

Tori L. Thomas

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EDUCATION

2014-Present: Ph.D. Candidate (ABD) Sociology & Demography The Pennsylvania State University

- Dissertation: High School Racial Segregation & Racial Ethnic Differences in Attainment and Course Taking Outcomes
- Dissertation Committee: Michelle Frisco (co-chair), Erica Frankenberg (co-chair), John Iceland, David Ramey

2016 M.A. Sociology & Demography The Pennsylvania State University

2013 B.A Sociology Georgia State University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

School Racial Segregation · Race and Education · Sociology of Education · Demography

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

August 2014-Present: Research Assistant The Pennsylvania State University
Advisor: Michelle Frisco

- Project: Racial/Ethnic Differences in Summer Weight Gain among Kindergartners
 - Refined data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study 2010-11(ECLS-K 10-11) using STATA software
- Project: High School Racial/Ethnic Segregation and the Educational Attainment Trajectories of Black, White, and Hispanic Students in the U.S
 - Refined and analyzed data from National Longitudinal Study for Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health) using STATA software
 - Co-authored a manuscript

August 2015-May 2017: Research Assistant The Pennsylvania State University
Advisor: Michael Gaddis

- Project: Racial/Ethnic Discrimination in Roommate Wanted Ads on Craigslist
 - Organized email correspondence data from field experiment
- Project: The Transition to Middle School and Peer Group Movement: Effects on Math Test Score Gains
 - Refined and analyzed data from multiple cohorts of North Carolina public school students from 2006-12

July-August 2015: Research Assistant
Advisor: Sarah Damaske

The Pennsylvania State University

- Project: Gender, Job Loss, and Unemployment
 - Interviewed participants who have experienced job loss and unemployment
 - Compiled descriptive report about participants who have used Pennsylvania Career Link's services

August-December 2012: Undergraduate Research Assistant
Advisors: Erin Ruel, Lesley Reid, Deidre Oakley

Georgia State University

- Project: Public Housing Study (NIH & NSF Funded)
 - Interviewed public housing residents and their new neighbors
 - Compiled and organized research literature
 - Organized and refined quantitative (using SPSS) and qualitative data for analyses

June 2012- August 2012: Summer Intern
Advisors: Abay Israel, Lynette Hoelter

University of Michigan at Ann Arbor

- Project: Inter-Consortium of Political and Social Science Research (ICPSR) Summer Internship
 - Programmed raw data into statistical packages (e.g. SAS, SPSS, STATA) and codebooks, so study is available for public use
 - Completed research project (poster) on how high school students' expectations affect their aspirations for post-graduate plans

June –August 2011: Ronald E. McNair Scholar
Advisor: Erin Ruel

Georgia State University

- Project: Public Housing Study (NIH & NSF Funded)
 - Interviewed former public housing residents
 - Examined conditions of the built environment of the neighborhoods where former public housing residents relocated
 - Completed research project (poster and paper) on the effects of relocation out of public housing on educational opportunities for children of parents who relocated out of public housing

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Martin, Molly, Tori Thomas, Gary Adler & Derek Kreager. "Is Thin 'In' at Black Schools? Gender, Race/Ethnicity and Body Weight Differences in Adolescent Peer Integration across Racialized School Contexts."

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Thomas, Tori. "High School Racial/Ethnic Segregation and the Unrealized Aspirations of Black, White, and Hispanic Students in the US."

Thomas, Tori, Michelle Frisco & Erica Frankenberg. "High School Racial/Ethnic Segregation and the Educational Attainment Trajectories of Black, White, and Hispanic Students in the U.S."

AWARDS & HONORS

August 2018	Faculty First-Look 2018-2019 New York University, Steinhardt School of Education and Human Development
April 2017	OGEEP Scholar The Pennsylvania State University, Office of Graduate Educational Equity Programs
April 2016	Honorable Mention for Ford Foundation Pre-doctoral Fellowship Ford Foundation
April 2015	Honorable Mention for National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship National Science Foundation
April 2012	Excellent Undergraduate Award Georgia State University, Department of Sociology
April 2012	Outstanding Academic Achievement Ronald E. McNair Program, Georgia State University
April 2011	Margaret Andersen Award Georgia State University, Department of Sociology
August 2010-August 2013	MG James Ursano Scholar Army Emergency Relief
August 2009- August 2013	Horatio Alger Scholar Horatio Alger Association
August 2009-August 2013	Georgia HOPE Scholar Georgia HOPE Program

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

August- Present	Instructor, SOC 005 Introduction to Social Problems (in person) The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology
July- August 2019	Instructor, SOC 400W Senior Research Seminar (in person) The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology
January 2019-April 2019	Instructor, SOC 005 Introduction to Social Problems (in person) The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology
June 2018-August 2018	Instructor, SOC 119 Race and Ethnic Relations (in person) The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

June 2018 Guest Lecture, SOC 429 Social Stratification (in person)
The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

June 2018 Guest Lecture, SOC 119 Race and Ethnic Relations (in person)
The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

May 2017- June 2017 Instructor, SOC 119 Race and Ethnic Relations (in person)
The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

April 2016 Guest Lecture, SOC 419 Race and Public Policy (in person)
The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

PRESENTATIONS

April 2018 Population Association of America- Denver, Colorado
Thomas, Tori, Michelle Frisco, Erica Frankenberg. "High School Racial Segregation and the Educational Attainment Trajectories of Black, White, and Hispanic Students."

August 2017 American Sociological Association- Montreal, Canada
Thomas, Tori. "How Is High School Racial Segregation Associated with Unrealized College Aspirations?"

April 2017 Population Association of America-Chicago, Illinois
Gaddis, Michael, Douglass Lauen, Tori Thomas, Jennifer Jones. "Transition to Middle School and Peer Group Movement: Effects on Math and Reading Test Score Gains"

August 2016 American Sociological Association- Seattle, Washington
Thomas, Tori. "How Is School Racial Composition Associated with Educational Aspirations and Attainment?"

April 2016 Population Association of America- Washington, DC
Thomas, Tori. "How Is School Racial Composition Associated with Educational Aspirations and Attainment?"

April 2012 National Ronald E. McNair Conference, University of Maryland at College Park
Thomas, Tori. "How Does Relocation out of Public Housing Affect Educational Opportunities for K-12 students?"

April 2012 Georgia State University Undergraduate Research Conference, Georgia State University
Thomas, Tori. "How Does Relocation out of Public Housing Affect Educational Opportunities for K-12 students?"

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

August 2014-Present Graduate Recruitment Committee
The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

August 2014-Present
Diversity Promotion Committee
The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

August 2016-May 2017
Awards Committee
The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

August 2016-May 2017
Teaching Committee
The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

August 2015- May 2017
Student Paper Competition Committee
The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

March 2015- April 2017
Mini PAA Conference Committee
The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology

August 2014-Present
Penn State's Black Graduate Student Association
August 2018-Present: Vice President
August 2016-18 Executive Secretary
August 2015-16 Kwanzaa Co-Chair
August 2014-15 Education and Mentoring Committee

MEMBERSHIPS

March 2018-Present
American Educational Research Association

January 2015-Present
American Sociological Association

February 2015-Present
Population Association of America

February 2015-Present
Association of Black Sociologists

REFERENCES

Dr. Michelle Frisco
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(814) 863-5507

Dr. Molly Martin
mam68@psu.edu
(814) 863-5508

Dr. Erica Frankenberg
euf10@psu.edu
(814) 865-5862