

# Abbey Hotard

## Curriculum Vitae

Assistant Professor  
University of South Alabama

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## RESEARCH FOCUS

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Human dimensions of coastal hazard mitigation & climate adaptation; public policy related to coastal resources and adaptation; environmental justice & equity

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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2024 – present      **University of South Alabama**  
Assistant Professor, Stokes School of Marine and Environmental Sciences

2023 – 2024      **University of Delaware**  
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Coastal Hazards, Equity, Economic Prosperity & Resilience (CHEER) Hub, Disaster Research Center

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D., Coastal Management & Science, Texas A&M University**      **2023**  
Dissertation: *Rethinking Relocation and Resilience: A Comparative Analysis of Household Hazard Adaptation in the Greater Houston and New Orleans Regions*

**Master of Marine Resource Management, Texas A&M University**      **2019**  
Thesis: *Relocation Considerations of Gulf Coast Residents Following the 2017 Hurricane Season for Hazard Risk Reduction*

**B.S., Coastal Environmental Science, Louisiana State University**      **2017**  
Minor: Political Science  
Thesis: *Effects of Increased Sedimentation on Carbon Accumulation of Salt Marsh Benthic Biofilms*

## PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

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### *Peer-Reviewed Publications*

- 1) **Hotard, A.**, Ross, A.D., (2023). Home Buyout without Relocation: An Examination of Dissonant Hazard Mitigation Perceptions among Gulf Coast Residents. *Risks, Hazards, Crisis in Public Policy*.
- 2) Stanley, M. **Hotard, A.**, Pilgreen, D., Meyer, M.A. (2023). Critical Review of National Flood Policy Outcomes. *Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1515/jhsem-2021-0059>
- 3) Valentine, K., **Hotard, A.**, Quirk, T., Mariotti, G. (2022). Biofilms are important contributors to organic carbon in salt marsh sediments. *Wetlands*, 42(1). DOI:10.1007/s13157-021-01528-0
- 4) Ross, A. D., **Hotard, A.**, Kamalanathan, M., Nolen, R., Hala, D., Clay, L. A., Kaiser, K., et al. (2020). Awareness Is Not Enough: Frequent Use of Water Pollution Information and Changes to

### ***Papers in Progress***

- 1) **Hotard, A.** Rethinking Relocation and Resilience: Understanding How the Pushes and Pulls of Place Shape Relocation Decisions in the Greater Houston and New Orleans Regions.
- 2) **Hotard, A.** The Relationship Between Public Adaptation and Relocation Preferences Among Coastal Residents.
- 3) Ross, A.D., **Hotard, A.**, Retchless, D., Davlasheridze, M. Are Disasters Red & Blue? Exploration of partisan influences on household choices in disaster response, recovery, and mitigation

### ***Oral Presentations***

- 1) **Hotard, A.** “Rethinking Relocation and Resilience: Understanding How the Pushes and Pulls of Place Shape Relocation Decisions,” State of the Coast, New Orleans, LA, 2023
- 2) **Hotard, A.** “Household Adaptations to Coastal Hazards,” Texas A&M University System Pathways Student Research Symposium Lightning Talks, College Station, TX, 2022 (2<sup>nd</sup> place doctoral presentation)
- 3) **Hotard, A.** “Household Adaptations to Coastal Hazards,” Texas A&M University at Galveston Student Research Symposium Lightning Talks, Galveston, TX, 2022
- 4) **Hotard, A.** “Factors Influencing Relocation Consideration by Gulf Coast Residents for Hazard Risk Reduction,” Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science Conference, New Orleans, LA, 2019
- 5) Ross, A. D., A. Abelman, and **A. Hotard.** “The Role of Disaster Experience on Climate Change Belief and Concern,” Southern Political Science Association Meeting, Austin, TX, 2019
- 6) **Hotard, A.**, Valentine, K., and G. Mariotti, “Carbon Storage by Salt Marsh Biofilm,” LSU Discover Day, Baton Rouge, LA, 2017
- 7) Carruthers, T. and **A. Hotard.** “Developing an Approach to Water Quality Trading Potential in Watersheds of Southern Louisiana,” The Water Institute of the Gulf Research Presentation, Baton Rouge, LA, 2016

### ***Poster Presentations***

- 1) **Hotard, A.** “Rethinking Relocation and Resilience: Understanding How the Pushes and Pulls of Place Shape Relocation Decisions,” Natural Hazards Workshop, Broomfield, CO, 2023
- 2) **Hotard, A.** “Rethinking Relocation and Resilience: Understanding How the Pushes and Pulls of Place Shape Relocation Decisions,” Managed Retreat, New York, NY, 2023
- 3) **Hotard, A.** “Factors Influencing Willingness to Relocate of Gulf Coast Residents for Hazard Risk Reduction,” Natural Hazards Workshop, Broomfield, CO, 2018
- 4) **Hotard, A.** “An Analysis of Governance Arrangements of Flood Risk Management in the Netherlands and the United States,” NSF PIRE Coastal Flood Risk Reduction Research Program, Galveston, TX, 2018
- 5) **Hotard, A.** “The Certainty of Storm Surge,” Coastal Environmental Sciences Capstone Exposition, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

- 6) **Hotard, A.**, Valentine, K., and G. Mariotti, “Carbon Storage by Salt Marsh Biofilm,” LSU Discover Day, Baton Rouge, LA, 2016 (Tiger’s Choice Award for Best Poster in Major Division)

