

Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins (He/him)
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
901 S. National Ave
Strong Hall 471
Springfield, MO 65897
E-mail: KShermanWilkins@MissouriState.edu

EDUCATION

- 2017 Ph.D., Sociology and Demography and Graduate Certificate in Quantitative Methods, The Pennsylvania State University
- 2015 M.A., Sociology and Demography, The Pennsylvania State University
- 2011 B.S., Human Development and Family Studies, Minor in Gerontology, Cornell University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023-Present Associate Professor of Sociology, Missouri State University
- 2021-Present Director, Health Equity Research Collective (HERC), Missouri State University
- 2017-Present Faculty Affiliate, Gerontology Program, Missouri State University
- 2017-2023 Assistant Professor of Sociology, Missouri State University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Aging and the Life Course
- Racial Disparities in Health and Aging
- Social Integration and Health
- Quant Crit
- Intersectionality
- Cognitive Aging and Dementia

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 Farmer, Heather R., Amy D. Thierry, Marina Armendariz, **Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins**, and Roland Thorpe. "Exploring How Neighborhood Characteristics and Psychosocial Resilience Influence Cognitive Functioning among Older Black Adults." *Ethnicity & Health*
- 2024 Adkins-Jackson, Paris B....**Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, et al. "Hang Ups, Let Downs, Bad Breaks, and Setbacks:': Impact of Structural Socioeconomic Racism and Resilience on Cognitive Change over Time for Persons Racialized as Black." *Health Equity* 8(1):254-268.
- 2021 Thierry, Amy D., **Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins**, Marina Armendariz, Allison Sullivan and Heather R. Farmer. "Perceived Neighborhood Characteristics and Cognitive Functioning among Diverse Older Adults: An Intersectional Approach." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 18:1-14 doi: 10.3390/ijerph18052661.

- 2019 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.** and Amy Thierry. “Education as the Great Equalizer?: Racial and Ethnic Differences in Returns of Education on Cognitive Functioning in Later Life.” *Geriatrics* 4(51):1-13.
- 2018 Alwin, Duane F., Jason R. Thomas, and **Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins**. “Race, Social Relations and the Life Course.” in *Social Networks and the Life Course*, edited by D. Alwin, D. Felmler, and D. Kreager. New York, NY: Springer.
- 2014 Pudrovska, Tetyana, Eric Reither, *Ellis Logan, and ***Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins**. “Gender and Reinforcing Associations between Socioeconomic Disadvantage and Body Mass over the Life Course.” *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 55(3):283-301.
*Denotes equal contribution

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

**Indicates undergraduate student co-author*

- 2023 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, and Mackenzie Whitaker. 2023. “To Address the Black-White Health Gap in Missouri, Attention Must Be Paid to the Social Determinants of Health.” Issue Brief, Ozarks Public Health Institute.
- 2020 Perkins, Austin J.,* and **Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins**. 2020. “Gender Differences in the Effects of Education and Income on Episodic Memory among Older Adults: Results from the Health and Retirement Study.” *LOGOS: A Journal of Undergraduate Research* 13:97-113.
- 2018 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, and Christina L. Ryder. Report for *Give 5 Program*, United Way of the Ozarks.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

**Indicates undergraduate student co-author*

- Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, and Catherine H. Hoegeman. “Statistics & Social Justice: Challenges and Opportunities in Incorporating QuantCrit Perspectives into Intro Statistics Courses.”
- Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.** “Addressing the Sociology to Policy Gap Through a Policy Brief Writing Assignment.”
- Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, Bruno Miranda Guerra,* Sophia Sampson. “Adverse Childhood Experiences, Perception of Cognitive Impairment, and Risk of Stroke: An Intersectional Life Course Approach.”

SELECT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**indicates undergraduate student co-author*

- 2024 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, Cody McGee,* Bruno Miranda Guerra,* Sophia Sampson.* “Adverse Childhood Experiences, Perception of Cognitive Impairment, and Risk of Stroke: An Intersectional Life Course Approach.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Des Moines, IA.

