

# MELISSA VILLARREAL

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Colorado, Boulder, Boulder, Colorado** Fall 2017 - Current  
Doctoral Student, Department of Sociology  
Research Assistant, Natural Hazards Center — Institute of Behavioral Science  
Women and Gender Studies Graduate Certificate

**University of Colorado, Boulder, Boulder, Colorado** Spring 2020  
Master of Arts, Department of Sociology

**Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas** August 2012 - May 2016  
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology  
Certificate in the Sociology of Gender

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado, Boulder** Summer 2018-Current  
*Graduate Research Assistant*

- “CONVERGE: Coordinated Social Science, Engineering, and Interdisciplinary Extreme Events Reconnaissance Research.” Funded by the National Science Foundation, Award #18418338.
- “NSF INCLUDES: Capacity Building in Disaster Research for Scholars from Under-Represented Groups.” Funded by the National Science Foundation, Award #1744479.
- “A Clearinghouse on Natural Hazards Applications.” Funded by the National Science Foundation, Award #1635593.

**“Immigrant Communities and Effective Risk Communication in COVID-19,” CONVERGE, University of Colorado, Boulder** Summer 2020-Current  
*Working Group Member*

**“Parental Notification and Access to Abortion among Minors in Colorado,” University of Colorado, Denver** Summer 2020  
*Graduate Research Assistant*

**“Structural Vulnerability and Reproductive Health among Mexican-origin Immigrants,” University of Colorado, Denver** Summer 2018-Spring 2019  
*Graduate Research Assistant*

**“Evaluation Study of the Gang Reduction Initiative of Denver (GRID),” University of Colorado, Boulder** Fall 2017-Summer 2018  
*Graduate Research Assistant*

**“Women’s Experiences in Natural and Man-made Disasters - A Study of Two Towns in Texas,” Texas A&M University** Summer 2016  
*Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program, Student Researcher*

- "Research in Race Relations and Social Psychology: Hoodies, Race, and Threat." (Funded by the Cantu Foundation, Spring 2016-Summer 2016)
- "Latino Residential Patterns in New Destinations." (Funded by the Cantu Foundation, Spring 2016)

## PUBLICATIONS

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Peek, Lori, Jessica Austin, Elizabeth Bittel, Simone Domingue, and Melissa Villarreal. 2020. "Children Take Charge: Helping Behaviors and Organized Action among Young People after Hurricane Katrina." *Bottom-Up Responses to Crisis*, edited by Virgil Storr and Stefanie Haeffele, 87-111. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Villarreal, Melissa and Michelle Meyer. 2020. "Women's Experiences Across Disasters - A Study of Two Towns in Texas." *Disasters Journal*, 44(2).

## REPORTS AND BLOG POSTS

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Villarreal, Melissa. 2020. "The Impact of the Bill Anderson Fund for Students of Color and Marginalized Communities." *Emerald Publishing Real Impact Blog*. <https://www.emeraldpublishing.com/news-and-blogs/the-impact-of-the-bill-anderson-fund-for-students-of-color-and-marginalized-communities/>

Villarreal, Melissa. 2020. "What are women's experiences like during and after disasters?" *Sociology Lens*. <https://www.sociologylens.net/topics/gender/what-are-womens-experiences-like-during-and-after-disasters/28088>

Villarreal, Melissa. 2019. "The Significance of Language in Hazards and Disaster Research and Practice." *Legacy: A William Averette Anderson Magazine*.

Daniels, Lorita C., Joy Semien, Antoine Richards, Akilah Alleyne, Jennifer Blanks, Tiffany Cousins, and Melissa Villarreal. 2018. "The South Bridge Community Assessment." *Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware*.

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

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**Documenting the Undocumented Story: Long-Term Housing Recovery of Mexican-Origin Immigrants after Hurricane Harvey**

*International Research Committee on Disasters (IRCD) Researchers Meeting, July 2019*

## PRESENTATIONS

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**Long-Term Housing Recovery of Mexican-Origin Immigrants: Navigating Active and Passive Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies**

*American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2020* \* Cancelled due to COVID-19

**Long-Term Housing Recovery Among Mexican-Origin Immigrants: How Service Providers Navigate Active and Passive Anti-Immigrant Disaster Recovery Policies**

*Sociologists for Women in Society, August 2020* \* Virtual due to COVID-19

**Structural Vulnerability, Uncertainty, and the Desire to Avoid Pregnancy among Mexican-Origin Women**

*Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting, February 2020*

**Understanding Disaster Vulnerability Through Affect Theory**

*Women of Color Feminisms Symposium, April 2019*

**Coordinated Social Science, Engineering, & Interdisciplinary Extreme Events Research**

*Institute of Behavioral Science Symposium, April 2019*

**Preparing to Respond: Vulnerable Populations Factsheets for Emergency Response**

*Natural Hazards Workshop, Summer 2018*

**Women’s Experiences in Natural and Man-made Disasters - A Study of Two Towns in Texas**

*Natural Hazards Workshop, Summer 2016*

**WEBINARS**

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**CONVERGE Institutional Review Board (IRB) Procedures and Extreme Events Research Training Module: A Demonstration Webinar (Presenter)**

*CONVERGE, Natural Hazards Center, June 2020*

**CONVERGE Cultural Competence Training Module: A Demonstration Webinar (Presenter)**

*CONVERGE, Natural Hazards Center, April 2020*

**Interdisciplinary Research in Hazard and Disaster Fields (Moderator)**

*Bill Anderson Fund, October 2018*

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**University of Colorado, Boulder**

Summer 2020

*Graduate Part-Time Instructor, Continuing Education*

- "Social Construction of Sexuality"

**University of Colorado, Boulder**

Fall 2017-Fall 2018

*Graduate Teaching Assistant*

- "Intro to Sociology" and "Social Construction of Sexuality"
- Developed weekly lesson plans, led three recitation sections, and was responsible for 60-115 total students each semester.