### ***Invited Talks***

- 1) **Hotard, A.** “Human Dimensions of Coastal Adaptation,” From Ice Sheets to the Coast: Sea-Level Rise Impacts Workshop, University of Houston (Houston, TX), April 2024
- 2) **Hotard, A.** “Rethinking Relocation and Resilience: An analysis of household adaptation preferences in the Greater Houston and New Orleans Regions,” Department of Geography and Spatial Sciences Seminar Series, University of Delaware (Newark, DE), February 2024
- 3) **Hotard, A.** “Coastal Resettlement,” Introduction to Louisiana Service and Leadership Scholars Field Trip, Louisiana State University, LUMCON (Cocodrie, LA), Summer 2017

## **RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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- 2020 –2023      **Doctoral Graduate Research Assistant** | *Department of Marine & Coastal Environmental Science, Texas A&M University at Galveston*  
Activities: Conducted quantitative analysis of original survey data and qualitative analysis of original interviews of coastal residents impacted by Hurricane Ida; curated spatial socioeconomic and hazard risk data for quantitative analysis of wind insurance market; conducted qualitative analysis of interviews with insurance industry representatives; assessed the use of nature based solutions in mitigation projects funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency
- 2019 – 2020      **Science Policy Fellow with the Environmental Protection Agency, Gulf of Mexico Program** | *National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, & Medicine Gulf Research Program*  
Activities: Reviewed project proposals related to trash reduction and community resilience; developed GIS story map communicating programmatic impact across Gulf of Mexico Watershed
- 2019 (Summer)      **Intern** | *Federal Emergency Management Agency - Response Geospatial Office*  
Activities: Developed storm surge loss estimation tool in ArcPy for use in ArcGIS during disaster response decision making
- 2017 – 2019      **Master’s Graduate Research Assistant** | *Department of Marine Sciences, Texas A&M University at Galveston*  
Activities: Conducted household interviews in rural Texas communities affected by Hurricane Harvey
- 2018 (Fall)      **Geospatial Analyst** | *Texas Target Communities - Hitchcock Partnership*  
Activities: Identified overlap of social inequities and physical vulnerabilities to hurricane storm surge and sea level rise in the city of Hitchcock, TX to make recommendations for future growth and development

## TEACHING

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### *Course Instruction*

- Fall 2024      **Assistant Professor** | *Stokes School of Marine and Environmental Sciences, University of South Alabama*  
Environmental Science (ENV 337)
- Fall 2021      **Assistant Lecturer** | *Department of Marine Sciences, Texas A&M University at Galveston*  
Coastal Wetlands Management (MARS 425)  
Coastal Wetlands Lab (MARS 426)
- Fall 2018      **Teaching Assistant** | *Department of Marine Sciences, Texas A&M University at Galveston*  
GIS for Coastal Resources (MARS 325 & MARS 625)

### *Guest Lectures*

- “Relocation & Resilience: Exploring personal tradeoffs from adaptation through retreat,” GEOG419: Climate Change Adaptation Policy, University of Delaware, Spring 2024
- “Coastal Louisiana at the Intersection of Industry, Habitability, and Environmental Justice,” GEOG103: Topics in Human-Environment, University of Delaware, Spring 2024
- “The Transition from Undergraduate Life,” What’s Next Symposium, Center for Academic Learning Support, Texas A&M University at Galveston, Spring 2022
- “Lessons from Louisiana Service and Leadership Scholars,” HNRS 2013: The State of Louisiana, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Spring 2020

## SERVICE

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### *University Service*

- Graduate Student Ambassador** | *Research and Graduate Studies, Texas A&M University at Galveston*  
Duration: August 2021 – May 2023  
Activities: Recruited graduate students to Texas A&M University at Galveston through tours, participating in career fairs, and addressing prospective student emails; advocated for peers to the Research and Graduate Studies Office; collaborated on mentorship materials recommended to faculty; promoted peer engagement by planning social and service activities for graduate students
- Senator** | *Graduate & Professional Student Government, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX*  
Duration: March 2022 – May 2023  
Activities: Served on the Scholarship Committee to award Research Presentation and Travel Awards to Texas A&M University graduate students; advocated for improved communication with and resources for graduate students based on the Galveston Campus

### *Community Service*

- Interpretive Guide Volunteer** | *Galveston Island State Park*  
Duration: November 2022 – September 2023

Activities: Assisted with public outreach and communication of coastal habitats and resources to park visitors and school groups; participated in restoration activities

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

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### ***Awards & Scholarships***

- 1) Erma Lee & Luke Mooney Graduate Student Research Excellence Award, Texas A&M University at Galveston (2024)
- 2) Bernice E. Powell Maritime Education Scholarship, Texas A&M University at Galveston (2023)
- 3) William Paul Ricker Memorial Leadership Scholarship, Texas A&M University at Galveston (2022)
- 4) SeaSpace Endowed Graduate Student Scholarship, Texas A&M University at Galveston (2018)

### ***Fellowships & Grants***

- 1) Erma Lee and Luke Mooney Travel Award, Texas A&M University at Galveston (2023)
- 2) Graduate Student Research and Presentation Travel Award, Texas A&M University (2023)
- 3) 1-Year Graduate Student “Boost” Funding, Texas A&M University at Galveston (2022-2023)
- 4) Erma Lee and Luke Mooney Travel Award, Texas A&M University at Galveston (2021)
- 5) National Academy of Sciences Gulf Research Program Science Policy Fellowship (2019-2020)
- 6) 2-Year Competitive Graduate Fellowship, Texas A&M University at Galveston (2017-2019)

## **CERTIFICATIONS & TRAINING**

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CIRTL Associate - Fellow of the Academy for Future Faculty, Texas A&M University (2022)  
Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM), Association of State Floodplain Managers (2020-present)  
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Adapting to A Changing Gulf Region (2020)  
Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Sciences, Texas A&M University (2019)  
Sustainable Adaptive Gradients in the Coastal Environment Interdisciplinary Short Course, Northeastern University (2018)

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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Association of State Floodplain Managers – Member (2020-present)