

## Estela B. Diaz

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### Employment

- 2023 - Princeton University**  
Presidential Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
*Affiliations:* Department of Sociology; Education Research Section (ERS)

### Education

- 2023 Ph.D. Columbia University**, Department of Sociology  
*Dissertation:* Parents and the Priceless Child in Elite Early Childhood Admissions  
*Committee:* Tey Meadow (Co-chair), Shamus Khan (Co-chair), Mignon R. Moore, Thomas DiPrete, Lauren Rivera
- 2020 M.Phil. Columbia University**, Department of Sociology
- 2018 M.A. Columbia University**, Department of Sociology
- 2014 A.B. Princeton University**, Department of Sociology  
Honors in Sociology; Certificate in Gender and Sexuality Studies

### Research Interests

Culture; Economic Sociology; Education; Elites; Family; Inequality; Qualitative Methods

### Publications

#### *Peer-Reviewed Articles*

Diaz, Estela B. and Jennifer Lee. 2020. "Cultural Heterogeneity and the Diverse Success Frames of Second-Generation Mexicans." *Social Sciences* 9(12):216. <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci9120216>

#### *Under Review*

Diaz, Estela B. and Lauren A. Rivera. (Equal Authorship) "Milestones as Merit: Selecting the Elite in Early Childhood Private School Admissions."

Diaz, Estela B. and Tiffany J. Huang. (Equal Authorship) "Moral Boundary-Making and the Justification of Inequality Among Private Admissions Consultants."

Diaz, Estela B. and Mignon R. Moore. "The Labor and Leisure Lives of Black, Sexual Minority Women in Postwar Detroit."

#### *Working Papers*

Diaz, Estela B. "Children as Status Projects."

Diaz, Estela B. “Consultants as Trust Brokers in Elite Markets.”

#### *Other Publications*

Khan, Shamus, Estela B. Diaz, and Dominic Walker. 2024. “Elites.” *Oxford Online Bibliographies*.

Diaz, Estela B. 2024. Review of *Seeing Others: How Recognition Works – and How it Can Heal a Divided World* by Michèle Lamont. ASA Culture Newsletter, February 1.  
<https://asaculturesection.org/2024/02/01/book-review-seeking-others-by-michele-lamont/>

Huang, Tiffany and Estela B. Diaz. 2021. Review of *Hyper Education: Why Good Schools, Good Grades, and Good Behavior Are Not Enough* by Pawan Dhingra. *Social Forces* 99(3):e11-e11.

Diaz, Estela B. 2013. “Sex-y Space: Space and Sexual Communities in the Bay Area and Pioneer Valley, 1960-1980.” *Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Journal*.

## **Fellowships and Grants**

### *External*

2022	Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies
2022	Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Dissertation Grant, Institute for Citizens & Scholars – <i>Declined</i>
2020-2023	Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant, Social Science Research Council Mellon Mays
2016	National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship
2012	Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, The Mellon Foundation

### *Internal*

2017-2022	Departmental Research Grant, Department of Sociology, Columbia University
2019	International Travel Grant Award, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University
2016	Paul F. Lazarsfeld Fellowship, Department of Sociology, Columbia University
2016	Provost Diversity Fellow, Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

## **Awards and Honors**

2021	Faculty First-Look Scholar, New York University Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
2019	Charles Tilly Award for Teaching and Service, Department of Sociology, Columbia University
2014	Lisa B. Bryant Award, Department of Sociology, Princeton University
2014	Huffman Senior Thesis Prize (Honorable Mention), Gender and Sexuality Studies, Princeton University
2014	Spirit of Princeton Award, Princeton University

## **Presentations and Panels**

“Culture in Organizations and Markets.” Panel discussant at the ASA Annual Meeting. Montreal. 2024.

“Consultants as Trust Brokers in Elite Markets.” Presented at the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics – “Elites” Mini-conference. Limerick, Ireland. 2024.

“Moral Boundary-Making and the Reproduction of Inequality in Private Admissions Consulting.” Presented at the Education and Research Section, Princeton University. Princeton. 2024.

“Moral Boundary-Making and the Reproduction of Inequality in Private Admissions Consulting.” Presented at the Sociology of Education Association. Asilomar. 2024.

