

Catherine García (née Pérez)

Curriculum Vitae

320D Lyman Hall, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13244-1020
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Syracuse University

2021 – Present Assistant Professor, Department of Human Development and Family Science

Faculty Affiliate, Aging Studies Institute

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Aging and Policy Studies

Faculty Affiliate, Lerner Center for Public Health Promotion

University of Nebraska – Lincoln

2020 – 2021 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology

Core Faculty, Minority Health Disparities Initiative

EDUCATION

2020 Ph.D., Gerontology, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

2014 M.S., Sociology, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

2010 B.A., Sociology, and minor in Human Complex Systems, University of California – Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
College Honors and Departmental Honors

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (students underlined; †denotes equal authorship)

Colón-López, Alejandra and **Catherine García**. 2022. "20th Century Puerto Rico and Later-Life Health: The Association Between Multigenerational Education and Chronic Conditions in Island-Dwelling Older Adults." *Journal of Aging and Health* (Online ahead of print). doi:10.1177/08982643221097532

Quashie, Nekehia, Flavia C. D. Andrade, Gabriella Meltzer, and **Catherine García**. 2022. "Living Arrangements and Intergenerational Support in Puerto Rico: Are Fathers Disadvantaged?" *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences* (Online ahead of print). doi:10.1093/geronb/gbac044

García, Catherine, Marc A. Garcia, and Jennifer A. Ailshire. 2022. "Demographic and Health Characteristics of Older Latino Birth Cohorts in the Health and Retirement Study." *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences* (Online ahead of print). doi:10.1093/geronb/gbac017

Brown, Lauren L., **Catherine García**, Alexis Reeves, John R. Pamplin, and Uchechi A. Mitchell. 2022. "Stress is a Latent Construct: Exploring the Differential Experience of Stress and Discrimination on Depressive Symptoms among Black Older Adults." *Journal of Aging and Health*, 34(3):334–346 doi:10.1177/08982643221086333

Garcia, Marc A., David F. Warner, **Catherine García**, Brian Downer, and Mukaila Raji. 2021. "Age Patterns in Self-Reported Cognitive Impairment among Older Latino Subgroups and Non-Latino Whites in the U.S., 1997 to 2018: Implications for Public Health Policy." *Innovation in Aging* 5(4):1–15. doi:10.1093/geroni/igab039

García, Catherine, Fernando I. Rivera, Marc A. Garcia, Giovani Burgos, and María P. Aranda. 2021. "Contextualizing the COVID-19 Era in Puerto Rico: Compounding Disasters and Parallel Pandemics." *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 76(7):1–15. doi:10.1093/geronb/gbaa186

Hargrove, Taylor, **Catherine García**, and Kathleen A. Cagney. 2021. "The Role of Neighborhoods in Shaping the Aging Experience During Times of Crisis." *Public Policy & Aging Report* 31(1):38–43. doi:10.1093/ppar/praa041

†Garcia, Marc A., Patricia Homan, **Catherine García**, and Tyson Brown. 2021. "The Color of COVID-19: Structural Racism and the Pandemic's Disproportionate Impact on Older Racial and Ethnic Minorities." *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 76(3):e75–e80. doi:10.1093/geronb/gbaa114

Gauthier, G. Robin, Jeffrey Smith, **Catherine García**, Marc A. Garcia, and Patricia A. Thomas. 2021. "Exacerbating Inequalities: Social Networks, Racial/Ethnic Disparities, and the

COVID-19 Pandemic.” *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 76(3):e88–e92.
doi:10.1093/geronb/gbaa117

Brown, Lauren, **Catherine García**, and Jennifer A. Ailshire. 2020. “Does Telomere Length Predict or Explain Race/Ethnic Differences in Rates of Aging Among Older Adults?” *Biodemography and Social Biology* 65(4):351–369.
doi:10.1080/19485565.2020.1798736

García, 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* 42(7-8):199–207. doi:10.1177/0164027520914512

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.
doi:10.18865/ed.30.1.119

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.
doi:10.1093/geront/gny107

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. doi:10.1093/geront/gny107

García, 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. doi:10.1093/geroni/igy014

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. doi:10.4054/DemRes.2018.38.52

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. doi:10.1177/0898264317714144

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.
doi:10.1111/jgs.14800

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. doi:10.1007/978-3-030-00584-9_3

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. doi:10.1007/978-3-030-10910-3_6

Reports

Torres, Mellie, R. Anna Hayward, Gabriella Meltzer, **Catherine García**, Tatiana E. Bustos, and Alejandro Silva Diaz. 2022. *¡Estamos Bien, Puerto Rico! Young Adults and the Impacts of Compounding Disasters. Natural Hazards Center Quick Response Grant Report Series*, 337. Boulder, CO: Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado Boulder. <https://hazards.colorado.edu/quick-response-report/estamos-bien-puerto-rico-compounding-disasters-and-young-adults-in-puerto-rico>

Other Publications (students underlined)

Pendergrast, Claire, Marc A. Garcia, and **Catherine García**. 2022. "Latinos Report Higher Rates of Cognitive Impairment than U.S.-Born Whites, But Rates Vary Between Latino Subgroups." *Lerner Center for Public Health Promotion: Population Health Research Brief Series*, Brief #62. <https://surface.syr.edu/lerner/167>

Garcia, Marc A., Adriana M. Reyes, **Catherine García**. 2021. “The COVID-19 Pandemic and Precarious Aging: The Importance of an Equity Response. *Generations Journal*.

Singleton, Meki, **Catherine García**, and Lauren L. Brown. 2021. “How Much Time Do You Want for Your ‘Progress’? Inequitable Aging Landscapes for Racially and Ethnically Diverse Sexual and Gender Minorities.” *Generations Today* 42(1): 1–5.

