

Abigail Tessmer

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[Google Scholar](#)

EDUCATION

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|------------------------|--|
| Spring 2028 (expected) | University of Oklahoma
Ph.D. in Sociology
<i>Graduate Certificate: Women's and Gender Studies</i> |
| 2023 | University of Oklahoma
M.A. in Sociology |
| 2021 | University of Texas at Austin
B.A. in Sociology, with Honors
<i>Minor: LGBTQ Studies</i> |

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

race, gender, mixed methods, queer methods, Du Boisian Sociology, whiteness, queer & transgender studies, intersectionality, queer of color critique

PUBLICATIONS

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| 2025 | Tessmer, Abigail and Meredith Worthen. "Transgender Realities: The Relationship Between Transgender Visibility, Race, and Victimization" in <i>The Journal of Interpersonal Violence</i> . |
| 2025 | Tessmer, Abigail , Worthen, Meredith, Schleifer, Cyrus. "Drag Participation and Trans Women's Mental Health" in <i>The Journal of Creativity in Mental Health</i> . |

Encyclopedia Entries

- | | |
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| 2025 (forth.) | Tessmer, Abigail and Meredith Worthen. "Stonewall Uprising" in <i>SAGE Crime & Gender Encyclopedia</i> . |
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Works Under Review (Full Manuscript Available)

McGee, **Tessmer**, Worthen, & Hope. "Walking While Trans: Exploring Police Violence and Misconduct Towards Trans People through Intersectional Subjection." Under review at *Criminology*.

Works in Progress (Full Drafts Available)

Tessmer, Abigail. “The Racial Safety Blanket.”

Tessmer, Abigail. “The Academic Axe: Inaccessibility and Stratification in U.S. Academia.”

PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 **Abigail Tessmer** and Meredith Worthen. “Transgender Realities: The Relationship Between Transgender Visibility, Race, and Victimization,” presented at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago
- 2024 **Abigail Tessmer**, Meredith Worthen, and Cyrus Schleifer. “Drag Participation and Trans Women’s Mental Health,” presented at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal
- 2024 **Abigail Tessmer**, Meredith Worthen, and Cyrus Schleifer. “Drag Participation and Trans Women’s Mental Health,” presented at LGBTQ Research Symposium, University of Kansas and University of Connecticut
- 2022 **Abigail Tessmer.** “Transgender Realities: How Visibility, Gender, Race, and Transition Status Relate to Verbal Harassment for Trans and Non-Binary Individuals,” presented at Advanced Quantitative Methods Working Group (ADQUANT), University of Oklahoma
- 2021 **Abigail Tessmer.** “The Effects of Drag on Trans and Non-Binary Mental Health Outcomes Based on the 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey,” OU Sociology Advanced Regression Analysis Annual Presentations, University of Oklahoma

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

- 2023-present **Dodge Family Graduate Fellowship** (\$5,000 yearly)
The Graduate College, University of Oklahoma
- 2025 **Conference and Travel Grant** (\$750)
Graduate Student Senate, University of Oklahoma
- 2021-present **Graduate Teaching Assistantship & Tuition Waiver** (Annually \$30,000)
Department of Sociology, University of Oklahoma

HONORS & INVITATIONS

- 2024 **Presider of Gender & Health Roundtable**
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal

2024

Carceral Studies Newsletter Member Spotlight
Carceral Studies Consortium, The University of Oklahoma

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2024-present

Instructor

Department of Sociology, University of Oklahoma

- Undergraduate courses taught/prepared:
 - Social Problems (2 semesters)
 - Burning Down the House!: Revolutionary Rhetoric & Social Activism (upper division—forth.)

2021-2024

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Department of Sociology, University of Oklahoma

- Undergraduate courses assisted:
 - Sexual Deviance (2 semesters)
 - Sociology of Law (1 semester)
 - Race and Ethnicities (2 semesters)
 - Urban Street Gangs (1 semester)
 - Sociology of Family (1 semester)
 - Deviance (4 semesters)
 - Social Problems (1 semester)
 - Social Statistics (1 semester)
 - Criminology Capstone (1 semester)

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE & SOCIAL JUSTICE EFFORTS

Department & University Experience

2024-present

Community Outreach Director

LGBTQ Research & Engagement Collective, University of Oklahoma

2025

Organized mini conference for interdisciplinary student research

2024-present

Core Affiliate Board Member

Carceral Studies Consortium, University of Oklahoma

2024-2025

Women's & Gender Studies Graduate Student Senator

The Graduate College, University of Oklahoma

2022-2023

Sociology Graduate Student Senator

The Graduate College, University of Oklahoma

Public Relations Committee Member

In the Community

2019-present

U.S. Professional Cheerleading Representative

Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA), Head Instructor

2024-present

SHRED (Safety Harm Reduction Education & Delivery) the Stigma

Community Harm Reduction Volunteer

2023	ReMerge Oklahoma <i>GED Tutor & Volunteer</i>
2021-present	Oklahomans for Reproductive Justice <i>Member</i>
2020	Black Lives Matter <i>Student Ally</i> in Austin
2019-2021	Students for Planned Parenthood <i>Volunteer & Member</i> , University of Texas at Austin

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2022-present	American Sociological Association (ASA) <i>Member</i>
2022-present	American Sociological Association (ASA)-Sex & Gender Section <i>Member</i>
2022-present	Sociologists For Trans Justice (S4TJ) <i>American Sociological Association (ASA) Committee Member</i>

RESEARCH SKILLS

Software Proficiency: STATA (expert), SPSS (expert), NVivo (proficient)
Data: 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey (USTS), National Transgender Discrimination Survey (NTDS), General Social Survey (GSS)

REFERENCES

Meredith Worthen
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