

Curtis Smith Ph.D.

CONTACT

Department of Sociology
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EMPLOYMENT

2022-Present **Bentley University**
Assistant Professor

2018-2022 **Bentley University**
Lecturer

EDUCATION

2014-2018 **Utah State University**
Ph.D.

2011-2014 **University of Texas at El Paso**
Master of Arts in Sociology

2008-2009 **University of Texas at El Paso**
Texas Teaching Certificate

1997-2002 **Thomas More College, Crestview Hills, Kentucky**
Bachelor of Arts in Communications/Journalism

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Inequality; Social Policy; Poverty; Homelessness; Urban Sociology; Workforce; Social Movements; Demography; Migration; and Mental Health.

SOFTWARE SKILLS

SPSS, ArcGIS, STATA

I. SCHOLARSHIP

BOOK

2022. *Homelessness and Housing Advocacy: The Role of Red-Tape Warriors*. New York: Routledge.

EDITED BOOKS, SPECIAL ISSUE

2023. Forthcoming. Smith, Curtis ed. *Housing and Homelessness since COVID-19*. MDPI. Basel, Switzerland. Re-print of special issue of *Societies*. Peer reviewed.
https://www.mdpi.com/journal/societies/special_issues/homeless_covid

JOURNAL ARTICLES

2020. **Smith, Curtis**, Ernesto Castañeda “Sick enough? Mental illness and service eligibility for homeless individuals at the border. *Social Sciences*, 9(8), 145-166.
2019. **Smith, Curtis**, Ernesto Castañeda “Improving homeless point-in-time counts: Student engagement and the uncovering of the marginally housed.” *Social Currents*. 6(2), 91-104.
2018. **Smith, Curtis** and Leon Anderson. “Fitting stories: Outreach workers strategies for housing homeless clients” *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*. 47(5): 535-550
2016. Roark, Jenifer, **Curtis Smith**, Jessica Lucero, & David Parker. (2016) “Knowledge and attitudes of social service workers regarding fair housing” *Journal of Social Services Research*. 43: 223-235.
2014. Siordia, Carlos, **Curtis Smith** and Ernesto Castañeda. (2014) “A geographically-aware multilevel analysis on the association between atmospheric temperature and the ‘emergency and transitional shelter population” *Human Geographies--Journal of Studies & Research in Human Geography* 8(2): 5-16.
2014. Castañeda, Ernesto, Jonathan Klassen and **Curtis Smith**. (2014) “Disparities in Hispanic and non-Hispanic homeless populations in the El Paso, TX region.” *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences*. 36(4): 488-505.
Reprinted partially in Frankfort-Nachmias, Chava and Anna Leon-Guerrero. 2017. *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society*. SAGE. Thousand Oaks, CA. pp. 239-243.
2013. Mata, Holly, Flores, Maria, Castañeda, Ernesto, Medina-Jerez, William, Lachica, Josue, **Smith, Curtis**, & Olvera, Hector. (2013) “Health, hope, and human development: Building capacity in public housing communities on the US-Mexico border.” *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 24(4): 1432-1439.

2012. **Smith, Curtis**, Ernesto Castañeda and Josiah Heyman. (2012) “The homeless and occupy El Paso: Creating community among the 99%.” *Social Movement Studies*. 11(3) 356-366. Reprinted in Jenny Pickerill, John Krinsky, Graeme Hayes, Kevin Gillan, and Brian Doherty. 2014. *Occupy! A Global Movement*. Routledge: Oxford, UK.

BOOK CHAPTER

2019. **Curtis Smith** and Leon Anderson. Unearthing aggressive advocacy: Challenges and strategies in social service ethnography in *Inside ethnography: Researchers reflect on the challenges of researching hidden populations*. Edited by Boeri and Shukla. University of California Press.

MEDIA AND POLICY BRIEFS

2020. **Smith, Curtis** and Ernesto Castañeda. “How to support people who are experiencing homelessness.” *Scholar Strategy Network*. Harvard University: Cambridge, MA.

2020. **Smith, Curtis**, Carina Cione, Deziree Jackson, and Ernesto Castañeda. “Speaking about health disparities: A teachable moment about structural Racism” *Medium*. Retrieved from: <https://ernestoc.medium.com/speaking-about-health-disparities-a-teachable-moment-about-structural-racism-2774dc5f44b>

UNDER REVIEW

“Ethically Conducting Research with Vulnerable Populations: Methodological and Ethical Implications of Interviewing Refugees, Undocumented Immigrants, and People Experiencing Homelessness” *Journal of Applied Sociology*.

IN PROCESS

Smith, Curtis. “Referral management: Reaching agreements with landlords.”

