

Gabriela R. Flores

Ph.D. Candidate

University of California, Merced

Department of Sociology

University Email: Gflores57@ucmerced.edu

Education

Ph.D. Sociology (in progress)

Expected graduation date: May 2026

University of California, Merced –
Merced, CA

M.A. Sociology

May 2021

California State University, Northridge –
Northridge, CA

B.A. Sociology

June 2019

B.A. Chicanx Studies

Minor: Educational Studies

University of California, Santa Barbara –
Santa Barbara, CA

Research Interests

higher education, educational attainment, Latinx communities, underrepresented communities, families, race, gender, qualitative methods

Manuscripts in Progress

Gabriela R. Flores. “Parental Engagement in First-Generation Latine Daughters’ College Journeys”

Stephanie L. Canizales and **Gabriela R. Flores.** “Living legal trauma: The effects of punitive immigration laws on immigrant community helpers’ personal and professional lives.”

Gabriela R. Flores and Stephanie L. Canizales. “How gender and parent status shape experiences of legal trauma among immigrant community helpers.”

Flores, Gabriela R., and Daisy Verduzco Reyes. Latine/x Students in Higher Education. *The Sage Encyclopedia of Education and Gender*

Mireles, Amanda, **Gabriela R. Flores,** and Daisy Verduzco Reyes. Forthcoming. The Emotional Cost of Closeness: How Latinx Families Navigated Challenges to Familism during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Population Association of America*

Publications

Flores, G., Elena G. van Stee, Ariel Chan, and Angelica Qin. 2023. "getting both sides of the story: the benefits of dyadic interviewing in studies of young adulthood." Contexts. <https://contexts.org/blog/dyadic-interviewing-ya/>

Lopez-Escobar, L., Rodriguez, S., **Flores, G.** 2023, October 11. Raising awareness about Hispanic-Serving Institutions for Latinx students and families. *Immigrant Ed Next*. <https://www.immigratednextsophiarodriguezphd.com/post/raising-awareness-about-hispanic-serving-institutions-for-latinx-students-and-families>

Carter, M. J., Martin Aguilar, J., & **Flores, G. R.**, 2021. "Role Identities and Self-Efficacy: Examining the Effect of Conventional vs. Idiosyncratic Role Identity Meanings." *Current Psychology (New Brunswick, N.J.)*.

Presentations

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| Flores, G. R. , Amanda Mireles, and Daisy Verduzco Reyes presented on The Emotional Cost of Closeness: How Latinx Families Navigated Challenges to Familism during the COVID-19 Pandemic at Population Association of America's Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.. | 2025 |
| Canizales, S. L., presented on <i>Living legal Trauma: How Punitive Immigration Laws Shape Immigrant Community Helpers' Professional and Personal Lives</i> at David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University with Gabriela R. Flores | 2025 |
| Flores, G. R. , presented on <i>Latine Parental Engagement in Daughters' College Persistence</i> at the annual Sociology of Education Association (SEA) conference in Asilomar, California. | 2025 |
| Flores, G. R. , presented on <i>Latinx Parental Engagement in Adult Children's College Persistence</i> at University of California, Merced, Migration Matters Conference | 2024 |
| Flores, G.R. , presented on <i>Latinx Parental Engagement in Adult Children's College Persistence</i> at George Mason University, Education & Health Research Hub's Conference on "College Students of Immigrant Origin," Virtual Conference. | 2024 |
| Flores, G.R. , Guest Lecture on <i>Borderlands Theory</i> during Introduction to Sociology. | 2023 |
| Flores, G.R. , Guest Lecture on <i>Sociology of Education</i> during Introduction to Sociology. | 2022 |

Flores, G. R., Martin Aguilar, J., & Carter, M. Role Identities and Self-Efficacy: Examining the Effect of Conventional vs. Idiosyncratic Role Identity Meanings.” California Sociological Association annual meetings, Virtual Conference.

2020

Research Experience

Graduate Student Researcher for Dr. Daisy Verduzco Reyes
Sociology Department, University of California, Merced
 Merced, CA

Jan. 2024 – Aug. 2024

Project Area: Latinx families, college-educated Latinx, gender, families, financial debt, COVID-19 Pandemic

- Coded interviews to highlight key themes among interviews with college-educated Latinx adults
- Developed write-ups on each theme
- Developed topics for potential manuscripts

Graduate Student Researcher for Dr. Stephanie Canizales
Sociology Department, University of California, Merced
 Merced, CA

May 2022 – Aug. 2022

May 2023 - Aug. 2023

Project Area: asylum seeking-refugee services, immigrant communities, mental health, safety, fear, insecurity

