

# ABBY ARTHUR SMITH

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## EDUCATION

- 2021 – Present **Ph.D. Candidate**, Sociology, University of Michigan  
*Certificate in Science, Technology, and Society*
- 2025 **M.S.**, Epidemiology, University of Michigan
- 2024 **M.A.**, Sociology, University of Michigan
- 2020 **B.A.**, Sociology & Public Health, University of Iowa  
*Certificate in Social Science Analytics*

## RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

- Topics and Fields:** Body & Embodiment; Health, Illness, & Disability; Law & Governance; Morality; Science & Technology Studies
- Methods:** Qualitative, Comparative, & Historical

## PUBLICATIONS

- Smith, A. A.** (2025). “Not all Bathrooms are Created Equal”: Moral experiences of maneuvering in inaccessible infrastructure with physical disability. *SSM - Qualitative Research in Health*, 7, 100561. doi:10.1016/j.ssmqr.2025.100561

## ARTICLES IN PROGRESS

- Smith, A. A.** Sterilizing the “Social Menace”: U.S. Eugenic Sterilization Professionals’ Evaluations of Morality, Body, and Society, 1922-1974.
- Smith, A. A.** “The State Is Not a Poet”: How Social Movements to Redress U.S. Eugenics Negotiated Morality, Objectivity, and Expertise.
- Seamster, L., Rhym, C., & **Smith, A. A.** Water Governance as Racial Politics: Implications for Health.

## TEACHING

### Teaching Awards

- 2026 **Graduate Fellow**, Sweetland Fellows Seminar  
*University of Michigan Sweetland Writing Center*
- 2024 **Awardee**, Graduate Teaching Certificate  
*University of Michigan Center for Research on Learning and Teaching*

## Courses Taught

Fall 2026	<b>Instructor of Record</b> , Bodies and Selves in Social Context (First-Year Writing Requirement) <i>University of Michigan Department of English Language and Literature</i>
Winter 2026, Fall 2023	<b>Graduate Student Instructor</b> , Sociology Research Methods (Upper-Level Writing Requirement) <i>University of Michigan Department of Sociology</i>
Fall 2025	<b>Graduate Student Instructor</b> , Introduction to Sociology <i>University of Michigan Department of Sociology</i>
Winter 2024	<b>Graduate Student Instructor</b> , Sociological Theory <i>University of Michigan Department of Sociology</i>

## Advising

Winter 2024 - Fall 2025	<b>Graduate Student Advisor</b> , “Uncovering Eugenics” Sociology Undergraduate Research Opportunity & Sociology Opportunities for Undergraduate Leaders (11 students) <i>University of Michigan Department of Sociology</i>
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## Guest Lectures

2025	“Eugenics and the Moral Politics of Whiteness,” History of Race and Sexuality (SOC 495) <i>University of Michigan Department of Sociology</i>
2023	“Coding Qualitative Data,” Sociology Research Methods (SOC 310) <i>University of Michigan Department of Sociology</i>
2021	“Symbolic Boundaries,” Applied Research (SOC 3170) <i>University of Iowa Department of Sociology</i>

## RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

2019 - Present	<b>Research Assistant</b> , Flint Email Lab (P.I. Louise Seamster) <i>University of Iowa Department of Sociology</i>
2018 - 2025	<b>Research Assistant</b> , Sterilization and Social Justice Lab (P.I. Alexandra Minna Stern) <i>University of Iowa School of Public Health</i>
Summer 2025	<b>Public Health Archiving Intern</b> , Washtenaw County Health Department <i>University of Michigan Ginsberg Center for Community Service</i>

Summer 2020                    **Summer Fellow**, Othering and Belonging Institute  
*University of California - Berkeley*

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

### Talks

2023                                “Carceral Eugenics and Criminalized Deviance in 20th Century Iowa.”  
American Sociological Association. Philadelphia, PA.

2021                                “Racial Politics, Water Governance and Health Outcomes.”  
American Sociological Association. Virtual.

### Panels

2023                                “Eugenics, Incarceration, and Reproductive Justice.”  
Plenary panel, Reproductive Ethics Conference. Galveston, TX.

## RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2025                                **Awardee**, Graduate Student Research Grant (\$3,000)  
*University of Michigan Rackham Graduate School*

2023                                **Research Fellow**, Program in Race, Law, and History (\$3,000)  
*University of Michigan Law School*

2021                                **Predocotrinal Trainee**, Population Studies Center (\$81,432)  
National Institute on Aging  
*University of Michigan Institute for Social Research*

## SERVICE

### Workshop Coordination

Fall 2026 -                        **Coordinator**, Social Theory Workshop  
Present                              *University of Michigan Department of Sociology*

Winter 2025 -                    **Co-Coordinator**, Medicine, Aging, Science and Health Workshop  
Fall 2025                              *University of Michigan Department of Sociology*

### Student Belonging

2024 -                                **Founder and Co-Coordinator**, Sociologists with Disabilities  
Present                                *University of Michigan Department of Sociology*

Fall 2025 -                        **Graduate Program Assistant** for Accessibility and Belonging  
Winter 2026                              *University of Michigan Department of Sociology*

Fall 2025 -                        **Co-Chair**, Graduate Student Professionalization Team  
Winter 2026                              *University of Michigan Department of Sociology*