

Michelle Alexander

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Education

PhD Sociology | University of Oregon | Oregon | Projected graduation, June 2022.

Awards and recognition: Lawrence Carter Graduate Student Research Award, Marquina Faculty-Graduate Student Collaboration Award, WGSS Certificate (projected June 2022)

Coursework Highlights: Sociological Research Methods I & II (Statistics), Field Methods I & II (Qualitative), Mixed Methods, Social Network Analysis, Exploring Data with R (via Education dept), Sociology of Gender, Sociology of Race

Teaching Highlights:

Instructor of Record: Social Inequality, Introduction to Sociology, and Sociology of the Family.

Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Queer Studies, Transnational and Indigenous Feminism, Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies

Projects of Note:

- Dissertation: "Roles of the Dice: Community and Play" (defending June 2022)
 - Original social network research designed and conducted under mentor supervision
 - Coded and analyzed qualitative interview data using a combination of NVivo and Excel
 - Presented chapter findings in departmental colloquia and at the American Sociological Association & Pacific Sociological Association conferences

MS Sociology | University of Oregon | Oregon | June 2016

Projects of Note:

- Master's Project: "Mapping Their Stories: Fan Production and the Network of Genre Remix in Star Trek Fanfiction"
 - Original, qualitative, social network research
 - Gathered data, created, and maintained database of relevant information
 - Presented findings in written format and as oral presentations, Sociology Colloquia, Graduate Research Forum (poster).

BS Sociology | Portland State University | Oregon | May 2013

Skills Summary

Teaching and Leadership Experience

- 7 years teaching experience
 - Teaching Assistant: Discussion Leader and Grader
 - Empowered students to succeed
 - Guided them through complex material
 - Planned and ran 50-minute discussion sections
 - Instructor of Record
 - Coordinated teaching and grading strategies with TA's
 - Planned and delivered lectures and activities
 - Designed individual and group 10-week data-based research projects
 - Designed and delivered 10-week online learning environments and material

Customer Service

- Worked 12+ years as a Customer Service Representative
 - Coordinated and implemented Product Placement Schematics
 - Engaged in email and verbal communication between internal and external stakeholders
 - Customer-facing positions included cashier, one-hour photo operator, clerk, and closing Person-In-Charge (PIC).
 - Overnight work included coordinating between Department Heads to implement product schematics in a timely fashion, freight duties, and problem-solving in a fast-paced, high-pressure environment.

Organization and Workflow Management

- Coordinated and conducted Grad Forum meetings as an organizer using scheduling software
- As “Reset Clerk” for Fred Meyer complied and scheduled schematic product placement completion according to internal and external stakeholder needs
- Provided behind-the-scenes tech support running Canvas applications and grade book
- Provided teaching assistance to Instructors of Record.
- Held Discussion sections of 50 minutes as well as office hours to address student questions.
- Communicated with Professors, other TAs, and students via written and oral communication.

Data Software, Management and Analysis

- SPSS – Undergraduate methods/statistics class, STATA – Graduate Statistics (2 terms), R – Graduate Specialization class (1 term), Excel – Use in personal projects of varying size
- Constructed and ran queries in all programs using both imported data and self-collected data
- Experienced operationalizing and constructing variables
- Experienced combining datasets from different surveys/organizations
- Experienced using Social Networks, Mixed Methods, and Qualitative techniques to analyze data and create written and oral reports on the findings
- Hand-scraped data from social media sites (Instagram, Facebook), created database using imported Twitter data.

Service

Sociology Graduate Student Forum Coordinator (2018-2020) Elected position

Coordinated and conducted meetings with graduate students. Topics addressed include but not limited to, supporting International Grad Students, advocating for funding opportunities during the summer, remodels of the graduate computer lab and other communal spaces, community-building exercises and events for graduate students and faculty, and advocating for transparency in the departmental practices. Facilitated communication between staff, faculty and graduate students via meetings and email.

Joint Curriculum Committee Graduate Student Representative (2019-2020) Elected position

Met with committee members to discuss and approve/deny course adjustments for students. Reviewed syllabi and coursework from other University of Oregon or external classes and evaluated it for substitution credits.

Pacific Sociological Association Graduate Council Representative (2018-2019)

Attended council meetings before and during annual meeting. Voiced graduate student concerns and perspective as voting member of council

American Sociological Association (2021) & Pacific Sociological Association (2021)

Provide general technical and Zoom support through opening and closing Zoom panels. Help coordinate scheduling of other volunteers and troubleshoot through Slack during meeting (PSA)