

S. Megan Smith
Curriculum Vitae
July 2024

Department of Sociology · University of North Carolina-Charlotte
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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2021-current Assistant Teaching Professor, Sociology and Gerontology
University of North Carolina- Charlotte

2022-2024 Gerontology Undergraduate Coordinator

EDUCATION

2017 Ph.D., Sociology
Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia
Exams: Health and Criminology
Dissertation: “Enhancing Choice, Capabilities, and Community for
Chronically Mentally Ill Persons: The Social Context of a
Faith-Based Day Program”
Committee: Dr. Ellen Idler (Chair), Dr. Molly Perkins, Dr. Bob Agnew,
Dr. Corey Keyes

2011 M.A., Sociology
University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina
Thesis: “Understanding How Innovations Become Institutionalized:
The Case of Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Programs”
Committee: Dr. Yang Cao (Chair), Dr. Teresa Scheid, Dr. Wei Zhao

2001 B.A., Sociology and concentration in Anthropology
North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina
Honor’s Thesis: “Out of the Kitchen: Attitudes Towards Women in the
Workplace”
Honor’s Thesis Advisor: Dr. Randy Thomson
Summa Cum Laude

GENERAL RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

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|-------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Mental Health | Loneliness | Crime & Deviance |
| Medical Sociology | Gerontology | Social Problems |

PUBLICATIONS

Scheid, Teresa and S. Megan Smith. (Forthcoming). *Sociological Insights on Mental Health and Distress*. Wiley Press.

Scheid, Teresa and S. Megan Smith. 2021. *Ties that Enable: Community Solidarity for Adults Living with Severe Mental Illness*. Rutgers University Press.

Yount, Kathryn and S. Megan Smith. 2012. "Gender and Postpartum Depression in Arab Middle Eastern Women." *Women's Studies International Forum* 35(4):187-193.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Department of Sociology

Assistant Teaching Professor

Introduction to Sociology (face-to-face, asynchronous, and synchronous)

Taught in UTOPS Program 2019- 2022

Research Methods

Social Problems

Sociological Theory (face-to-face and asynchronous)

Sociology of Deviant Behavior (face-to-face and asynchronous)

Non-writing and Writing Intensive

Sociology of Health and Illness (face-to-face and asynchronous)

Sociology of Mental Health and Illness (face-to-face and asynchronous)

Non-writing and Writing Intensive

The Experience of Mental Health in North Carolina

Teaching Assistant

Quantitative Analysis

Mental Health and Sociology

University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Gerontology Program

Assistant Teaching Professor

Dying, Death, and Bereavement

Elders in the Criminal Justice System (graduate and undergraduate, asynchronous)

The Experience of Loneliness Among Older Adults

(graduate and undergraduate, face-to-face and asynchronous)

University of North Carolina- Wilmington, Department of Sociology and Criminology

Introduction to Sociology

Medical Sociology (asynchronous)

Criminological Theory (asynchronous)

Writing Intensive

Sociology of Mental Health

Sociology of Religion

Central Piedmont Community College

Instructor

Introduction to Sociology (in class and online, synchronous and asynchronous)

Taught in Summerbridge Scholarship Program
Sociology of the Family
Winthrop University, Department of Sociology
Instructor
Criminology
Crime and Deviance (online, asynchronous)
Sociology of Law

Queens University
Lecturer, Department of Sociology
Crime and Deviance
Introduction to Sociology
Juvenile Delinquency
Lecturer, College of General Education
Trauma and Crisis in Queens Learning Communities with Biology and Drama
Loneliness in Queens Learning Communities with Literature
York Tech Technical College, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Instructor
Introduction to Sociology (online and dual enrollment only at York Comprehensive High School)
Clark Atlanta University, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice
Mellon Teaching Fellow
Research Methods
Mental Health and Well-Being
Emory University, Department of Sociology
Instructor
Mental Health and Well-Being
Teaching Assistant
Sociology of Law
Social Research
Juvenile Delinquency
Well-Being and Happiness
Sociology of the Family

AWARDS, GRANTS, & FELLOWSHIPS

2024-2025 NEXUS: Networking Across Disciplines Recipient
2024 Phi Kappa Phi Induction (Nominated as Distinguished Faculty)
2023-current Appointed UNCC Honors College Faculty
2023 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Theme Guide for General Education (Teaching Fellow)
2023-current Sigma Phi Omega International Gerontology Honors Society
2023 Chair, Phi Beta Kappa Committee on Alumni/ae and Honorary Members
2023 Quality Matters Certification earned for Deviant Behavior (SOCY 4172)
2023 Quality Matters Certification earned for Sociology of Health and Illness (SOCY 2169)

