*February 2024*

**Megan M. Reynolds**

E-mail: [megan.reynolds@soc.utah.edu](mailto:megan.reynolds@soc.utah.edu) University of Utah

Phone: +1 (919) 724-9666 Department of Sociology

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**CURRENT POSITION**

## Associate Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, University of Utah

## EDUCATION

PhD **Duke University**, Sociology, 2014

“Power, Policy and Health in Rich Democracies.”

Committee: David Brady (co-chair), Linda George (co-chair), Jason Beckfield, Ken Land, Jen’nan G. Read and John Stephens

Bridging literatures within political and medical sociology to examine the influence of public healthcare, social policies and organized labor on infant mortality and life expectancy across 22 rich democracies, this project illuminates previously obscured macro-structural conditions that engender health inequalities. This work was supported by a fellowship through the Program for Advanced Research in the Social Sciences at Duke University.

MA **University of Massachusetts-Boston***,* Applied Sociology, 2005 (Magna cum Laude) Concentration in Medical Sociology

B.A. BA **Johnson State College**, Sociology/Anthropology *&* Political Science, 2001 (Magna cum Laude)

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Health & Illness

Stratification & Inequality

Politics & Policy

Work and Labor

Race/Ethnicity

Gender

**PUBLICATIONS (Graduate Students Underlined)**

**Peer-Reviewed Articles**

1. Fox, Ashley M., Lyle Scruggs and Megan M. Reynolds. Forthcoming. “Is Redistribution Good for Our Health? Examining the Macro-Correlation Between Welfare Generosity and Health Across EU Nations Over the Last 40 Years.” ***Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law.***
2. Reynolds, Megan M. and Patricia Homan. 2023. “Income Support Policies and Birth Outcomes in U.S. States.” ***Population Research and Policy Review***. 42 (73).
3. Fox, Ashley M., and Megan M. Reynolds. 2022. “Insider-Outsider Politics and Support for Universal Health Coverage in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: Evidence from Afrobarometer Surveys.” ***Sociology of Development.*** 8 (4): 379–418.
4. Fox, Ashley M., Megan M. Reynolds and Wenhui Feng. 2022. “The Effect of Administrative Burden on State Safety-Net Participation: Evidence from SNAP, TANF and Medicaid.” ***Public Administration Review.*** 1– 18.
5. Ruhnke, Simon, Megan M. Reynolds, Fernando Wilson and James Stimpson. 2022. “A Healthy Migrant Effect? Estimating Health Outcomes of the Undocumented Immigrant Population in the United States Using Machine Learning.” ***Social Science & Medicine***. August(307):115177.
6. Reynolds, Megan M. 2021. “Health Power Resources Theory: A Relational Approach to the Study of Health Inequalities.” ***Journal of Health and Social Behavior***. December 62(4):493-511
7. Reynolds, Megan M., Ashley M. Fox, Yvette Young. 2021. “State-Level Social Safety-Nets for Families Coping with Job Loss.” ***Poverty & Public Policy***. June(13):120-138.
8. Reynolds, Megan M. and Veerle Buffel. 2020. “Organized Labor and Depression in Europe: Making Power Explicit in the Political Economy of Health.” ***Journal of Health and Social Behavior.*** 61(3):342-358.
9. Pabayo, Roman, Amy Ehntholt, Daniel M. Cook, Megan M. Reynolds, Peter Muennig and Sze Yan Liu. 2020. “Laws Restricting Access to Abortion Services and Infant Mortality Risk in the United States.” ***International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.*** May(17):3773.
10. Reynolds, Megan M., Ashley M. Fox, Ming Wen, Mike Varner. 2020. “Is Less More? Examining the Relationship between Food Assistance Generosity and Childhood Weight.” ***SSM - Population Health.***August(11).
11. Reynolds, Megan M. and Trenita Childers. 2020. “Preventive Health Screening Disparities among Immigrants: Exploring Barriers to Care.” ***Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health.*** Apr 22(2):336-344.
12. Li, Kelin, Ming Wen, Megan M. Reynolds and Qi Zhang. 2019. “WIC Participation and Breastfeeding after the 2009 WIC Revision: A Propensity Score Approach.” ***International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health***. July(16):26-45.
13. Reynolds, Megan M. and Trenita Childers. 2019. “Cardiovascular Disease Screening Among Immigrants from Eight World Regions.” ***Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health.***August 21(4):820-829.
14. Cole, Wade and Megan M. Reynolds. 2019. “We Comply with a Little Help from Our Friends: Human Rights, Development Aid, and Wellbeing.” ***Social Forces.*** June 97(4): 1631–1664.
15. Reynolds, Megan M. 2018. “Compensation Appraisals and Labor Union Membership.” ***New Solutions: A Journal of Environmental and Occupational Health Policy.*** August 28(3):539–552.
16. Reynolds, Megan M. 2018. “Health Care Public Sector Share and the U.S. Life Expectancy Lag: A Country-level Longitudinal Study.” ***International Journal of Health Services***. January 48(2):328-348.
17. Geist, Claudia and Megan M. Reynolds. 2018. “Men’s and Women’s Marriage and Cohabitation Earnings Gaps in Comparative Perspective.” ***Journal of Comparative Family Studies.*** May 49(2):203-230.
18. Muennig, Peter, Megan M. Reynolds, Boshen Jiao and Roman Pabayo. 2018. “Why is Infant Mortality in the United States So Comparatively High? Some Possible Answers.” ***Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law***. October 43(5):879-895.
19. Meunnig, Peter, Megan M. Reynolds, David S. Fink, Zafar Zafari, Boshen Jiao and Arline T. Geronimus. 2018. “America’s Declining Well-Being, Health, and Life Expectancy: Not Just a White Problem.” ***AJPH.*** December108(12):1626–1631.
20. Reynolds, Megan M. and Mauricio Avendano. 2017. “Social Policy Expenditures and Life Expectancy in High-Income Countries.” ***American Journal of Preventive Medicine***. January 54(1):72-79.
21. Geist, Claudia, Megan M. Reynolds and Sarita Gaytán. 2017. “Unfinished Business: Disentangling Sex, Gender, and Sexuality in Sociological Research on Gender Stratification.” ***Sociology Compass.*** 11(4):1-16*.*
22. Reynolds, Megan M., Alla Chernenko and Jen'nan G. Read. 2016. “Region of Origin Diversity in Immigrant Health: Moving Beyond the Mexican Case.” ***Social Science & Medicine***. October(166):102-109.
23. Brady, David, Gordon Gauchat, Susanne Marquardt and Megan M. Reynolds. 2016. “Path Dependency and the Politics of Socialized Health Care.” ***Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law.*** 41(3):355-92.
24. Reynolds, Megan M. and David Brady. 2012. “Bringing You More than the Weekend: Union Membership and Self-Rated Health in the U.S, 1973-2006.” ***Social Forces.*** 90:1023-1049.

