

MELISSA VILLARREAL

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EDUCATION

University of Colorado, Boulder, Boulder, Colorado Fall 2017 - Current
Doctoral Candidate, Department of Sociology
Research Assistant, Natural Hazards Center — Institute of Behavioral Science
Women and Gender Studies Graduate Certificate

University of Colorado, Boulder, Boulder, Colorado Spring 2020
Master of Arts, Department of Sociology

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas August 2012 - May 2016
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology
Certificate in the Sociology of Gender

RECOGNITION AND AFFILIATIONS

William Averette Anderson Fund (BAF) Fall 2017-Current

- BAF is a nationally-recognized program that works to empower students from underrepresented backgrounds in the hazards mitigation and disaster research field.

Betsy Moen “Walk the Talk” Award Spring 2022

- Betsy was an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Colorado Boulder, who died in 1993 while doing fieldwork on women’s reproductive health in India. Dr. Moen left a unique legacy of feminist scholarship and social action. Each year the department gives an award to a student whose research and service reflects this feminist social justice-oriented example.

Ford Foundation 2022 Dissertation Fellowship Competition Spring 2022

- The Ford Foundation seeks to increase the diversity of the nation’s college and university faculties by increasing their ethnic and racial diversity, maximize the educational benefits of diversity, and increase the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students. I received an honorable mention.

Rice University Kinder Scholar Program Summer 2021-Summer 2022

- The Kinder Scholar program is created for researchers, post-doctoral fellows, or graduate students who conduct high quality research in Houston.

2021 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Equity and Inclusion Student Fellowship Fall 2021

- APPAM is dedicated to improving public policy and management by fostering excellence in research, analysis, and education.

“Addressing Gaps in Housing Disaster Recovery” (MGT-464) Fall 2021

- Certificate awarded for CO-Based Post-Disaster Housing Training

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado, Boulder Summer 2018-Current
Graduate Research Assistant

- “CONVERGE: Coordinated Social Science, Engineering, and Interdisciplinary Extreme Events Reconnaissance Research.” Funded by the National Science Foundation, Award #18418338.
- “NSF INCLUDES: Capacity Building in Disaster Research for Scholars from Under-Represented Groups.” Funded by the National Science Foundation, Award #1744479.
- “A Clearinghouse on Natural Hazards Applications.” Funded by the National Science Foundation, Award #1635593.

“Immigrant Communities and Effective Risk Communication in COVID-19,” CONVERGE, University of Colorado, Boulder Summer 2020
Working Group Member

“Parental Notification and Access to Abortion among Minors in Colorado,” University of Colorado, Denver Summer 2020
Graduate Research Assistant

“Structural Vulnerability and Reproductive Health among Mexican-origin Immigrants,” University of Colorado, Denver Summer 2018-Spring 2019
Graduate Research Assistant

“Evaluation Study of the Gang Reduction Initiative of Denver (GRID),” University of Colorado, Boulder Fall 2017-Summer 2018
Graduate Research Assistant

“Women’s Experiences in Natural and Man-made Disasters - A Study of Two Towns in Texas,” Texas A&M University Summer 2016
Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program, Student Researcher

Texas A&M University Spring 2016-Summer 2016
Undergraduate Research Assistant

- “Research in Race Relations and Social Psychology: Hoodies, Race, and Threat.” (Funded by the Cantu Foundation, Spring 2016-Summer 2016)
- “Latino Residential Patterns in New Destinations.” (Funded by the Cantu Foundation, Spring 2016)

PUBLICATIONS

Hirsch, Ben Lacy, Becky Selle, Doris Brown, Alice Liu, Mal Moses, Mashal Awais, Myrtala Tristan, Ann Weston, Hortencia Hurtado, Vatsala Mundra, and **Melissa Villarreal**. 2021. “Survivors as Experts: A Community Evaluation of Disaster Recovery in Northeast Houston.” Boulder, CO: Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado Boulder.