- 2023 Interactivity Foundation, Collaboration Discussion Project Training, Cultural Responsiveness to the Collaboration Discussion Coaching Certification Cohort
- 2022 Quality Matters Certification earned for Social Problems (SOCY 2171)
- 2022 General Education Faculty Development Participant
- 2022 Interactivity Foundation grant to host IF Collaboration Coaching Certification through the UNCC Center for Teaching and Learning
- 2021 Atkins Faculty Engagement Award Finalist (UNC- Charlotte)
- 2022 Senior Survey Nominee “Instructor Making a Significant, Positive Contribution (UNC-Charlotte)
- 2021 Interactivity Foundation grant recipient for Collaborative Learning
- 2021 Senior Survey Nominee “Instructor Making a Significant, Positive Contribution (UNC-Charlotte)
- 2020 Selected as Course Design Institute Participant (Queens University)
- 2020 Senior Survey Nominee “Instructor Making a Significant, Positive Contribution (UNC-Charlotte)
- 2019 Nomination SGA Faculty Member of the Year (UNC-Charlotte)
- 2019 Senior Survey Nominee “Instructor Making a Significant, Positive Contribution (UNC-Charlotte)
- 2019 Selected as CxC W/O Academy Participant (UNC-Charlotte)
- 2018 Selected as Adjunct Learning Community Participant (UNC-Charlotte)
- 2018 Quality Matters Training (UNC-Charlotte)
- 2016-2017 Andrew F. Mellon Graduate Teaching Fellowship (through Emory University at Clark Atlanta University)
- 2013-2015 Path Less Taken Grant Research Assistant (University of Delaware)
- 2012 Well-Being Scale Development for the Centers of Disease Control (CDC)
- 2011 Health Services Research Academy, Best Master’s Level Paper
“HIV and Co-Occurring Substance Use: Social Stressor Theory in an HIV Population” (UNC-Charlotte)
- 2001 Sigma Xi Undergraduate Symposium Finalist for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, “Out of the Kitchen: Attitudes Toward Women in the Workplace” (North Carolina State University)
- 2001 Phi Beta Kappa Society inductee
- 2001 Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honors Society inductee
- 2001 Golden Key National Honors Society inductee
- 2001 Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society inductee

SERVICE

- 2024 Honors College Alumni Scholarship Award Review Committee
- 2024 URC Committee Member
- 2024 Mentor to Sarah Tesar for Southern Gerontology Society Conference in which she won the SGS Student Paper Award and SPO Student Paper Award (Social Work and Gerontology)
- 2024 Mentor for Sarah Tesar, Carter Fleming, and Sophia Alizedah for the UNCC Undergraduate Research Conference
- 2024 Honors College Advising Committee for Carter Fleming for Honors Project

2024 Art in Mind Fundraiser Volunteer for Mental Health America
 2023-current Mental Health America Storyteller
 2023-current Fund Development Committee for Mental Health America
 2023-current Sigma Phi Omega International Honors Society Co-Advisor
 2023-current Gerontology Club Co-Advisor
 2023 Honors College Advising Committee for Alexa Kane and Julie Hwang for Honors Project
 2023 Mentor to Gabbie Ruiz for URC Conference who won Social Science Presentation Award (Sociology)
 2023 Core of Excellence Committee Leading Student Community Group
 2022 Hosted workshop at UNC-Charlotte CTL (Center for Teaching and Learning) Humanizing Your Online Course: 30 Practical Tips for Connecting with Your Online Students (April)
 2022 Hosted three workshops at UNC-Charlotte CTL “Introducing the IF Collaboration Toolkit” in conjunction with the Interactivity Foundation (January and April)
 2022-2023 Gerontology Executive Committee, Undergraduate Program
 2022-2023 Undergraduate Committee Member, Department of Sociology
 2020-2022 Online Faculty Mentor Sociology Department at UNCC
 2020-2021 CLASS Part-Time Representative Alternate at UNCC
 2020 Faculty Fellows Interview Committee for Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTLE) at Central Piedmont Community College (CPC)
 2020-2022 Advisory Board for CTLE at CPC
 2020-2022 Sage Publications Faculty Advocate Program (Founding Faculty Member)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAININGS

2024 Trainer and Lead Webinars on Suicide Prevention through Mental Health America
 2024 Red Cross First Aid for Opioid Overdose
 2023 Self-Paced: Starting with a Fresh Canvas
 2023 Self-Paced: Canvas Assignments and Gradebook
 2023 Self-Paced: Canvas Studio Training Resources
 2023 Self-Paced: Online Teaching Foundations
 2023 Self-Paced: Teaching with Zoom
 2023 Self-Paced: Online Video Foundations
 2023 Self-Paced: Universal Design for Learners
 2023 Self-Paced: Accessibility 101: Creating Accessible Courses
 2023 Getting Started with Chat GPT
 2022 APPQMR Quality Matters Workshop
 2023 QPR Training to be a Trainer through Mental Health America
 2023 Mental Health First Aid Youth Focus through Mental Health America

