

# JOY SEMIEN

HOUSTON, TX Cell: 225-715-1366

[joysemien@gmail.com](mailto:joysemien@gmail.com)\* <https://leedingwithjoy.com/about-2/>

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## EDUCATION

**Doctor of Philosophy in Urban and Regional Sciences**, Expected Graduation May, 2022

Texas A & M University: College Station, TX

Dissertation: *Examining Post-Harvey Disruption and Recovery of Organizations in Beaumont/Port Arthur, TX*

**Master of Science in Urban Planning and Environmental Policy**, May 2017

Texas Southern University: Houston, TX

Thesis: *“Developing a Disaster Preparedness Tool Kit to Effectively Train the Community of Geismar, Louisiana in the Case of a Natural or Anthropogenic Disaster.”*

**Bachelor of Science**, cum laude, May 2015

Dillard University: New Orleans, LA

Major: Biology, Minor: Chemistry

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Member**, American Planning Association.

**Member**, Planning in the Black Community Division. *American Planning Association.*

**Member**, Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Recovery Planning Division. *American Planning Association.*

**Member**, Ecological Society of America.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

**Student of the Year: American Planning Association -Planning in the Black Community Division Award** 2019

**Outstanding Thesis Award: Texas Southern University** 2017

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Texas Southern University Graduate Research Competition** 2017

**Martin Luther King Community Service Award: New Orleans, La** 2015

## FELLOWSHIPS

**Chair/Fellow**, The William Averette Anderson Fund Fellowship 2018-

2021

**Fellow**, Gulf Equity Water Corp Consortium 2019

**Fellow**, HBCU Climate Change Consortium Fellow 2018

**Fellow**, Planning, and the Black Community Division's Fellowship 2018

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Instructor of Record, Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning, Texas A & M University** 2017-2020  
*College Station, TX*  
Served as the instructor of record for the undergraduate course *The Evolution of a City and Building Better Cities*.
- Teaching Assistant, College of Architecture, Texas A & M University** Fall, 2019  
Served as a teaching assistant and course evaluator for the undergraduate course Cultural Discourse class. Responsibilities included the development of teaching material, curriculum development and course evaluation tools.
- Instructor, Texas Southern University National Summer Transportation Institute** 2017  
*Houston, TX*  
Courses Taught: *What is Planning, Intro to Geographic Information Systems, and Bridge Design and Planning*
- Teaching Assistant, McDonough 35 High School** 2015  
*New Orleans, La*  
Assisted high school level biology teachers in preparation for daily classroom implementation as well as preparation for the Texas End of Course Examination.
- Teaching Assistant, Dillard University Saturday Science Academy** 2014-2015  
*New Orleans, LA*  
Assisted Saturday science instructors with daily classroom implementation and lesson plan development.
- Mentor-Teaching Assistant, Dillard University First Year Seminar** 2014-2015  
*New Orleans, LA*  
Tutored, mentored, and assisted instructors with daily classroom implementation

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Research Assistant, Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center and Texas Sea Grant at Texas A & M University, College Station, TX** 2018-Present  
Designed, developed, and implemented a research project that Examined Post-Harvey Disruption and Recovery of Organizations in Beaumont/Port Arthur, TX. Managed a team of 24 undergraduates, 3 graduate students, 6 faculty, and 4 outside collaboratives. Conducted regular check-ins, managed, and analyzed data. Developed memos and reports to share with outside collaboratives.
- Research Assistant, "Disaster Recovery Guide for Planning Practitioners." American Planning Association and Federal Emergency Management Agency** 2018-2019  
Designed, implemented, and analyzed qualitative interviews and online survey to understand recovery educational needs of urban planners and similar professions.

