

Alexandra Harden
Middlebury, Vermont
(315) 795-5126 | AlexandraHarden@uconn.edu
AlexandraHarden.com

Alexandra Harden is a Ph.D. candidate in geography at the University of Connecticut. Her research explores the experiences and equity implications of climate change adaptation by analyzing the interplay between climate change adaptation discursive framings, climate risk, and adaptation labor.

Research Interests: climate change, climate adaptation, climate risk, environment and disaster risk reduction, feminist political ecology, and feminist geography.

EDUCATION

University of Connecticut

Ph.D. Candidate, Geography
Expected Fall 2025

- Research area: Climate change adaptation
- Fields for qualifying exams: Geography, Feminist Geography, passed with distinction
- Committee: Mark Boyer, Ph.D. (Chair), Christopher Burton, Ph.D., Eleanor Ouimet, Ph.D., Ken Foote, Ph.D., Nancy Naples, Ph.D.

Columbia University

M.A. Climate and Society
October 2017

University of Colorado Boulder

Continuing Education in Atmospheric and Oceanic Science
May 2016

Colgate University

B.A. Political Science and Writing and Rhetoric
May 2008

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Red Cross Climate Centre

Junior Researcher

2023

- The goal of this project was to provide technical support to the Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) National Societies, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and partners to expand the adoption of a Forecast-based Financing (FbF) approach to drought disaster preparedness. The initial geographical scope of this project was focused on Somaliland with expansion into Puntland and broader Somalia. Over the course of this research, my focus centered on examining the historical coping and adaptation mechanisms employed by pastoralist communities in response to drought. In addition to the historical analysis, my responsibilities included the development of a climate-related social impact database for Somalia to better understand the scope and timing of drought impact.

Global Adaptation Mapping Initiative (GAMI)

Coder

2020-2021

- GAMI was a project focused on the systematic review of climate change adaptation literature to develop the first global assessment of empirical evidence on adaptation progress. This initiative was developed to inform the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6th Assessment Report. As a coder, I was tasked with reading and extracting adaptation insights from over 50 documents using an online, customized data extraction platform.

Advanced Consortium on Cooperation, Conflict, and Complexity (AC4)/ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Research Fellow

2018- 2019

- This research project focused on fragile socio-ecological systems' adaptive capacity in the Horn region of East Africa. It was based on a historical analysis of holistic system adaptation and applied an integrated conceptual model approach to address multidimensional system resilience given converging pressures from climate and conflict.

The Consortium for Capacity Building (CCB)/ Institute of Arctic & Alpine Research (INSTAAR)

Assistant Researcher

2018-2019

- El Niño Ready Nations is an ongoing project that focuses on the varying

conceptualizations of ‘readiness’ when it comes to being prepared on a national level for a climate-, water-, and/or weather-related disaster experienced during a declared El Niño season. I constructed a PR plan that created a media network in 30 countries. This included tiered content creation to address any changes in the 2018-2019 El Niño forecast. This campaign was a combined print, online, and social push meant to stress forecasting and monitor regional social responses to content.

Advanced Consortium on Cooperation, Conflict, and Complexity (AC4)/ United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Research Fellow

2017-2018

- This was a natural resource management project in the Peruvian Amazon, which focused on strengthening indigenous capacity in conflict resolution and natural resource management. My role was to examine the evolution of academic theory behind conflict-sensitive conservation practices and how this has contributed to current field standards. I furthered this research by identifying the different components of good practices in the field, as supported by academic publications, and how this can differ in actual implementation.

The Consortium for Capacity Building (CCB)/ Institute of Arctic & Alpine Research (INSTAAR)

Research Assistant

2015-2016

- For this project, I worked with the Consortium for Capacity Building on a USAID/NOAA grant on how nations can prepare and cope with weather-related disasters to become El Niño and La Nina Ready nations. My responsibilities included monitoring news outlets in 14+ countries. This monitoring was designed to note any instabilities with a country’s political, social, and economic environments. These instabilities focused primarily on economic fluctuations, disease outbreaks, human migration patterns, political instability, and other secondary impacts of changing climate variability due to naturally occurring ENSO cycles.

WORK EXPERIENCE

International Studies Association (ISA)

Graduate Research Assistant, Specialty Program Logistics

2020- current

- As a member of the conventions and conferences team, I organize and manage ISA's specialty programming logistics for its annual convention. My responsibilities include planning and executing program activities and logistical needs leading up to in-person conferences and regular communication with ISA leadership teams, conference participants, and sponsors.
- Collaborates with colleagues on association-related projects, like developing marketing materials, website management, printed program materials, catering, exhibit hall management, and other projects and works as necessary.