- Conducted 43 interviews with attorneys, legal assistants, social workers, etc., to understand the experiences of individuals who work with asylum-seeking refugees in two states
- Transcribed files
- Coded files to highlight key themes among these
- Obtained training in trauma informed, culturally sensitive interview methods

Research Assistant for Dr. Moshoula Capous-Desyllas
Sociology Department, California State University, Northridge
 Northridge, CA

July 2020 – June 2021

Project Title: Using Photovoice Methodology to Understand the Experiences of LGBTQ+ Refugees & Asylum Seekers living in Athens, Greece

- Reviewed photovoice research data and qualitative interviews on identity, home, belonging, and immigration
- Coded photographs and captions and organized images into themes
- Developed three arts-based research film projects for public dissemination

- Curated three video clips based on research data, showcasing the experiences of LGBTQI+ Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Athens, Greece

Research Assistant for Dr. Michael J. Carter

July 2020 – June 2021

Sociology Department, California State University, Northridge
Northridge, CA

Project Title: Role Identities and Self-Efficacy: Idiosyncratic versus Conventional Role Meanings

- Developed a literature review on role identities and self-efficacy
- Assisted in writing and editing a manuscript for submission to a scholarly, peer-reviewed journal

Professional Experience**Teaching Assistant**

Spring 2025

SOC 150: Sociology of Self and Society

Sociology Department, University of California, Merced
Merced, CA

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2024

SOC 145: Sociology of Health

Sociology Department, University of California, Merced
Merced, CA

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2023

SOC 100: Sociological Theory

Sociology Department, University of California, Merced
Merced, CA

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2023

SOC 100: Sociological Theory

Sociology Department, University of California, Merced
Merced, CA

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2022

SOC 038: Sociology of Race and Racism

Sociology Department, University of California, Merced
Merced, CA

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

SOC 001: Introduction to Sociology

Sociology Department, University of California, Merced
Merced, CA

Honors, Awards, and Funding

Sociology Department Graduate Student Mini-Grant

Spring 2025

\$1,200 award to support dissertation research needs. Students are selected based on good standing during the 2024-2025 academic year.

Summer 2024

Latina Futures Fellowship

\$5,000 award to support research needs focused on increasing knowledge and insight through applied policy research on the contours of economic, political, and social lives of Latinas living in the U.S. over the next several decades.

Fall 2022 – Spring 2023

Grad-EXCEL Peer Mentorship Program

\$200 mentor stipend. Selected to participate as a mentor to incoming doctoral students in the department of Sociology. Grad-EXCEL is designed to promote early success in first-year doctoral students. Mentors provide coaching and engagement during the acclimation period.

Sociology Department Graduate Student Mini-Grant

Spring 2022

\$600 award to support research needs. Students are selected based on good standing during the 2021-2022 academic year.

Competitive Edge Summer Bridge Program

Summer 2021

\$5,000 award to assist incoming doctoral students. During the program, students attend a series of seminars and workshops designed to help students acclimate to graduate work. Some of these seminars and workshops include fellowship writing, professional development, research methods, and data management.

Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholarship

Summer 2021

California State University

\$3,000 award to support Pre-Doctoral Program activities. Entitled to participate in a Summer 2021 research experience at a doctoral-granting institution.

Teaching Assistant Fellowship

2020 – 2021

California State University, Northridge

\$300 fellow stipend. Fellows are selected through a competitive application and interview process. Program training focuses on a range of topics including teaching philosophy development, syllabus and lesson design, professional development, and

principles in advanced pedagogy. Upon completion of the program, fellows are awarded a Certificate of Teaching.

Promise Scholarship

2015 – 2019

University of California, Santa Barbara

\$120,000 in grants and scholarships offered to high-achieving, first-generation students from low-income households.

Service

Graduate Student Reviewer/Representative, <i>Institutional Review Board</i> University of California, Merced	2022 – Present
Vice-President, <i>Sociology Graduate Student Committee</i> University of California, Merced	2024 – Present
President, <i>Sociology Graduate Student Committee</i> University of California, Merced	2023 – 2024
Professional Development Co-Chair, <i>Sociology Graduate Student Committee</i> University of California, Merced	2022 – 2023
Graduate Student Panel for Prospective Doctoral Students via Webinar, <i>Sociology Department</i> University of California, Merced	Fall 2022
Social and Community Co-Chair, <i>Sociology Graduate Student Committee</i> University of California, Merced	2021 – 2022

Professional Activities and Affiliations

Member, Population Association of America	2025 – Present
Member, American Educational Research Association	2024 – Present
Member, American Sociological Association	2021 – Present
Member, Sociology of Education Association	2021 – Present
Member, Latina/o Sociology Association	2021 – Present