

MATTHEW W. ALEMU

CURRICULUM VITAE

August 2020

mwalemu@umich.edu

734-355-1814

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Joint Doctoral Program in Sociology and Public Policy, University of Michigan, degree expected Spring 2021
- Committee:** Alford Young, Jr (Co-Chair), Sandra Danziger (Co-Chair), Fatma Müge Göçek, Alexandra Murphy
- Dissertation:** Better Than My Father: An Exploration of the Influence of Absent Fatherhood on the Minds and Lives of Disadvantaged Black Men
- M.A. Sociology, University of Michigan, 2015
- M.A. Public Policy, University of Michigan, 2009
- B.S. Accounting, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2006

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, & GRANTS

- 2020 Travel Grant for Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference. Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
- Travel Grant for Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan
- 2019 Travel Grant for Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Annual Conference. Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
- Travel Grant for Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Annual Conference. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan
- Travel Grant for American Sociological Association Annual Conference. Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan
- Travel Grant for American Sociological Association Conference. Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
- 2018 Travel Grant for Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference. Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
- Travel Grant for Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference.

Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan

- 2017 Dissertation Research Grant. Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan
- Dissertation Research Grant. Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
- Travel Grant for American Sociological Association Annual Conference. Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan
- Travel Grant for American Sociological Association Annual Conference. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan
- 2012-2017 Rackham Merit Fellowship. Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan
- 2016 Travel Grant for National Council of Family Relations Annual Conference. Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
- Travel Grant for Texas Fatherhood Summit: Building the Evidence Base for Fatherhood Programs. National Poverty Center, University of Michigan
- 2015 Pre-Candidate Research Grant. Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan
- Research Grant. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan.
- 2014 Travel Grant for Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Annual Conference. Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
- Travel Grant for American Men's Studies Association Annual Conference. Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
- 2013-2014 National Poverty Center via the Rockefeller Foundation, Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan
- 2013 Honorable Mention(*Initially an Alternate*). Ford Foundation Pre-Candidate Fellowship Program.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Alemu, Matthew. "He Wasn't There, But He was Around: Unpacking Variation in the Experience of Father Absence"" *Submitted to the American Journal of Sociology* August 2020

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS & WORKING PAPERS

Alemu, Matthew; Ponce Adriana. "Who's Best for the Child? Child Custody and Parent Interaction with Child Support Enforcement in Michigan".

OTHER ESSAYS

Alemu, Matthew. "[Solidarity is Not Acknowledging your Privilege, but Relinquishing it](#)". *Detroit Free Press*. July 7, 2020(online) July 12, 2020(Sunday print edition)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 He Wasn't There, but He Was Around: Exploring the Nature of Absent Fatherhood through its Variation"; Annual Conference of the American Sociological Association (ASA); San Francisco, California, August 2020
- "Tangled in Poverty, Guided by a Father's Absence: Moving Beyond Moynihan to Understand the Lives of Marginalized Black Men,"; Annual Conference of the Eastern Sociological Society; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 28
- 2019 He Wasn't There, but He Was Around: Exploring the Nature of Absent Fatherhood through its Variation"; Annual Fall Research Conference of the Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM); Denver, Colorado, November 7
- "Tangled in Poverty, Guided by a Father's Absence: Moving Beyond Moynihan to Understand the Lives of Marginalized Black Men,"; Annual Conference of the Association of Black Sociologists; New York, New York, August 8
- 2018 "What it Means to be Absent: Exploring the Nature of Father Absence Through its Variation"; Annual Conference of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS); Baltimore, Maryland February 2018
- 2017 "What it Means to be Absent: Exploring the Nature of Father Absence Through its Variation"; Annual Conference of the American Sociological Association (ASA); Montreal, Quebec August 15
- 2014 "Making Sense of Absent Fatherhood: Understanding Absence and its Implications for Future Black Fathers."; Annual Fall Research Conference of the Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM); Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 6
- "Making Sense of the Obstacles to Fatherhood: A cultural understanding of Absent Fatherhood among Black Fathers." Annual Interdisciplinary Conference of the American Men's Studies Association (AMSA); Tacoma,

Washington, March 28

- 2013 “Remembering Absent Black Fathers: How black youth use and construct memories of their absent fathers.” Annual Interdisciplinary Conference of the American Men’s Studies Association (AMSA); University of Michigan, April 5

CAMPUS & DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

- 2015 Panelist: “Beyond civil rights: The Moynihan Report and its legacy”, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2020 [Featured Speaker on discussion on white privilege.](#) The Last Negroes at Harvard, hosted by Kent Garrett, [Projects From the Catskills](#)
- 2018 [Guest Panelist on discussion of Black communities and Black families.](#) The Final Call Hour, hosted by Minister Troy Muhammad, [910 AM Superstation](#); Detroit, Michigan

OTHER EDUCATION

- 2018 [U-M Graduate Teacher Certificate.](#) University of Michigan, Center for Research on Learning and Teaching

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lead Instructor of Record, University of Michigan

- Spring 2020 Race and Ethnicity, Department of Sociology and Department of African and African American Studies
- Summer 2018 Research Methods, Department of Sociology
- Spring 2016 Race and Ethnicity, Department of Sociology and Department of African and African American Studies