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- Research Scholar, Texas Southern University, Barbara Jordan – Mickey Leland Scholar Houston, TX** 2015-2017  
Collaborated with a host of environmental justice scholars and advocates conducting research on building non-profit organization capacity to respond to the needs of the broader community. Periodically served as a data manager and an information systems assistant preparing conference rooms for meetings.
- Research Scholar, Dillard University, Louisiana Alliance Minority Participation** 2015  
*New Orleans, LA*  
Research Project: Evaluated methods to reduce arsenic uptake by *Oryza sativa* in Louisiana rice farms
- Research Scholar, University of New Orleans Conservation of Tropical Ecology** 2014  
*Gabon, Africa*  
Compared primate diversity and vegetation abundance within continuous and gallery forest habitats within Lope National Park
- Research Scholar, Marine Biological Laboratory, Semester in Environmental Science** 2013  
*Woods Hole, MA*  
Assess impacts of global climate change by comparing sediment accumulation rates with estimates of net carbon storage based on eddy flux tower measurements on the Plum Island Estuary Salt Marsh, Ma <http://videocenter.mbl.edu/videos/video/511/in/channel/19/>
- Research Scholar, Independent Research** 2012  
*Kingston, Jamaica*  
Studied the value of cultural diversity between Jamaica and the United States
- Research Scholar, Dillard University, Louisiana Alliance Minority Participation** 2012  
*New Orleans, LA*  
Research Project: *From Seed to Table a Dream Keepers Garden: New Orleans, LA* - Research mentorship assessing rising childhood obesity levels and knowledge of environmental science
- Research Scholar, Dillard University, Louisiana Alliance Minority Participation** 2011  
*New Orleans, LA*  
Research Project: *NOLA Hurricane Readiness: New Orleans, LA* - Evaluated the extent to which non-structural risk mitigation programs could reduce New Orleans flood risk

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

**Data Manager and Administrative Support Specialist, Community Health Collaborative Consulting** 2020-  
Houston, Texas Present

Responsibilities included managing large data sets, analyzing data, and provided administrative support for meetings.

**Data Manager and Administrative Support Specialist, HOGG Foundation for Mental Health** 2019-  
Houston, Texas Present

Served as a member of the Communities of Care evaluation team. Responsibilities included managing large data sets, analyzing data, web-support for *Community Toolbox*, and supplied administrative support for meetings using *Google Drive, Asana and Basecamp*.

**Intern, National Resource Defense Council** 2016  
New York, NY

Collaborated closely with environmental lawyers and scientist on environmental justice issues among communities impacted by the *Federal Cap and Trade Policies*. Synthesized national policies related to *Cap and Trade* and examining the equity issues among communities directly affected by those policies.

**Intern, West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc.** 2016  
New York, NY

Collaborated closely with environmental community organizers on Urban Heat Island issues in Harlem, New York. Primary role consisted of surveying residents on the effects that heat can play on daily activities. Other responsibilities included phone canvassing and preparation for community forums.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

Wright, Beverly, Nance, Earthea, King, Denaë, **Semien, Joy**. 2021. "A Question of Human Rights: Transnational Targeting of Environmental Justice Communities." *Humanity and Society*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/01605976211013284>

Blanks, J., Abuabara, A., Roberts, A., and **Semien, J.** 2021. Preservation at the Intersections: Patterns of Disproportionate Multihazard Risk and Vulnerability in Louisiana's Historic African American Cemeteries. *Environmental Justice*.

**Semien, J.**, and Nance, E. (2019). KAPS: A Disaster Training Approach for High-Risk Communities. *International Journal of Mass Emergencies & Disasters*, 37(3).

Broadway, Ruby, Lovell Agwaramgbo, Shelby Edwards, ShaKayla Nunez, and **Joy Semien** (2018). Charred rice hull as soil additive to reduce arsenic uptake by *Oryza sativa* in a rice farm. *Environmental Analysis & Ecology Studies*.

