

STEPHANIE M. ORTIZ

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2025- Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, UMass Lowell
- 2021-2025 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, UMass Lowell
- 2020-2021 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Florida Atlantic University
Affiliate Faculty: Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; Caribbean and Latin American Studies; Peace, Justice, and Human Rights

EDUCATION

- 2020 Ph.D. Sociology, Texas A&M University
- 2014 M.A. Ethnic Studies, San Francisco State University
- 2012 B.A. Human Development and Family Studies, University of Connecticut

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Race, Gender, Sexuality
Digital Sociology

Emotional Labor
Qualitative Methodology

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

^G denotes graduate student co-author; ^U denotes undergraduate co-author

- 2026 Eschmann, Rob, Natasha C. Johnson ^G, **Stephanie M. Ortiz**, Noor Toraif, Ashley Cole ^G, Yuan Zhang ^G, and Cheng-Shiun Leu ^G "Internet-Based Microaggressions, Mental Health, and Stress: Development and Validation of the Internet-based Microaggressions Scale." [*Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*](#).

- 2025 Waring, Chandra D.L. and **Stephanie M. Ortiz** "Teaching and the Proximity to Whiteness: A Black Biracial and Light-Skinned Latina Professor Reflect." [Whiteness and Education](#)
- 2024 **Ortiz, Stephanie M.** "What Else Explains This Trauma but Porn? Women Partners of Porn Addicts as Claims-makers." [Sociological Perspectives](#)
- Ortiz Stephanie M.**, Carley Bennet^U, Nicholas Rizzo^U, and Breanny Guerrero^U. "I Wouldn't Call It Racism, But..." A Research Note on White Students' Negative Experiences Learning About Race." [Sociology Compass](#)
- Eschmann, Rob, Nkemka Anyiwo, Noor Toraif, and **Stephanie M. Ortiz**. "Online resistance: The past, present and future of challenging racism with digital tools." In: Christakis Dimitri A. and Lauren Hale, eds. *Children and Screens: A Handbook on Digital Media and the Development, Health, and Well-being of Children and Adolescents*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.
- Tynes, Brendesha M., Henry A. Willis, Ashley Maxie-Moreman, **Stephanie M. Ortiz**, and Devin English. "Online Racism and Its Impact on Children, Adolescents, and Emerging Adults of Color." In: Christakis Dimitri A. and Lauren Hale, eds. *Children and Screens: A Handbook on Digital Media and the Development, Health, and Well-being of Children and Adolescents*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.
- Ortiz, Stephanie M.** "Women Partners, Feeling Rules, and the Gendered Consequences of Porn Addiction." [Sexuality and Culture](#) 28, 673–691.
- 2023 Wilf^G, Sara, Taylor Reed^G, Victoria Millet^G, **Stephanie M. Ortiz** and Laura Wray-Lake "“We Been Dying, And You Got Me on Call Helping You Stay Alive”: Black and Latinx Youth Organizers’ Experiences of Racism in Gun Violence Prevention Organizations." [Journal of Research on Adolescence](#)
- Mandala, Chad R.^G & **Stephanie M. Ortiz**. "“Queerness is a Particular Liability’: Feeling Rules in University LGBTQ Centers." [Journal of Homosexuality](#) 70(3), 427-447.
- Ortiz, Stephanie M.** "“If Something Happened to Me, I’d Have No One To Tell’: How Online Sexism Perpetuates Young Women’s Silence." [Feminist Media Studies](#)
- Ortiz, Stephanie M.** "Call-In, Call-Out, Care, and Cool Rationality: How Young Adults Respond to Racism and Sexism Online." [Social Problems](#).

- 2022 Ortiz, Stephanie M. "Masculinity, Everyday Racism, and Gaming" in *The Oxford Handbook of Digital Media Sociology*.
- 2021 Ortiz, Stephanie M. "Racists Without Racism? From Colorblind to Entitlement Racism Online." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 44(14); 2637-2657.
- Ortiz, Stephanie M. & Chad R. Mandala^G. "'There is Queer Inequity, But I Pick to be Happy!': Racialized Feeling Rules as Diversity Regimes in LGBTQ Centers." *Du Bois Review*. 18(2), 347-364.
- 2020 Ortiz, Stephanie M. "Trolling as a Collective Form of Harassment: An Inductive Study of How Online Users Understand Trolling." *Social Media + Society* 6(2): 1-9.
- 2019 Ortiz, Stephanie M. "The Meanings of Racist and Sexist Trash Talk for Men of Color: A Cultural Sociological Approach to Studying Gaming Culture." *New Media & Society* 21(4): 879-894.
- Ortiz, Stephanie M. "'You Can Say I Got Desensitized to It': How Men of Color Cope with Everyday Racism Online." *Sociological Perspectives* 64(4): 572-588.