Smith, Curtis, Ernesto Castañeda, Casey Chiappetta. “Homeless street justice: A community among liminal space.”

FUNDING

2020-October 2023. Project Member. “Improving Service Delivery for the Homeless with Analytics and Process Modeling - Community Engagement and Capacity Building.” National Science Foundation. Boston, Massachusetts. \$140,421.

Fall 2022. Bentley Research Council Grant “Measuring expertise of front-line workers: Increasing success through workers’ autonomy” \$4,000.

Summer 2022. Racial Equity Course Development Grant “Race and Racialization at the U.S.-Mexico Border” \$2,500.

Summer-Fall 2017. Departmental Dissertation Support, “Homeless outreach workers as street level bureaucrats” Utah State University (Advisor: Leon Anderson) \$13,000.

Fall 2015. Research Assistant, “Gendered immigration patterns in new destinations” Utah State University (PI: Erin Hofmann) \$3,600.

Summer 2015. Research Assistant, “Gendered immigration patterns in new destinations” Utah State University (PI: Erin Hofmann) \$6,000.

Summer 2014. Research Assistant, “Gendered immigration patterns in new destination states” Utah Agricultural Experiment Station (PI: Erin Hofmann) \$3,600.

Summer 2013. Research Assistant “UTEPs’ Point-in-time methodology to count the homeless.” UTEP Provost’s Summer Student Research Assistant Program \$2,200.

Fall 2012-Spring 2013. Research Assistant under Professor Castañeda’s “Social determinants of physical and mental health of migrant and transient populations: Health disparities amongst Hispanics in El Paso.” Health Research Transitioning Faculty Award. UTEP Hispanic Health Disparities Research Center. \$3,600.

Summer 2012. Research Assistant under Professor Castañeda’s “Socio-ecology of Hispanics: A translational research agenda for the human development of Hispanics in the U.S.” \$3,600.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS

April 11-15, 2022. Curtis Smith. “Homelessness and housing advocacy: The role of red-tape warriors.” Housing First Partners Conference. Seattle, WA.

October 17-19, 2019. Curtis Smith. “Aggressive advocacy among outreach workers.” Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology. Portland, OR.

August 8-11, 2019. Curtis Smith. “Establishing working agreements with landlords: Housing the homeless.” Society for the Study of Social Problems. New York City, NY.

October 11-13, 2018. Curtis Smith. “Aggressive advocacy: Social service workers as street-level bureaucrats.” Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology. Norfolk, VA.

- August 12-15, 2017. Curtis Smith & Ernesto Castañeda. "Enumerating the homeless: methodological improvements using student researchers." American Sociological Association. Montreal, QC.
- August 11-13, 2017. Curtis Smith & Leon Anderson. "Fitting stories: Homeless outreach workers' strategies for providing housing." Society for the Study of Social Problems. Montreal, QC.
- August 11-13, 2017. Leon Anderson & Curtis Smith. "Fitting stories and identity work: Homeless outreach workers' strategies for providing housing." Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. Montreal, QC.
- February 25-26, 2017. Presider/Discussant. Curtis Smith. "Homelessness and social service workers." Hawaii Sociological Association. Kaneohe, HI.
- October 7-10, 2016. Curtis Smith & Leon Anderson. "Ideal clients: Social service workers who work with the homeless." Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology. Denver, CO.
- October 7-10, 2016. Curtis Smith & Ernesto Castañeda. "Student surveyors: Learning by doing." Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology. Denver, CO.
- August 20-23, 2016. Curtis Smith & Leon Anderson. "Targeting the prime downtrodden: The paradox of seeking only vulnerable homeless populations to be housing ready," American Sociological Association. Seattle, WA.
- August 20-23, 2016. Curtis Smith & Leon Anderson. "Homeless and vulnerable: Which homeless get housing," American Sociological Association. Seattle, WA.
- August 19-21, 2016. Curtis Smith & Leon Anderson. "The 'worst off,' but 'still ready,'" Society for the Study of Social Problems. Seattle, WA.
- August 19-21, 2016. Curtis Smith & Ernesto Castañeda. "Homeless PIT improvements: Student surveyors who include the marginally housed homeless," Society for the Study of Social Problems. Seattle, WA.
- October 7-10, 2015. Curtis Smith & Leon Anderson. "Perceptions of need vs. funding stipulations: Frame alignment processes among homeless housing services." Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology. Montgomery, AL.
- April 31-May2, 2015. Erin Hofmann and Curtis Smith. "Immigration, internal migration and compositional change in foreign-born populations." Population Association of America, San Diego, CA.
- October 9-11, 2014. Curtis Smith & Leon Anderson. "Strategic deviance avowal: Street-level bureaucracy and the inherent mental health milieu of homelessness." Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology. Pittsburg, PA.