Research covered by the following media: The Center for Economic and Policy Research, The Society for Human Resource Management, The New York Amsterdam News, Community Health News, Duke University Research Blog, Industrial Safety and Hygiene News, The Union Edge.

1. Read, Jen’nan Ghazal and Megan M. Reynolds. 2012. “Gender Differences in Immigrant Health: The Case of Mexican and Middle Eastern Immigrants.” ***Journal of Health and Social Behavior.***53:99-123.

Research covered by North Carolina Public Radio and MedPage Today

1. Brady, David, Katelin Isaacs, Martha Reeves, Rebekah Burroway and Megan Reynolds. 2011. “Sector, Size, Stability and Scandal: Explaining the Presence of Female Executives in Fortune 500 Firms.” ***Gender in Management.*** 26(1): 84-104.

**Book Chapters**

1. Riosmena, Fernando, Hiram Beltrán-Sánchez, Megan M. Reynolds and Justin Vinneau. Forthcoming. “The Actual and Potential Implications of Rising Immigration Enforcement and Anti-immigrant Sentiment on the Health of the Mexican-origin Population on Both Sides of the Border” in **Equitable Globalization? Migration, Trade and Race in US-Mexico Relations**, edited by Edward Telles and Raúl Hinojosa-Ojeda. Berkeley: University of California Press.
2. Read, Jen’nan Ghazal and Megan M. Reynolds. 2012. “Gender and Health among Mexican and Middle-Eastern Immigrants” in ***Health Care and Immigration: Understanding the Connections,*** edited by Alejandro Portes and Patricia Fernandez-Kelly. Oxford: Routledge-Taylor Francis Group.
3. Ahlkvist, Jarl, Peter Spitzform, Emily Jones and Megan Reynolds. 2005. “Making Race Matter on Campus: Teaching and Learning about Race in the ‘Whitest State in the Union’” pp. 54-71 in ***Challenges in Multicultural Education: Teaching and Taking Diversity Courses***, edited by Norah Peters-Davis and Jeffrey Shultz. Boulder, CO: Paradigm Publishers.