INVITED PUBLICATIONS, NON-REFERRED

- 2025 Ortiz, Stephanie M. "Emotions in Ross' Calling In." *Signs: Short Takes*
- 2023 Ortiz, Stephanie M. "[When Family Members Victim-Blame on Social Media, Young Women Remain Silent Around Sexual Violence.](#)" [Council on Contemporary Families](#).
- 2022 Ortiz, Stephanie M. "Diversity Regimes: *Why Talk is Not Enough to Fix Racial Inequality at Universities.*" *Acta Sociologica*.

MEDIA COVERAGE OF RESEARCH

- 2024 'A Band-aid approach' How harassment of women and Black online gamers goes unchecked." [USA Today](#).
- 2023 Ramirez, M. "Racism in online gaming is rampant. The toll on youth mental health is adding up." [USA Today](#).
- Clayton, A. "Do gun violence prevention groups have a race problem?" [The Guardian](#).
- 2022 March, E. "Morrison says his anti-trolling bill is a top priority if he's re-elected – this is why it won't work." *The Conversation*. [Read story here](#).
- 2021 Nathoo, Z. "The People Penalized For Expressing Feelings at Work." *BBC News*. [Read story here](#).
- Cote, A. "A Toxic Culture: How Covid-19 Has Caused Youth Harassment To Skyrocket In Online Gaming." *Milwaukee Independent*. [Read story here](#).
- Salomaa, J. "Game Research Highlights: What Did You Just Say to Me?" *PlayLab! Magazine*. [Read story here](#).
- Zhang, Z. "Tik Tok's Obsession with Racial Preferences." *The Michigan Daily*. [Read story here](#).
- 2020 Anti-Defamation League, Center for Technology and Society, "Free to Play? Hate, Harassment and Positive Social Experience in Online Games." Report; [link](#).
- Anti-Defamation League & Fair Play Alliance, "Disruption and Harms in Online Gaming Framework." Educational Resource; [link](#).

AWARDS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 Seed Grant, Fine Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, UMass Lowell. "Southeast Asian College Students and (Post)Pandemic Racism." \$8,500
- 2023 Teaching Excellence Award, Department of Sociology, UMass Lowell, \$1000
50/50 Mentoring Award, Office for Faculty Equity, UMass Lowell, \$2000

- 2022 UCLA Initiative to Study Hate. "Exploring Black and Latinx Youths' Experiences of Discrimination Within Gun Violence Prevention Organizing Spaces" with Sara Wilf G, Taylor Reed G, Victoria Millet G, and Laura Wray-Lake. \$12,500
- Career Enhancement Fellowship for Junior Faculty, Institute for Citizens and Scholars. \$30,000 (unfunded)
- Seed Grant, Fine Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, UMass Lowell. "The Normalization of Online Racism." \$8,000
- Mentoring Mini Grant Application, Office for Faculty Equity, UMass Lowell. "Support for Instructors Teaching Controversial Issues." \$3,000 (unfunded)
- Student Assistantship Program, Fine Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, UMass Lowell. \$800.
- 2021 Ford Foundation, Post-Doctoral Fellowship (unfunded)
- Russell Sage Foundation, Social, Political, Economic, and Psychological Consequences of COVID-19 Program. \$26,000 (unfunded)
- Belfer Fellowship, Anti-Defamation League. \$12,500 (finalist; unfunded)
- Diversity and Inclusion Fellowship, College of Arts & Letters, Florida Atlantic University
- 2020 Seed Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University. \$12,200
Russell Sage Foundation, Race, Ethnicity Immigration Program. \$49,000 (unfunded)
- 2019 Dissertation Fellowship, Office of Graduate and Professional Studies, Texas A&M University. \$14,000
- Ruth C. Schaffer Award for best graduate student paper, Department of Sociology, Texas A&M University. \$600
- Summer '19 Research Assistantship Award, Department of Sociology, Texas A&M University. \$3000
- Diversity Matters Seed Grant, "The Dimensions and Implications of Online Harassment." Office for Diversity, Texas A&M University. \$5,500
- 2018 Summer Research Assistantship Award, Department of Sociology, Texas A&M

