

Catherine García (née Pérez)
Curriculum Vitae

Leonard Davis School of Gerontology
University of Southern California
3715 McClintock Avenue, Room 215
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0191
perezcat@usc.edu

EDUCATION

- University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 2020
Ph.D. in Gerontology
Dissertation: *Raíces de Salud* (Roots of Health): How Sociocultural, Cohort, and Contextual Factors Influence Health among Older Latinos in the United States
Committee: Jennifer A. Ailshire (Chair), Eileen M. Crimmins, and Maria P. Aranda
- Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 2014
M.S. in Sociology
- University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA 2010
B.A. in Sociology and minor in Human Complex Systems
College Honors and Departmental Honors

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Aging and the Life Course, Minority Aging, Social Determinants of Health, Health Disparities, Biodemography, Quantitative Methods

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- Garcia, Marc A., Adriana Reyes, **Catherine García**, Chi-Tsun Chiu, and Grecia Macias. 2020. Nativity and Country of Origin Variations in Life Expectancy with and without Functional Limitations among Older Latinos in the United States. *Research on Aging* (online first):1-9.
- García, Catherine**, Connor Sheehan, Jennifer A. Ailshire, and Nilda Flores-Gonzalez. 2020. "Sleep Patterns among U.S. Latinos by Nativity and Country of Origin: Results from the National Health Interview Survey. *Ethnicity & Disease* 30(1):119-128.
- García, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. 2019. "Biological Risk Profiles Among Latino Subgroups in the Health and Retirement Study." *Innovation in Aging* 3(2):1-14.
- García, Catherine**, Marc A. Garcia, Chi-Tsun Chiu, Fernando I. Rivera, and Mukaila Raji. 2019. "Life Expectancies with Depression by Age of Migration and Gender Among Older Mexican Americans." *The Gerontologist* 59(5):877-85.
- Garcia, Marc A., **Catherine García**, Chi-Tsun Chiu, Mukaila Raji, and Kyriakos S. Markides. 2018. "A Comprehensive Analysis of Morbidity Life Expectancies Among Older Hispanic Subgroups in the United States: Variation by Nativity and Country of Origin." *Innovation in Aging* 2(2):1-12.

García, Catherine, Marc A. Garcia, and Jennifer A. Ailshire. 2018. "Sociocultural Variability in the Latino Population: Age Patterns and Differences in Morbidity among Older US Adults." *Demographic Research* 38:1605–18.

Pérez, Catherine and Jennifer A. Ailshire. 2017. "Aging in Puerto Rico: A Comparison of Health Status Among Island Puerto Rican and Mainland U.S. Older Adults." *Journal of Aging and Health* 29(6):1056–78.

Portanova, Jaclyn, Jennifer Ailshire, **Catherine Pérez**, Anna Rahman, and Susan Enguidanos. 2017. "Ethnic Differences in Advance Directive Completion and Care Preferences: What Has Changed in a Decade?" *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* 65(6):1352–57.

Peer Reviewed Book Chapters

García, Catherine and Jennifer A. Ailshire. 2019. "¿Importa Dónde Vivimos? How Regional Variation Informs Our Understanding of Diabetes and Hypertension Prevalence Among Older Latino Populations." Pp. 39–62 in *Contextualizing Health and Aging in the Americas*, edited by W. A. Vega, J. L. Angel, L. M. F. Gutiérrez Robledo, and K. S. Markides. Cham, Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.

Invited Book Chapters

Garcia, Marc A., **Catherine García**, and Kyriakos S. Markides. 2019. "Demography of Aging." Pp. 143–61 in *Handbook of Population, 2nd Edition*, edited by D. L. Poston. Cham, Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.

Other Publications

Ailshire, Jennifer A. and Catherine García. 2018. "Unequal Places: The Impacts of Socioeconomic and Race/Ethnic Differences in Neighborhoods." *Generations* 42(2):20–27.

Manuscripts under Review

Brown, Lauren, **García, Catherine**, and Jennifer A. Ailshire. Does Telomere Length Predict or Explain Race/Ethnic Differences in Rates of Aging Among Older Adults? (*Revise & Resubmit in Biodemography and Social Biology*).

