

SPENCER ALLEN

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July 3, 2026

EDUCATION

- Ongoing **Ph.D., Sociology**, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
- Preliminary Exams: Demography of Health and Aging, Political Polarization and Health
Predoctoral Trainee, Population Studies Center
Graduate Student Affiliate, Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics
- 2025 **M.A., Sociology**, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
- 2023 **A.B., Sociology (high honors)**, Dartmouth College (*summa cum laude*)
- Thesis: “(Dis)connected: Internet Access, Health Disparities, and the COVID-19
Pandemic” (Committee: Jason Houle [Chair] & Kristin Smith)

ACADEMIC WRITING

- In progress **Allen, Spencer**. “Divided in Death: Partisanship and Life Expectancy in the U.S.”
Manuscript in progress.
- In progress **Allen, Spencer**. “The Changing Political Geography of Health: Partisanship and
Mortality in the U.S., 1970 – 2019.” *Manuscript in progress*.
- 2025 **Allen, Spencer**. “Trends and Disparities in Broadband Internet Access in the United
States, 2013 – 2023.” *Socius* 11:1-3. DOI: [10.1177/23780231251363238](https://doi.org/10.1177/23780231251363238), (PMID:
40800170)
- 2025 **Allen, Spencer**. “Broadband Internet Access as a Social Determinant of Health in the
Early COVID-19 Pandemic in U.S. Counties.” *SSM-Population Health* 29:101747. DOI:
[10.1016/j.ssmph.2025.101747](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2025.101747). (PMID: 39866855)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2023 – pres. **Graduate Student Researcher**, Sociology and Population Studies Center, University of
Michigan
- 2023 – 2025 **Research Assistant**, Population Studies Center, University of Michigan
Project Title: “Do Prospectively and Retrospectively Reported Health Conditions Differ?
Evidence from the Americans’ Changing Lives Study”
PI: Dr. Sarah Burgard, Ph.D.
- 2021 – 2023 **Stamps Scholar**, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth College
Project Title: “Infected with Information: Communication and the Spread of the COVID-
19 Pandemic”
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jason Houle, Ph.D.

- Awarded \$20,000 in research funding from the Stamps Scholar Thrive Foundation and Dartmouth College Undergraduate Research and Advising

2020 – 2022 **Research Assistant**, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth College
Project Title: “Social Inequality and the COVID-19 Pandemic”
PI: Dr. Kristin Smith, Ph.D.

- Awarded \$3,000 in research funding from Dartmouth College Undergraduate Research and Advising

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

External

2022 **ASA Honors Program Participant**, American Sociological Association

Internal: University of Michigan

2023 – pres. **Predoctoral Traineeship**, Population Studies Center (NIH #T32AG000221)

2026 **Rackham Conference Travel Grant (\$900)**, Rackham Graduate School

2025 **Research Support Fund (\$750)**, Population Studies Center

2025 **ISR-Rackham Summer Training Award (\$2,386)**, Institute for Social Research & Rackham Graduate School

2024 **Rackham Predoctoral Student Research Grant (\$1,500)**, Rackham Graduate School

2024 **Research Support Fund (\$750)**, Population Studies Center

Internal: Dartmouth College

2021 – 2023 **Stamps Scholarship (\$20,000)**, Undergraduate Research and Advising
Competitive grant awarded to students for research activities.

2023 **Andrew G. Truxal Memorial Award (\$2,000)**, Department of Sociology

2023 **Mecklin Sociology Prize (\$600)**, Department of Sociology

2020 – 2021 **Sophomore Research Scholarship (\$3,000)**, Undergraduate Research and Advising

PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS

External Presentations (* indicates presenting author)

Accepted **Spencer Allen***. “Affective Political Polarization and Physical and Mental Health among U.S. Adults.” *Poster presentation accepted to the 2026 Annual Meeting of the Interdisciplinary Association of Population Health Science.*

2026 **Spencer Allen***. “Partisanship, Disease Preventability, and Mortality in U.S. Counties.” May 9. Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America. St. Louis, MO. *Poster presentation.*

- 2025 Sarah A. Burgard*, Lucie Kalousova, Janet Wang, Erin Ice, and **Spencer Allen**. “Do retrospectively-collected relationship measures match prospective reports?” Aug. 7. Annual Meeting of Research Center 28: Social Stratification Summer Meeting. Los Angeles, CA. *Oral presentation*.
- 2025 Sarah A. Burgard*, Lucie Kalousova, Janet Wang, Erin Ice, and **Spencer Allen**. “Do retrospectively-collected relationship measures match prospective reports?” Apr. 11. Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America. Washington, DC. *Oral presentation*.
- 2024 **Spencer Allen***. “Did Politics Trump Health? Political Conservatism as a Fundamental Cause of Disease in the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Apr. 18. Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America. Columbus, OH. *Poster presentation*.
- 2022 **Spencer Allen***. “(Dis)connected? Internet Access and the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Aug. 6. Honors Program at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, CA. *Undergraduate honors roundtable*.
- 2022 Kristin Smith* and **Spencer Allen**. “Social Inequality and the COVID-19 Pandemic” Mar. 13. Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society. Boston, MA. *Paper presentation*.
- 2022 **Spencer Allen***. “Infected with Information: Internet Access and the Spread of COVID-19 in U.S. Counties.” Mar. 12. Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society. Boston, MA. *Poster presentation*.