**Undergraduate Teaching Fellows Program**

Spring 2015

*Texas A&M University, Undergraduate Teaching Assistant*

- "Sociology of Latinos"

**TEACHING AND TRAINING MATERIALS**

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Villarreal, Melissa. 2020 "Best Practices for Ethical Post-Disaster Community Outreach and Engagement." *CONVERGE Extreme Events Research Check Sheets Series. DesignSafe-CI.*

<https://doi.org/10.17603/ds2-zekm-9737>.

Villarreal, Melissa. 2020. "Best Practices for Research with Non-English Dominant Populations." *CONVERGE Extreme Events Research Check Sheets Series. DesignSafe-CI.* <https://doi.org/10.17603/ds2-5b9m-sn48>.

Wu, Haorui, Melissa Villarreal, Rachel M. Adams, Candace Evans, and Lori Peek. 2020. "CONVERGE Institutional Review Board (IRB) and Extreme Events Research Training Module." *Boulder, CO: Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado Boulder*. <https://converge-training.colorado.edu/courses/institutional-review-board/>

Wu, Haorui, Rachel M. Adams, Candace Evans, Melissa Villarreal, and Lori Peek. 2020. "CONVERGE Cultural Competence in Hazards and Disaster Research Training Module." *Boulder, CO: Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado Boulder*. <https://converge-training.colorado.edu/courses/cultural-competence>

## EXTERNAL FUNDING

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**Documenting the Undocumented Story - The Long-Term Housing Recovery of Mexican-origin Immigrants after Hurricane Harvey** April 2019  
*National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP), Grant #DGE 1650115. (\$138,000)*

## INTERNAL FUNDING

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**Beverly Sears Graduate Student Award** Spring 2021  
*University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$1,000)*

**Small Research Grant** Fall 2020  
*Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$300)*

**Research Collaboration Proposal Granted** Spring 2020  
*Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$750)*

**United Government of Graduate Students (UGGS) Travel Grant** Spring 2020  
*University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$300)*

**Departmental Travel Grant** Fall 2019  
*Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$1,000)*

**Sociology Outreach & Promotion** Spring 2019  
*Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$1,500)*

**CARTSS Graduate Student Award** Spring 2019  
*University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$1,000)*

**Research Proposal Granted** Spring 2019  
*Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$750)*

**Research Collaboration Proposal Granted** Spring 2018  
*Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$750)*

**Departmental Travel Grant** Fall 2017  
*Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder. (\$500)*

## RECOGNITION

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**William Averette Anderson Fund (BAF)** Fall 2017-Current

· BAF is a nationally-recognized program that works to empower students from underrepresented backgrounds in the hazards mitigation and disaster research field.

## SERVICE

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<b>Natural Hazards Center, Quick Response Research Awards</b> <i>Reviewer</i>	Fall 2020-Current
<b>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder</b> <i>Culture, Power, &amp; Inequality Workshop Coordinator</i>	Fall 2020-Current
<b>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder</b> <i>Graduate Committee</i>	Fall 2020-Current
<b>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder</b> <i>Faculty Meeting Liaison</i>	Fall 2020-Current
<b>NHERI Education &amp; Community Outreach (ECO)</b> <i>CONVERGE, Natural Hazards Center, Liaison</i>	Spring 2020-Current
<b>William Averette Anderson Fund (BAF)</b> <i>BAF Fellows Student Council</i>	Fall 2017-Current
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Currently the Secretary (2021)</li><li>· Drafted and disseminated BAF Newsletter (2019-2020).</li><li>· Organized the BAF's annual fundraiser, hosted during the annual Natural Hazards Workshop (2018).</li><li>· Planned and moderated a professional development webinar, which included identifying topics and themes of importance based on Fellows' needs and identifying presenters and panelists (2017-2018).</li></ul>	
<b>Natural Hazards Workshop</b> <i>Student Volunteer Coordinator</i>	Summer 2019-Summer 2020
<b>The Graduate School, University of Colorado, Boulder</b> <i>Graduate Peer Mentoring Program, Mentor</i>	Fall 2019-Spring 2020
<b>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder</b> <i>Open House Committee</i>	Spring 2019-Spring 2020
<b>Department of Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder</b> <i>Diversity Committee</i>	Fall 2018-Spring 2020
<b>Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder</b> <i>NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Workshop, Mentor</i>	Fall 2019

## WORKSHOPS

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<b>Natural Hazards Workshop</b> <i>Staff</i>	July 2018-2020
<b>BAF@UD 4.0</b> <i>Bill Anderson Fund Fellow</i>	October 2019
<b>Texas A&amp;M University (BAF) Workshop</b> <i>Bill Anderson Fund Fellow</i>	April 2018-2019
<b>BAF@UD 3.0</b> <i>Bill Anderson Fund Fellow</i>	October 2018
<b>BAF@UD 2.0</b> <i>Bill Anderson Fund Fellow</i>	November 2017

**Natural Hazards Workshop**

July 2017

*Volunteer*

**Natural Hazards Workshop**

July 2016

*Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Program*

## **SKILLS**

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Proficient in writing, reading, and speaking both Spanish and English and have contributed to bilingual research projects.

Competent in the qualitative software, Atlas.ti, and LaTeX software.