

Katie Lynn Cantwell Butterfield

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Sociology (2021)

University of California, Merced

Dissertation: *Community Gardens, Structural Inequalities, & Health: From Participation to Representation*

Chair: Dr. Zulema Valdez

M.A. in Sociology (2016)

University of California, Merced

Thesis: *Effects of Racial & Class Neighborhood Composition on Community Garden Outcomes*

Chair: Dr. Zulema Valdez

B.A. in Political Science (2011; Graduated with High Honors)

University of California, Merced

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Quantitative Methods; Food Access; Health Disparities; Community Gardens; Sustainable Agriculture; Social Inequality; Race, Class, and Gender; Rural Health

TEACHING INTERESTS

Introductory and Advanced Statistics, Research Methods, Data-Informed Decision-Making, Data Presentation and Mapping, Health Disparities, Sociology of Food

RESEARCH TOOLS AND SKILLS

STATA, R, RStudio, SAS, ArcGIS, Qualtrics, QualCoder, ATLAS.ti, SQL, linear & logistic regression, structural equation modeling, multi-level modeling, geographic information system, spatial analysis & regression, online surveys, remote interviews, content analysis

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Researcher (Fall 2023 – Present)

University of California, Davis – Agricultural Sustainability Institute

Academic Supervisor: Dr. Ryan E. Galt

Lead a mixed-methods project exploring market data use/needs and pricing strategies in California's organic agrifood industry. Findings inform improvements to USDA organic data offerings and expansion of California's organic industry.

Research Data Analyst II (2021 – 2023)

California Department of Social Services – CalFresh and Nutrition Branch

Tracked various quantitative metrics and led multiple quantitative projects that directly informed leadership’s work to improve equitable food access in California, including a multi-level modeling analysis of the effectiveness of county business practices.

Graduate Student Researcher (Spring 2021)

University of California, Merced

Academic Supervisor: Dr. Zulema Valdez

Supported the curation of web resources on faculty diversity in hiring and retention and the development of assessment tools and evaluative research for related programs.

Staff Research Associate (Summer 2020)

University of California, Merced

Academic Supervisor: Dr. Whitney Pirtle

Drafted a structural equation model to clarify how racial identity mediates the relationship between racial discrimination and poor health.

Staff Research Associate (Summer 2015; Summer 2019)

University of California, Merced

Academic Supervisor: Dr. Zulema Valdez

Led a mixed-methods project exploring the experiences and values of community gardeners and the perceived health impacts of their garden participation.

Graduate Student Researcher (Fall 2017)

University of California, Merced

Academic Supervisor: Dr. A Susana Ramirez

Performed factor analysis and linear and logistic regressions to assess the relationship between perceptions of neighborhood health and attributions of health responsibilities.

Staff Research Associate (Spring 2015)

University of California, Merced

Academic Supervisors: Dr. Nella Van Dyke & Dr. Kyle Dodson

Collected and cleaned missing values from a nation-wide historical dataset on hate crimes and related laws. Compiled and prepared data for analysis.

PUBLICATIONS

Butterfield, Katie L. and Katie Daniels. “Community Gardens Support Health and Stress Coping – Comparing Perceived Benefits of Rural and Urban Community Gardens.” (under review)

Butterfield, Katie L., Ryan E. Galt, and Houston Wilson. 2024. *Organic Data Initiative Gap Analysis – California*. USDA Agricultural Marketing Service. (Forthcoming)

- Butterfield, Katie L. 2023. "Modeling Community Garden Participation: How Locations and Frames Shape Participant Demographics." *Agriculture and Human Values* 40:1067–85. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10460-022-10406-2>.
- Marin, Nefertari, Brittany Oakes, and Katie Butterfield. 2021. "[Changing the World with Community Gardens: A study of community gardens and community garden nonprofits across the United States](#)". ArcGIS Online Story Map
- Butterfield, Katie L., and A. Susana Ramírez. 2021. "Framing Food Access: Do Community Gardens Inadvertently Reproduce Inequality?" *Health Education & Behavior* 48(2):160–68. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1177/1090198120950617>.
- Butterfield, Katie L. 2020. "Neighborhood Composition and Community Garden Locations: The Effect of Ethnicity, Income, and Education" *Sociological Perspectives* 63(5):738–63. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0731121420908902>.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- Butterfield, Katie L., Ryan E. Galt, and Houston Wilson. "Pricing Decisions and Power Dynamics in California's Organic Agrifood Industry."
- Butterfield, Katie L., Ryan E. Galt, and Houston Wilson. "Public and Private Sector Roles in Curating Organic Agricultural Knowledge."
- Butterfield, Katie L., Ryan E. Galt, and Houston Wilson. "Data-Informed Decision-Making in California's Organic Agrifood System."
- Butterfield, Katie L. with Brittany Oakes and Zulema Valdez. *All Things to All People: Community Gardens in the United States*. (monograph)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow / Instructor of Record (2018 – 2020)

University of California, Merced

Introduction to Sociology (Summer 2018; Summer 2019; Summer 2020)

This course provides an introduction to applying the "sociological imagination" and exploring how individual behaviors are influenced by society.