- 2023 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, Mark Meads,* Jackson Bassford,* Jarrett Brattin,* and Mackenzie Whitaker.* “Religiosity, Mastery, and Memory Declines among Older Adults: Results from the Health and Retirement Study.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2023 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, Kayla L. Curry,* Sophie Arnold,* and Dominique Lowe.* “Sleep Inequities among U.S. Women at the Intersection of Race/Ethnicity, Class, Parenting and Marital Status.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2022 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, Sophie Arnold,* Kayla Curry,* and Mark Meads.* “Daily Social Contact and Self-Rated Health among Older Adults: Does Race/Ethnicity and Gender Matter?: Results from a National Time Diary Study.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Chicago, IL.
- 2022 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, Jackson Bassford,* Jarrett Brattin,* and Austin Gomez.* “Disparities in Time for Exercise & Sport among College Students at the Intersection of Race & Gender: Results from a National Time Diary Study.” Paper presented at annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Chicago, IL.
- 2021 Thierry, Amy D., **Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins**, Marina Armendariz, and Heather Farmer. “Perceived Neighborhood Characteristics and Cognitive Functioning in Diverse Older Adults: An Intersectional Approach.” Paper presented at annual meeting of the Population Association of America, Virtual 2021.
- 2021 Thierry, Amy D., Heather R. Farmer, Marina Armendariz, and **Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins**. “Neighborhood Characteristics and Cognitive Functioning in Diverse Older U.S. Adults: The Moderating Effect of C-Reactive Protein.” Paper presented at annual meeting of the Society for Behavioral Medicine, Virtual 2021.
- 2021 Templer Rodrigues, Abby, and **Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins**. “Parenting and Artistic Career Pathways: A Life Course Approach to Tracing the Influence of Gender, Class, Relationship Status, and Age on the Career Paths of Parents in the Arts.” Paper presented at annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Virtual 2021.
- 2020 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.**, Matthew Cline,* Courtney Cooper,* and Ericka Youngquist.* “Religious Involvement and Risk of Cognitive Impairment among Older Adults: Variations across Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Cohort.” Paper accepted but not presented at annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society in Omaha, NE, 2020 (meeting canceled due to COVID-19).
- 2020 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.** “Social Integration and Cognitive Functioning among Community Dwelling Older Adults: A Latent Class Analysis.” Paper accepted but not presented at annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society in Omaha, NE 2020, 2020 (meeting canceled due to COVID-19).

- 2019 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.** and Erica M. Houston.* “Depressive Symptom Trajectories across Race and Gender: Patterns and Explanations.” Paper presented at annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society in Chicago, IL, April 2019.
- 2019 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.** and Austin J. Perkins.* “Early Life Adversity and Later Life Cognitive Functioning: Do Race and Gender Matter?” Paper presented at annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society in Chicago, IL in April 2019.
- 2019 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.** and Amy D. Thierry. “Education as the Great Equalizer?: Racial and Ethnic Differences in Returns of Education on Cognitive Functioning in Later Life.” Poster presented at annual meeting of the Population Association of America in Austin, TX in April, 2019.
- 2017 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.** “Mind the Gap: An Analysis of Early Life Adversity and Race Disparities in Cognitive Aging in the U.S. Context.” Paper presented at International Union for the Scientific Study of Population’s International Population Conference, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2017 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.** “Testing Life Course Patterns of Inequality in Cognitive Aging among Older Adults: An Integrated Person-Centered and Variable-Centered Approach.” Paper presented at International Union for the Scientific Study of Population’s International Population Conference, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2015 **Sherman-Wilkins, Kyler J.** “The Effect of Work and Parental Role Occupancy and Role Performance on Exercise Participation among U.S. Adults.” Paper presented at annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Chicago, IL.
- 2015 Bleser, William K., **Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins**, and Yunfeng Shi. “Determinants of Influenza Vaccination Disparities: An Intersectionality Approach.” Paper presented at annual meeting of the Population Association of America, San Diego, CA.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND COMPETITIVE TRAINING PROGRAMS

- 2024 Missouri Foundation for Health Research Grant, “Community-Driven Disruption to Save Lives.” **Role: Consultant**, with Francine Pratt (PI) (\$612,000).
- 2023 Missouri Foundation for Health Research Grant, “Exploring and Examining Firearm Violence in Missouri.” **Role: Consultant**, with Dr. Erin Kelly (PI) (\$199,987).
- 2021 Prener, Christopher, Michael Esposito, Sarah Gebauer, Keon L. Gilbert, **Kyler J. Sherman-Wilkins**, and Jane Tucker. “Evaluating the Connections Between Historic Racism and Contemporary Health Care Utilization.” National Institutes of Health (approximately \$1,200,000)- Not Funded.
- 2021 Mellon Foundation Emerging Faculty Leaders Award, Institute for Citizens & Scholars (\$17,500).