Ryder, Stacia and **Melissa Villarreal**. 2021. Book Review: “Hurricane Harvey’s Aftermath: Place, Race, and Inequality in Disaster Recovery by Kevin M. Fitzpatrick and Matthew L. Spialek.” *Social Forces*, 1-5.

Villarreal, Melissa. 2020. “The Impact of the Bill Anderson Fund for Students of Color and Marginalized Communities.” *Emerald Publishing Real Impact Blog*. <https://www.emeraldpublishing.com/news-and-blogs/the-impact-of-the-bill-anderson-fund-for-students-of-color-and-marginalized-communities/>

Villarreal, Melissa. 2020. “What are women’s experiences like during and after disasters?” *Sociology Lens*. <https://www.sociologylens.net/topics/gender/what-are-womens-experiences-like-during-and-after-disasters/28088>

Peek, Lori, Jessica Austin, Elizabeth Bittel, Simone Domingue, and **Melissa Villarreal**. 2020. "Children Take Charge: Helping Behaviors and Organized Action among Young People after Hurricane Katrina." *Bottom-Up Responses to Crisis*, edited by Virgil Storr and Stefanie Haeffele, 87-111. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Villarreal, Melissa and Michelle Meyer. 2020. "Women's Experiences Across Disasters - A Study of Two Towns in Texas." *Disasters Journal*, 44(2):285-306.

Villarreal, Melissa. 2019. "The Significance of Language in Hazards and Disaster Research and Practice." *Legacy: A William Averette Anderson Magazine*.

Daniels, Lorita C., Joy Semien, Antoine Richards, Akilah Alleyne, Jennifer Blanks, Tiffany Cousins, and **Melissa Villarreal**. 2018. "The South Bridge Community Assessment." *Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware*.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Coleman-Minahan, Kate, **Melissa Villarreal**, and Goleen Samari. 2022. "The role of legal status and uncertainty in the reproductive aspirations of 1.5 and second generation young women: An exploratory study." Under Review at *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences*.

Villarreal, Melissa. 2022. "Long-Term Housing Recovery Among Mexican Immigrants: How Service Providers Navigate Racialized Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies." Under Review at *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Marino, Elizabeth, Liz Koslov, and **Melissa Villarreal**. "Precarious Possessors and 'the Right to (rebuilding) the City'." London, UK: Palgrave.

Villarreal, Melissa and Nnenia Campbell. "Scholars from Under-Represented Groups in Engineering and the Social Sciences (SURGE) Capacity: An Evaluation of a Mentoring Program for Underrepresented Minority Students." Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado Boulder.

EXTERNAL FUNDING

Documenting the Undocumented Story - How Mexican Immigrants Navigate Long-Term Post-Disaster Recovery March 2021
American Sociological Association (ASA) Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (DDRIG) (\$14,157)

Documenting the Undocumented Story - The Long-Term Housing Recovery of Mexican-origin Immigrants after Hurricane Harvey April 2019
National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Grant #DGE 1650115. (\$138,000)

INTERNAL FUNDING

Graduate Student Travel Grant Spring 2022
Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association. (\$200)

Racial/Ethnic Inequality Research Award Spring 2022
Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$2,000)

Departmental Travel Grant Spring 2022
Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$750)

Departmental Travel Grant <i>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$750)</i>	Fall 2021
IBS Symposium Award <i>Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$100)</i>	Spring 2021
· Presentation was voted 1st place by symposium attendees	
Racial/Ethnic Inequality Research Award <i>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$2,000)</i>	Spring 2021
Research Summer Funding Award <i>Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$750)</i>	Spring 2021
Research Award <i>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$1,500)</i>	Spring 2021
Beverly Sears Graduate Student Award <i>University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$1,000)</i>	Spring 2021
Small Research Grant <i>Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$300)</i>	Fall 2020
Research Collaboration Funding Award <i>Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$750)</i>	Spring 2020
United Government of Graduate Students (UGGS) Travel Grant <i>University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$300)</i>	Spring 2020
Departmental Travel Grant <i>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$1,000)</i>	Fall 2019
Sociology Outreach & Promotion <i>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$1,500)</i>	Spring 2019
Center to Advance Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences (CARTSS) Graduate Student Award <i>University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$1,000)</i>	Spring 2019
Research Summer Funding Award <i>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$750)</i>	Spring 2019
Research Collaboration Funding Award <i>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$750)</i>	Spring 2018
Departmental Travel Grant <i>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$500)</i>	Fall 2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Colorado, Boulder <i>Graduate Part-Time Instructor, Continuing Education</i>	Summer 2020 & Summer 2022
· “Social Construction of Sexuality,” Summer Term A Session	
· Developed my own course, including weekly lesson plans, assignments, and meeting with and supporting students.	

