

# VIRGIE GREB

Doctoral Student

## Contact

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77550

## Education

### **PhD Texas A&M University at Galveston**

*Marine & Coastal  
Management & Science*

Committee: Drs. Ashley  
Ross, Meri Davlasheridze,  
Wes Highfield, Cara Pennel,  
David Hala

exp. December 2024

### **MPH University of Texas Medical Branch**

*Masters of Public Health  
Certificate*

14 hours

July 2023

### **MS Texas A&M University at Galveston**

*Marine Resources  
Management*

May 2017

### **BS University of North Texas**

*Photojournalism with  
English minor*

May 2004

## Professional Experience

### **Texas A&M University at Texas Graduate Assistant Researcher**

August 2021 - current

- Assist research supervisor(s) and/or principal investigator with their research projects
- Collect, code and analyze data
- Draft materials for review or presentation

### **Galveston's Own Farmers Market Volunteer Coordinator**

August 2021 - May 2022

- Coordinated volunteers for various market program events
- Maintained market program volunteer metrics
- Assisted with grant writing

### **City of Galveston Coastal Resources Specialist**

July 2018 - August 2021

- Oversaw implementation of the City of Galveston Coastal Management Plan
- Reviewed permit applications and mitigation plans for proposed construction
- Evaluated federal and state land use law and the impact on local plans and ordinances
- Prepare staff reports for City Council and Planning Commission review
- Gathered, interpreted, and prepared data for creation of the "Leave No Trace" ordinance (Ordinance No. 19-017)
- Partnered with Texas A&M University at Galveston to create a directed studies course focused on beach access and dune protection

## Awards & Certifications

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### **TAMUG Graduate Student Research Symposium**

*3rd Place - Ocean & Life Sciences*

April 2024

### **American Shore & Beach Preservation Association**

*James Houston Economic Scholar*

December 2023 - September 2024

### **TAMUG Graduate Lightning Talks**

*2nd Place Overall Winner*

April 2022

### **Tourism Ambassador**

*City of Galveston Park Board of Trustees*

November 2022

### **Harte of the Gulf Film Competition**

*Top 3*

May 2017

### **Wetlands Management #655 - Wetland Delineation**

*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

May 2017

### **Sea Star Base Galveston**

#### ***Assistant Director of Programs***

February 2015–January 2016 & January 2017–May 2017

- Develop, implement, and coordinate marine science and maritime education programs for local middle school and high school field trips
- Awarded \$21,500 in grant funding for education programs
- Lead kayak merit badge program, biodiversity, wetland ecology, and marine debris activities for 200+ campers and 100+ adult leaders at summer scouting camp
- Develop and implement a marine debris program with a kayaking component aligned with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards for K-8th grade classrooms (TAMUG masters project)

### **Galveston Bay Foundation**

#### ***Education Coordinator***

January 2016 - October 2017

- Coordinate, develop, and implement marine science education programs
- Lead wetland grass harvest and restoration field trips, teacher workshops, and in-class science presentations
- Communicate with educators throughout the lower Galveston Bay watershed regarding oyster and wetland restoration programs placing smooth cordgrass (*spartina alterniflora*) and/or oyster gardens in Galveston Bay

### **Rosenberg Library**

#### ***Library Assistant, Children's Department***

May 2014- February 2015

- Register patrons for Summer Reading Program and answer questions regarding library programs or materials
- Locate library materials for patrons (books, periodicals, audio books)
- Create props and costumes for library productions

### **Heal the Bay**

#### ***Key to the Sea Coordinator***

July 2012 - July 2013

- Education liaison with 14 school districts, elementary schools, and 287 teachers
- Coordinated 136 field trips that included 7,368 students to the four partnering aquariums of the Key to the Sea Program
- Organize marine biology and science curriculum, lead Key to the Sea teacher workshops and classrooms throughout coastal zone environments
- Prepared quarterly and annual budget reports

