

JoAnna Boudreaux, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Teaching and Internship Coordinator, Department of Sociology,
University of Memphis

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Communication Studies, University of Memphis, 2022

Dissertation: *Under Her Feet: A Case Study on Motherhood Discourse in a U.S. American Muslim Community.*

Committee: Katherine Grace Hendrix (Chair), David Gray Matthews, Craig Stewart, Michael Vicente Perez.

Graduate Certificate in Women & Gender Studies, University of Memphis, 2020

M.A. in Sociology, University of Memphis, 2017

Thesis Title: *The Fear Factor: Developing a Framework of Emotional Cognition for Understanding Muslim Americans' Voting Behavior in 2016.*

Committee: Junmin Wang (chair), Wesley James, Seth Abrutyn.

B.A. in Sociology, University of Memphis, 2015, *Summa Cum Laude*.

Minors: African American Studies, Women's Studies, English. Helen Hardin Honors program participant.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Teaching and Internship Coordinator, Department of Sociology,
University of Memphis (2023-Present)

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, The University of
Memphis (2022-2023)

Adjunct Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Science, Southwest Community
College, Memphis, Tennessee (2021-2022)

Graduate Thesis and Dissertation Analyst, Graduate Programs, The University of Memphis (2020-2022)

Graduate Instructor, Department of Communication and Film, The University of Memphis (2018-2022)

Adjunct Instructor, Department of Sociology, The University of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee (2017-2018)

Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Sociology, The University of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee (2015-2017)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Motherhood, Religious Identity, Women's Reproductive Health Issues, Experimental Pedagogy, Qualitative Methods.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Boudreaux, JoAnna. (Forthcoming 2025). *Borders and Belonging: Sociological Perspectives on Race, Ethnicity, and the Making of America*. Textbook under contract with Kendall Hunt Publishing.

Boudreaux, JoAnna. 2024. *Islam, Motherhood, and Discourses of Faith*. Peter Lang Publishers.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Boudreaux JoAnna (forthcoming / accepted for publication). "The Role of Culture and Religion in Shaping Emotional Experience: An Exploration of KUSHU' in Islamic Prayer." *The Journal of Communication and Religion*.

Boudreaux, JoAnna, Cristobal M. Valdebenito, & Latrice C. Pichon. 2025. "Identifying Access Barriers to PrEP Among Cisgender Black/African American Women in the United States: A Systematic Review of the Literature." *Healthcare*, 13(1), 86.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare13010086>

Boudreaux, JoAnna. 2022. "Deadening Lives and Identities Held Captive: An Autoethnographic Reflection on My Father's Death." *Journal of Autoethnography*. 3(3), 304-312.

Boudreaux, JoAnna. 2020. "The Radical Spiritual Motherhood of Amina Wadud: Black Woman Scholar Speaking Truth to Patriarchy." *Listening Journal of Communication Ethics, Religion, and Culture*, 55 (3), 207-219.

Boudreaux, JoAnna. 2019. "Naming Obstetric Violence; Coercion, Bullying, and Intimidation in Non-evidence Based Childbirth Interventions." *Journal of Mother Studies*, 4.

Book Chapters

Boudreaux, JoAnna. (Forthcoming). "Emotion Work and Identity in Scripted Classrooms: A Sociological Lens on Teacher Adaptation," In Gould, O. (Ed.) *Best Teacher Practices for Scripted Curricula*. Under contract with IGI Global Scientific Publishers.

Boudreaux, JoAnna (Forthcoming). "A Case Study on Course Creation: "AI and the Social Construction of Knowledge," In Pritts, N. (Ed.) *Empowering Educational Development and Faculty Growth with AI*. Under contract with IGI Global Scientific Publishers.

Boudreaux, JoAnna. 2021. "The Case of Dina Tokio: Using Symbolic Convergence Theory to Understand the Backlash." In Watkins, B. (Ed.) *Research perspectives on social media influencers and their followers*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books: 167-180.

Book Reviews

Boudreaux, JoAnna. 2025. Review of *The Social Origins of Thought: Durkheim, Mauss, and the Category Project*, edited by J. F. M. Schick, M. Schmidt, and M. Zillinger. *Anthropos* 120(1):155–158.

Boudreaux, JoAnna. 2020. "Drawing the Complexity of Muslim Identity: A Review of Sophia Rose Arjana's *Veiled Superheroes Islam Feminism and Popular Culture*, In *Departures in Critical Research* (8) 4:118-121.