UCONN Health

Spring 2022

(Virtual) Guest Lecture, Social and Behavioral Foundations of Public Health

- Lecture was on the Sociology of Disasters and my dissertation research

Dalhousie University

Fall 2021

(Virtual) Guest Lecture, Social Work Practice Research

- Lecture was on qualitative methods and my dissertation research

University of Colorado, Boulder

Summer 2020

Graduate Part-Time Instructor, Continuing Education

- “Social Construction of Sexuality,” Summer Term A Session
- Developed my own course, including weekly lesson plans, assignments, and meeting with and supporting students.

University of Colorado, Boulder

Fall 2017-Fall 2018

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- “Intro to Sociology” and “Social Construction of Sexuality”
- Developed weekly lesson plans, led three recitation sections, and was responsible for 60-115 total students each semester.

Undergraduate Teaching Fellows Program

Spring 2015

Texas A&M University, Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

- “Sociology of Latinos”

TEACHING AND TRAINING MATERIALS

Villarreal, Melissa. 2020 “Best Practices for Ethical Post-Disaster Community Outreach and Engagement.” *CONVERGE Extreme Events Research Check Sheets Series. DesignSafe-CI.*
<https://doi.org/10.17603/ds2-zekm-9737>.

Villarreal, Melissa. 2020. “Best Practices for Research with Non-English Dominant Populations.” *CONVERGE Extreme Events Research Check Sheets Series. DesignSafe-CI.*
<https://doi.org/10.17603/ds2-5b9m-sn48>.

Wu, Haorui, **Melissa Villarreal**, Rachel M. Adams, Candace Evans, and Lori Peek. 2020. “CONVERGE Institutional Review Board (IRB) and Extreme Events Research Training Module.” *Boulder, CO: Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado Boulder.*
<https://converge-training.colorado.edu/courses/institutional-review-board/>

Wu, Haorui, Rachel M. Adams, Candace Evans, **Melissa Villarreal**, and Lori Peek. 2020. “CONVERGE Cultural Competence in Hazards and Disaster Research Training Module.” *Boulder, CO: Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado Boulder.*
<https://converge-training.colorado.edu/courses/cultural-competence>

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

CONVERGE: NHERI’s Social Science Facility*Natural Hazards Engineering Research Infrastructure (NHERI) Summer Institute, June 2022***Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Emergency Management***Section on Emergency and Crisis Management, American Society for Public Administration, June 2022*

Documenting the Undocumented: How Mexican Immigrant Women Navigate Long-Term Post-Disaster Housing Recovery and Cumulative Disaster Impacts

Kinder Scholars Research Meeting, May 2022

Documenting the Undocumented: How Mexican Immigrant Women Navigate Long-Term Post-Disaster Housing Recovery and Cumulative Disaster Impacts

NGOCSW Forum Parallel Event: Feminist Approaches to Justice: Women, Disasters and Climate Change: The Research Speaks, organized by the International Sociological Association and Criminologists without Borders in conjunction with the 66th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, March 2022

ASA DDRIG Proposal Preparation

American Sociological Association, August 2021

Long-Term Housing Recovery Among Mexican Immigrants: How Service Providers Navigate Racialized Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies

Serie de Conferencias: Desastres y Sociedad (Series of Conferences: Disasters & Society), April 2021

Career Fair Academia Session: William Averette (Bill) Anderson Fund

Jackson State Meteorology: Virtual 45th Anniversary Conference, October 2020

Documenting the Undocumented Story: Long-Term Housing Recovery of Mexican-Origin Immigrants after Hurricane Harvey