University. \$2500

Women and Gender Studies Research Award, Texas A&M University, Women and Gender Studies. \$250

Research Related Activity Award, "The Dimensions of Online Harassment."
Department of Sociology, Texas A&M University. \$2000

Research Related Activity Award, "Feeling Rules in LGBTQ Centers." Department of Sociology, Texas A&M University. Co-authored with Chad Mandala. \$500

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

* upper-level course; ^ original course developed

University of Massachusetts Lowell, Department of Sociology

Assistant and Associate Professor

Introduction to Sociology

Race and Ethnicity

Introduction to Gender Studies

Foundations of Social Analysis

Latinos/as in the United States*

Qualitative Methodology*

Digital Inequalities^

Race, Gender, and Beauty*^

Sociology of Gender

Florida Atlantic University, Department of Sociology

Assistant Professor

Race and Ethnic Relations*

Sociological Perspectives

Racism and Sexism Online*^

Racism and Sexism Online^ [graduate seminar]

Texas A&M University, Department of Sociology

Graduate Instructor (full course responsibility)

Contemporary Theory*

Social Problems

Introduction to Gender & Society

Teaching Assistant

Racial and Ethnic Relations*

Introduction to Race and Ethnicity

Introduction to Sociology

Social Problems
Death and Dying*

Invited Lecturer

"Anti-Black Racism and Gaming." Social Problems (F 2019)
"The Theory of Everyday Racism." Introduction to Race and Ethnicity (F 2019)
"Social Structures: An Introduction." Race and Ethnic Relations (F 2018)
"Gaming Culture and Trolling." Introduction to Sociology (S 2018)
"Latinx Discrimination in Gaming." Introduction to Latino Studies (F 2017)
"Intersectionality: An Introduction." Contemporary Theory (S 2017)
"Structural Theories of Race." Contemporary Theory (S 2017)

San Francisco State University, Department of Ethnic Studies

Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Ethnic Studies
Mexican Politics and Society
Urban Issues for Black Youth*

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPERVISION

UMass Lowell

2026	Jeandre Abel Jr. (Psychology), Directed Study Lauren McNally (Sociology), Directed Study
2025	Marielys Then (Sociology), Directed Study Ash Rwakiseeta (Sociology), Directed Study Jennifer Goiz (Sociology), Honor's Thesis
2024	Marielys Then (Sociology), Directed Study Riley Martin (Sociology & Criminal Justice), Directed Study/Honor's Thesis Sarah Esmerelda Moundele (Liberal Arts), Capstone
2021-2023	Breanny Guerrero (Sociology and Psychology), Directed Study & Research Assistance
2021-2022	Kierah Bailey (Psychology), Chair for Honor's Capstone Project Alyssa Heath (Sociology and Psychology), Directed Study Nicholas Rizzo (Business Finance), Research Assistant Carley Bennet (Criminal Justice), Research Assistant

GRADUATE RESEARCH SUPERVISION

- 2024- **UMass Lowell**
Elvina Le (Psychology), Co-PI
- 2020-2021 **Florida Atlantic University**
Veronica Stewart (Comparative Studies), Dissertation Chair
Roxanne Hudgins Ten Eyck (Comparative Studies), Dissertation Chair
Cristina Melissa Pimenta (Comparative Studies), Dissertation Committee Member
Cassio Marquez (Sociology), MA Thesis Committee Member

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2026 Eastern Sociological Association, Washington, DC
Poster presentation with Lauren McNally. "The Myth of Feminized Education: How Men's Rights Activists Reframe Academic Decline."
- 2025 Eastern Sociological Association, Boston, MA
Paper presentation with Marielys Then. "Race and Compensatory Femininity Among Women Partners of Porn Addicts."
- 2023 Race and Games Studies Summit, Held remotely
Paper presentation. "Boricuas in the Battle Royale: Puerto Ricans Families, Online Gaming, and Racial Ethnic Socialization."
- 2022 Panel Presider and Presenter. "We Will Love You Until You Love Yourself: Digital Care Work among Women Partners of Porn Addicts." Eastern Sociological Association. March 10.
- 2021 Invited Discussant. "Gaming in the Dark: Black Perspectives for Games Studies." Society for Cinema and Media Studies. March 19.
- 2019 Presenter. "Racial, Gendered, and Political Targets: Trolling as Identity-Based Harassment." Presented at the Social Science Research Council's *Race, Gender and Toxicity Online* Workshop. University of Texas-Austin. April 25-26.
- 2016 Co-presenter, Thaddeus Atzmon. "Reproducing the White Racial Frame: A Content Analysis of US History Books Used on College Campuses." Presented at Boston College Diversity Challenge Conference. Boston, MA. October 28.

