Mehr Mumtaz

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Education

The Ohio State University

2025

Ph.D., Sociology

University of North Texas

2020

M.A., Sociology

Thesis: "Resettled: How Refugees Experience Employment and Unemployment in the U.S." Committee: Dr. Katherine Sobering (Chair), Dr. Gabe Ignatow, and Dr. Donna Barnes

Pennsylvania State University

2017

M.A., Communication Arts and Sciences

Thesis: "Rhetoric of European Policy Discourses Surrounding the 'Crisis of Multiculturalism' in Europe."

Committee: Dr. Bradford Vivian (Chair), Dr. Kirt Wilson, Dr. Jeremy Engels, and Dr. Anne Demo

University of Texas at Austin

2015

B.A., Rhetoric and Writing Minor: Core Texts and Ideas

Academic Interests

International Migration; Immigrant and Refugee Incorporation; Inequality; Race, Ethnicity and Gender; Work and Organizations; Mixed Methods

Publications

Mumtaz, Mehr. 2020. "Refugee women and children in refugee-led homes during COVID-19." *Identities COVID-19 Blog Series*. Retrieved June 16, 2020

(https://www.identitiesjournal.com/covid-19-blog-series/refugee-women-and-children-in-refugee-led-homes-during-covid-19).

Scarborough, William, Katherine Sobering, and **Mehr Mumtaz**. "The Costs of Occupational Gender Segregation in the Innovation Economy." Revise and Resubmit at *Socioeconomic Review*.

Mumtaz, Mehr. 2014. "Affective Rhetoricity of Humanitarian Aid Narratives." *The Ronald E. McNair Scholars Research Journal* 7(1).

In preparation

Mumtaz, Mehr, Vincent Roscigno, and Katherine Sobering. "Resettled: How Refugees Experience Employment and Unemployment in the U.S." In preparation for submission to *Gender & Society*.

Awards and Fellowships

Dean's Graduate Enrichment Fellowship (\$26,316), The Ohio State University, August 2020 – May 2021.

Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers (IRT) Associate Fellow, Philips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts. Summer 2019 – Present

Thesis and Dissertation Small Research Grant (\$500), Department of Sociology, University of North Texas, Summer 2019.

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Travel Grant (\$500), University of North Texas, Spring 2019.

Academic Achievement Scholarship (\$1,000), Toulouse School of Graduate Studies, University of North Texas, Spring 2019.

AmeriCorps Education Award (\$1,500), 2017.

Top Student Paper Award (\$150), International Communication Association, 2017.

Sparks Fellow (\$17,000), Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, Penn State University, 2015-2016.

McNair Scholars Program (\$2,500), University of Texas at Austin, 2012-2015.

Research Experience

The Costs of Occupational Gender Segregation in the Innovation Economy

July 2019 – May 2020

University of North Texas, Denton, TX

- Co-authored a journal article with Dr. William Scarborough and Dr. Katherine Sobering on the impact of occupational gender segregation in the high-tech sector.
- Conducted original archival research on gender equality in high tech industries in Chattanooga, TN.
- Wrote literature review on theories in gender and economic innovation.
- Collaborated on writing and revision of the final manuscript for publication to *Socioeconomic Review*.

Refugees and the Texas Economy

June 2019 – February 2020

Refugee Council USA, Washington, D.C.

- Served as a research collaborator for a data driven report on the impact of refugees on the local Texas economy.
- Drew data from the Texas Demographic Center, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, and the International Rescue Committee to write literature review on refugees' labor market participation, annual income, home ownership, and other characteristics.
- Collaborated on writing and revision of the final report, which is projected to be published in February 2020.

Migration and Migrants in Terrifying Times

August 2018 – May 2020

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN

- Participated in a bi-weekly Interdisciplinary Collaborative Workshop led by Drs. Jack DeWaard (Sociology), Ryan Allen (Public Affairs) and Erika Lee (History).
- Contributed towards discussions on the changing landscape and challenges of researching contemporary U.S. immigration policy with faculty and graduate students.