- 2020 Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning's Curriculum Innovation Grant, "Incorporating Anti-Racism into Undergraduate Methods and Statistics Courses in the Social Sciences." Missouri State University; **Role:** Principal Investigator, with Dr. Catherine Hoegeman (Co-PI) (\$3,750).
- 2020 National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (3U54MD007695-12S1) "Examining Associations between Neighborhood Conditions, C-Reactive Protein, and Psychosocial Resiliency Factors in Cognitive Impairment among Diverse US Older Adults." **Role: Consultant**, with Dr. Amy D. Thierry (PI) (\$250,000).
- 2019 National Institute on Aging's Butler-Williams Program, National Institutes of Health.
- 2019 Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center Research Internship
- 2018 Forming Science-Industry Collaborations Training Program, Stanford University
- 2016 U.S. Policy Communication Training Fellow, PRB, Washington, D.C.
- 2016 RAND Summer Institute's Mini-Medical School for Social Scientists, San Diego, CA.
- 2016 RAND Summer Institute's Demography, Economics, Psychology, and Epidemiology of Aging Workshop, San Diego, CA.
- 2013-2015 *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* NICHD Pre-Doctoral Traineeship (T-32HD007514), Population Research Institute, Penn State (\$44,508).
- 2013 Trainee, Fenway Center for Population Research in LGBT Health, MA
- 2012-2013 Bunton Waller Graduate Fellowship, Penn State (\$22,425 plus cost of tuition)
- 2007-2011 James Family Foundation Full Tuition Scholarship, Cornell University (\$260,000).

HONORS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATES

- 2023 Foundation Award for Excellence in Service, Missouri State University
- 2022 W.E.B DuBois Education Award, NAACP-Springfield MO Chapter
- 2021 Foundation Award for Excellence in Teaching, Missouri State University
- 2021 Curtis P. Lawrence Award for Excellence in Advising, Missouri State University
- 2019 Division of Student Affairs' Bridge Builder Award, Missouri State University
- 2018 Master Advisor Certificate, Missouri State University
- 2017 International Travel Award, Missouri State University
- 2017 Diversity Scholar Award, Missouri State University
- 2016 National Academy of Sciences' Ford Dissertation Fellowship (Honorable Mention)
- 2016 Certificate in Quantitative Methodology, Penn State
- 2015 Graduate Student Paper Award, Society for the Study of Social Problems (\$250)

TEACHING INTERESTS

Sociology of Aging; Social Demography; Social Inequality in Health and Aging; Research Methods; Statistics for Social Science Research; Survey Research

COURSES TAUGHT

GEP 101: First-Year Foundations	SOC 397: Social Inequality in Health and Aging
SOC 150: Introduction to Society	SOC 450: Population, Society, and Public Policy
SOC 301: Research Methodology	SOC 480: Health Inequities Across the Life Course
SOC 220: Statistics for Social Research	
SOC 375: Social Forces and Aging	

INVITED TALKS, LECTURES, AND PANELS

2023	“Health Disparities Panel.” Panel Organized by the Planning Committee for Missouri State University’s Collaborative Diversity Conference.
2023	“Facts and Faux-Pas: Understanding the Dos and Do Nots of Communicating Scientific Research to Policymakers.”
2022	“Early Career Research Panel.” Panel Organized by the Planning Committee for the Alzheimer’s Association’s Addressing Health Disparities Conference.
2022	“Data and Democracy in the Age of Disinformation.” Panel organized by PRB at the Population Association of America’s annual meeting.
2022	“Measurement Matters: Challenges and Opportunities for Eliminating Health Disparities.” Invited talk for the Ozarks Public Health Institute’s Health Disparities Summit.
2022	“Is Education the Great Equalizer?: Examining Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Returns of Education on Adult Health.” Invited talk for the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Center for Demography of Health and Aging.
2021	“Critical Race Theory: What is It?” Panel organized by Drury University’s Humanities & Ethic Center and the Department of Behavioral Sciences.
2021	“Racism as a Public Health Crisis.” Guest lecture for AAS 100: Introduction to African American Studies, Missouri State University.
2021	“Numbers are not Neutral: How Journalists Can Detect Deep Bias & Avoid Hidden Traps.” Panel organized by the National Association of Science Writers.
2021	“Critical Race Theory- What is it? Why is Everyone Talking About it?” Presented to the Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association.
2020	“Dissecting Discrimination: A Panel Discussion.” Panel organized by MSU Association of Black Collegians, MSU NAACP, and others.
2020	“Critical Conversations- After the Elections.” Presenter and moderator for event organized by Missouri State University’s Student Government Association.

- 2020 “Racism as a Public Health Crisis.” Presentation gave at The Emerging Church
- 2020 “Incorporating Anti-racism into Advising Practice.” Presentation given at October Academic Advising Forum, Missouri State University
- 2019 “Black-White Disparities in Physical and Mental Health.” Guest lecture for AAS 100: Introduction to African American Studies, Missouri State University
- 2018 Keynote Address delivered to Multicultural Services Fall Graduation Ceremony, Missouri State University
- 2018 “Advising Students of Color: Challenges and Opportunities.” Presentation given at October Academic Advisor Forum, Missouri State University
- 2018 “Building a University Community in a Divided Nation.” Presentation given at Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning’s Diversity Lunch and Learn, Missouri State.

