GISSELLE A. MEJÍA

Dartmouth College
Environmental Studies Department
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Education: **Ph.D., Earth and Environmental Science**   August 2017 – September 2022
The Graduate Center of the City University of New York, New York, NY
Institutional Award: Graduate Center Teaching Fellowship

Master of Science, Forestry   August 2009
School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science
Michigan Technological University, Houghton, Michigan
Peace Corps Master's International Program Award: Loret Miller Ruppe Scholarship

Bachelor of Arts   May 2005
Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
Major: Political Science and Environmental Studies

**Research
Interests**:   Urban ecology, forest ecology, ecosystem ecology, biogeochemistry, land-use change, Nitrogen
cycling, environmental equity and justice, critical and inclusive pedagogy

**Professional
Experience:**   **The Graduate Center of the
City University of New York (CUNY)**   September 2023 – present
Visiting Scholar
New York, New York

- Contribute to inter and cross disciplinary research as part of U.S. National Science Foundation funded TRANSPIRE program to answer challenging, globally significant scientific problems that with a global impact.
- Conduct seminars at The Graduate Center's Advanced Science Research Center and Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

Dartmouth College   September 2022 – present
Guarini Dean's Postdoctoral Fellow
Research Associate/Lecturer
Hanover, NH

- Develop and analyze empirical models that link above and belowground spatial community assembly processes in a global change framework.
- Publish results in peer-reviewed journal articles and present data at conferences.
- Develop and teach a course in Urban Ecology that is approachable to diverse and interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate students in Environmental Studies.
- Mentor undergraduate and graduate students in scientific methods and career development.

- Contribute to the cultivation of equity inclusivity, and diversity in the Department of Environmental Studies and Ecology, Evolution, Environment & Society Graduate Program
- Organize seminars that contribute to interdisciplinary scholarship in the Provost's Fellowship program.
- Lead professional development trainings as executive board member of the Dartmouth College Postdoc Association and liaison with the National Postdoc Association.
- Organize and lead teacher-scholar trainings at the Dartmouth College Center for Advancement and Learning.

Research Foundation of the
City University of New York (RFCUNY)   September 2020 – present
Research Assistant
New York, New York

- Developed data quality assessment, analysis, and visualization of academic research at The Graduate Center, Advanced Science Research Center's Environmental Sciences Initiative.
- Developed laboratory safety and research protocols, and assisted with laboratory setup, equipment purchase, and budget management.
- Mentored undergraduate and graduate students in field and laboratory experiments and conducted community outreach initiatives to engage student groups in Environmental Science research.
- Developed laboratory reports, presented research at institutional events and external conferences, and prepared manuscripts for publication.
- Provided research support in a project funded by the National Science Foundation's Macrosystems Biology Program to examine the effects of urban land-use change on soil-atmosphere fluxes and storage of Carbon and Nitrogen at the ecosystem, landscape, regional, and continental scales.

The Graduate Center of the
City University of New York (CUNY)   August 2017 – present
Graduate Assistant
New York, New York

- Designed curriculum and delivered academic lectures for Environmental Science course, including developing writing, reading and discussion assignments in a wide range of environmental topics to enhance students' learning process.
- Participated in teacher trainings and peer evaluations to improve in-person and online teaching, boost student engagement, and provide a safe and inclusive classroom environment for students.
- Served as a member of the faculty hiring committee at The Graduate Center's Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

The Graduate Center of the
City University of New York (CUNY)   August 2017 – 2020
Non-teaching Adjunct
New York, New York

- Wrote research proposals, developed budget and secured over $88,000 in funding to complete critical research in urban ecology and sustainability.

- Collaborated with the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation to complete a long-term assessment of forest restoration across New York City.

Michigan Technological University   September 2006 – December 2008
Graduate International Field Researcher
Chalatenango, El Salvador
- Investigated natural resource management in rural areas utilizing standard forest measurements procedures, ethnographic methods and field surveys, mapping, and applied statistical analysis
- Conducted archival research and scientific literature review in forest management.