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

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2021-2023 Loan Repayment Program Award, National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes of Health
- 2021 Diversity Scholar Award, RStudio::Global
- 2020 ESPO Interdisciplinary Paper Award, Gerontological Society of America
- RAND Summer Institute on Aging Fellow
- David A. Peterson PhD Student Award in Gerontology, University of Southern California
- 2019 Junior Investigator Diversity Fellow Award, Gerontological Society of America
- 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

- 2021-2023 Principal Investigator
Socioenvironmental Influences on Health among Older Island Puerto Ricans
NIH/NIA Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research

Grant #: 3R01AG064769-03S1/L30AG074407 (Direct costs: \$389,490)

- 2020 Workgroup 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 (Direct costs: \$146,289)
- 2016-2017 Predoctoral Fellow
NIH/NIA Multidisciplinary Research Training Grant in Gerontology—Ruth L. Kirschenstein National Research Service Award (T32)
Grant #: T32AG0037

INVITED TALKS

- 2022 Considering Diversity and Intersectionality within Latina/o/x Aging and Health, *Methodology, Analytics and Psychometrics Academy (MAP) Methodology Application Series*, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Lincoln, NE (May 6).

Social Determinants of Health and Healthy Aging, *Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Research and the Workplace Course*, Department of Psychology, University of Alabama – Birmingham, Birmingham, AL (March 1).
- 2021 Raíces de Salud: The Social Determinants of Health among Older Latina/o/xs in the U.S., *Minnesota Demography and Aging Seminar, Minnesota Population Center*, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN (December 13).

Social Determinants of Health and the Aging Latine Population. *MIT AgeLab*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA (April 23)
- 2020 Social Media Platforms for Academics, *Pro-Seminar*, Department of Gerontology, University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, MA (November 21).
- 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 and Chaired

- 2022 Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in the Americas paper session, Population Association of America Annual Meeting (April 6-9).
- 2021 Neighborhoods, Health, and Well-Being in Later Life paper session, Population Association of America Annual Meeting (May 5-8).
- 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).

Selected Paper Presentations

- 2021 **García, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. Changes in Sociodemographic and Disease Prevalence Among Five Birth Cohorts of Older Latinos, Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting (November 10-13).
- Brown, Lauren, **García, Catherine**, Alexis Reeves, John Pamplin, and Uchechi A. Mitchell. Stress Is a Latent Construct: Exploring the Differential Experience of Stress Among Black Older Adults, Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting (November 10-13).
- 2020 **García, Catherine** and Jennifer A. Ailshire. ¿Dónde Viven Los Latinos? The Types of Neighborhoods Older Latinos Live in and Their Implications for Diabetes, Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting (November 4-7).
- 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).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Syracuse University

Graduate Courses

Biopsychosocial Approaches to Health and Aging, Department of Human Development and Family Science (Spring 2023)

Undergraduate Courses

Midlife Development and Gerontology, Department of Human Development and Family Science (Fall 2021)

University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Undergraduate Courses

Social Statistics (online), Department of Sociology (Fall 2020)

University of Southern California

Workshops

Introduction to STATA, Leonard Davis School of Gerontology (Fall 2015, Fall 2018, Summer 2020)

MENTORING AND ADVISING

University of Alabama – Birmingham

Erin Elizabeth Ballard, Master's Committee Member, Department of Psychology, 2021-2022

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Lourdes Romañach Álvarez, Minority Health Disparities Initiative Research Experience for Undergraduates Mentor, Summer 2021

Abigail Gayoso Reyes, Minority Health Disparities Initiative Research Experience for Undergraduates Mentor, Summer 2021

Erika Akers, Undergraduate Sociology Honors Thesis Advisor, 2020-2021

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Syracuse University

Graduate Committee Member, Department of Human Development and Family Science (2021 – Present)

University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Resource and Planning Committee, Department of Sociology (2020 – 2021)

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Editorial Activity

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (2022 – 2025)

Ad Hoc Reviewer

Journal of Applied Gerontology (1 review in 2022), *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences* (1 review in 2021, 1 review in 2022), *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health* (1 review in 2021), *Demography* (1 review in 2021), *The Gerontologist* (3 reviews in 2021), *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (1 review in 2020, 4 reviews in 2021), *Sociological Perspectives* (1 review in 2020, 1 review in 2021), *SAGE Publishing for Statistics Textbooks* (1 review in 2020), *Journal of Aging and Health* (2 reviews in 2020, 1 review in 2021, 1 review in 2022), *PLOS One* (1 review in 2020), *Ethnicity & Health* (1 review in 2019, 1 review in 2020), *Social Science & Medicine – Population Health* (2 reviews in 2019), *Journal of Public Health* (1 review in 2018), *Journal of the American Geriatric Society* (1 review in 2018)

Abstract Reviewer for Professional Meetings

Gerontological Society of America (2016 – present)

International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (2017)

Committee Member

Network for Data-Intensive Research on Aging (NDIRA), University of Minnesota (2021 – 2024)

Minority Issues in Gerontology Advisory Panel (MIGAP), Gerontological Society of America (2021 – 2023)

Latina/o Sociology Section's Cristina Maria Riegos Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association (2021 – 2022)

Leadership Roles

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

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Gerontological Society of America

Behavioral and Social Sciences Section
Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education

American Sociological Association

Section on Aging and the Life Course
Section on Latina/o Sociology
Section on Sociology of Population
Section on Medical Sociology
Section on Sociology of Indigenous Peoples and Native Nations
Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities

Population Association of America

Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science