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Self-Care for Older Adults and Caregivers Experiencing Loneliness”
 Southern Gerontological Association, April 2024, Greenville, SC

- “Considerations in Teaching the Experience of Loneliness Among Older Adults”
Southern Gerontological Association, April 2023, Norfolk, VA
- “Best Practices for Teaching Dying, Death, and Bereavement during the COVID Pandemic”
Southern Gerontological Association, April 2023, Norfolk, VA
- “Considerations in Teaching the Experience of Loneliness Among Older Adults”
NC Association on Aging, March 2023, Charlotte, NC
- “A Community Based Approach to A Placed Called Home”
Global Alliance's for Behavioral Health and Social Justice Coming Together for
Action Conference, October 2020, Virtual Conference
- “Mediating Structures: The Case for Faith-Based Day Programs for the Chronically Mentally Ill”
Southern Sociological Society, April 2019, Atlanta, GA
- “Religion, Coping, and Meaning”
Southern Sociological Society, April 2016, Atlanta, GA
- “Engagement in Life through Religion and Social Relationships”
Gerontological Society of America, November 2013, New Orleans, LA
- “Qualitative Methods and Vulnerable Populations”
Southern Sociological Society, April 2013, Atlanta, GA
- “Social Networks, Mental Health, and the Aging”
Sunbelt Conference, March 2012, Redondo Beach, CA
Southern Sociological Society, March 2012, New Orleans, LA
- “Collecting Informal Data”
Georgia Sociological Association, October 2011, Savannah, GA
- “Social Networks and Mental Health”
Georgia Sociological Association, October 2011, Savannah, GA
- “HIV and Co-Occurring Substance Use: Social Stressor Theory in an HIV Population”
Southern Sociological Society, April 2011, Jacksonville, FL
University of North Carolina-Charlotte Colloquia, April 2011, Charlotte, NC
- “Understanding How Innovations Become Institutionalized: The Case of Interdisciplinary
PhD Programs”
Southern Sociological Society, April 2011, Jacksonville, FL
University of North Carolina-Charlotte Colloquia, April 2011, Charlotte, NC
Georgia Sociological Association, October 2011, Savannah, GA
- “Out of the Kitchen: Attitudes Toward Women in the Workplace”,

Southern Sociological Society, April 2010, Atlanta, GA
University of North Carolina- Charlotte Colloquia, April 2010, Charlotte, NC

INVITED TALKS

"Why is Gen Z so Lonely? Identifying Social Causes and Proposing Solutions to Address Loneliness Among Gen Z." Partnerships for Innovations In Education (PIE) Symposium (Georgia), June 2024.

"The Hero's Journey: Becoming the Heros in Our Own Stories." Mental Health Mondays at the Independent Picture House funded by Promise Resource Network, May 2024.

"Mental Illness Across Genres: How Hollywood Talks About Mental Illness." Mental Health Mondays at the Independent Picture House funded by Promise Resource Network, May 2024.

"Loneliness: What Got Us Here and What Do We Do About It?" Southern Gerontology Society, February 2024

"Considerations for Mental Health and Trauma in Community Work Focusing on Children." Junior League of Charlotte, June 2023

"The Current Public Health Crisis of Loneliness." University of North Carolina-Charlotte, June 2023

"Aging Un-Lonely: Staying Socially Connected for Your Health." North Carolina Retired Governmental Employees' Association in conjunction with AARP and the NC Department of Health and Human Services, June 2023

"Combating Isolation through Social and Educational Activities." Carolina Foundation for Jewish Seniors Annual Summit, April 2023

"Let's Talk About Mental Health." Junior League of Charlotte Management Team Retreat, April 2023

"How SAGE Vantage can Help with Your QM Online Course Certifications." Sage Publications, April 2023

"Collaboration Discussion Toolkit by the Interactivity Foundation" workshops held at UNCC in January, February and April 2022.