Statistics for Sociology (Spring 2019; Spring 2020)

This course introduces the logic and use of statistical techniques in social research, including descriptive, comparative, and inferential statistics, and the use of applicable software (SPSS, SAS).

Advanced Race and Ethnicity (Fall 2018; Fall 2019)

This course examines in depth the main classical and modern explanations of the issues surrounding race and ethnicity.

Sociology of Race and Racism (Spring 2018)

This course provides insight into how race and racism define our lives through systemic and structural racism, racial categorization, ethnic identification, nativism, and intersecting oppressions.

Teaching Assistant (2014 – 2017)

University of California, Merced

Graduate Statistics I (Spring 2017)

This course in social statistics is required of graduate students in Sociology and takes a systematic approach to the general linear model for continuous dependent variables.

Sociological Research Methods (Spring 2016)

This course provides students with a basic understanding of how to conduct social science research.

Statistics for Sociology (Spring 2015, Fall 2016)

This course introduces the logic and use of statistical techniques in sociological research.

Advanced Race and Ethnicity (Fall 2015)

This course examines in depth the main classical and modern explanations of the issues surrounding Race and Ethnicity.

Introduction to Sociology (Fall 2014)

This course introduces the study of groups, culture, collective behavior, classes and caste, community and ecology, role, status, and personality.

PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 “California Organic, Agroecological, and Regenerative (COAR) Transitions Project: Trends in Organic Agriculture in California, 1992-2022” with Ryan E. Galt, Jahalee Lee Tuil, & Kase Wheatley, California Climate & Agriculture Summit, poster presentation
- 2024 “All Things to All People: Community Gardens in the United States” with Brittany Oakes & Zulema Valdez, Annual Conference of the Agriculture, Food & Human Values Society, poster presentation
- 2024 “California Organic Data Collection Gap Analysis” with Ryan E. Galt & Houston Wilson, Annual Conference of the Agriculture, Food & Human Values Society
- 2021 “Community Gardening in the United States” with Brittany Oakes & Zulema Valdez, Grow Grant Conference
- 2021 “Community Garden Accessibility: Impacts of Frames and Locations” Annual Conference of the Agriculture, Food & Human Values Society

- 2021 “Community Gardening in the United States” with Brittany Oakes & Zulema Valdez, Annual Conference of the Agriculture, Food & Human Values Society
- 2019 “Community Gardens, Investments, and Health Outcomes” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Round Table 26. Places, Housing, & Health
- 2019 “Health Benefits of Urban Vs. Rural Community Gardens” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociology Society
- 2019 “Community Gardens, Structural Inequalities, and Health: Urban Vs. Rural Community Gardens” Annual Conference of the Agriculture, Food & Human Values Society
- 2018 “Community Gardens, Inequality, and Health” UC Merced Blum Center Summer Institute
- 2017 “Race, Class, and Community Garden Locations” Lyceum Lunchtime Speaker Series, UC Merced Health Sciences Research Institute
- 2016 “The Effects of Racial and Class Neighborhood Composition on Community Garden Outcomes” Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, poster presentation
- 2016 “Straddling Two Worlds: Does Visiting Home Help or Harm First Generation Students' College Engagement?” with Irene Beattie & Wendy Puquirre. Annual Conference of the Sociology of Education Association
- 2015 “The Effects of Race and Class on Community Garden Locations” Annual Meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS (*in collaboration)

- University of California (UC) Humanities Research Institute Multi-campus Graduate Student Working Group Award (2021-2022)*
- UC Merced Global Food Initiative Campus Collaborative Grow Grant (2021)
- Summer Sociology Graduate Student Support Award (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)
- UC Merced Blum Center Seed Funding (2018)
- Sociology Graduate Student Travel Award (2015, 2016, 2017)
- UC Global Food Initiative Fellowship (2016)
- John & Victoria Elia Fellowship (2015)

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

- UC Merced Graduate Division Winter Dissertation Writing Boot Camp (2016; 2020)
- Sociology Graduate Student Service Award (2019)
- Sociology Conference Paper Presentation Award (2019)

UC Merced Center for Research on Teaching Excellence Certificate in General Pedagogy:
Mastering the Classroom with First Generation College Students (2015)
Inter-University Consortium for Political & Social Research Summer Program in Quantitative
Methods of Social Research Workshop: Intro to Spatial Regression Analysis (2015)

SERVICE

2019-2021 Organizer for UC Community Economies Network
2020-2021 Code for America Volunteer
2018-2019 UC Merced Sociology Graduate Student Committee Internal Grad Student Rep
2017-2019 UC Merced Healthy Campus Network Committee
2017-2018 UC Merced Sociology Graduate Student Committee President
Fall 2017 Insight Garden Program Volunteer
Fall 2016 UC Merced Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation
Fall 2016 UC Merced Graduate Student Association Academic Affairs Officer
2015-2016 UC Merced Graduate Student Association Sociology Delegate

MEMBERSHIPS

Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society (2017 – Present)
Caucus of Women in Statistics (2017 – Present)
Rural Sociological Association (2016 – 2019)
American Sociological Association (2014, 2015, 2019)
Pacific Sociological Association (2015, 2016)