- August 16, 2014. Castañeda, Ernesto; Diedrich, Brian; Smith Curtis. “Conducting research with homeless populations: Methodological and ethical implications.” Society for the Study of Social Problems. San Francisco, CA.
- March 18, 2014. “The Prevalence of Mental Illness among the Homeless” and “Migration and homelessness” as chair of panel “Dimensions of shelter and homelessness.” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM.
- November 7, 2013. “The prevalence of mental illness among the homeless” Graduate Research Exposition, El Paso, TX.
- August 10, 2013. “An organizational analysis of national funding for homeless services: A system of funding that provides for the accumulation of stigmas” American Sociological Association, New York, NY.
- March 26, 2013. “An organizational analysis of national funding for homeless services: A system of funding that provides for the cultivation of additional stigmas for the homeless” and “Migration and Homelessness” as chair of a panel on migration. Southwestern Social Sciences Association, New Orleans, LA.
- March 2, 2013. “An organizational analysis of national funding for homeless services: A system of funding that provides for the cultivation of additional stigmas for the homeless.” Chicago Ethnography Conference, Chicago, IL.
- March 7&8, 2012. “Homelessness and Occupy El Paso” and “Migration on the U.S.-Mexico Border” Southwestern Social Sciences Association. San Diego, CA.

INVITED GUEST LECTURES

- February 28, 2017. Curtis Smith. “Homelessness in the U.S. and survey methods,” Research Methods, Sociology Department, University of Hawaii at Hilo, Hilo, HI.
- March 29, 2016. Curtis Smith. “Homelessness and mental health in the U.S.” Inequality, Sociology Department, Utah State University, Logan, UT.
- September 17, 2015. Curtis Smith. “Homelessness in the U.S.” Inequality, Sociology Department, Utah State University, Logan, UT.
- April 10, 2015. Curtis Smith. “Homelessness: Policy, history, and data.” Social Deviance, Sociology Department, Utah State University, Logan, UT.
- February 25, 2015. Erin Hofmann and Curtis Smith. “Immigration, internal migration and compositional change in foreign-born populations.” Demography Seminar, Sociology Department, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

November 8, 2013 “The prevalence of mental illness among the homeless,”
Behavioral Sciences, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX.

October 15, 2013 “Methods of sampling atypical populations,” Methods of
Research, Sociology Department, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX.

II. TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT

Fall 2018 to Present—Bentley University

Homelessness and Social Policy SO221

Race and Racialization at the U.S.-Mexico Border SO250

Sociology of the Edge SO333

Issues and Investigation in Sociology SO132

Technology, Society, and Work SO264

Spring 2016 to Spring 2018—Utah State University

Introductory Sociology SOC 1010

Social Problems SOC1020

Inequality SOC3010

AWARDS

2021-2022 Nominated for the Cronin Award for Excellence in Mentoring and Advising.

2021-2022 Recipient of Bentley Service-Learning Center Faculty Award.

2017-2018. Graduate Instructor of the Year Finalist, College of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Utah State University.

2017-2018. Departmental Graduate Instructor of the Year, Department of Sociology, Social
Work & Anthropology, Utah State University.

2016-2017 Graduate Instructor of the Year Finalist, College of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Utah State University.

2016-2017. Departmental Graduate Instructor of the Year, Department of Sociology, Social
Work & Anthropology, Utah State University.

2013-2014 Department of Sociology & Anthropology Departmental Honor Award, University of
Texas at El Paso.

III. SERVICE

UNIVERSITY AND SERVICE

2021 to Present. Student Advisor in the Sociology Department at Bentley University.

2021 to Present. Faculty Member of the Immigration Lab at American University.

2020 to Present. Racial Justice Task Force at Bentley University.

2019 to 2022. Coordinated Community Response Team. Faculty Mentor.

2018 to Present. Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Center. Faculty Mentor.

2019 to Present. Valente Center. Faculty Mentor.

2018 to Present. Valente Center Committee Member.

2017 to 2021. Board Member for the Association for Applied and clinical Sociology and Chair of the Client Problem Solving Competition.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICE

2011-Present *American Sociological Association.*

2014-Present *Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology.*

2017-Present *Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction.*

2013-Present *Society for the Study of Social Problems.*

2014-2015 *Populations Association of America.*

2013-2014 *The Society for Applied Anthropology.*

2011-2014 *Southwestern Social Sciences Association.*

REFERENCES

Dr. Leon Anderson

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and Civic Engagement Center
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