Public Scholarship

Boudreaux, JoAnna. 2025. "Can We Still Come to Class if We Want To?" *First Publics*, The Society Pages, April 29. <https://thesocietypages.org/firstpublics/2025/04/29/can-we-still-come-to-class-if-we-want-to/>

Boudreaux, JoAnna. 2024. "Teaching Sociology in 2025: Navigating the Chaos with Empathy." *Uplift Memphis, Uplift the Nation: Voices & Perspectives for Progress*, Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change, University of Memphis. <https://blogs.memphis.edu/benhooksinstitute>

Boudreaux, JoAnna, and Kendra Murphy. 2024. "AI in the Classroom." *First Publics*, The Society Pages, January 6. <https://thesocietypages.org/firstpublics/2025/01/06/embracing-ai-in-the-sociological-classroom/>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

I have taught courses at both the graduate and undergraduate levels using in-person, online, and hybrid formats.

Graduate-Level Courses

Social and Behavioral Scientific Principles

Public Health Communication

Undergraduate-Level Courses

Racial & Ethnic Minorities

Medical Sociology

Gender & Society

Marriage & Family

Contemporary Social Theory

Writing in Sociology

Introduction to Sociology

Health Behavior and Theory

Intercultural Communication

Communication and Conflict

Research Methods

Communication Inquiry

Oral Communication

COURSES DESIGNED

AI & The Social Construction of Knowledge (undergraduate)

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) Initiation Speaker Grant, \$500 — 2025. Awarded to support guest speaker Dr. John Pruitt for the AKD initiation ceremony. Served as event organizer.

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

2022 Graduate Assistant Meritorious Teaching Award, The University of Memphis (\$500).

2021 Graduate Student Research Award, The University of Memphis (\$500).

2021 Osborne Fellowship Recipient, The University of Memphis Department of Communication and Film, (\$3,000).

2021 University of Memphis Alumni and Retirees (UMAR) Scholarship recipient (\$1,500).

2021 Top Student Paper in Ethnography Division, Southern States Communication Association, Virtual (April).

2021 Top Student Paper in Spirituality Division, National Communication Association Conference, Baltimore Maryland (November).

2019 Top Student Paper in Women and Gender Studies Division, Southern States Communication Association Conference, Montgomery Alabama (March).

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Invited Talks and Colloquia

“Under Her Feet: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Motherhood Rhetoric in an American Muslim Community.” Colloquium Presentation, Department of Sociology, University of Memphis (September 2024).

Conference Presentations

“Navigating the Future of AI in the Classroom: ChatGPT as a Tool for Critical Thinking.” Roundtable discussion, Conference on Learning and Student Success, San Juan, Puerto Rico (April 2025).

“AI Technology and ChatGPT as a Strategy for Critical Thinking.” Roundtable discussion, Teaching Symposium at the American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada (August 2024).

Pichon, Latrice, JoAnna Boudreaux, Erin N. Jewell, Gisela Guerrero, Aima A. Akonkhai, and April C. Pettit. "Faith as a Determinant of Linkage to HIV Care Research and Practice in the U.S. South." Paper presented at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting and Expo, Atlanta, GA (November 2023).

"My Father Died This Summer: Toward a Radical Theory of Relationality and a Politic of Love." Top Papers in Ethnography Panel, Southern States Communication Association Conference. Virtual (April 2021).

"On the Border: Between Whiteness and Otherness in the *Ms. Marvel* Origin Story." Harboring Hope and Rebuilding Identity: A Critical Approach to Institutions, Southern States Communication Association Conference. Virtual (April 2021).

"What Am I? The Social Construction of an Ambiguous Self." Doing Autoethnography Conference, St. Petersburg, FL (January 2020).

"The Radical Spiritual Motherhood of Amina Wadud: Black Woman Scholar Speaking Truth to Patriarchy." Religious Association Conference, Baltimore, MD (November 2019).

"Social Bonds and the Islamic Prayer Ritual." Top Papers in Spirituality Panel, National Communication Association Conference, Baltimore, MD (November 2019).

"Renaming Unnecessary Childbirth Interventions as Obstetric Violence." National Communication Association Conference, Baltimore, MD (November 2019).

"Unveiling the Veil: Muslim Women and Identity." Top Papers in Gender Studies Panel, Southern States Communication Association Conference, Montgomery, AL (April 2019).

