

Amina P. Melendez-Mayfield, M.S

Arizona State University

apmelend@asu.edu

(847) 644 - 4825

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology, Arizona State University, Degree Expected May 2027

Dissertation: Placemaking at the Margins: Black Queer Journeys in Higher Education and Family

M.A. Justice Studies, Arizona State University, May 2022

Thesis: Queer Black Women's Experiences in Educational Settings

B.S. Sociology; Criminal Justice, Minor(s) Psychology and American Sign Language, Central Michigan University, 2020

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTEREST

- Queer Studies
- Critical Race Theory
- Intersectionality
- Black Queer Studies
- Family Studies
- Black Geography
- Whiteness
- Education
- Youth studies
- Sociology
- Gender studies

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

- Unpacking Social Realities: A Quantitative Exploration of Experiences with Discrimination Among LGBTQ+ Individuals
- “Being Black is a challenge... Being gay on top of that, got damn”: Black Queer Women's Experiences in Lower and Higher Educational Settings
- Navigating Pride Festivals While Black and Queer: Arizona Pride Festivals 2023-2024
- Collaborative Digital Storytelling with System Impacted Youth (with Heather Kennedy and Hayley Worrell)

PUBLICATIONS

- Cotton, C., Melendez-Mayfield, A., Zamora Castro, A., & Flores-González, N. (2024). “Not My Circus, Not My Monkeys:” Views of Monogamy and Non-Monogamy Among Arizona Youth. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/00027642241284270>
- Paik, L., Melendez-Mayfield, A., 2024. “Public Opinion Survey about Alternatives to Financial Restitution

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PRESENTATIONS

- “We Are Not Them”; Youth Attitudes & Experiences with Familial Incarceration, Teacher Educators of Children with Behavioral Disorders Conference, Tempe, AZ, November 2022 (with Vera Lopez, Heather Griller Clark, Hayley Worrell, Annee Grayson, Erin Clancy, Marcella Alexander, and Haleigh Branstetter)
- “We Are Not Them”; Youth Attitudes & Experiences with Familial Incarceration, National Children of Incarcerated Parents Conference, Virtual, April 2023 (with Vera Lopez, Heather Griller Clark, Erin Clancy, Marcella Alexander, and Haleigh Branstetter)
- Black Queer Experiences in Lower and Higher Educational Settings, 53rd Annual Conference of The Association of Black Sociologists, Philadelphia, PA, August 2023
- Introduction to Interviewing (SOC 391 Applied Research Methods), Arizona State University, Tempe, September 2023
- Unpacking Social Realities: Experiences with Discrimination Among LGBTQ+ Individuals, Institute for Social Science Research in the Graduate Student Poster Competition, Arizona State University, November 2023
- Qualitative Methods (JUS 301 Research in Justice Studies), Arizona State University, Tempe, January 2024
- Unpacking Social Realities: Experiences with Discrimination Among LGBTQ+ Individuals, 95th Annual Pacific Sociological Association Conference, San Diego, CA, March 2024
- Black Queer Experiences in Lower and Higher Educational Settings, Arizona State University Institute for Social Science Research Poster Competition, Tempe, AZ, April 2024
- Living in The Margins: Afro-LatinX Queer Women's Educational Experiences in Predominantly White Institutions, Spring 2024 ASU Hispanic Research Center (HRC) Graduate Student Poster Competition, Tempe, AZ, April 2024
- Black Queer Experiences in Lower and Higher Educational Settings, 119th Annual American Sociological Association Meeting, Montreal, CA, August 2024
- Navigating Pride Festivals While Black and Queer: Arizona Pride Festivals 2023-2024, 54th Annual Conference of the Association of Black Sociologists, Montreal, CA, August 2024
- Introduction to Interviewing (SOC 391 Applied Research Methods), Arizona State University, Tempe, September 2024
- “Being Black is a challenge... Being gay on top of that, got damn”: Black Queer Women's Experiences in Lower and Higher Educational Settings, 2025 Hawaii International Conference on Education, January 2025

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- Graduate College Fellowship (\$10,000), Arizona State University, August 2021
- University Graduate Grant (\$10,000), Arizona State University, August 2022
- Graduate College Enrichment Fellowship (\$21,880), Arizona State University, August 2022
- University Graduate Grant (\$10,000), Arizona State University, August 2023
- The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences 2023-2024 Graduate Excellence Award, Arizona State University, 2023

