

Katelyn Austin

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Education

2025 – PRESENT

Ph. D Sociology | University of Georgia | Athens, GA

IN PROGRESS

Graduate Certificate in Gerontology | University of Georgia | Athens, GA

2025 – PRESENT

M.A Sociology | University of Georgia | Athens, GA

Second-year paper: From Early-Life Hostility to Biological Aging: The Roles of Anger, Smoking, Alcohol Use, and Sex Differences.

2021-2024

B.S. Biological Health Sciences | University of South Florida | Tampa, FL

Concentration: Biology

Minor: Sociology & Nutrition

Cum Laude

Areas of Interest

Medical Sociology • Epigenetics • Life Course • Aging • Quantitative Methods

Publications

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Alasaly, S., **Austin, K.N**, Fatima, S., & Sommer, J. M. (2025). Does societal engagement impact CO2 emissions? A cross-national analysis. *Environmental Sociology*, 1-14.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Lei, M.-K., Weaver, R.D., **Austin, K.N**, & Beach S. R. H. Economic hardship across the Great Recession and accelerated age-related increases in serum neurofilament light (sNfL).

Weaver, R.D., **Austin, K.N**, Lei, M.-K. The Power of Control: Mastery Buffers the Association between Cumulative Accelerated Biological Aging among Middle-Aged Black American Women.

Austin, K., & Lei, M.-K. From Early-Life Hostility to Biological Aging: The Roles of Anger, Smoking, Alcohol Use, and Sex Differences.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Lei, M.-K., **Austin, K.N**, & Weaver, R.D. The Long Shadow of Economic Hardship: Parenting Mechanisms, Persistence, and the Speed of Physiological Systems Aging.

Austin, K.N., & Lei, M-K. Two Cancer-Relevant DNA Methylation Domains in Blood: Replication-Driven Mitotic Aging and Physiological Aging Vulnerability.

Presentations

Weaver, Rachael & **Austin, Katelyn**. (2026, April) “The Power of Control: Mastery Buffers the Association between Cumulative Accelerated Biological Aging among Middle-Aged Black American Women.” Southern Sociological Society, Jacksonville, FL. Forthcoming.

Research Experience

2025 – PRESENT

Research Assistant

Center on Biological Embedding of Social Events and Relationships, University of Georgia
PI: Drs. Steven R.H. Beach, Man-Kit Lei

2025 – PRESENT

Research Assistant

Families, Communities, and Health Workshop, Department of Sociology, University of Georgia
PI: Dr. Man-Kit Lei

2023-2025

Research Mentee

University of South Florida
Mentor: Dr. Jamie Sommer

Teaching Experience

2026 – Present

Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, University of Georgia

• Introductory Sociology

Professional Service

Ad Hoc Journal Reviewing

• Psychology & Health

Awards and Honors

2025 – PRESENT

Franklin College Research Assistantship, University of Georgia

Service and Community Engagement

2026 – 2027

Sociology Graduate Student Society – Vice President

University of Georgia

2026

Graduate Student Recruitment Committee – Member/Host and Coordinator

University of Georgia

2025 – CURRENT

Sociology Graduate Student Society - Member

University of Georgia

2023-2025

Project Downtown – Volunteer

- Distributed food and hygiene kits to unhoused individuals in downtown Tampa.

Additional Professional Experience

2022-2025

Rehabilitation Technician

Pediatric Therapy Services – Brandon, FL

- Assisted therapists with pediatric treatment activities for children with disabilities.
- Supported patient care in a clinical rehabilitation setting.

Training and Certifications

2025

Social & Behavioral Research, CITI Program

2026

Internal Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health: The World Health Organization

Professional Memberships

2025 – PRESENT

Southern Sociology Society

2025 – PRESENT

American Sociological Association