International Research Committee on Disasters (IRCD) Researchers Meeting, July 2019

PRESENTATIONS

Documenting the Undocumented: How Mexican Immigrant Women Navigate Long-Term Post-Disaster Housing Recovery and Cumulative Disaster Impacts

American Sociological Association, August 2022

Long-Term Housing Recovery Among Mexican Immigrants: How Service Providers Navigate Racialized Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies

Association Public Policy Analysis and Management 2021 Fall Research Conference, March 2022

Race/Ethnicity in Disasters & Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies

American Sociological Association, August 2021

Documenting the Undocumented: How Mexican Immigrant Women Navigate Long-Term Post-Disaster Housing Recovery and Cumulative Disaster Impacts

Natural Hazards Workshop, July 2021

Bill Anderson Fund Lightning Talk: Long Term Housing Recovery among Mexican Immigrants: How Service Providers Navigate Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies

Natural Hazards Workshop, July 2021

Long Term Housing Recovery among Mexican Immigrants: How Service Providers Navigate Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies

Natural Hazards Workshop, July 2021

Long-Term Housing Recovery Among Mexican Immigrants: How Service Providers Navigate Racialized Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies
Institute of Behavioral Science Symposium, April 2021

Long-Term Housing Recovery of Mexican-Origin Immigrants: Navigating Active and Passive Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2020 * Cancelled due to COVID-19

Long-Term Housing Recovery Among Mexican-Origin Immigrants: How Service Providers Navigate Active and Passive Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies
Sociologists for Women in Society, August 2020

Structural Vulnerability, Uncertainty, and the Desire to Avoid Pregnancy among Mexican-Origin Women
Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting, February 2020

Understanding Disaster Vulnerability Through Affect Theory
Women of Color Feminisms Symposium, April 2019

Coordinated Social Science, Engineering, & Interdisciplinary Extreme Events Research
Institute of Behavioral Science Symposium, April 2019

Preparing to Respond: Vulnerable Populations Factsheets for Emergency Response
Natural Hazards Workshop, Summer 2018

Women's Experiences in Natural and Man-made Disasters - A Study of Two Towns in Texas
Natural Hazards Workshop, Summer 2016

WEBINARS & VIRTUAL PANELS

Disaster Management and Environmental Justice Issues in the 21st Century (Co-Moderator)
Bill Anderson Fund Fall Workshop, October 2021

Mentoring New Professionals: Bill Anderson Fund and Knauss Sea Grant Fellowship (Co-Coordinator)
Natural Hazards Workshop, July 2021

Research for Undergraduates (REU) Program Career Development Meeting (Panelist)
NHERI Education and Community Outreach (ECO), July 2021

Extreme Events Research Check Sheets: A Demonstration Webinar (Presenter)
CONVERGE, Natural Hazards Center, July 2021

Sociology Summer Funding/Opportunities (Panelist)
Department of Sociology, University of Colorado Boulder, February 2021

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Procedures and Extreme Events Research Training Module: A Demonstration Webinar (Presenter)
CONVERGE, Natural Hazards Center, June 2020

Cultural Competence Training Module: A Demonstration Webinar (Presenter)
CONVERGE, Natural Hazards Center, April 2020

Interdisciplinary Research in Hazard and Disaster Fields (Moderator)
Bill Anderson Fund, October 2018

SERVICE

Natural Hazards Center, Disability & Disasters Award Spring 2021-Current
Reviewer Committee

NHERI Education & Community Outreach (ECO) Spring 2020-Current
CONVERGE, Natural Hazards Center, Liaison

Natural Hazards Center, Quick Response Research Awards Fall 2020-Current
Reviewer

Natural Hazards Workshop Summer 2019-Current
Student Volunteer Coordinator

URED: Undergraduate Research Experience for Diversity at Institute of Behavioral Science (IBS) Spring 2022-Fall 2022
Mentor

Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder Fall 2021-Fall 2022
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Workshop, Co-Lead & Mentor

Research Assistant for Dissertation Project Fall 2021-Summer 2022
Mentor

Natural Hazards Engineering Research Infrastructure (NHERI) Summer Institute June 2022
CONVERGE Site Representative; Mentor

William Averette Anderson Fund (BAF) Spring 2021-Fall 2021
BAF Fellow Mentor; "Buddy Program"

William Averette Anderson Fund (BAF) Fall 2017-Fall 2021
BAF Fellows Student Council

- Currently the Secretary (2021)
- Drafted and disseminated BAF Newsletter (2019-2020).
- Organized the BAF's annual fundraiser, hosted during the annual Natural Hazards Workshop (2018).
- Planned and moderated a professional development webinar, which included identifying topics and themes of importance based on Fellows' needs and identifying presenters and panelists (2017-2018).

Social Problems Journal July 2021
Reviewer

National Science Foundation (NSF) Natural Hazards Engineering Research Infrastructure (NHERI) Research for Undergraduates (REU) Program Summer 2021
Co-Lead & Graduate Mentor

Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder <i>Culture, Power, & Inequality Workshop Coordinator</i>	Fall 2020-Spring 2021
Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder <i>Graduate Committee</i>	Fall 2020-Spring 2021
· Deliverable: “Step-by-Step Process for the M.A. in Sociology” Guide	
Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder <i>Faculty Meeting Liaison</i>	Fall 2020-Spring 2021
The Graduate School, University of Colorado, Boulder <i>Graduate Peer Mentoring Program, Mentor</i>	Fall 2019-Spring 2020
Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder <i>Open House Committee</i>	Spring 2019-Spring 2020
Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder <i>Diversity Committee</i>	Fall 2018-Spring 2020
Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder <i>NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Workshop, Mentor</i>	Fall 2019-Fall 2020

WORKSHOPS

Bill Anderson Fund Spring Workshop <i>Fellow</i>	April 2022
Bill Anderson Fund Planning Retreat <i>Bill Anderson Fund Outgoing Executive Committee Member</i>	November 2021
Bill Anderson Fund Fall Workshop <i>Fellow</i>	October 2021
Natural Hazards Workshop <i>Staff</i>	July 2018-2021
Texas A&M University (BAF) Workshop <i>Bill Anderson Fund Fellow</i>	March 2021
BAF@UD 4.0 <i>Bill Anderson Fund Fellow</i>	October 2019
Texas A&M University (BAF) Workshop <i>Bill Anderson Fund Fellow</i>	April 2018-2019
BAF@UD 3.0 <i>Bill Anderson Fund Fellow</i>	October 2018
Bill Anderson Fund Planning Retreat <i>Bill Anderson Fund Incoming Executive Committee Member</i>	February 2018
BAF@UD 2.0 <i>Bill Anderson Fund Fellow</i>	November 2017
Natural Hazards Workshop <i>Volunteer</i>	July 2017

SKILLS

Proficient in writing, reading, and speaking both Spanish and English and have contributed to bilingual research projects.

Competent in the qualitative software, Atlas.ti, and LaTeX software.

REFERENCES

Lori Peek (Lori.Peek@Colorado.Edu)

Director, Natural Hazards Center
Professor, Department of Sociology
University of Colorado Boulder

- Dr. Peek is my PhD academic advisor. I have worked with her as a teaching assistant and as a research assistant. She currently serves as my dissertation chair.

Nnenia Campbell (Nnenia@BillAndersonFund.Org)

Deputy Director, The William Averette Anderson Fund

- I have worked with Dr. Campbell as a research assistant. We've collaborated on a manuscript on the retention and success of marginalized graduate students of color.

Kate Coleman-Minahan (Kate.Coleman-Minahan@CUAnschutz.Edu)

Assistant Professor & Family Nurse Practitioner, College of Nursing
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

- I have worked with Dr. Coleman-Minahan as a research assistant on projects related to the reproductive health attitudes, behaviors, and aspirations of young women, particularly young Mexican immigrant women, in Denver, Colorado.