"Humanizing your Online Course: Practical Steps to Connecting with your Online Students Throughout the Semester." Center for Teaching and Learning, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, April 2022

“Learning How to Learn” MAN UP Sessions, Central Piedmont Community College,
August 2021

"Effective Strategies for Designing Writing Intensive Courses: Increasing Engagement and
Improving Writing Skills," Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina-
Charlotte, October 2020

“Faith Communities, Older Adults, and COVID-19,” with Cynthia Hancock, PhD to the United
Methodist Church of NC, June 2020

“Community Based Participatory Research,” Queens University, June 2020

“Managing Isolation During COVID 19,” Whole30 Food Freedom Group, April 2020

“Effective Strategies for Designing Writing Intensive Courses: Increasing Engagement and
Improving Writing Skills,” University of North Carolina- Charlotte, April 2020

“The Social Relationships of Chronically Mentally Ill Adults in a Faith-Based Day Program,”
Emory University, November 2014

“Field Research Methods,” Emory University, March 2013

“Juvenile Delinquency and Mental Health,” Emory University, March 2013

“How the DSM-III Shaped Our Ideas About Mental Health,” University of North Carolina-
Charlotte, May 2011

“The Effect of Perceived Social Support on Help Seeking Behavior,” University of North
Carolina- Charlotte, July 2011

“Goffman and Popular Culture,” University of North Carolina Charlotte, July 2010

NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Smith, S. Megan. 2024. Aging Un-Lonely. *North Carolina Retired Governmental Employee's
Association.*

ELECTED and APPOINTED POSITIONS

Academic: Undergraduate Coordinator Gerontology Program, 2022-2024
Phi Beta Kappa, Chair on Committee on Alumni/ae and Honorary Members
General Education Theme Guide for CLAS, 2022-2023
Online Faculty Mentor, UNC-Charlotte, Sociology Department, 2020-2022
Secretary, Student Coalition of Graduate Students, Sociology Department,
2013-2014
Parliamentarian, Graduate Student Government Association, Emory University,

2012

Student Government Legislator, Governance Committee member, Graduate Student Government Association, Emory University, 2011-2012
President, Alpha Kappa Delta, Eta chapter, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, 2010-2011

Community: Charlotte Emory Alumni Board Member, Philanthropic Service Committee Leader
Charlotte Emory Alumni Board Member, Co-President, 2024-2025
Junior League of Charlotte, President-Elect, 2023
Little Black Dress Initiative highest individual Fundraiser, 2023
Presidential Appointed Task Force Co-Chair, 100th Anniversary, 2022-2023
Presidential Appointed Task Force Committee Member, Service Together Task Force, 2022-2023
Sustainer Council Member, Co-Chair Community Events, 2022
Sustainer Council Member, Co-Chair Reid Park Service Project, 2021-2023 (raised over \$12,000)
Sustainer Mentor, 2021-2022
Foundation Board Member, 2009-2010
Investments Chair, 2009-2010
Finance Committee, 2008-2010
Provisional Advisor, 2007-2008
Junior League of Atlanta, Transfer Chair, 2014-2016
Historian, 2013-2014
Community Agency Director, 2012-2013
Junior League of Raleigh, Outstanding First Year (Provisional), 2002-2003

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Southern Sociological Association
Southern Gerontology Association
Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society
Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society
Sigma Phi Omega International Honors Society

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Habitat for Humanity (2009-2010), Volunteer in Development Office, Charlotte, NC

- Reviewed all previous grants awarded to chapter. Created a “Foundations” database to determine potential funding sources. Worked with staff to promote marketing for fundraising efforts of the “Young Professionals” group.

Fifth Third Bancorp (2008-2009), Commercial Banker, Charlotte, NC

- Recruited to participate in the new Business Banking unit and develop and put into practice marketing plans to increase existing book of business of \$7 million

Wachovia Bank, N.A. (2006-2008), Small Business Banker, Charlotte, NC

- Successfully managed Small Business banking portfolio by accurately assessing customer's needs. Established and strengthened relationships with financial center employees to receive referrals and create loyal customer base. Supervised portfolio of 100+ customers with annual sales \$5 million and under.

Wachovia Bank, N.A., (2005-2006), Financial Sales Leader, Austin, NC

- Hired as first Financial Specialist Sales Manager in the Austin, TX market. Coordinated 14 financial center openings with construction, sales, and management teams in DeNovo (markets with no pre-existing brand recognition) locations. Managed over 65 financial center employees.

Wachovia Bank, N.A. (2002-2005), Financial Specialist, Wilmington, NC

- Consistently succeeded in accomplishing and surpassing sales goals while establishing business relationships with existing and acquired customer base both in a financial center and surrounding community market.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING

Emory Charlotte Alumni Network (2023-current)

Junior League of Charlotte (2006-2011, 2017-2018, 2021-2023)

Volunteer, Diaper Bank of NC (2024)

Volunteer, Mental Health America (2023-current)

Volunteer, Classroom Central (2022-current)

Volunteer, Red Cross (2020-current)

Junior League of Atlanta (2011-2017)

Volunteer, The Friendship Center Day Program (2012-2017)

Mentor, Decatur High School Senior Community Service Project (2012-2013)