INVITED RESEARCH TALKS

- 2025 "Race, Gender and Beauty Politics Post-COVID." San Jose City College, Ethnic Studies Department
- 2024 "From Tweets to Classroom Seats: How Social Media Shapes White College Students' Engagement in Race Discussions." Politics & Social Change Workshop. Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. Harvard University.
"University Normalization of Racism in Pandemic Times" San Jose City College, Ethnic Studies Department
"Entitlement Racism Online" Swarthmore College, Department of Sociology.
- 2022 "Understanding Everyday Racism and Sexism: The Social Lives of College Students Online." Tufts University, Department of Sociology Speaker Series
"How College Students Respond to Online Racism." San Jose City College, Ethnic Studies
- 2020 "From Colorblind to Entitlement Racism Online." UMass Lowell, Department of Sociology

CAMPUS TALKS

- UMass Lowell**
- 2022 "Understanding Everyday Racism and Sexism: The Social Lives of College Students Online." Research Keynote. Faculty Symposium. November 1.
- Florida Atlantic University**
- 2020 Panelist. "Unrooting Colorism in Hispanic Culture." WebEx Seminar. Center for Inclusion, Diversity Education, and Advocacy. September 17.
- Texas A&M University**
- 2020 "Online Harassment and Campus Climate." Race, Identity, and Social Equity Conference. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)
- 2019 "Racists Without Racism? From Colorblind to Entitlement Racism Online." Department of Sociology Colloquium Series.
"Race, Sexual Orientation, and Emotional Labor in University LGBTQ Centers." Department of Sociology Colloquium Series.

2018 "Is Trolling a Form of Everyday Discrimination? Discrepancies between Narrative and Survey Data." Race and Ethnic Studies Institute.

SERVICE

UMass Lowell

2025-2025 Coordinator, Gender Studies Interdisciplinary Program
Department representative, Strategic Planning Committee
2024-2024 Chair, curriculum committee
2024-2024 Mentor, U Mentor program
2023-2023 Committee member, Video Games Studies Minor
2024 Search Committee, VAP, Department of Sociology
2024 Reviewer, Undergraduate Research Symposium
2024-2023 Games Studies Minor Committee, FAHSS
Diversity Statement Revision Committee, Department of Sociology
2022-2024 Faculty Senator
Research Committee, Department of Sociology
Teaching Committee, Department of Sociology
Curriculum Committee, Department of Sociology
2022 Search Committee, TT Line, Department of Sociology
2021-2021 Co-director, Racial Equity & Inclusion Concentration, Department of Sociology
Coordinator, Women of Color Writing Group

Florida Atlantic University

2020-2021 Member, Diversity & Inclusion Committee, College of Arts & Letters
Co-organizer, Workshop on Sociological Research Series, Department of Sociology
Member, "Racism & Anti-Racism" course development working group
Member, "Politics and Social Justice in Latin America and the Caribbean" programming working group

Texas A&M University

2019-2020 Graduate Student Representative, Diversity Committee, Department of Sociology
2017-2020 Organizer, Sociology Graduate Student Mentorship and Academic Development
2017 Reviewer, Diversity Matters Seed Grant Committee, Office for Diversity
Vice President, Hispanic/Latino Graduate Student Association
2016 Member, Campus Climate Guidance Committee

Profession

2024-2025 Council Member, Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology Section (ASA)

- 2020- Member, @WomenAlso (a group of sociologists who promote the achievements of women sociologists on Twitter)
- 2025 Best book award committee chair, American Sociological Association, Latino/a Sociology Section
- Best book award committee member, American Sociological Association, Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology Section
- 2024 Graduate student paper award committee member, American Sociological Association, Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology Section