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

- 2024-Present Faculty Advisor, NAACP-Missouri State Chapter
- 2024-Present Faculty Advisor, Alpha Kappa Delta, International Honor Society of Sociology
- 2023-Present Certificate Coordinator, Social Science Research Certificate
- 2023-Present Course Coordinator, Introduction to Society
- 2021-Present Pre-Medical Committee, Missouri State University
- 2017-Present Member, Sociology Programming Committee, Missouri State
- 2022-2023 Member, Provost’s Diversity Council
- 2017-2023 Chair, College of Humanities and Public Affairs Diversity Council, Missouri State
- 2021-2022 Member, Provost’s Academic Advising Council, Missouri State
- 2020-2021 Faculty Senator for Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Missouri State
- 2018-2021 Member, Black History Month Planning Committee, Missouri State
- 2018-2021 Member, LGBTQ+ Heritage Month Planning Committee, Missouri State
- 2017-2021 Member, Inclusive Excellence Scholarship Committee, Missouri State University
- 2019 Member, Subcommittee on High Ability Student Recruitment, Missouri State
- 2019 Member, Search Committee for Director of the Advising Center, Missouri State
- 2019 Member, Search Committee for Director of Multicultural Programs, Missouri State
- 2016-2017 Chief Media Officer and Spokesperson, Coalition of Graduate Employees, Penn State
- 2015-2017 Member, Sociology Teaching Forum, Penn State
- 2014-2017 Delegate, Graduate and Professional Student Association, Penn State
- 2012-2017 Member, Methods Workshop Committee (Co-Chair 2013-2017), Penn State

- 2012-2017 Member, Diversity Promotion Committee, Penn State
2013-2015 Member, Demography Graduate Student Advisory Council, Penn State
2012-2015 Member, Graduate Recruitment Committee (Chair, 2013), Penn State

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2023-Present Vice President, NAACP-Springfield Chapter
2023-Present Member, Health Equity Collaborative, Springfield-Greene County Health Department
2022-Present Board of Directors, Missouri Foundation for Health, St. Louis, MO
2021-Present Nomination Committee, Midwest Sociological Society
2019-2024 Board of Directors, PROMO, Missouri's Statewide LGBTQ+ Advocacy Organization
2023-2024 Secretary, Missouri Council on Aging
2020-2024 Board of Trustees, PRB, Washington, DC
2020-2023 Working Group Leader, Policy Communications Training Program, PRB
2022-2023 President of the Board, GLO Center
2022 Member, Springfield Public Schools Discipline Review Work Team
2019-2021 Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Population Association of America
2019-2021 Member, Government and Public Affairs Committee, Population Association of America
2018-2021 Congressional Lobbyist for PAA Advocacy Days, Population Association of America
2017 Discussant, LGBT Health Disparities, Population Association of America
2015 Discussant, LGBT Health Disparities, Population Association of America
2015 Session Organizer, LGBT Health Disparities, Section on Population, American Sociological Association

JOURNAL EDITORIAL AND REVIEW SERVICES

2023-Present Editorial Board, *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*

Ad-Hoc Journal Reviewer

The Gerontologist; Journal of Health and Social Behavior; Social Science & Medicine; BMC Public Health

METHODS AND PROGRAMMING SKILLS

Quantitative Methods: OLS and Categorical/Limited Response Variable Regression Models;
Imputation Methods for Missing Data; Survey Methodology; Growth Curve Analysis
Statistical Packages: STATA (proficient), SPSS (proficient), SAS (basic), R (basic)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education

American Sociological Association

Gerontological Society of America

Midwest Sociological Society

Population Society of America

REFERENCES

Mary S. Willis, PhD

Department Head and Professor of Anthropology
Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Gerontology
Missouri State University
MSWillis@MissouriState.edu
417-836-5641

Amy D. Thierry, PhD

Associate Dean of Graduate Programs
Associate Professor of Public Health
Department of Public Health Sciences
Xavier University of Louisiana
AThierry@xula.edu
504-520-7652

Abby Templer-Rodrigues, PhD

Associate Professor of Sociology
Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Gerontology
Missouri State University
ATemplerRodrigues@MissouriState.edu
417-836-6165

Heather R. Farmer, PhD

Assistant Professor of Human Development
Department of Human Development and Family Studies
University of Delaware
HFarmer@udel.edu
813-310-5846