Grants and Fellowships:

Guarini Dean's Postdoctoral Fellowship, $62,960	Fall 2022 - present
Earth and Environmental Science Tithe Fellowship, $638	Fall 2021 – Spring 2022
The Graduate Center Fellowship, $50, 636	Fall 2017 – Spring 2021
The Graduate Center Tuition Fellowship, $27,830	Fall 2017 – Spring 2021
The Graduate Center Summer Fellowship, $6,000	Summer 2018-2020
Early Research Initiative/Digital Initiatives Connect New York Fellowship, $4,000	Summer 2019
Teaching and Learning Center Scholarship, $750	Summer 2018

Publications:

Mejía, G.A., P.M. Groffman, M.L. Avolio, A.R. Bratt, J.M. Engebretson, N. Grijseels, S.J. Hall, S.E. Hobbie, S.B. Lerman, E. Litvak, D.H. Locke, D.L. Narango, J. Padullés Cubino, D.E. Pataki, T.L.E. Trammell. 2023. How to turban trees compare across the USA? It depends on where you look within and between cities. Frontiers in Ecology and Environment. *In Review.*

Mejía, G.A., P.M. Groffman, M.L. Avolio, A.R. Bratt, J. Cavender-Bares, N. Grijseels, S.J. Hall, J. Heffernan, S.E. Hobbie, S.B. Lerman, J.L. Morse, D.L. Narango, C.Niell, J.Padullés Cubino, T.L.E. Trammell. 2023. Woody plant-soil relationships in interstitial spaces have implications for future forests within and beyond urban areas. Ecosystems. *In Review.*

Mejía, G.A., P.M. Groffman, A.E. Downey, E.M. Cook, S. Sritrairat, R. Karty, M.I. Palmer, and T. McPhearson. 2022. Nitrogen cycling and urban afforestation in New York City. Ecological Applications **32**:e2535. https://doi.org/10.1002/eap.2535

Downey, A.E., P.M. Groffman, **G.A. Mejía**, E.M. Cook, S. Sritrairat, R. Karty, M.I. Palmer, and T. McPhearson. 2021. Soil carbon sequestration in urban afforestation sites in New York City. Urban Forestry & Urban Greening **65**:127342. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ufug.2021.127342

Mejia, G.A., and B. Orr. 2015. Forest management plans in Los Planes de La Palma, El Salvador. Natural Resources **6**:528-533. Doi: 10.4236/nr.2015.611050

Conference

Presentations: "How do tree communities compare across USA? It depends on where you look within and between cities." American Association of Geographers, March 2023.

"Urban afforestation and Nitrogen cycling in New York City parklands." American Geophysical Union. Online, December 2021.

"Soil Nutrients in Urban Afforestation Sites in New York City." New York City Parks and Recreation Restoration Practitioners' Gathering. Online, February 2021.

"Microbial biomass and activity in afforested urban ecosystems." Ecological Society of America. Kentucky International Convention Center, Louisville, KY, August 2019.

Guest Lectures: "Urban Soils." ENVS 26: Soil Ecological Systems, Dartmouth College, April 2023.

"Soil Nutrients Across Urban Forests." Ecology, Evolution, Environment and Society, Seminar series, Dartmouth College, September 2022.

"Sustainability of Urban Forests in New York City." City University of New York, Brooklyn College. Online, April 2021.

Trainings: Center for the Improvement of Mentored Experience in Research (CIMER), Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire.

Additional Skills: Fluent in Spanish (native Spanish-speaker), trained facilitator and grant writer, proficient in R Studio Data Science software, Microsoft Office suite, ArcMaP GIS software, environmental conservation planning and design, best management practices application, GIS mapping and analysis, environmental sampling and surveying, performing ecological habitat analysis, forest inventory, analysis, and vegetation identification, soil conservation and agricultural practices.