

WEBSTER, JONI-LEIGH

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EDUCATION

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

M.A./PhD in Sociology

Preliminary Exams: Health and Inequality

Dissertation Working Title: "Speaking Truth to Power: How Black Social Media Users Utilize Twitter to Discuss Mental and Emotional Wellbeing in Relation to Substance Use, Death, and Everyday Life"

2020/Expected 2023

Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ

M.P.H. in Health Education & Behavioral Science

Thesis: "A Common Pathway Underlying Alcohol Treatment Research Related Behavior"

2016

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

B.S. in Public Health

Area of Concentration: Health Education

2010

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Race/Ethnicity, Racism/Discrimination, Mental Health, Health Disparities

PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, AND PAPERS

Webster, Joni-Leigh. 2018. "Racial Identification and Generalized Anxiety Disorder: Are there intergroup differences for Black-ethnics who experience skin color discrimination?" Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, April 6, New Orleans, LA.

Pollock, Anne, Deboleena Roy, Manu O. Platt, Morgan Adams, Theophilia Dusabamoro, Chelsea Fearce, Imani Fennell, Ebony Gaillard, Courtney Harrison, Daphney Sihwa, Phoenix Williams, Kimberly Jackson, Lewis A. Wheaton, C. Holly Lewis, Emily Pingel, Aziza Belcher Platt, **Joni-Leigh Webster**, Jennifer Singh, Renee Shelby, and Kristen Abatsis McHenry. 2017. "How do Black Lives Matter in Teaching, Lab Practices, and Research?" *Catalyst* 3 (1): 1-38.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- Santa Fe Institute Complexity-GAINS International Summer School, 2022
- TADA (Training in Advanced Data Analytics to End Drug-Related Harms) Pre-doctoral Training Fellowship, 2021-2023
- PDS (Professional Development and Support) Funds Training Grant, 2021
- PDS Funds Travel and Conference Grant, 2018

SPECIALIZED SKILLS

MPlus, Python, R studio, SAS, and STATA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

“Sociological Aspects of Health & Illness” (Remote)

Lecturer – Emory University, Atlanta, GA

2021

Presented lessons regarding the sociology of health, with emphasis on examining the relationship of capitalism to health disparities in the U.S. Student output goals included the creation of a photovoice project to address health inequality at local levels.

“Race and Ethnic Relations” (Covid-19)

Lecturer – Emory University, Atlanta, GA

2020

Created and facilitated lectures on race and ethnic relations in the 21st century using multimodal teaching methods targeting different learning styles. During Covid-19 campus closure, adapted course content for remote learning, incorporating asynchronous and synchronous lectures with group activities to ensure student engagement.

“Race and Ethnic Relations” (Dr. Sewell); “Introduction to Sociology” (Dr. Bledsoe); “Digital Inequalities” (Dr. Puckett); and “Mental Health & Wellbeing” (Dr. Keyes)

Teaching Assistant – Emory University, Atlanta, GA

2016-2021

Presented lectures and reviews along with other responsibilities for sociology intro courses, race and ethnic relations, and mental wellness courses. Provided students with feedback regarding course material and tasks; assessed students’ assignments and examinations; and researched literature related to supra-individual racism and its impact on health, extrapolating changes in trends and definitions of racism.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Emory University, Atlanta, GA Graduate Research Assistant Within the parameters of the TADA Fellowship, use natural language processing to explore demographic differences in how Twitter users discuss prescription medication use online.	2021 - Present
Emory University, Atlanta, GA Research Assistant Conducted factor analysis to validate the CES-D scale among Bangladeshi women survivors of IPV. Created annotated bibliographies for prospective papers pertaining to child national and state adoption policies; topic modeling and big data analysis for immigration research; and immigration and racial identification. Drafted a literature review regarding the development of state and national adoption policies and current political orientations.	2018 - 2020
Emory University, Atlanta, GA Research Assistant Reviewed and scored student assignments using evidence-based rubric for Emory's Quality Enhancement Program.	2019
Emory University, Atlanta, GA Research Assistant Cleaned data for National Endowment of the Arts dataset.	2017– 2018
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ Fieldwork Intern Investigated the FRAMES model as a mechanism of behavior change underlying alcohol treatment research reactivity.	2016
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ Research Assistant Researched and evaluated the appropriateness of food security measurement tools for majority immigrant residents in New Brunswick, N.J., conducting qualitative interviews and creating literature reviews endemic to the study.	2015 – 2016
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ Project Manager Developed a health disparities certificate for Rutgers' undergraduate public health students.	2013 - 2014

SERVICE

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Consultant & Service Chair, Black Graduate Student Association

2017– 2019

Created and facilitated a group-based mentorship program for adolescents exposed to intimate partner violence, coordinating with student and external organizations to administer volunteer activities.

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

President & Vice President, Coalition of Graduate Sociologists

2017– 2019

Acted as a liaison between students, department staff, and faculty, participating in Graduate Program Committee discussions and plans to increase departmental mentorship, as well as providing direction towards improving the graduate student experience especially as it pertained to racial equity.

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Program Review Coordinator, RESPECT Program – Office of Health Promotion

2017

Reviewed programmatic elements for RespectCon (campus sexual violence conference), ensuring semblance between the conference's mission, goals, and presentations.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association, Association of Black Sociologists