Internal Presentations: Dartmouth College

- 2023 “(Dis)connected: Internet Access, Health Disparities, and the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Jan. 31. Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Research Symposium. Hanover, NH. *Undergraduate research presentation*.
- 2022 “Student Voices: Journeys Inside and Outside the Classroom.” Sep. 6. New Student Orientation Panel. Hanover, NH. *Panelist*.
- 2022 “Infected with Information: Internet and the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Jan. 31. Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Research Symposium. Hanover, NH. *Undergraduate research presentation*.
- 2021 “Dartmouth Undergraduate Research Association First-Generation Research Panel.” Nov. 4. Co-sponsored by the Dartmouth Undergraduate Research Association and First-Generation Office. Hanover, NH. *Panelist*.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- 2023 Dervishi, Kay. Oct. 13. “A Mental-Health Nonprofit Popular Among Colleges is Expanding. Has Its Approach Worked?” *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*. <https://www.philanthropy.com/article/a-mental-health-nonprofit-popular-among-colleges-is-expanding-has-its-approach-worked>.
* Interviewed in response to, “Allen: Fed Up With JED.” *The Dartmouth*. Oct. 29, 2021. <https://www.thedartmouth.com/article/2021/10/allen-fed-up-with-jed>.
- 2022 Monsma, Heath, and Ella Von Baeyer. Oct. 17. “The D-Briefed: 22F.” *The Dartmouth*. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7DxicM3VrMQiLSmPy9vuF6>.

* Interviewed in response to “*Verbum Ultimum: Fall Back — to Winter Term.*” The Dartmouth. Oct. 7, 2022. <https://www.thedartmouth.com/article/2022/10/verbum-ultimum-fall-back-to-winter-term>. [Editor-in-charge of research, writing, and editing on behalf of an editorial board].

- 2021 Furukawa, Julia, and Peter Biello. Oct. 29. “Where some Dartmouth students would like to see the school’s growing endowment go.” *New Hampshire Public Radio*. <https://www.nhpr.org/nh-news/2021-10-29/dartmouth-college-endowment>.
* Interviewed in response to, “*Allen: Share the Wealth.*” The Dartmouth. Oct. 14, 2021. <https://www.thedartmouth.com/article/2021/10/allen-share-the-wealth>.

EDITORIAL WRITING

- 2021 **Allen, Spencer.** Aug. 28. “This isn’t the Anchorage I know. Let’s stop the fighting and move forward together.” *Anchorage Daily News*. <https://www.adn.com/opinions/2021/08/28/this-isnt-the-anchorage-i-know-lets-stop-the-fighting-and-move-forward-together/>.

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

University of Michigan

- 2025 - present **Graduate Student Instructor**
SOC 210, Introductory Statistics (Fall 2025)
SOC 210, Introductory Statistics: Data Analysis (Winter 2026)
- 2024 **Graduate Student Mentor**, Sociology Opportunities for Undergraduate Leadership (SOUL; first-generation student support program), Department of Sociology

Dartmouth College

- 2022, 2023 **Guest Lecturer**, SOCY 7.07, U.S. Social Stratification (2 quarters)
- 2022 (Spring) **Learning Fellow**, SOCY 1, Introductory Sociology
- 2022 (Winter) **Peer Tutor**, SOCY 10, Quantitative Analysis of Social Data
- 2021 – 2022 **Peer Mentor**, First Generation Office
- 2021 **Guest Lecturer**, SOCY 10, Quantitative Analysis of Social Data (2 quarters)
- 2020 – 2021 **Undergraduate Advisor**, Department of Residential Education
Position equivalent to Resident Assistant/Advisor at other institutions

SERVICE

External: Discipline

- Peer Review *Applied Economics, Sociological Forum, Telecommunications Policy*
- 2025 – 2026 **Managing Editor**, *Social Science Research*
- 2026 **Chair**, “Economic Insecurity and the Embodiment of Inequality.” May 9. Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, St. Louis, MO.

External: Community

2018 – pres. **Election Worker**, Multiple Jurisdictions

Internal: University of Michigan

2026 – 2027 **Affinity Group Coordinator**, First Generation/Working Class Student Affinity Group, Department of Sociology

2024 – 2026 **Student Recruitment Representative**, Department of Sociology

2024 – 2025 **Coordinator**, Inequality and Social Demography Workshop, Department of Sociology

2024 – 2025 **Faculty Meeting Representative**, Department of Sociology

2024 **Presentation Judge**, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program Spring Symposium

Internal: Dartmouth College

2022 – pres. **Alumni Admissions Ambassador (Interviewer)**, Office of Admissions/Advancement

2023, 2025 **Tenure Committee Student Reviewer** (2 assistant professors)

2022 – 2023 **Secretary**, Alpha Kappa Delta Honor Society (Sociology)

2022 – 2023 **First Generation Office Library Liaison**, Baker-Berry Library

2021 – 2022 **Vice President**, Alpha Kappa Delta Honor Society (Sociology)

2021 **Hiring Committee Student Interviewer**, Department of Sociology

MEMBERSHIPS

- Alpha Kappa Delta
- American Sociological Association
 - o Sections: Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility; Medical Sociology; Sociology of Population
- Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science
- Phi Beta Kappa
- Population Association of America

SKILLS

- Programming: STATA, R, Python
- Languages: Spanish (intermediate)