## Service

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### **Texas A&M University at Galveston**

*Graduate Ambassador*  
August 2022 - current

### **City of Galveston Park Board of Trustees**

*Beach Maintenance Advisory Board Member*

October 2022 - current

### **Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council**

*Board Member*

August 2019 - current

### **Surfrider Galveston**

*Executive Committee Member*

August 2015 - August 2017

## Invited Talks

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### **Southern Political Science Association**

*Panel Speaker: Facilitating Public Engagement to Effectively Respond to Challenges Posed by Disasters and Crises*

National Conference 2024

### **Women In Coastal Science**

*Speaker: September 2023*

*Moderator: April 2024*

City of Galveston Park Board of Trustees

### **Research Experience for Undergraduates**

Texas A&M University at Galveston  
Summer 2022

## **WorldWide Opportunities on Organic Farms Organic Farmer**

October 2012 - June 2012

- Organic Farmer at the Holualoa Kona Coffee Company Farm in Kona, Hawaii
  - Assisted with daily chores (pruning coffee trees, remove weeds from coffee trees, mow areas of the farm)
- Hostel employee at Kona Wood Hale Hostel in Kailua Kona, Hawaii
  - cleaned and prepared rooms for new guests
- Organic Farmer at Hawaii Coconut Protectors in Maui, Hawaii
  - Planted pineapples, juiced sugarcane, prepared baked goods, opened coconuts, and prepared smoothies for farm fruit stand located at mile marker 4 on the Hana Highway

## Research

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### **Publications**

Ross, A. D., Nejat, A., & **Greb, V.** (2023). Institutional Foundations of Adaptive Planning: Exploration of Flood Planning in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas, USA. *Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/23789689.2023.2180249>

### **Publications In-Progress**

**Greb, V.**, Davlasheridze, M., Ross, A.D. Exploring the relationships between tourism and beach quality in Galveston, Texas, USA.

### **Research Experience**

#### **“Galveston BEACH (Beaches, Economic Activity, and Community Health) Report Card”**

Role: Student Investigator (dissertation project), Fall 2020 - current  
Funding: Institute for a Disaster Resilient Texas  
Supervising Faculty: Ashley Ross and Meri Davlsheridze

- Collected economic and environmental quality data from the Galveston Park Board, City of Galveston, Texas General Land Office, Galveston County Health District, and NOAA
- Secured IRB approval for the project (TAMU IRB #IRB2022-1169M)
- Developed and deployed an original social survey

### **“Decision-making under evolving and conditional risk associated with flood barriers”**

Role: Graduate Research Assistant, Fall 2022 – current

Funding: National Science Foundation, Strengthening America’s Infrastructure

Supervising Faculty: Meri Davlasheridze and Ashley Ross

- Assist with stakeholder advisory board meeting organization
- Gather resources for NSF project literature review

### **“Resilience Roadmap for the Lower Rio Grande Valley”**

Role: Graduate Research Assistant, Summer 2022

Funding: National Science Foundation, Smart and Connected Communities

Supervising Faculty: Ashley Ross

- Collected regional and local hazard and flood plans as text data
- Drafted case study area description with details on flood planning processes
- Contributed to the preparation of a paper on analysis of plans for journal submission

### **“Navasota River Flooding”**

Role: Graduate Research Assistant, Summer 2022

Funding: Texas A&M University System

Supervising Faculty: Ashley Ross

- Assisted with focus group recruitment, preparation, and administration
- Contacted local stakeholders to collect survey data on perceptions of flooding
- Assisted with survey data collection and analysis

### **“Wind and Hail Insurance Market Incentives”**

Role: Graduate Research Assistant, Fall 2021 – Spring 2022

Funding: Texas Department of Transportation

Supervising Faculty: Meri Davlasheridze

- Synthesized relevant literature and collaborated on literature review
- Qualitative data collection – conducted in-depth interviews of insurance companies
- Analyzed qualitative data using thematic methods and wrote report of findings