**Works-in-Progress**

1. Reynolds, Megan M. “Power Relations and the Structural Turn in Explanations of Health Disparities” Invited to **International Journal of Social Determinants of Health and Health Services** special section on ‘Social Determinants of Health: State-of-the-art and Future Directions.’
2. Reynolds, Megan M., Fernando Riosmena and Hyesang Noh. “Co-Ethnic Concentration, Immigration Policy Climates, and Hispanic/Latino Population Health.” Presented at 2023 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.
3. Reynolds, Megan M. and Patricia Homan. “Power to the People: Power Resources and the Health of States.” Presented at 2021 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.
4. Reynolds, Megan M. “Active Labor Market Policies and US Life Expectancy.” Presented at 2021 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting.
5. Reynolds, Megan M. “Cross-Level Effects of Union Membership and Density on Depression in Europe.” Presented at 2021 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting.
6. Reynolds, Megan M. and Sandro Galea. “Power Relations and Population Health.”

**FUNDING, FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS**

**Current**

National Institute on Child Health and Human Development Research Project Grant (R01) ([1R01HD107077-01A1](https://public.era.nih.gov/grantfolder/viewCommonsStatus.era?applId=10588053&urlsignature=v1$28268386$1$cBTtwiZM1M3BKtSyuWzWvXj7Zfi40jILS4MmOiNgNdsbrUUV0R4sCyZXuvGDiIhbZiqwIeC9zvdiDIRrpTot4xYQhBRoX5CoqCgguvYZ7KQY4KnnIBkRHJnxNcwBMlBGHAw7mu2l-nB9IZINGGHRCSJ5U2Ax_6-wys4iFrB52sfXSrbIkgWh7MT98LFuCVCQYYZ-qHpwbOkjqn8_4-6KGlE7mvJ5GtfbyYVelA5R0MG1fqhUZmnBhpcteR0g2lL8cjDYA899BR4LBpdgHDz0yi1HSRc5apY85ZfbeXzuZgco-JIqjG0jnMWGgS0CWI_9u5yzyUQwMYg5eJ-KQYIPZQ..))

“Understanding the Relationship Between Economic Security Policy Generosity and Birth Outcomes among Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Women”

Role: Principal-Investigator

This study examines how combinations of economic security policies affect the risk of low birth weight and preterm birth among low-income women. Using a multilevel approach combining administrative and survey data, we examine how birth outcomes of women in the Panel Study of Income Dynamics differ as a function of variation within and across states in the combined generosity of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the Earned Income Tax Credit, the minimum wage, and Unemployment Insurance.

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Loan Repayment Program (L60MD013207)

“Economic Security Policy and Birth Outcomes among Socio-economically Disadvantaged Women”

Role: Principal Investigator

Using the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, this study (1) examines how individual ESPs and ESP combinations compare to one another in terms of the size of their effects on LBW and PTB; (2) determines the relative contribution of four potential mediators explaining the link between ESP generosity and birth outcomes (i.e., healthcare access, food insecurity, psychological distress, and prenatal health behaviors); and (3) identifies whether the effects of ESP generosity is moderated by poverty level, race, marital status, and education.

National Institute on Aging Research Project Grant (R01) (1R01AG068392-01A1)

“Health of Aging Mexicans on Both Sides of the Border”

Role: Co-Investigator (PI: Fernando Riosmena)

This studyexamines how changes to migration patterns and policies shape aging in the Mexican-originpopulation on both the U.S. and Mexico. Using a novel, binational approach, we examine how the mental and physical health of older adults has changed over time and across cohorts as a function of their migration experiences. We analyze rich longitudinal data from comparable surveys, the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) in the United States and the Mexican Health and Aging Study (MHAS) in Mexico, allowing us to concurrently study multiple cohorts binationally in the 2001-2021 period. We use georeferenced data from both surveys to link place- and time- varying data on migration policy and practices in the U.S.

**Pending Review**

National Institute on Aging Research Project Grant (R01)

“Labor Market Protections and Midlife Health among Working-Age Americans”

This study uses the Panel Study of Income Dynamics to examine (1) the extent to which labor market protections (LMPs) are associated with health among working-aged adults; (2) how temporal dynamics shape the relationship between LMPs and health; and (3) whether the association between LMPs and health differs across population subgroups (e.g., by gender, race, and education). By improving scientific knowledge of how labor market protections, and recent changes in those protections, predict physical, mental, and behavioral health among working-age adults, this research will support the funding, design, and delivery of LMPs with the greatest potential to improve mid-life health among American workers.

**Completed**

Loan Repayment Program for Health Disparities Research, NIMHD 2020

“Social Protection and Child Health Inequalities”

Role: Principal Investigator

The purpose of this award is to recruit and retain highly qualified health professionals into biomedical or biobehavioral research careers by repaying up to $35,000 annually of a researcher's qualified educational debt in return for a commitment to engage in NIH mission-relevant research.