Migrant Experiences at US-Mexico Border

Dec 2017 - Apr 2018

Kino Border Initiative, Nogales, AZ

- Participated in a four month long research project in Nogales, Arizona, to study the experiences of Latinx migrants with deportations
- Volunteered at a soup kitchen at a bi-national non-profit organization in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico
- Conducted participant observations and in-depth interviews with migrants and service providers at the border
- Transcribed and coded in-depth interviews to prepare them for analysis and discussion

Ronald E. McNair Research Fellow

2014-2015

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

- Conducted single author research project under the supervision of Dr. Eric Dieter on the rhetoric of humanitarian aid discourses in Cameroon.
- Conducted original content analysis of journalistic depictions of Female Genital Mutilation in Cameroon.
- Prepared and published the final manuscript in the Ronald E. McNair Scholar's *Annual Research Journal*.

International Study and Work

- Selected as a finalist for the Fulbright award to Turkey as an English Teaching Assistant.
- Program suspended for the 2017-2018 term because of military coup.

Collegium Phaenomenologicum

2016

Citta de Castello, Italy

- Participated in the annual Collegium in Citta di Castello, Italy.
- Engaged in a series of lecture courses and intensive text-based seminars on topics in Phenomenology, Philosophy of Global Change and the Anthropocene.

Bogazici University

2011

Istanbul, Turkey

- Studied the History of Anatolian Civilizations with Dr. Banu Yilmaz at Bogazici University as study abroad student.
- Attended field excursions to Troy and Cappadocia to learn about ancient historic sites preserved by UNESCO.

Conference Presentations

2019

"Restructuring of the Labor Market and Employment in Growing Regions" Presider. American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

"Migration data and models for a better world: Perspectives from social scientists, data scientists and international organizations." Pre-Conference Attendee. American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

"Politics of Secularism and Religious Neutrality in European Court of Human Rights' (ECHR) *Dahlab v. Switzerland* (2001) Case." Sociologists for Women in Society's (SWS) Winter Meeting, Denver, CO.

2017

"A Common Language of Resistance: Assessing the Significance of Jodi Dean's *Crowds and Party* for Rhetorical Studies." National Communication Association's (NCA) annual convention, Dallas, TX.

"Social Pan-Africanism: Expanding the #FeesMustFall Movement Across a Networked Africa." Presented at the International Communication Association (ICA) with Ignacio Cruz in San Diego, CA.*

*Selected as Top Student Paper Award

2016

"The Rhetoric of Humanitarian Discourses Surrounding Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Cameroon." National Communication Association's (NCA) annual convention, Philadelphia, PA.

"Rhetoric and New Materialism." Arnold Ebbitt Interdisciplinary Rhetoricians Conference. State College, PA.

Teaching Experience

Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Sociology

Summer 2020

University of North Texas

Sociology of Family and Marriage (Online)

Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology

2018-2020

University of North Texas

Introduction to Sociology

Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

Sociology of Family and Marriage

Collective Behavior

Sociology of Disasters

Teaching Assistant, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences

2016-2017

Penn State University

World Campus – Effective Speech and Message Analysis (online)

Effective Speech and Message Analysis

Effective Speech

Relevant Professional Experience

Match Grant and Employment Team Intern

2019

Refugee Services of Texas (RST), Fort Worth, TX

- Assisted RST Employment Case Managers to develop innovative programs to promote upward economic mobility of refugee clients.
- Mentored Iraqi and Afghani refugees with employment search.
- Led career development presentations on topics including women empowerment and self-sufficiency, skill development in technology, and informational tours to the library.

AmeriCorps ESL Instructor & Outreach Coordinator

2018

Workers Defense Project (WDP), Dallas, TX

• Designed curriculum for WDP's weekly adult ESL classes on topics related to gentrification, workers' rights, workplace safety, and ICE raids.

 Led networking meetings and events with Texas Organizing Project, JOLT, and the Center for Public Policy Priorities, to strengthen ties between WDP and other social justice organizations.

Assistant Data Analyst

2012-2013

Institutional Reporting, Research and Information Systems University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

- Audited workspaces at UT Austin's campus
- Collected data and performed data analysis on Excel spreadsheets.
- Assisted in building reports for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB).

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association (ASA) Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) Phillips Academy's Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers (IRT)

Technical Skills and Languages

Data analysis software: STATA, SPSS, ATLAS.ti

Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Adobe Acrobat

Native speaker: English, Pashto, and Urdu

Reading and writing knowledge: Classical Arabic and Ancient Greek