

Matthew W. Mendoza

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Current Appointment

2025–present. Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, Columbia University.

Education

Ph.D. Sociology, University of Massachusetts Amherst. February 2025.

Dissertation: Changing organizational populations and U.S. worker wages: Corporate demography, bargaining power, and segregation

Committee: Donald Tomaskovic-Devey (chair), Laurel Smith-Doerr, Jasmine Kerrissey (members), Wenting Ma (outside member)

A.B. *summa cum laude*. Independent Scholar, Amherst College. 2010.

Honors thesis: “The Educator Must Himself Be Educated: Learning to Teach and the Limits of ‘Socialization’ ”

Research Interests

Political Economy; Inequality; Work and Organizations; Race, Class, and Gender

Teaching Interests

Inequality and Stratification; Statistics; Race, Class, and Gender; Social Welfare; Social Theory

Peer-reviewed Publications

King, Joseph, **Matthew Mendoza**, Andrew Penner, Anthony Rainey, and Donald Tomaskovic-Devey. 2023. “Estimating Firm-, Occupation-, and Job-Level Gender Pay Gaps with U.S. Linked Employer-Employee Population Data, 2005 to 2015.” *Socius* 9:1-9. [[Webpage](#) | [PDF](#) | [Generic code](#)]

Submitted

Matthew Mendoza, Donald Tomaskovic-Devey, and Martin Hällsten. Title masked until peer review is complete. Revise and resubmit from *Social Forces*.

In preparation

Journal article on the effect of new firm entry on US earnings inequality over time. Sole author.

Journal articles comparing the structures of within- and between-workplace income inequality in four countries. Secondary author.

Annual Review of Sociology article on organizational inequality. Secondary author.

Dissertation chapter on US ethnoracial segregation and earnings inequality. Sole author.

Dissertation chapters on corporate demographic changes and US worker earnings. Sole author.

Past Positions

Research Assistant

Prof. Donald Tomaskovic-Devey (PI) and co-investigators. “Workplace Earnings Polarization: A Four-Country Panel Analysis”, National Science Foundation award No. 1852756. September 2019 – May 2023.

Prof. Donald Tomaskovic-Devey, four country workplace wage polarization project (grant submission stage). February 2019 – April 2019.

Prof. Sanjiv Gupta, comparative welfare state project on public and military expenditures (grant preparation stage). May 2018 – January 2018.

Teaching Assistant

Sociology 712, “Graduate Statistics for Social Science II” (lab instructor and grader, Spring 2019)

Sociology 711, “Graduate Statistics for Social Science I” (lab instructor and grader, Fall 2018)

Sociology 106, “Race, Class, Gender, and Ethnicity” (grader, Spring 2018)

Sociology 221, “Elementary Statistics for Social Science” (lab instructor and grader, Fall 2017, Fall 2022)

Sociology 107, “Contemporary US Society” (discussion section leader, Spring 2016, Spring 2017)

Sociology 110, “Introduction to Sociology” (grader, Fall 2016)

Sociology 105, “Self, Society, and Interpersonal Relations” (grader, Fall 2015)

Grants, fellowships, and awards

Competitive

2018. Graduate Student Service Award, Sociology Graduate Student Association

2015. Diversity Fellowship, University of Massachusetts Amherst Graduate School

2010. Fulbright Fellowship, United States Department of State

2010. Donald Pitkin Prize, Amherst College Department of Anthropology and Sociology
For best senior honors thesis.

2008 and 2009. Summer Research Funding, Amherst College Dean of the Faculty

2008. Pioneer Valley Summer Program, Amherst College Center for Community Engagement

2006. Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Fellowship

Non-competitive

2024. Dissertation Funding, University of Massachusetts Amherst Department of Sociology

2017. Comprehensive Examination Development, University of Massachusetts Amherst Department of Sociology

2016. Summer Research Assistantship, University of Massachusetts Amherst Department of Sociology. With Prof. James Kitts.

Service

Internal

Graduate student representative, Graduate Program Committee, 2018-2019

Treasurer; Social Co-Chair, Sociology Graduate Student Association, 2018-2019

Executive Co-Chair, Sociology Graduate Student Association, 2017-2018

Project Assistant for Graduate Program Director for admitted student recruitment, January - March 2017

Graduate student representative, Undergraduate Program Committee, 2016-2017

Co-Organizer (with four other graduate students and three faculty) of the inaugural Interdisciplinary Ethnography Conference (Michael Burawoy, keynote), UMass Amherst, November 4-5, 2016

Graduate student representative, Committee on Intellectual Activities, 2015-2016

External

Roundtables co-organizer, Organizations, Occupations, and Work section, 2026 ASA Annual Meeting

Reviewer

American Sociological Review, Gender & Society, Social Forces, Socio-Economic Review, Socius

Presentations

“Between-firm racial segregation and between-race earnings inequality in the US, 1997-2022” American Sociological Society Annual Meeting regular session on Gender and Race Inequality in Organizations, Chicago, August 2025.

“The corporate demography of outside options: Firm population density and worker earnings in the US, 2000-18” Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification and Mobility (RC28) Summer Meeting, UCLA, August 2025.

“New to the field: Environmental correlates of earnings in startups.” Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification and Mobility (RC28) Summer Meeting, Ann Arbor, May 2023.

“Structures of Between Workplace Earnings Inequality: A Four Country Comparison.” Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification and Mobility (RC28) Spring Meeting, Paris, France, May 2023.

“Just born and feeling the (field’s) pressure: Earnings variation among new firm workers and inequality relative to old firm workers in the U.S., 1993-2018.” Longitudinal Research on Income Inequality Conference, Haifa, Israel, March 2023.

“Are There Within Job Gender Pay Gaps? An Analysis of Linked Employer-Employee IRS Data” American Sociological Society Annual Meeting regular session on Gender and Work, Los Angeles, August 2022.

“The earnings liability of newness and US pay inequality, 1993-2018” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Boston, March 2022.

“Organizational characteristics increasing female bargaining power– or inducing gendered backlash? The case of Swedish earnings, 2000-2010” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, February 2020.

“Organizational characteristics and the gender wage gap in Sweden, 2000-2010” Comparative Organizational Inequality Network, Groningen, Netherlands, June 2019.

“That’s What this Receivership Is All About’: Organizational Change after the Suspension of Local Control” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, February 2017. UMass Amherst Interdisciplinary Ethnography Conference, November 2016.

“A Sentimental Education(alist): Using the Effects of Affect during Fieldwork.” Five College Undergraduate Anthropology Conference, April 2010.

“The Training of Teachers as Test-Case for Subjective Change Theorized through Habitus.” Five College Undergraduate Anthropology Conference, April 2009.

“Methanogenesis in the Fort Union Formation, Powder River Basin, WY.” Under Trevor Calamel and Anna Martini. Geological Society of America, Northeastern Section, March 2007.

Selected Professional Experience

Statistical and survey consultant. C Space, Boston, MA. Summer 2019.

Research Analyst, Boston Private Industry Council (Boston’s Workforce Development Board). 2013-2015.

Data Analyst, Boston Private Industry Council (through Americorps VISTA program). 2011-2013.

Fulbright English teaching fellow, IES Laguna de Joatzel, Getafe, Spain. 2010-2011.

Technology paraprofessional, Amherst Regional Middle School, Amherst, MA. 2008-2009.

Memberships

American Sociological Association. 2015 – present

Eastern Sociological Society. 2016 – present

Languages

English and Spanish

References (further upon request)

Donald Tomaskovic-Devey
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Last updated: September 16, 2025