GlacierHub

Contributing Writer

2016-2017

- At GlacierHub, I researched and wrote articles leveraging various resources, including academic journals, non-peer-reviewed articles, and interviews, which focused on glacial health and the secondary impacts of glacial change. I contributed articles designed to be accessible and effectively communicate glacial change for a diverse, global audience.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Connecticut

Teaching Assistant

2019 – 2021

- GEOG 2300: Introduction to Physical Geography
- GEOG 2000: Globalization
- GEOG 1200: The City and the Western Tradition
- GEOG 1000 Introduction to Geography

University of Connecticut

SASP Tutor

2019-2020

- Tutored student athletes for 3-8 hours a week.
 - Courses: GEOG 1000 and GEOG 1200

New York Ski Education Foundation (NYSEF)

Academic Advisor and Math Tutor

2017-2019

- Provided math tutoring to student-athletes enrolled in middle and high school

curriculums. Coordinated assignments, exams, and progress reports with various school districts.

University of Colorado Boulder

Teaching Assistant

2015

- ATOC 1050: Weather and the Atmosphere
-

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

Gamma Theta Upsilon, Geography Honor Society

FUNDING

INTPART Funding for International Partnerships

2019-2020

- Funding provided by The Research Council of Norway. Will sponsor academic collaboration for up to 3 months with either the University of Tromsø, University of Calgary, or the University of Alaska Fairbanks.
-

MENTORING

Northwood School

Environmental and Climate Mentor

2021-2022

- Volunteered by time to mentor a 2021 high school student on a research project focusing on documenting the impacts of climate change in the ski industry through film and interviews.
-

PUBLICATIONS

Araos, M., K. Jagannathan, R. Shukla, I. Ajibade, E. Coughlan de Perez, K. Davis, J. D. Ford, E.

- K. Galappaththi, C. Grady, A. J. Hudson, E. T. Joe, C. J. Kirchhoff, A. Lesnikowski, G. N. Alverio, M. Nielsen, B. Orlove, B. Pentz, D. Reckien, A. R. Siders, N. Ulibarri, M. van Aalst, T. Z. Abu, T. Agrawal, L. Berrang-Ford, R. B. Kerr, S. Coggins, M. Garschagen, **A. Harden**, K. J. Mach, A. M. Nunbogu, P. Spandan, S. Templeman, and L. L. Turek-Hankins. 2021. Equity in human adaptation-related responses: A systematic global review. *One Earth* 4 (10):1454–1467.
- Berrang-Ford, et al. (GAMI Collaborative Research Team). 2021. A systematic global stocktake of evidence on human adaptation to climate change. *Nature Climate Change* 11 (11):989–1000.
- Fisher, J., H. Stutzman, M. Vedoveto, D. Delgado, R. Rivero, W. Quertehuari Dariquebe, L. Seclén Contreras, T. Souto, **A. Harden**, and S. Rhee. 2020. Collaborative Governance and Conflict Management: Lessons Learned and Good Practices from a Case Study in the Amazon Basin. *Society & Natural Resources* 33 (4):538–553.
- Harden, A., and M. Boyer. 2024. “Foreign Policy and Climate Change.” *The Oxford Handbook of Foreign Policy Analysis*, edited by Juliet Kaarbo and Cameron Theis, Oxford University Press, 2024. ISBN: 9780198843061
- McDowell, G., M. Stevens, A. Lesnikowski, C. Huggel, **A. Harden**, J. DiBella, M. Morecroft, P. Kumar, E. T. Joe, I. D. Bhatt, and the Global Adaptation Mapping Initiative. 2021. Closing the Adaptation Gap in Mountains. *Mountain Research and Development* 41 (3).
- Ouimet-Shoreman, E., **A. Harden**, A. Walters. 2024. Any Volunteers? Climate change, declining volunteerism, and disaster (un)preparedness in the Northeast USA. (Submitted)

EDUCATION-RELATED ARTICLES

- Harden, A. .2016. Glaciers Help Explain Suffering Salmon Populations. GlacierHub - State of the Planet. Columbia University, 27 October. Available at:
<https://glacierhub.org/2016/10/27/glaciers-help-explain-suffering-salmon-populations/>.
- Harden, A. 2016. How Glacial Lakes in India Offer Lessons on Adaptation, GlacierHub - State of the Planet. Columbia University, 10 November. Available at:
<https://glacierhub.org/2016/11/10/glacial-lakes-lessons-in-adaptation-education/>.
- Harden, A. 2016. Iceberg Killing Fields Threaten Carbon Cycling. GlacierHub - State of the Planet. Columbia University, 24 November. Available at:
<https://glacierhub.org/2016/11/24/iceberg-killing-fields-threaten-carbon-recycling/>.
- Harden, A. 2016. Mapping Landslides in the Himalayas. GlacierHub - State of the Planet. Columbia University, 8 December. Available at:

<https://glacierhub.org/2016/12/08/mapping-landslides-himalayas/>.