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- 2SLGBTQIA+ Leadership Graduate Student Award (\$1,000), Arizona State University, April 2023
- Institute for Social Science Research 3rd place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition (\$800), Arizona State University, November 2023
- Point BIPOC Scholar, Point Foundation The LGBTQ Scholarship Fund (\$1,500), December 2023
- GPSA Travel Grant (\$670), Arizona State University, December 2023
- GPSA Travel Grant, Arizona State University (\$750), June 2023
- The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Travel Grant (\$280), Arizona State University, July 2023
- PSA 2024 Student Travel Grant (\$200), March 2024
- Spring 2024 ASU Hispanic Research Center (HRC) 2nd place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition (\$500), Arizona State University, April 2024
- The College's Graduate Excellence Award (\$100), Arizona State University, March 2024
- Institute for Social Science Research 1st place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition (\$1200), Arizona State University, April 2024
- Graduate College Fellowship (\$10,000), Arizona State University, August 2024
- The Family and Human Dynamics Travel Grant (\$600), Arizona State University, August 2024
- Graduate College Travel Award (\$300), Arizona State University, May 2024
- Graduate Student Government Travel Award (\$950), Arizona State University, October 2024

RESEARCH GRANTS

- School of Social Transformation Research Grant (\$372), Arizona State University, 2021
- GPSA JumpStart Grant (\$600), Arizona State University, 2023
- Graduate Student Government Research Grant (\$2,000), Arizona State University, December 2024

TEACHING ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

Grader, Arizona State University, 2020- Current

- *Grading upper-division undergraduate coursework for multiple faculty members at Arizona State University*
 - *AFR 215: Bob Marley Reggae & Resistance (2020 Fall)*
 - *WST 371: Sex and the City (2020 Fall - A)*
 - *JUS 303: Justice Theory (2020 Fall - B)*
 - *APA 200: Intro/Asian Pacific Amer Studies (2021 Spring)*
 - *AFR 215: Bob Marley Reggae & Resistance (2021 Fall)*
 - *JUS 477: Youth and Justice (2021 Fall -A & 2022 Spring-A)*
 - *APA 340: Inequality/Diversity Education (2022 Spring)*
 - *SOC 391: Applied Research Methods (2023 Summer-B)*
 - *SOC 391: Applied Research Methods (2023 Fall)*
 - *SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology (2023 Fall)*
 - *SOC 220: Sociology of Sports (2024 Fall - A)*
 - *SOC 360: Sociological Psychology (2024 Fall - B)*
 - *SOC 424: Women and Health (2024 Fall - B)*

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- *SOC 101: Introductory Sociology (2025 Spring - A)*
- *SOC 352: Social Change (2025 Spring - A)*

RESEARCH ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Arizona State University, 2021- 2024

- Vera Lopez (December 2021-August 2022). “The ‘othering’ of Latina girls in school sport contexts”. *Journal of Adolescent Research*.
- Vera Lopez (Summer 2022). Youth Participatory Action Research
- Nilda Flores-González (Summer 2021). Arizona Youth Identity Project
- Vera Lopez (Summer 2023). Youth Participatory Action Research
- Nilda Flores-González (Summer 2023). Arizona Youth Identity Project
- Leslie Paik (December 2023- October 2024). Public Responses to Restitution

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- LatinX Studies Association
- American Sociological Association
- African American Intellectual History Society
- Association of Black Sociologists
- Pacific Sociological Association

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

American Behavioral Scientist Journal, Reviewer, March 2024

- Contributed to the peer-review process, ensuring the integrity and credibility of published work in the field.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Waukegan Park District, Waukegan IL, 2013-2019

- 100+ Volunteer hours

EXTERNAL SERVICE

- *Table Presider*, 2024 ASA Student Forum Refereed Roundtable Session “Phenomenology”, 119th Annual American Sociological Association Meeting, Montreal, CA, August 2024

SERVICE

Justice Studies M.A. Representative, Arizona State University, 2021- May 2022

- *Attend faculty meetings*
- *Relay important information on behalf of the M.A students*
- *Connect M.A. students to proper resources*
- *Create engagement activities/events*
- *Create School of Social Transformation Digest*

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School of Social and Family Dynamics Graduate Student Association President, Arizona State University,
June 2023- June 2024

- *Relay important information on behalf of the Ph.D. students*
- *Connect Ph.D. students to proper resources*
- *Create engagement activities/events*

Center for The Study of Race and Democracy; Charlayne Hunter-Gault Dialogue, Arizona State
University, April 2024

- *Check-in guest*
- *Set-up*

TRAINING

- Conflicts of Interest Training, November 25, 2024
- Human Research CITI Training, November 25, 2024
- Native American Research CITI Training, January 13, 2023
- Virtual 2024 MCUAAAR/PRBA Summer Mentoring Workshop for Advanced Doctoral Students,
May 29 - May 31, 2024