

Contact Details

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Education and Qualifications

2012 – *Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Sociology Department*

PhD degree expected 2018.

- Dissertation: Three Essays on the Caregiving Experience: Informal Caregivers' Perception of Burden and Benefits, the Importance of Coping Resources, and How Caregiver Experience Matters for Care Recipients.
Committee: Sharon Bzostek (co-chair), Deborah Carr (co-chair), Lenna Nepomnyaschy, Emily Greenfield Cohen.
- GPA: 4.0

2014 *Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Sociology Department*

Received Master of Arts degree in October 2014.

- First qualifying paper: “Unintended Consequences of Nutritional Assistance Programs: Children's School Meal Program Participation and Adults' Food Security.”
Committee: Norah MacKendrick (chair), Sharon Bzostek, Thomas Rudel.
- Second qualifying paper: “Social Participation in Old Age: The Role of Driving Mobility.”
Committee: Deborah Carr (chair), Lauren Krivo, Julie Phillips
- GPA: 4.0

2008 – 2012 *University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, Faculty of Social Sciences*

Cultural Studies Program, Anthropology Module

Received Bachelor of Arts degree in July 2012.

- Thesis: “Just Keep on Fighting”: Metaphors in Cancer Narratives.
Mentor: Blanka Tivadar.
- GPA: 10/10, top 5% of student generation 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12

Research Interests

Aging, life course, health, family, inequality, quantitative methods.

Publications

Peer-reviewed

- Pristavec, Teja. 2016. Social participation in later years: The role of driving mobility. *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*. Advance access. doi:10.1093/geronb/gbw057
- Pristavec, Teja. 2017. Unintended consequences of nutritional assistance programs: Children's school meal participation and adults' food security. In *The Intersection of Food and Public Health: Current Policy*

Challenges and Solutions, Chapter 3, eds. A. Bryce Hoflund, John C. Jones, and Michelle C. Pautz. New York: Routledge.

- Pristavec, Teja. 2014. Praznični prehranski obredi in skupnost (Celebratory Food Rituals and Community). *Časopis za kritiko znanosti, domišljijo in novo antropologijo (Journal for the Critique of Science, for Imagination, and New Anthropology)* 42 (225): 102–12.

Manuscripts under review

- Pristavec, Teja. The burden and benefits of caregiving: A latent class analysis. *Revised and resubmitted*.
- Pristavec, Teja & Bzostek, Sharon. Taking off the rose-colored glasses? Comparing mothers' and children's reports of resident father involvement. *Under review*.

Other

- Pristavec, Teja. 2014. The marriage diet. *Contexts* 13 (2): 7.
- Pristavec, Teja. 2014. The social life of leftovers. *Contexts* 13 (3): 5.
- Pristavec, Teja. 2013. Table for one, please. *Contexts* 12 (4): 6.

Research experience

- *Graduate research assistant* on “Symptom Discussion in Couples Managing Ovarian Cancer: Impact of Spouse Attending Medical Oncology Visits on Sharing and Withholding” (Principal investigator: Kathryn Greene, School of Communication and Information, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and Cancer Institute of New Jersey).
- *Graduate research assistant* on National Institutes of Health’s National Institute for Drug Abuse (NIDA)-funded project, “Interactive Technology for Media Literacy Drug Prevention in Community Groups” (Principal investigators: Kathryn Greene, School of Communication and Information, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and Michael Hecht, Real Prevention, LLC).

Other training

- 2018 *Arizona Methods Workshop Training*
Participated in the Data Science in R workshop, focusing on machine learning and social media data, at the University of Arizona School of Sociology 8th Annual Methods Workshop.
- 2017 *Rutgers Digital Humanities Initiative Training*
Participated in Thematic Maps in QGIS, Collecting Social Media Data for Research, and Manipulating and Analyzing Social Media Data in R workshops.
- 2016 *ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research Program Scholar*
Selected by the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) to receive the Clifford C. Clogg fee-waiver scholarship to attend a four-week quantitative analysis training.
- 2016 *RAND Summer Institute Selected and Funded Participant*
Selected by the RAND Corporation to participate in the Mini-Medical School for Social Scientists and the Demography, Economics, Psychology, and Epidemiology of Aging workshop.
- 2016 *Fragile Families Data Workshop Selected and Funded Participant*
Selected by the Columbia University Population Research Center to participate in its Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study summer data workshop, funded by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.
- 2015 *US Borlaug Summer Institute on Food Security Selected and Funded Participant*
Selected by the Purdue University Center for Global Food Security to participate in the US Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security.