AWARDS AND HONORS

2020	David A. Peterson PhD Student Award in Gerontology, University of Southern California
2019	Gerontological Society of America Mentoring and Career Development Technical Assistance Workshop Junior Investigator Diversity Fellow Travel Award
2018	Student Leadership Award, The Association for Gerontology in Higher Education
2017	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Tuition Award to attend ICPSR Workshop on Health Disparities, Health Inequities and Vulnerable Populations: Research Examining and Understanding Complexity
2015	Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization Poster Award, Gerontological Society of America

Minority Issues in Gerontology Student Poster Award, Gerontological Society of America

Graduate Research Symposium “People’s Choice” Winner, University of Southern California

2014 Excellence in Online Mentoring Honorable Mention Award for Methods in Social Research, Office of Distance Learning, Florida State University

Excellence in Online Mentoring Honorable Mention Award for Social Statistics, Office of Distance Learning, Florida State University

2012 Leslie N. Wilson—Delores Auzenne Graduate Fellowship for Minorities, Florida State University

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2020 Working Group Lead
Puerto Ricans and COVID-19
National Science Foundation-funded Social Science Extreme Events Research (SSEER) Network and the CONVERGE facility housed at the Natural Hazards Center at the University of Colorado Boulder
Grant #: 1841338

2018-2020 Principal Investigator
Reconociendo Las Raíces (Recognizing the Roots): Hispanic Ethnic Heterogeneity in Reported and Measured Hypertension and Diabetes
NIH/NIA Aging Research Dissertation Award to Increase Diversity (R36)
Grant #: 1R36AG057949-01

2016-2017 Predoctoral Fellow
NIH/NIA Multidisciplinary Research Training Grant in Gerontology—Ruth L. Kirschenstein
National Research Service Award (T32)
Grant #: T32AG0037

INVITED TALKS

2018 How Neighborhood Conditions Shape Health, Pre-Health Scholars Program, California State University – Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA (April 30).

2017 Embracing Demographic Change to Move California’s Communities Forward: A Lifespan Perspective, Sierra Health Foundation, Sacramento, CA (November 1).

Social Determinants of Health Disparities, Health Careers Program, California State University – Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA (October 27).

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Panels Organized/Chaired

2019 Aging in Latin America: A Focus on Middle-Income Countries symposium, Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Scientific Meeting (November 13-17).

- 2018 Minority Health and Aging paper session, Gerontological Society of America's Annual Scientific Meeting (November 14-18).
- 2016 Latino Health and Aging: Diversity of the Americas symposium, Gerontological Society of America's Annual Scientific Meeting (November 16-20).
- 2013 Gender, Race, and Health paper session sponsored by Sociologists for Women in Society, Southern Sociological Society Annual Conference (April 24-27).

Papers Presented

- 2019 **García, Catherine.** Biological Risk Profiles in the Older Mexican Population, Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting (November 13-17).
- Pérez, Catherine,** Joseph L. Sáenz, Jennifer A. Ailshire, Rebeca Wong, and Eileen M. Crimmins. Biological Risk in the HRS and MHAS. NIA-Sponsored Biomarker Network Meeting, Population Association of America Annual Meeting (April 10-13).
- 2018 **Pérez, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. Sociocultural Variation in Undiagnosed Diabetes Among Older Hispanics in the Health and Retirement Study. Minority Health and Aging Session, Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting (November 14-18).
- García, Catherine.** A Comparison of Biological Risk Factors among Older Adults in Mexico and Mexican-Americans in the United States. Third Seminar-Workshop ENASEM-MHAS (September 24-26).
- García, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. Biological Risk Profiles among Older Latino Subgroups in the Health and Retirement Study. International Conference on Aging in the Americas (September 18-20).
- Pérez, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. Gender Differences in the Predictors of Four-Year Mortality among Older Adults in Puerto Rico. Section on Aging and Life Course Roundtable Session, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (August 11-14).
- García, Marc A., **Catherine Pérez,** and Chi-Tsun Chiu. A Comprehensive Analysis of Morbidity Life Expectancies among Older Hispanic Subgroups in the United States: Variation by Nativity and Country of Origin. Health and Mortality Session, Population Association of America Annual Meeting (April 25-28).
- Pérez, Catherine.** Race/Ethnic Differences in Advance Directive Completion: 15-Year Secular Trends. What's Hot in Aging Research: Diversity and Aging, University of Southern California (April 16).
- 2017 **Pérez, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. How Does Regional Variation Inform our Understanding of Hispanic Populations and Their Diabetes/Hypertension Prevalence? International Conference on Aging in the Americas (September 20-22).
- Pérez, Catherine,** Marc A. Garcia, Fernando I. Rivera, and Chi-Tsun Chui. Life Expectancies with Depression by Age of Migration and Gender among Older Mexican Adults. International Conference on Aging in the Americas (September 20-22).

Pérez, Catherine and Jennifer A. Ailshire. *Raíces de Salud* (Roots of Health): Racial Classification and Self-Rated Health among Older Island Puerto Ricans. Health and Mortality Session, Population Association of America Annual Meeting (April 26-29).

Pérez, Catherine and Jennifer A. Ailshire. Race/Ethnic Differences in Neighborhood Environments. What's Hot in Aging Research: Aging and the Environment (April 19).