Teaching Consultant, University of Michigan

- Fall 2019 [University Teaching Consultant](#) for Graduate Student Instructors, [Center for Research on Learning and Teaching](#)
- Winter 2019 Department Course Training for First-Time Graduate Student Instructors, Department of Sociology

Fall 2018 Department Course Training for First-Time Graduate Student Instructors,
Department of Sociology

Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan

Winter 2019 Urban Inequality, Department of Sociology and Department of African and
African American Studies

Fall 2017 Introduction to Sociology, Department of Sociology (Lead Graduate
Student Instructor)

Winter 2017 Social Inequality, Department of Sociology and Department of American
Culture

Winter 2015 Introduction to Sociology: Through American and Iraqi Societies,
Department of Sociology

Spring 2009 South Africa Study Abroad Course: Understanding the New South Africa:
An Exploration of Sites of Resistance and Transformation—From Detroit
to Durban; Department of African and African American Studies

Summer 2009 Introduction to Calculus, Public Policy and International Affairs Program,
Ford School of Public Policy

Course Assistant, University of Michigan

Fall 2018 Black Men & Black Masculinities, Department of Sociology and
Department of African and African American Studies

Winter 2014 The Social Organization of the Black Community, Department of
Sociology and Department of African and African American Studies

Winter 2009 Calculus and Statistics Tutor, Ford School of Public Policy

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2018 – Research Mentor, [Sociology Undergraduate Research Opportunity](#),
Present Department of Sociology, “Better Than My Father: An Exploration of the
Influence of Absent Fatherhood on the Minds and Lives of Disadvantaged
Black Men” (Jamal Jackson, Kaley Makino, Alyson Chatterjee, Emily
Swisher, Emma Hess, Jade Parker)

Fall 2018 - Research Mentor, Sociology Undergraduate Research Opportunity,
Winter 2019 Department of Sociology, “Who’s Best for the Child? Child Custody and
Parent Interaction with Child Support Enforcement” (Madison Chajson)

Summer 2018 Research Mentor, [Michigan Community College Summer Research
Fellowship](#), University of Michigan, “Better Than My Father: An
Exploration of the Influence of Absent Fatherhood on the Minds and Lives

of Disadvantaged Black Men” (Abigail Biehl, *student received invitation to annual summer colloquia to present project findings*)

Summer 2017 Research Mentor, Michigan Community College Summer Research Fellowship, University of Michigan, “African-American Family Dynamics Under Slavery” (Cedrick Ingram, *student received honors for presentation based on contributions to project titled*)

Fall 2016 - Present Mentor, [Sociology Opportunities for Undergraduate Leadership](#)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2018 Graduate Student Research Assistant. Karin A. Martin (Chair), Department of Sociology. Assessed the Department of Sociology’s admission practices, including an evaluation of the usefulness of the Graduate Record Examination as a successful predictor of student success. Conducted a comparative analysis of the admission processes between our department and other leading institutions and Sociology Departments.

2015-Present Graduate Student Research Assistant & Data Analyst. Alford A. Young, Jr., Department of Sociology. Conducted respondent interviews for three concurrent research projects (started Winter 2019). Conducted program evaluation of gender-based violence interventions at multiple sites across various townships in South Africa (Summer 2017). Completed other key research tasks across multiple projects.

2013-2015 Graduate Student Research Assistant, Data Analyst. National Poverty Center, Department of Sociology. Coordinated with community organizations in metro Detroit to recruit respondents. Led field interviews with male participants and documented responses for further analysis (26 completed).

DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2018-Present Coordinator, Race and Racial Identities Workshop, Department of Sociology

2018-2019 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Coalition, Ford School of Public Policy (invited)

2017-2018 Student Representative to Executive Committee Meetings, Department of Sociology (elected by peers)

2016-Present Mentor, Sociology Opportunities for Undergraduate Leadership

2016-2017	Student Representative to Faculty Meetings, Department of Sociology. (elected by peers)
2015-2018	Sociology Department Representative, Annual Institute for Recruitment of Teachers
2015-2018	Student Advisory Board, Office of Equity Inclusion and Academic Affairs (invited)
2014-2015	Admissions Committee, Ford School of Public Policy (elected by peers) Liaison to Rackham Executive Committee, Students of Color of Rackham
2013-2014	Co-Chair, Students of Color in Sociology (elected by peers) Vice President, Students of Color of Rackham (elected by peers) Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology (elected by peers)
2008-2009	Student Representative, Student Budget Advisory Committee (invited) Treasurer, Students of Color of Rackham (elected by peers) Student Affairs Committee, Ford School of Public Policy (elected by peers)

PUBLIC SERVICE

2016 Volunteer and GED Tutor, Flip the Script Program, Goodwill, Detroit, MI.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Sociological Association (ASA), member
 Eastern Sociological Society (ESS), member
 Association of Black Sociologists (ABS), member
 Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM), member

PRIOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Analyst, Government Accountability Office, 2009 – 2012
 Research Assistant, National Poverty Center, University of Michigan, 2008 – 2009

REFERENCES

Alford A. Young Jr.

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Fatma Müge Göçek

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