“Children as Speculative Projects.” Presented at the Education and Inequality Workshop at University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. 2024.

“Milestones as Merit: Gatekeeping in Elite Independent School Admissions.” Presented at the “Sociology of Elites Regular Session” at the ASA Annual Meeting, Los Angeles. 2022.

“It’s an Insurance Policy: Children, Schools, and Speculative Projects.” Presented at the Children and Youth Regular Session. ASA Annual Meeting. Los Angeles. 2022.

“It’s an Insurance Policy: Children, Schools, and Speculative Projects.” Presented at the Qualitative Lab, Columbia University. New York City. 2021.

“It’s an Insurance Policy: Children, Schools, and Speculative Projects.” Presented at the NYLON Working Group, New York University. New York City. 2021.

“Education as a Cultural Good.” Presented at the Culture Workshop, University of California Santa Barbara. Virtual. 2020.

“Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences Panel” Presented at the Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships Fair, Columbia University. 2020. Virtual.

“First Generation and Working-Class Sociologists Panel.” Moderator at the ASA Annual Meeting. San Francisco. Virtual, 2020.

“MMUF Alumni Panel.” Presented at the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Fall Colloquium, Columbia University. New York City. 2020.

“ASA Workshop for First-Generation and Working-Class Graduate Students.” Presented and moderated at the ASA Annual Meeting. Philadelphia. 2019

“Black, Sexual Minority Women after the Great Migration: Cultural Straddlers in Search of Sexual Autonomy and Economic Freedom.” Presented at the “Stonewall at 50” Conference, Université Paris-Est Créteil. Paris. 2019.

“Black, Sexual Minority Women after the Great Migration: Cultural Straddlers in Search of Sexual Autonomy and Economic Freedom.” Presented at the ASA Annual Meeting. Philadelphia. 2019

“Black, Sexual Minority Women after the Great Migration: Cultural Straddlers in Search of Sexual Autonomy and Economic Freedom,” Presented at the Sociologists for Women and Society Conference. Denver. 2019.

“Black, Sexual Minority Women after the Great Migration: Cultural Straddlers in Search of Sexual Autonomy and Economic Freedom,” Presented at the Gender, Sexuality, and Culture Workshop, Columbia University. New York City. 2018.

“Black, Sexual Minority Women after the Great Migration: Cultural Straddlers in Search of Sexual Autonomy and Economic Freedom,” Presented at the Race, Ethnicity, and Migration Workshop, Columbia University.

New York City. 2018.

“Black, Sexual Minority Women after the Great Migration: Cultural Straddlers in Search of Sexual Autonomy and Economic Freedom,” Presented at the Gender, Sexuality, and Culture Workshop, Columbia University. New York City. 2018.

## Service and Leadership

Reviewer: *American Sociological Review*; *Social Problems*

Faculty Fellow, Yeh Residential College at Princeton University, 2023 – Present

Faculty Fellow, Scholars Institute Fellow Program at Princeton University, 2023 – Present

Founder and Coordinator, Qualitative Methods Lab, 2020-2023

ASA Culture Section, Social Media Team, 2022-2023

Graduate Student Mentor, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Columbia University, 2021-2023

Graduate Student Coordinator, Gender, Sexuality, and Culture Lab, 2021-2022

Graduate Student Mentor, Laidlaw Research and Leadership Scholarship Program, 2020

Task Force on Inclusion and Belonging, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 2020-2021

Mentor, “MMUF Bootcamp for New Scholars,” Barnard College, 2018-2022

## Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record, “Sociology of Education,” Columbia University, 2022

*Teaching Evaluations: 5.0/5.0*

Teaching Assistant, “Social Science Research Methods,” Barnard College, 2019

*Teaching Evaluations: 4.8/5.0*

Teaching Assistant, “The Social World,” Columbia University, 2018

*Teaching Evaluations: 4.9/5.0*

## Professional Experience

Graduate Intern – Admission Office, Barnard College, 2016-2017

Admission Officer – Undergraduate Admission Office, Princeton University, 2014-2016

Conference Manager –Poverty and Peacemaking Conference, Princeton Office of Religious Life, 2016

## Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association; Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics;

Sociologists of Education Association; Sociologists for Women in Society

Last Updated: August 10, 2024