

Kaitlin H. Joshua

Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Ph.D., Department of Sociology, May 2027 (expected)

- Comprehensive Exams: Medical Sociology, Family Sociology
- Dissertation: Fruits of Our Labor: A Qualitative Model of (In)Fertility
- Committee: Jessica Su (chair), Karen Benjamin Guzzo, Bob Hummer, Lisa Pearce, Mia Brantley (North Carolina State University)

M.A., Department of Sociology, May 2024

- Thesis: “Beyond Baby Blues”: Making Sense of Postpartum Depression Online
- Committee: Taylor Hargrove (chair), Lisa Pearce, Neal Caren

Vanderbilt University

B.A., Medicine, Health and Society, Economics (double major), May 2021

Research Interests

Health/Medicine/Illness, Family, Fertility, Reproductive Health, Transition to Parenthood, Qualitative Methods, Mixed Methods

Funding

- (*Pending*) Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, American Sociological Association, 2026-2027 (\$16,000)
- Graduate Student Transportation Grant, UNC Graduate School, 2024 (\$1,500)
- Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation, 2023-2026 (\$147,000)
- Summer Research Stipend, UNC Sociology, 2023 (\$4,000)
- Summer Research Stipend, UNC Sociology, 2022 (\$4,000)
- Lovinger Family Internship Fund, Vanderbilt University Career Center, 2019 (\$5,000)

Publications

Refereed Journal Articles

- [Joshua, Kaitlin H. 2026. “I thought I could postpartum-proof my experience’: Embodiment, Resisting, and Negotiating Medicalization Online.” *Social Science and Medicine*.](#)
- Allison, Bianca A., Alessandra Angelino, **Kaitlin H. Joshua**, Lydia Strayhorn, Peyton Rogers, and Emily S. Mann. 2024. “It Means Being Safe, Having Power over One’s Body’: Black Female Adolescent Experiences with Reproductive Health Counseling in Primary Care.” *Journal of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology*.
- Allison, Bianca A., Alessandra C. Angelino, **Kaitlin H. Joshua**, Peyton Rogers, and Lydia Strayhorn. 2023. “126. Black Female Adolescent Experiences with Reproductive Health Counseling in Primary Care: A Qualitative Study.” *Journal of Adolescent Health*.

Works In Progress

- **Joshua, Kaitlin H.**, Jenna Wertsching, Dana Haynie, Amanda Thompson, Lisa Pearce. “Family Networks and Prenatal Distress.”
- Su, Jessica Houston, **Kaitlin H. Joshua**. “Feeding into Inequality: How Breastfeeding Shapes Gendered Roles in Parenting and Paid Employment in the United States.”
- Murrow, Julia, **Kaitlin H. Joshua**, Jenna Wertsching, Lisa Pearce, Dana Haynie. “Family Network Ties During Pregnancy in Relation to Depressive Symptoms.”

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Selected Presentations

- **Joshua, Kaitlin Hope.** “Fruits of Our Labor: A Qualitative Model of Fertility.” Tar Devils Sociology Symposium; Chapel Hill, NC; February 2026.
- **Joshua, Kaitlin Hope.** “Conceiving Online: Anticipation, Family Planning, and Aspiring Parenthood.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting; Roundtable on Geography, Space, and Place; Chicago, IL; August 2025. [Presider]
- **Joshua, Kaitlin Hope,** Jenna Wertsching, Dana Haynie, Amanda Thompson, Lisa Pearce. “Family Networks and Prenatal Distress.” International Network for Social Network Analysis Sunbelt Conference; Social Support and Health; Paris, France; June 2025.
- **Joshua, Kaitlin Hope.** “Beyond Baby Blues’: Making Sense of Postpartum Depression Online.” Population Association of America; Fertility, Family Planning, Sexual Behavior, and Reproductive Health Poster Session; Washington, D.C.; April 2025.
- **Joshua, Kaitlin Hope.** “Beyond Baby Blues’: Making Sense of Postpartum Depression Online.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting; Socioecological Determinants of Mental Health; Montréal, QC; August 2024.
- **Joshua, Kaitlin Hope,** Bianca A. Allison, and Emily S. Mann. “Reinforcing autonomy, building trust: Black girls’ evaluations of sources of sexual and reproductive health information.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting; Medical Mistrust, Misinformation, and Health; Philadelphia, PA; August 2023.

Teaching

Instructor of Record

- SOCI 89, Gender Equity in S.T.E.M. (co-taught) (Fall 2025)
- SOCI 422, Sociology of Mental Health and Illness (Summer 2025)
- SOCI 130, Family and Society (Summer 2024)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- SOCI 124, Sex and Gender in Society (Spring 2024)
- SOCI 121, Population Problems (Fall 2023)
- SOCI 430, Sociology of Food and Food Justice (Spring 2023)
- SOCI 122, Race and Ethnicity (Fall 2022)
- SOCI 172, Introduction to Population Health (Spring 2022)
- SOCI 422, Sociology of Mental Health and Illness (Fall 2021)

Guest Lectures

- “Gender and Health”, Course: Sex and Gender (Spring 2024)
- “Beyond Baby Blues’: Making Sense of Postpartum Depression Online”, Course: Qualitative Research Methods (Fall 2023)

Experience

Professional

- Assistant Project Coordinator, Family Matters Research Study, 2023-2024
- Graduate Research Assistant, UNC School of Medicine, 2022
- Press Intern, Committee on Oversight and Reform, U.S. House of Representatives, 2020
- Press Intern, Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives, 2019

Service

- Co-Facilitator, Fellowship & Grants Working Group, UNC Sociology, 2025-present
- Graduate Student Representative, Hiring Search Committee, UNC Sociology, 2024

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- Reviewer, NSF GRFP Writing Workshop, UNC Materials Research Society, 2023-2024
- Social Committee, UNC Sociology, 2023-2024
- Recruitment Committee, UNC Sociology, 2022-2023

Memberships

American Sociological Association, 2020-present

- Sections on Medical Sociology, Family Sociology, and Sex & Gender