"Fear Factor: Developing a Theory of Emotion-Cognition to Understand Muslim-American Voting Behavior during the 2016 Presidential Election." University of Chicago Ethnography Conference, Chicago, IL (March 2019).

"Muslim Women and Identity Performance." Southern Sociological Society Conference, Greenville, SC (March 2017).

"Ibn Khaldun, Forgotten Father of Sociology." Association for Black Sociologists Conference, Memphis, TN (October 2016).

Guest Lectures and Classroom Invited Talks

(Invited by course instructors to lecture on specific topics.)

"Social Groups and Social Order." *Introduction to Sociology*, University of Memphis (September 2024).

“Processes of Socialization.” *Introduction to Sociology*, University of Memphis (September 2024).

“Research Ethics.” *Behavioral Intervention Design*, University of Memphis (September 2022).

“Autoethnography as Research Method.” *Methods in Anthropology*, University of Memphis (September 2022).

“Islam 101.” *World Religions*, Midland, Texas (October 2020).

“Theory of Emotional Cognition to Understand Muslim-American Political Behavior during the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election.” *Religion and Politics*, University of Memphis (April 2019).

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Service to Academic Departments

Internship Coordinator, Sociology Department, University of Memphis (2023–present)

Alpha Kappa Delta Chapter Representative, Sociology Department, University of Memphis (2024–present)

Jerry Michael Award Committee Member, Sociology Department, University of Memphis (2024–present)

Undergraduate Committee Member, Sociology Department, University of Memphis (2024–present)

Curriculum Redesign Committee, Department of Communication and Film, University of Memphis (2020)

Service to Peer-Reviewed Journals

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Religious Communication* (2024–present)

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Mother Studies* (2021)

Ad Hoc Reviewer for *Feminist Media Studies* (2018, 2024, 2025)

Ad Hoc Reviewer for *Journal of Autoethnography* (2020, 2022, 2024)

Ad Hoc Reviewer for *Culture, Health and Sexuality* (2025)

Ad Hoc Reviewer for *HIV/AIDS and Social Services* (2022)

Ad Hoc Reviewer for *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* (2022)

Ad Hoc Reviewer for *Journal of Gender, Place, and Culture* (2022)

Service to Discipline

Textbook Reviewer for Rowman & Littlefield Publishers (2022)

Textbook Reviewer for MacMillan Publishers (2022)

Textbook Reviewer for Cognella Publishing Company (2022)

Service to Conferences

Co-Chair, Panel Discussion, “Navigating the Future of AI in the Classroom: ChatGPT as a Tool for Critical Thinking,” AAC&U Conference on Learning and Student Success, San Juan, Puerto Rico (April 2025)

Reviewer for Spiritual Communication Division, National Communication Association (2021)

Reviewer for Critical Division, National Communication Association (2021)

Reviewer for Feminist and Gender Studies Division, National Communication Association (2020)

Chair and Respondent, Gender Studies Division, Southern States Communication Association (2020)

Reviewer, Gender Studies Division, Southern States Communication Association (2019)

Event Co-Organizer and Chair, “Colloquium of Collaboration,” Communication Graduate Student Association, University of Memphis (2019)

Co-Organizer, Chair, and Respondent, “Balancing the Mix: Popular Music and Social Justice,” University of Memphis (2019)

Co-Organizer, “Sickle Cell Day,” Sickle Cell Foundation and University of Memphis (2018)

Service to Community

Online Workshop Presentation: “Media Literacy and COVID,” Benjamin Hooks Library (October 2020)

Workshop Presentation: “Media Literacy Education for Tween/Teens,” Benjamin Hooks Library (March 2020)

Research Assistant, Bone Marrow Transplant and Cellular Therapy Department, St. Jude’s Research Hospital (August–December 2018)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Institute on Teaching Social Action: Rhodes College, Memphis – Spring 2024. Successfully completed the Spring '24 Institute on Teaching Social Action at Rhodes College in Memphis, an intensive three-day national faculty course development training on social action pedagogy and curriculum, with the goal of creating a transformative college course.

Summer Faculty Development and Teaching Institute – Mastery Track: University of Memphis, Summer 2020. Completed an intensive three-week professional development program focused on the design, development, and delivery of high-quality online courses. The program included synchronous and asynchronous instruction on online pedagogy, instructional technology, and course design. Earned digital badges for each phase and a certificate of completion signed by university leadership.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association, Southern Sociological Association, Association for Sociologists of Religion, Diversity Scholars Network, Alpha Kappa Delta