NGO

Harvard University, GSD | Dharavi, Mumbai, India, 2017

### Dean’s Merit Scholarship

Master of Architecture in Urban Design

Harvard University, GSD | Cambridge, Massachusetts, 2017-2019

### UNAM-Fundacion Mexico en Harvard Scholarship

MDes Risk and Resilience/Master of Architecture in Urban Design

Harvard University, GSD | Mexico City, Mexico, 2016-2019

### CONACyT-FONCA Scholarship

MDes Risk and Resilience

Harvard University, GSD | Mexico City, Mexico, 2016-2018

### Academic Achievement Diploma (2) | 2012-2013 & 2013-2014

Given to top 3/~1,000 GPAs in the Architecture cohort

UNAM, School of Architecture | Mexico City, Mexico, 2015-2016

### Merit Diploma for Bachelor of Architecture Thesis

*CASA UNAM*: Sustainable urbanization in informal settlements

UNAM, School of Architecture | Mexico City, Mexico, 2015

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Engineering and Construction

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Urban Design, Transportation, and Affordability

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in Sustainability

Solar Decathlon Europe | CASA UNAM | Versailles, France, 2014

### PAPIIT Research Fellowship, Team Mex (CASA UNAM)

Research and Technological Innovation Project Support Program

UNAM | Mexico City, Mexico, 2014

### Faculty of Architecture Award (2)

Outstanding Professional Practice and Social Service Performance

UNAM, School of Architecture | Mexico City, Mexico, 2014

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Open International Ideas Competition

CoARQ | Plaza Pedro Moreno, Guadalajara | Mexico, 2012

## PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

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López, D. and M. Hooper. 2020. “Disaster Planning Across Scales: Lessons from Post-Earthquake Rubble Management in Oaxaca, Mexico.” *THE PLAN Journal* 5, no. 1

2019

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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Alcántara-Ayala, I., and D. Lopez. 2022. “Key Recommendations for a Strengthened Use of Science and Technology in Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean.” United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction.

2022

Lopez, D. and B. Valdes, 2019. “The Event” in *Beyond Reconstruction: Reflections on Post-Earthquake Recovery in Oaxaca, Mexico after the 2017 Earthquakes*, editors: Diane E. Davis, Lorena Bello Gomez, and Enrique Aureng Silva Estrada. Harvard University, Graduate School of Design.

2019

Lopez, D., N. Quiroz, B. Valdes, 2019. “Learning From Debris” in *Beyond Reconstruction: Reflections on Post-Earthquake Recovery in Oaxaca, Mexico after the 2017 Earthquakes*, eds. D. Davis, L. Bello, and E. Silva. Harvard University GSD.

2019

## SOFTWARE

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**Design:** Adobe (Illustrator, InDesign, and Photoshop), AutoCAD, SketchUp, Autodesk 3ds Max, Rhinoceros, Wix, Wordpress

**Other:** ArcGIS, QGIS, Qaltrics, R, Python

## PRESENTATIONS

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- Student Panelist | UPenn, MIT, Harvard University, & Columbia University | Virtual Event** 2021  
Resilience Untangled: Challenges and Opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean  
*Bicheeche Diidxa*; Post-Disaster Recovery in Oaxaca, Mexico - *Panel*: Student Work and Research (*with Betzabe Valdes*)  
Co-led by LatinX organizations in each participating institution | April 22
- Panelist and Poster Presenter | Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies | New Haven, Connecticut** 2019  
Global Environmental Justice Conference: Emerging Scholars | Cultural Assets for Disaster Recovery - *Panel*: Risk, Resilience, and Climate Change and Disaster Planning Across Scales - *Poster*: Urban Environments (*with Betzabe Valdes*)  
Supported by the Graciela Chichilnisky Environmental Fund | November 15
- Student Presenter | Harvard University, Graduate School of Design | Cambridge, Massachusetts** 2019  
“Beyond Reconstruction: Environmental, social, and infrastructural challenges for long-term recovery after major earthquakes in Mexico and Chile” Symposium | Alternatives for Rubble Management along the *Los Perros* River in Oaxaca  
Sponsored by the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Adams House, and Recupera Chile | April 17-18
- Student Presenter | Harvard University, Graduate School of Design | Cambridge, Massachusetts** 2017  
Summer Grants + Fellowships | Regarding work with Reality Gives in Dharavi, Mumbai with the ITCSFP  
Sponsored by Women in Design and Career Services | September 19





## COMPLEMENTARY EXPERIENCE

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- Product Designer | MIT CoLab | Cambridge, Massachusetts** 2019  
Educational tool design for participatory action research lexicon, based on final project for course 11.236 (PAR I)  
w/ Betzabe Valdes (+ Grimaldi, Hodgkins, Sharma, Saona) | Course taught by Dayna Cunningham and Katrin Kaeufer
- Traveling Exhibition Co-Designer and Manager | Pasa La Voz/Bicheeche Diidxa' | Oaxaca, Mexico** 2019  
“Testimonial Debris” | Traveling exhibition and open information forums in Oaxaca, Mexico  
Sponsored by the Beyond Reconstruction Initiative at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design | January 10-18
- Exhibition Designer | Harvard University, Graduate School of Design | Cambridge, Massachusetts** 2019  
“enGENDERing Urban Equity: Inclusive Design Strategies in Argentina” | Experiments Wall, Gund Hall  
Product of Chelina Odbert’s Fall 2018 option studio “Gendering Urban Development” | January-March
- Conference Assistant | Harvard University, Graduate School of Design | Cambridge, Massachusetts** 2018  
“Envisioning Future Resilience Scenarios for the Boston Harbor Islands” Conference and Design Charette  
Convened by the Department of Landscape Architecture of the Graduate School of Design and Boston Harbor Now |  
Supported by the James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Foundation | September 6-7
- Post-Disaster Construction Volunteer | Cooperación Comunitaria, NGO | Ciudad Ixtepec, Oaxaca** 2018  
Earth wall construction for the Center of Arts and Crafts, created after the 2017 earthquakes  
Supported by the Comité Ixtepecano en Defensa de la Vida y el Territorio | July 23-27
- Risk & Resilience Representative | Harvard University, Graduate School of Design | Cambridge, Massachusetts** 2017-2019  
Program liaison and communications manager | Cohort representative with Student Academic Affairs Committee  
Spring 2017- Spring 2019 | Fall 2018- Spring 2019

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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-  **SPANISH** Native Speaker       **ENGLISH** (*IBT 117 pts.*) Bilingual Proficiency       **FRENCH** (*DELTA A2*) Working Proficiency       **ITALIAN** Working Proficiency

**1997-2010:** Practiced and taught Karate-Do Shotokan (1<sup>st</sup> Dan)/3<sup>rd</sup> place (*kumite*) in 2008 Shotokan Kase-Ha World Cup (Reims, France)



Harvard University  
Graduate School of Design

May 30, 2019

Dear Deni Lopez,

On behalf of the Master in Design Studies Council we are pleased to write this letter of commendation to you for your outstanding record of achievement at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design.

The faculty joins me in wishing you continued success in your career.

Sincerely,

John May  
Assistant Professor of Architecture  
Director, Master in Design Studies Program

Harvard University  
Graduate School of Design  
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Cambridge, MA 02138  
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