Pilot Award, Consortium on Families and Health Research 2020

“The Effects of Economic Security Policy on Maternal and Child Health”

Role: Principal Investigator

The purpose of the Funding Incentive Seed Grant Program award is to support new areas of research for a principal investigator in an area likely to generate extramural funding.

Research Pilot Program**,** College of Social and Behavioral Sciences  2019

“The Effects of Social Safety Net Generosity on Birth Weight among Low-Income Women”

Role: Principal Investigator

The purpose of Research Pilot Program award is to enhance the investigator’s ability to attract and retain  
extramural funding by providing financial support for any designated purpose with appropriate justification, such as pilot studies designed to generate preliminary data for grant applications.

Demography Faculty Development Grant, University of Colorado Population Center 2019

“Hispanic Health in an Era of Rising Immigration Enforcement and Anti-immigrant Sentiment’”

This program funds pilot studies that expand research in the Population Center’s three signature themes – migration and population distribution; health; and environment. It encourages collaborative and interdisciplinary demographic research and aims to support young investigators who have not yet obtained external grant support.

KL2 Mentored Career Development Scholar Award 2018

“Social Protection and Health”

Role: Principal Investigator

The purpose of this award is to support the career development of junior faculty members who have made a commitment to focus their research endeavors on clinical or translational research in child health.

New Connections Award, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2017

“Policy Influences on Financial Hardship and Stress”

Role: Principal Investigator

The purpose of this grant is to expand the diversity of perspectives that inform RWJF programming and introduce new researchers to the Foundation to help address research and evaluation needs.

College of Social and Behavioral Science’s Junior Faculty Research Leave Award 2016

Role: Recipient

The purpose of this award is to assist young scholars in their pre-tenure years by providing a concentrated period of time during which they can engage in research to advance their careers

Vice President's Clinical and Translation Scholars Program 2017

Role: Recipient

The purpose of this two-year, competitive program is to offer intensive mentorship and support to junior faculty in the University of Utah to develop leadership competencies and the essential knowledge and practical skills to prepare and submit competitive grant applications.

Interdisciplinary Research Pilot Program, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences 2016  
“Innovative Measurements of Socio-economic Status and Maternal Health in Pregnancy”

Role: Co-Investigator

The purpose of this award is to foster new collaborative research within and across departments in CSBS and across colleges.

Pilot Award, Consortium on Families and Health Research 2016

“Does Family Caretaking Inflate the Gender and Immigrant Health Gaps?”

Role: Principal Investigator

The purpose of the Funding Incentive Seed Grant Program award is to support new areas of research for a principal investigator in an area likely to generate extramural funding.

**CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS**

“Integrating the Concept of Power Relations into Research on Population Health.” 2024 Columbia University Department of Health Policy and Management Brown Bag Series.

“Exploring the Role of Power Distributions in Structural Approaches to Immigrant Health.” 2023 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting.

“Co-Ethnic Concentration, Immigration Policy Climates, and Hispanic/Latino Population Health.” 2023 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

“Area-Level Healthcare Barriers and Immigrant Well-being.” 2021 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

“Power to the People: Power Resources and the Health of States.” 2021 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

“Cross-Level Effects of Union Membership and Density on Depression in Europe.” 2021 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting.

“Active Labor Market Policies and US Life Expectancy.” 2021 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting.

“Income Support Policies and Birth Outcomes in U.S. States.” 2019 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting.

“State-Level Welfare Generosity Effects on Child Wellbeing.” 2019 Population Association of American Annual Meeting.

“Changes in Health-Related Selectivity and Modes of Incorporation of Mexican Migrants since the Beginning of the 21st Century.” 2019 Population Association of American Annual Meeting.

“Is Less More? Examining the Relationship Between Food Assistance Generosity and Childhood Obesity.”

2018 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting.

“Why Is Infant Mortality in the United States so Comparatively Bad? Some Possible Answers.” 2018 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

“We Comply with a Little Help from Our Friends: Human Rights, Development Aid, and Wellbeing.” 2018 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

“Region of Origin Diversity in Immigrant Health: Moving beyond the Mexican Case.” 2017 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

“Social Policy as Health Policy: Social Expenditures and Life Expectancy Gains in the US and 19 Other High‐Income Countries*.”* 2017 Comparing Health across Societies, Ghent University, Belgium.