Singleton, Bernard, J. Turnere, L. Waltera, N. Lathana, D. Thorpea, P. Ogeboena, J. Dayea, D. Alcorna, S., Wilson, A, **J. Semien** et al. (2016). Environmental stress in the Gulf of Mexico and its potential impact on public health. *Environmental Research*, 146, 108-115.  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S001393511530181X>

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## REPORTS

Meyer, M. , **Semien, J.** and Helgeson, J. (2021), NIST-NOAA Survey Tool for Business Disruption and Recovery Associated With Extreme Events: General Instrument Applied to the Beaumont and Port Arthur, Texas Small- and Medium-Sized Business and Nonprofit Organizations Community Post-Hurricane Harvey, Data Collection Instruments, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD, [online], <https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.DCI.004>, [https://tsapps.nist.gov/publication/get\\_pdf.cfm?pub\\_id=932583](https://tsapps.nist.gov/publication/get_pdf.cfm?pub_id=932583) (Accessed August 13, 2021)

Meyer, M. and **Semien, J.** (2021). Business Disruption and Recovery Post-Hurricane Harvey in Southeast Texas (SETX): Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center, College Station, Tx.  
<http://hrrc.arch.tamu.edu/publications/research%20reports/Business-Disruption-and-Recover-Post-Hurricane-Harvey-in-Southeast-Texas.pdf>

2019. “Disaster Recovery Professionals Guidance Development: Qualitative Interview Report.” Funded by the American Planning Association and Federal Emergency Management Agency. Lead authors in alphabetical order: Judanne Lennox-Morrison, Michelle Meyer, Abrina Williams. Research Team in alphabetical order: Troy Brundidge, Shannon Burke, Joseph DeAngelis, Judanne Lennox-Morrison, Michelle Meyer, J. Carlee Purdum, Rich Roths, **Joy Semien**, Shannon Van Zandt, Abrina Williams, Siyu Yu.  
<https://www.planning.org/publications/document/9193407/>

2019. “Disaster Recovery Professionals Guidance Development: Quantitative Survey Report.” Funded by the American Planning Association and Federal Emergency Management Agency. Lead authors in alphabetical order: Judanne Lennox-Morrison, Michelle Meyer, Abrina Williams, Siyu Yu. Research Team in alphabetical order: Troy Brundidge, Shannon Burke, Joseph DeAngelis, Judanne Lennox-Morrison, Michelle Meyer, J. Carlee Purdum, Rich Roths, **Joy Semien**, Shannon Van Zandt, Abrina Williams, Siyu Yu.  
<https://www.planning.org/publications/document/9193414/>

## BOOKS AND BOOK CHAPTERS

**Semien, J.**, and Nance, E. (2022). Hazard Mitigation Training for Vulnerable Communities: A K.A.P.S. (Knowledge, Attitude, Preparedness, Skills) Approach (1st ed.). Routledge.  
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003177005>

**Semien, J.**, (2020). Give Them Money, Give Them Power, and Give Me Death. In D. Newton (Ed.), The climate change debate (Vol. 1, p.141-145). Santa Barbara, California: ABC-Clio.

Arenas, Alberto; Andreotti, Andy; Ferrell, Blair; Monsivaiz, Cameron; McCreary, Colin; Easton, Emily; Guarneri, Harley; Toriz, Jorge; Makatura, Kayla; Schulze, Lauren; Metske, Madison; Pohlmeier, Marissa; Finley, Michael; Dedear, Nathan; Wooten, Rachel; Trust, Samantha; Florence, Stephen; Powell, Wayne; Juarez, Alex; Patricia, Angela; Kleveland, Benjamin; Chunga, Carlo; Hixson, Conner; Sullivan, Emily; Schwarz, Hunter; **Semien, Joy**; et. al. (2018). La Grange Comprehensive Plan 2018 - 2038. Texas A&M University. Available electronically from <https://hdl.handle.net/1969.1/189335>.

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**Semien, J.** (2017). Developing a disaster preparedness tool kit to effectively train the community of Geismar, Louisiana in the case of a natural or anthropogenic disaster. ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. (1925028682).

### **NOTORIETY AND IMPACT TRACKING**

Katrina: 15 Years Later (SOC1 467), module on climate change and vulnerable groups, taught Spring 2020 at University of Delaware

Citizen Participation and Planning Class (UPEP 863), taught Fall 2019 at Texas Southern University

### **INVITED TALKS**

**Semien, Joy.** (2020). The Link Between Organizational Recovery and Social Justice. *Coastal Communities and Justice Roundtable*. Virtual Webinar.

