

Alma Y. Castro

Office of Human Research Administration
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
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EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Amherst, MA
Ph.D., Sociology, (expected Summer 2021)

Dissertation – “The Ethics Gap: How differing conceptualizations of ethics can effect the scientific enterprise and federal policy governing human subjects research.” Dissertation defense expected Summer 2021. Enobong Branch (Chair), Jen Lundquist, Lynnette Leidy-Sievert

Comprehensive Exam in *Organizations, Institutions, & Professions*. Defended August, 2015. Melissa Wooten (Chair), Laurel Smith-Doerr, Steven Butcher

Comprehensive / Empirical Paper - “The Lies, Damn Lies, and Statistics’ of Reality Television: A Novel Look at The Biggest Loser.” Defended July 2012. David Cort (chair), Enobong Branch, Jen Lundquist.

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Fellow, Administrative Fellowship Program
August 2019 – June 2020

University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Isenberg School of Management, Amherst, MA
Graduate Certificate, Business Foundation Series for Scientists and Engineers, August 2016

Texas State University-San Marcos, San Marcos, TX
M.A. Sociology, August 2006

Thesis - "A Critical Look At Queer Media: What *The L Word* and *Queer As Folk* Are Communicating." Defended July 2006, Patti Giuffre (Chair), Harold Dorton, Victoria Smith

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA
B.A. Sociology, May 2004

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Research Ethics, Research Methods, Qualitative and Quantitative Methods, Statistics, Race/Ethnicity, Mass Media & Popular Culture, Queer Theory & Sexuality

RESEARCH & WORK EXPERIENCE

SENIOR IRB REVIEW SPECIALIST, Office of Human Research Administration, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, September 2019 – Present

Responsibilities include: IRB committee member - alternate; IRB Administrative Chair – alternate; Leading education and training for staff and researchers; Conducting education sessions with the research community; Conducting research on organizational processes and efficiencies; IRB designated reviewer for Expedited protocols; reviewing Exempt and non-Exempt protocols; making Not Human Subjects Research determinations; communicating with researchers; developing guidance and policy; assisting with annual data reports.

IRB REVIEW SPECIALIST, Office of Human Research Administration, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, November 2016 – August 2019

Responsibilities include: IRB committee member alternate; IRB designated reviewer for Expedited protocols; reviewing Exempt and non-Exempt protocols; making Not Human Subjects Research determinations; communicating with researchers; developing guidance and policy; assisting with annual data reports.

GRADUATE PROJECT ASSISTANT – IRB ANALYST, Human Research Protection Office, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, February 2010 – October 2016

Responsibilities include: managing IRB meetings; reviewing protocols; communicating with researchers; developing guidance and policy; conducting data analytics; and supervising new hires.

QUALITATIVE RESEARCHER, MDRC (nonprofit education and social policy research organization), New York City, January 2007 – May 2009

Responsibilities included planning, organizing, and conducting focus groups and interviews with male students at South Texas College; analyzing and reporting findings; and writing portions of the manuscript.

QUALITATIVE RESEARCHER, Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, South Texas College, November 2006 – August 2008

Responsibilities included planning, organizing, and conducting focus groups and interviews with students, faculty, staff, and administration; analyzing, reporting and presenting findings to administrative committees; supporting OIRE with Institutional Effectiveness reporting and oversight; managing the Institutional Review Board, and supervising work-study student.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Summer 2012

Attitudes about Immigration Policy Among Latinos in the US.

Responsibilities included merging several datasets and cleaning data to run Heirarchical Linear Modeling in STATA. PI: David Cort

RESEARCH INTERVIEWER, Abt-SRBI, Hadley, MA, June 2009–August 2011

Responsibilities included conducting survey research with respondents over the telephone both in English and Spanish.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

INSTRUCTOR, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
Race, Class, Gender, & Ethnicity (SOC 106), Fall 2012, 40 Students

INSTRUCTOR, Department of Social Science, Greenfield Community College
Principles of Sociology (SOC 101), Spring 2010, 25 Students

INSTRUCTOR, Department of Sociology, South Texas College
Marriage & the Family (SOC 230), Spring 2008, 40 Students
Introduction to Sociology (SOC 130), 3 Courses, 2007-2008, 40 Students

