**Project Title:** Social Vulnerability to Natural Hazards on University of Iowa’s Campus

**Project Description:** Use American Community Survey data at the census tract level around the University of Iowa to construct your social vulnerability index and make your corresponding maps. You will use the same structure of analysis that your instructor has laid out for the project but build your model and write your analysis with college populations in mind. What demographic variables, for example, did you choose? How did you weight them? How realistically does this capture college student vulnerability? Be sure to account for the hazards the campus is most likely to encounter and analyze the series of reasons college students may be considered particularly vulnerable in terms of preparation for, response to, and recovery from a hazard event.

**Background Information:** The University of Iowa’s Office of Sustainability and the Environment would like to study the vulnerability of college populations on or near campus. As the Office looks to showcase student work in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences that makes an impact on the community, the results of your study could be featured and used by the Office.

When answering the questions your instructor has assigned for your paper, be sure to keep how this could be used by University and community stakeholders in mind. Actions 4.1 and 4.2 in Iowa City’s Climate Action Plan call for the city to “conduct a vulnerable populations asset mapping exercise,” and “develop communications and outreach plan for vulnerable populations.” How do your maps contribute to those conversations? What do your indices and maps tell you about Iowa City’s vulnerable populations, and how do students figure into your results? How might your maps and data tell a story on how local agencies should coordinate with the campus on extreme weather planning, (Action 4.4, page 53)?

**Desired Outcomes:**

* Same as course deliverable (paper)
* How the Office of Sustainability or University might find the information from the maps and models/indices useful

**Target Audience/Potential Stakeholders:**

* University of Iowa Office of Sustainability
* City of Iowa City Climate Action and Adaptation Board
* Emergency Planning Staff
* University of Iowa Students

**Resources:**

City of Iowa City Climate Action Plan (Pay special attention to p. 50 – 54 for Adaptation/Flooding) - <https://www8.iowa-city.org/weblink/0/edoc/1803121/Climate%20Action%20Plan.pdf>

Flood of 2008 Impacts on UI Art Campus, Music and Art Education Programs- <http://www2.education.uiowa.edu/archives/edatiowa/fall08/special_feature/story2.html>

**Course Relevance:**

GEOG 3760: Hazards and Society