

Magda Maaoui, PhD

Urban Planner Doctor with Research, Consulting & Teaching credentials

Columbia University - 400 Avery Hall -
1172 Amsterdam Avenue - New York,
NY 10027

LinkedIn: [@magdamaaoui](#)

Cell: +336-42-63-28-91

magdamaaoui@gmail.com
www.magdamaaoui.com
[data visualization portfolio here](#)

Profile

With my research and analytical skills, I produce policy-relevant, actionable findings for legislators, planners, and advocacy organizations eager to rethink land use systems. Projects I have worked on range from sustainable policy to housing and education, community planning and neighborhood revitalization.

Expertise

- Law, Metropolitan Governance & Policy Making, Affordable Housing Policy, Poverty & Inequality, Race & Ethnicity
- Social Stratification & Segregation, Residential Dynamics, Real Estate Market Analysis
- History & Theory of Planning, Neighborhood Planning, Participatory Planning Methods

Work Experience [sample]

Research

CIRAD Developing Economies Lab (Costa Rica) & Centre Pompidou Architecture Department (France)

2012

- Engaged in fieldwork with local economic stakeholders
- Collaborated to the planning of several exhibitions
- Conducted editorial & archival work for research reports & exhibition catalogs

Consulting

SPUR San Francisco think tank (USA) & Urban Act agency (France)

2014 - 2016

- Facilitated research during fieldwork and report writing for a European grant on how to implement a successful energy transition
- Engaged in the initial steps for the launch of SPUR's third office in Oakland

Academic Background

Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

Doctor of Philosophy in Urban Planning

September 2016 - June 2021

- Qualifying exams passed: December 2018, Proposal passed: May 2019, Defense passed: June 2021
- Topic: Inclusionary zoning, Public-private partnerships for housing provision in New York and Paris
- Fulbright Fellow, GPA: 3.84

École Normale Supérieure de Lyon / University of California, Berkeley

Masters in Geography and Urban Planning, specialization Regional Strategy, Decision-Making, Sustainable Development

September 2011 - June 2014

- High Honors
- Agrégation Teaching Civil Servantship contest in Geography, Minor in History for University Level - Ranked 28th
- Visiting Scholar at UC Berkeley

September 2010 - June 2013

- Ranked 13th nationally at the entrance examination
- Research internships in Senegal, Costa Rica & France

Université Lyon II/Lyon III Dual B.A. in Geography/ Urban Planning, and Language, Literature & Civilization in English

Skills

- French (native speaker)/ Arabic (native speaker)/ English (fluent)/ Spanish (fluent)/ Italian (basics)
- Planner I Certification, License 15-L85-A - Santa Clara Competitive Rating (2015)
- MS Office Suite, GIS (ArcMap, QGIS), Adobe Illustrator, Stata, Atlas.ti, Tableau
- Driving license

Nonprofit work

- 2017 - Present: Co-Founder and Treasurer-Accountant of Ad'A (Ateliers d'Alger), a collective based on local participatory workshops, civic engagement and the curation of local and transnational expertise
- Other nonprofit engagements: Experienced translator, Grant writing skills, UNESCO and UN-SDG labelling

Communication materials [sample]

Policy reports & Research articles

- Peer-reviewed articles in Housing Studies, Revue Urbanités, Berkeley Planning Journal
- Policy reports for SPUR, White papers for the Architecture Lobby's draft response to UNHCR, Political brief for NYC City Council candidate Angela Fernández (Democratic Socialists of America)

Media & Talks

- Workshops & roundtables with academics & practitioners for Columbia University
- Op-eds in Le Monde and Bondy Blog
- Radio appearances for France Culture
- Documentary consultancy for CBS "60 minutes"

Type of classes I taught

Led seminar and lecture sessions, Contributed to syllabus development, Held office hours, Prepared and graded exams, Carried administrative duties

Undergraduate & Master's level

Taught in English & in French

- Harvard Biopolis Social Innovation Summer School in Paris
- Studio Retail Apocalypse
- Planning History and Theory
- Economics for Planners
- Studio Supertall Development

Awards & Fellowships

- Davis Project for Peace Award
- Ford Foundation Grant
- Lincoln Land Institute Grant
- Arthur King Peters Memorial Travel Grant
- International call for projects SOLIDEV - Mairie de Paris

Character references

Lance Freeman, PhD

Researcher & Consultant
Professor of Urban Planning
Columbia University
Email: lf182@columbia.edu

Malo Hutson, PhD

Consultant for Columbia World Projects
Associate Professor of Urban Planning
(Incoming Dean at University of Virginia)
Email: mah2328@columbia.edu