“Region of Origin Diversity in Immigrant Health: Moving beyond the Mexican Case.” 2017 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

“Welfare State Transfers and Population Health in Rich Democracies, 1960-2010.” 2015 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

“Healthcare Policy and Population Health in Rich Democracies, 1960-2010.” American Sociological 2014 Association Annual Meeting.

“Gender Differences in Immigrant Health: The Case of Mexican and Middle Eastern Immigrants.” 2011 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

“Bringing You More than the Weekend: Union Membership and Self-Rated Health in the U.S., 1973-2006.” 2010 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

“[Ethnic Variations in Immigrant Health: A Gendered Analysis of Six Immigrant Groups](http://paa2010.princeton.edu/abstractViewer.aspx?submissionId=101233).” 2010 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

“Gender Differences in Middle-Eastern Immigrant Health.” 2009 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Assistant Professor, University of Utah**

Political Sociology Fall 2020 – present

Gender, Health, and Human Rights (Honors Course) 2016/2017

Longitudinal Data Analysis (Graduate Level) Spring 2016 – present

Globalization, University of Utah Fall 2015 – present

Social Inequality, University of Utah Spring 2015 – present

Introduction to Social Statistics, University of Utah Fall 2014 – present

**Dissertation Committee Participation**

Andee Devore (Sociology), committee chair, ongoing

Zach Franzoni (Sociology), committee chair, ongoing

Lauren Solkowski (Sociology), committee member, ongoing

Virginia Jenkins (Sociology), committee member, ongoing

Tamanna Shah (Sociology), committee member, Spring 2023

Adrienne Griffiths (Sociology), committee member, Spring 2022

Alla Chernenko (Sociology), committee member, Fall 2021

Simon Ruhnke (Economics), committee member, Spring 2021

Luciano Pesci (Economics), committee member, Summer 2018

Kyl Myers (Sociology), committee member, PhD. Summer 2017

Jessica Eckhardt (Sociology), committee member, PhD. Spring 2017

Martha Menuzhi (Sociology), committee member, PhD. Summer 2016

Ha Ngoc Trinh (Sociology), committee member, PhD. Spring 2016

Tom Quinn (Sociology), committee member, PhD. Spring 2015

**Undergraduate Research Advising**

Katherine Rasmussen, Honors Thesis Advisor, ongoing

Renee Gilfillan, UROP Advisor, Summer 2017

Calli Jo Bennet, UROP Advisor, Spring 2017

**SERVICE**

**Discipline & Profession**

2024 Session Organizer. “Politics and Health.” 2024 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

2023 Panel Organizer. “Exploring the Role of Power Distributions in Structural Approaches to Immigrant Health.” Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science 2023 Annual Meeting

2023 – present Council Member-at-Large. American Sociological Association Medical Sociology Section

2023 – present Member, Editorial Board. *Social Policy & Administration*

2021 – present Member, Editorial Board. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*

2019 – 2021 Member, Nominations Committee. American Sociological Association Medical Sociology Section

2019 Session Organizer. “Immigration Policy and Immigrant Well-being” and “Political Determinants of Health and Mortality.” Population Association of America 2019 Annual Meeting

2018 – 2020 Member, Dissertation Award Selection Committee. American Sociological Association

2017 – present Member, Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science

2016 Organizer, Medical Sociology Roundtables. 2016 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

2014 – present Reviewer. *Advances in Medical Sociology; American Journal of Public Health; American Sociological Review; Applied Economics; BioMed Central; Demography; Health Affairs; International Journal of Comparative Sociology; International Migration Review; Journal of Health and Social Behavior; Social Currents; Sociology of Development; Social Forces; Social Problems; Social Psychology Quarterly; Social Science & Medicine; Urban Studies; Work and Occupations*

2007 – present Member. American Sociological Association (Inequality, Poverty and Mobility; Organizations, Occupations and Work; and Medical Sociology section memberships); Population Association of America

**University & College**

2023 Vice President’s Clinical & Translational Research Scholars Program Alumni Advisory Board

2022 University Center for Promotion of Work Equity Research Internal Advisory Committee

2022 University Athletics Advisory Council

2018 Presenter, ‘Feminists Unite!’ sponsored by the Utah Museum of Fine Arts ACME Initiative

2016 Moderator, 'Unequal Voices: The Politics of Inequality’ sponsored by University of Utah’s Hinckley Institute of Politics and the Scholar Strategy Network

2014 Member, Consortium for Families and Health Research.

2015 Presider, Social Context of Health Panel, Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies’

**Department**

2022 Search Committee Chair: Population & Health

2017 – present Graduate Committee, Department of Sociology

2015 – present Population & Health Seminar Series Coordinator, Department of Sociology

2015 – 2016 Undergraduate Committee, Department of Sociology