Pérez, Catherine and Jennifer A. Ailshire. Predictors of Four-Year Mortality among Older Adults in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in Comparison to the Mainland U.S. Adult Mortality Determinants in Low and Middle-Income Countries: A Comparative Workshop (February 26-27).

2016 **Pérez, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. Understanding Health Disparities among Latinos: Prevalence of Undiagnosed Disease in New York City. Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting (November 16-20).

Pérez, Catherine and Jennifer A. Ailshire. The Health Status of Aging Puerto Ricans Compared to Mainland U.S. Latinos and Whites. International Conference on Aging in the Americas (September 14-16).

2016 **Pérez, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. The Health Status of Aging Puerto Ricans Compared to Mainland U.S. Latinos and Whites. Aging, Gender, Race, and Ethnicity Session, Population Association of America Annual Meeting, (March 31-April 2).

2015 **Pérez, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. Looking Beyond the Hispanic Paradox: Health Differences by Hispanic Ethnicity. Minority and Diverse Populations Session, Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting (November 18-22).

Pérez, Catherine. Hispanic Paradox Lost: Hispanic Ethnic Identity and Implications on Health. University of Southern California Graduate Research Symposium (April 1).

2014 **Pérez, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. Ethnic Differences in Health Outcomes among Older Latinos Living in the United States. Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting (November 5-9).

Pérez, Catherine. Ethnocracy: A Conceptual Framework for the Study of Puerto Rican Health. International Health Session, Pacific Sociological Association (March 27-30).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Southern California

Instructor, *Introduction to STATA Workshop*, Leonard Davis School of Gerontology (Fall 2015, Fall 2018)

Florida State University

Instructor, *Social Statistics*, Department of Sociology (Summer 2014)

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Sociology of Law*, Department of Sociology (Spring 2014)

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Alcohol and Drug Problems*, Department of Sociology (Spring 2014)

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Social Statistics*, Department of Sociology (Summer 2013)

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Ad Hoc Reviewer

Ethnicity & Health (1 review in 2019, 1 review in 2020)
Journal of Public Health (1 review in 2018)
Journal of the American Geriatric Society (1 review in 2018)
Social Science & Medicine – Population Health (2 reviews in 2019)

Abstract Reviewer for Professional Meetings

Gerontological Society of America (2016 – present)
International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (2017)

Leadership Roles

Student Representative, Section on Aging and the Life Course, American Sociological Association (2019-2021)

EXTRACURRICULAR UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2019-2020	Undergraduate Student Mentor for the Latino Graduate Student Association at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA
2016-2018	Co-Organizer, Quantitative Methods Seminar in the Social Sciences at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA
2016-2018	Student Member, Diversity and Inclusion Committee – Leonard Davis School of Gerontology of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA
2016-2017	Graduate Student Mentor to Gerson Gáldamez – Department of Gerontology of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA
2015-2016	PhD Roundtable Chair – Department of Gerontology of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA
2013-2014	Graduate Student Mentor to Stephanie Ureña – Department of Sociology of the Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL
2012-2014	President of Alpha Kappa Delta – Alpha Florida Chapter of the Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/OUTREACH

2017-2018	Citizenship Project Volunteer, Immigration Clinic, University of Southern California Gould School of Law
2015-2019	Transfer Alumni Scholarship Reviewer for the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Alumni Association
2015-2019	True Bruin Distinguished Senior Award Reviewer for the University of California, Los Angeles

(UCLA) Alumni Association

- 2015-2019 Freshman Alumni Scholarship Reviewer for the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Alumni Association
- 2013-2014 Campaign Communications Officer for Linda Bermúdez, Azusa Unified School District in Azusa, CA
- 2012-2016 Alumni Mentor for the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Alumni Association Mentor Program

PROFESSTIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, American Sociological Association
Aging and the Life Course
Latina/o Sociology
Medical Sociology

Member, Gerontological Society of America
Behavioral and Social Sciences Section
Emerging Scholars and Professional Organization

Member, Population Association of America

Member, Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science

REFERENCES

Jennifer A. Ailshire
Assistant Professor of Gerontology, Sociology, and Spatial Sciences
University of Southern California
3715 McClintock Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90089
ailshire@usc.edu

Eileen M. Crimmins
AARP Professor of Gerontology
University of Southern California
3715 McClintock Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90089
crimmin@usc.edu

Kyriakos S. Markides
Annie and John Gnitzinger Professor of Aging
University of Texas – Medical Branch
301 University Boulevard
Galveston, Texas 77555-1150
kmarkide@utmb.edu

María P. Aranda
Associate Professor of Social Work

Executive Director of the USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging
University of Southern California
1150 S. Olive St., Suite 1400
Los Angeles, CA 90015
aranda@usc.edu