

VALERIA
DUEÑAS

valeduen@mit.edu

+1(915) 929-6390

Cambridge, MA

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Master of Architecture (MArch) 7 Massachusetts Ave. Cambridge, MA 02139 GPA: 4.0	2024 – present
Texas Tech University College of Architecture – El Paso Bachelor of Science in Architecture 700 W. San Francisco Ave El Paso, Texas 79901 GPA: 3.5	2022 – 2024
El Paso Community College Associate of Science, Architecture 919 Hunter Dr, El Paso, TX 79915 GPA: 3.8	2020 – 2022

EXPERIENCE

Research/Design Workshop: The Fluvial Amazonian City MIT Department of Architecture / Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM), Manaus, Brazil _Participated in a design-research workshop focused on reimagining housing, sanitation, and infrastructure within the Amazon basin’s rapidly urbanizing fluvial landscape. _Collaborated with UFAM students, local communities, and regional specialists to develop adaptive and equitable design strategies for fluvial neighborhoods affected by flooding and waste accumulation. _Conducted site research, mapping, and community engagement to propose flexible systems that integrate ecological care with social resilience.	Summer 2025
Architectural Research Assistant Project for Operative Spatial Technologies (POST) TTU CoA Research Center in El Paso, TX _ Assisted in design, mapping, and fabrication for research on desertification, urban tree equity, and spatial justice in the U.S.–Mexico border region. _ Co-developed a policy tool evaluating water-energy tradeoffs in canopy design, including a traveling shade equity exhibit through prototyping, graphics, and public programming. _ Produced spatial analyses, public-facing visuals, and engaged with communities and policymakers to advance environmental equity.	2024
Architecture Summer Camp Coordinator + Instructor TTU CoA in El Paso, TX _Organized architecture-focused programming for elementary and middle school students, fostering early design thinking and spatial awareness. _ Developed and curated curriculum combining hands-on activities, digital software, site visits, and firm tours to engage students in real-world design practices. _ Oversaw daily operations, facilitated group activities, and fostered an inclusive, creative learning environment.	Summer 2024

ACADEMIC
HONORS
+ AWARDS

MIT Architecture Departmental Fellowship	2024 – present
TTU Proven Achiever’s Award Recipient	2022 – 2024
Dean’s List	2021-2024
President’s List	2020-2021
UN Climate Change Conference (COP 30), Belém, Brazil	November 2025
_Team Work Exhibited in IDB Pavillion	

OTHER
INTERESTS +
ACTIVITIES

Co-leader for Shift+W MIT Department of Architecture – Cambridge, MA _ Lead gender equity initiatives and promote inclusion within architectural education and practice through events and community engagement.	2025 – present
Co-leader, ArchREFS MIT Department of Architecture – Cambridge, MA _Supporting graduate student well-being and community engagement.	2025 – present
AIAS Historian EPCC – El Paso, TX	2020 – 2022
Founder and Designer for Lucky Charm Jewelry _ Handcrafted custom jewelry and managed all aspects of business operations, including sales, marketing, and fulfillment.	2020 – 2024

SKILLS

Languages: English – Native / Spanish – Native
Digital Software: Rhinoceros, ArcGIS, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, Climate Studio, Enscape, Grasshopper, Revit
Fabrication + Craft: Model Making, Woodworking, Metalworking, Ceramics, Sewing, Crocheting, Textile Experimentation, Jewelry Design, Casting, Laser Cutting, 3D Printing, Welding, Hand Drafting