TEACHING ASSISTANT, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
Social Class & Inequality (SOC 224), 2 Courses, 2011 & 2012, 300 Students
Research Methods (SOC 213), 2 Courses, 2010 & 2011, 40 Students
Elementary Statistics (SOC 212), 2010, 40 Students
Race, Class, Gender, & Ethnicity (SOC 106), 2009, 350 Students
Self, Society, and Interpersonal Relations (SOC 105), 2009, 350 Students
Criminology (SOC 241), 2008, 250 Students

TEACHING ASSISTANT, Department of Sociology, Texas State University – San Marcos
Elementary Statistics (SOC 330), 2005-2006, 40 Students
University Seminar (SOC 110), 2006, 40 Students

PUBLICATIONS

Alma Y. Castro. 2015. "Race, Class, Gender and Ethnicity – Soc 106 Syllabus." *ASA: Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology (TRAILS)*, www.trails.asanet.org.

Castro, Veronica, Elda E. Garcia, Javier Cavazos Jr., and **Alma Y. Castro**. 2011. "The Road to Doctoral Success and Beyond." *International Journal of Doctoral Studies*, Vol. 6: 051-077.

Gardenhire-Crooks, Alissa, Herbert Collado, Kasey Martin, and **Alma Y. Castro** with Thomas Brock and Genevieve Orr. 2010. "Terms of Engagement: Men of Color Discuss Their Experiences in Community College." New York, New York: MDRC.

IN PREPARATION

Castro, Alma. 2021. "The Ethics Gap: How differing conceptualizations of ethics can affect the scientific enterprise and federal policy governing human subjects research." (In Preparation for *IRB Ethics & Human Research*)

Castro, Alma. 2021. "Academic Ethics: How social science researchers operationalize and exercise research ethics" (In Preparation for *Sociological Methodology*)

Castro, Alma and Kimberley Serpico. 2020. "Quantifying Complexity in IRB Reviews." (In Preparation for *Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics*)

Castro, Alma. 2020. "Inhabited Ethics: How IRB Professionals embody, employ, and understand human subjects research ethics." (In Preparation for *Journal of Empirical Research on*

Human Research Ethics)

Castro, Alma and Jenny Folsom. 2020. "Against All Odds: A Survival Analysis of Race and Gender on *The Biggest Loser*." (In submission to *Social Problems*)

CONFERENCES

- November 2019 *Presenter* "Academic Ethics: How Social Science Researchers Operationalize and Exercise Research Ethics." Social, Behavioral, Education Research (SBER) Conference. Public Responsibility in Medicine & Research (PRIM&R) Boston, Massachusetts.
- November 2019 *Presenter* "Benign Behavioral Interventions (BBI) in Practice." Social, Behavioral, Education Research (SBER) Conference. Public Responsibility in Medicine & Research (PRIM&R) Boston, Massachusetts.
- September 2019 *Presenter* "Case Study Break-Out Session – Group #3." Ethical Issues in Global Health Research (EIGHR), Boston, Massachusetts.
- September 2019 *Presenter* "Mock IRB Review – Panel #3." Ethical Issues in Global Health Research (EIGHR), Boston, Massachusetts.
- August 2015 *Presenter* "'The Lies, Damn Lies, and Statistics' of Reality Television: A Novel Look at *The Biggest Loser*." American Sociological Association (ASA), Chicago, Illinois.
- August 2012 *Presenter* "Against All Odds: A Survival Analysis of Race and Gender on *The Biggest Loser*." Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), Denver, Colorado.

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY

STATA, R, SPSS, NVIVO, RapidMiner, Tableau, MS Office Suite (Word, Excel, Access, Powerpoint), MS Windows / Mac OS X / Linux Operating Systems

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Harvard Catalyst – Social Behavioral Educational Research (SBER) Subcommittee
 Public Responsibility in Ethics and Research (PRIM&R)
 American Sociology Association (ASA)
 Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)
 Reviewer for *Gender & Society* (2012 – 2016)

REFERENCES

Kimberly Serpico, Assc. Dir
Office of Human Research Admin
Harvard Chan School of Public Health
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Dr. Delia Wolf, Assc. Dean
Office of Reg. Affairs & Res. Compliance
Harvard Chan School of Public Health
90 Smith St., 3rd Floor, Rm 337
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Dr. Enobong (Anna) Branch, Vice Chancellor
Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Engagement
Rutgers University
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New Brunswick, NJ 08901
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