**Semien, Joy.** (2020). Hazards, Race, and Social Justice. *U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Natural Hazards Mission Area (NHMA)*. Virtual Webinar.

**Semien, Joy.** (2020). Environmental Justice Now Tour: Historically, Black Colleges and Universities. *Natural Resource Committee (USGS) Natural Hazards Mission Area (NHMA)*. Virtual Webinar.

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

**Semien, Joy, Malini Roy, Melina Matos, Jacqueline Kuzio, and Andrea Robert.** (2020). Critical Place Studies: Creative Approaches to Increasing the Visibility of Historic Black Communities to Planners & Policymakers. *ACHS 2020 FUTURES - Association of Critical Heritage Studies 5th Biennial Conference. Virtual Webinar-London.*

**Semien, Joy** and Earthea Nance. (2018). A Disaster Training Approach for High Risk Communities. *Natural Hazards Conference*. Broomfield, CO.

### **PANELS AND WEBINARS**

**Plenary Panelist.** *Engagement—Community-Based Approaches to Expanding the Hazards Field* (2021). Natural Hazards Workshop. Natural Hazards Center. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zkzh\\_PakDas](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zkzh_PakDas)

**Webinar.** *Examining Post-Harvey Disruption and Recovery of Organizations in Beaumont/Port Arthur, TX.* (2020). College of Architecture Research Symposium. Texas A & M College of Architecture.

**Moderator.** *Next Generation Youth Panel.* (2019) 7<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference. Sponsored by the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and Texas Southern University.

**Panelist.** *Voicless: From the Mouth of Babes.* (2019). TAMU Rise Conference. Sponsored by Texas A & M University.

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**Panelist.** In Retrospect - Hurricane Harvey and the Impact on African American Neighborhoods. (2018). APA Webinar Series. Sponsored by the Planning in the Black Community Division.

**Panelist.** The Fight Continues: Students Lifting Our Voices Through Journalism Panel. (2018) *6<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference: Fighting for our Lives*. Sponsored by the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and Texas Southern University.

**Moderator.** Global Warming Mitigation and Climate Resiliency Panel. (2018) *6<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference: Fighting for our Lives*. Sponsored by the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and Texas Southern University.

**Moderator.** HBCU- COP21 Experience Panel. (2016). *4<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference: Fighting for our Lives*. Sponsored by the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and Texas Southern University.

**Panelist.** Dillard University Institutional Development Panel. (2015). Sponsored by Dillard University's Institutional Development Office.

### SERVICE

**Co-Chair – AGU- Advancing Earth and Space Science Resilience Statement Panel** 2020-2021  
Co-led the development a panel charged with updating the AGU position statement on resilience to natural hazards.

**STAAR Tutor, Rudder High School Bryan Independent School District** 2017 -  
*Bryan, TX* 2018  
Tutored 9th graders in Biology, Physics, and Algebra to increase STAAR test scores as well as in classroom test scores.

**Center for Career and Professional Development Advisory Board** 2015  
*New Orleans, LA*  
Supplied a student perspective for developing academic programs related to employment, professional and graduate school opportunities, and academic trends related to retention of Dillard University students.

**Dillard University Advisory Committee on Academic Programs** 2015  
*New Orleans, LA*  
Assisted with the Approval process of the development and enhancement of the university standard curriculum as it relates to the FERPA and SAX curriculum standards.

### FUNDING

Co-Principal Investigator. "Understanding Repeat Disruption to Small, Minority-Owned, and Rural Businesses with Applications to Economic Diversification and Organizational Resilience in the Gulf Coast." SCIPP/RISA. PI: Maria Watson, TAMU. \$100,000

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### **CERTIFICATIONS**

IRB CITI – Human Subjects Certification

Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100, FEMA

32 Hour OSHA Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Certificate