Fellowships

- 2017 – *Graduate Fellowship*
Received graduate fellowship to assist with NIDA-funded project at the School of Communication and Information, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.
- 2012 – 2014 *Excellence Fellowship*
Awarded by the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research for doctoral study in the Department of Sociology at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.
- 2012 – 2017 *Zois Fellowship*
Awarded by The Slovene Human Resources and Scholarship Fund for the duration of graduate studies on the basis of academic excellence and merit: undergraduate grade average (10/10) and top 5% of student generation.
- 2008 – 2012 *Zois Fellowship*
Awarded by The Slovene Human Resources and Scholarship Fund for the duration of undergraduate studies on the basis of academic excellence and merit: high school grade average (5/5) and matriculation exam with highest distinction (33/34).

Funding

- 2017 *Rutgers University Sociology Department Graduate Student Small Grants Award*
\$700 awarded to defray cost of advanced methods training away from campus.
- 2017 *Rutgers University TA and GA Professional Development Fund Award*
\$925 awarded for activities associated with academic progress towards degree completion.
- 2017 *Rutgers University Graduate School Conference Travel Award*
\$250 awarded to defray cost of travel to present research at a professional conference.
- 2016 *Rutgers University TA and GA Professional Development Fund Award*
\$1,387 awarded for activities associated with academic progress towards degree completion.
- 2016 *Rutgers University Graduate School–New Brunswick Special Study Award*
\$2,000 awarded to attend summer courses in advanced statistical methods away from campus.
- 2016 *Rutgers University Sociology Department Graduate Student Small Grants Award*
\$500 awarded to defray cost of travel to present research at a professional conference.
- 2015 *Rutgers University TA and GA Professional Development Fund Award*
\$1,000 awarded for activities associated with academic progress towards degree completion.
- 2014 *Rutgers University Sociology Department Graduate Student Small Grants Award*
\$350 awarded to defray cost of travel to present research at a professional conference.

Awards and honors

- 2017 *American Sociological Association Section on Aging and the Life Course Emerging Scholar*
Featured as emerging scholar in Section on Aging and the Life Course's Fall 2017 newsletter.
- 2017 *Rutgers University and Louis Bevier Fellowship Alternate*
Honorable mention in fellowship competition awarded by social sciences fellowship committee.
- 2016 *Outstanding Student/Faculty Review Award*
Awarded by The Gerontologist, a publication of The Gerontological Society of America, in recognition of extraordinary service in peer reviewing.
- 2015 *US Borlaug Summer Institute on Food Security Best Funding Proposal Award*
Awarded by the Center for Global Food Security, Purdue University for *Building capacity for commune-level agricultural extension in Siem Reap, Cambodia*, at the US Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security, sponsored by USAID.
- 2013 *University of Ljubljana Solemn Plaque for Exceptional Study Achievements*
Awarded by the University of Ljubljana for outstanding undergraduate success at University level

on the basis of undergraduate grade point average (10.00/10.00)

- 2012 *University of Ljubljana Department of Social Sciences Outstanding Achievement Award*
Awarded by the University of Ljubljana Department of Social Sciences for outstanding undergraduate success on the basis of undergraduate grade point average (10.00/10.00)

Presentations

- Pristavec, Teja. 2017. *The caregiving dyad: Does caregivers' appraisal of caregiving matter for care recipient health?*. Paper presentation at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting in Montreal, QB, August 12.
- Pristavec, Teja & Sharon Bzostek. 2017. *Taking off the rose-colored glasses? Comparing mothers' and children's reports about father involvement*. Paper presentation at the Population Association of America Annual Conference in Chicago, IL, April 28.
- MacKendrick, Norah & Teja Pristavec. 2016. *Between careful and crazy: Foodwork as a balancing act*. Paper presentation at the joint Annual Meeting and Conference of the Association for the Study of Food and Society; the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society; and the Canadian Association for Food Studies in Toronto, ON, June 23.
- Pristavec, Teja. 2015. *Unintended consequences of nutritional assistance programs: Children's school meal participation and adults' food security*. Paper presentation at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference in New York, NY, February 28.
- Pristavec, Teja. 2015. *Auto-mobility care work for older adults*. Paper presentation at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference in New York, NY, February 29.
- Dela Cruz, Aries, Michael J. Denney, Jamie Dorsey, Carly Nichols, Krishna Poudel, Teja Pristavec, and Marie Spiker. 2015. *Building capacity for commune-level agricultural extension in Siem Reap, Cambodia*. Presentation for the US Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security sponsored by USAID at the Center for Global Food Security, Purdue University, June 19.
- Pristavec, Teja. 2014. *Unintended consequences of nutritional assistance programs: Children's school meal participation and adults' food security*. Poster presentation at the British Sociological Association Food and Society Conference in London, UK, June 30.
- Pristavec, Teja. 2013. *What is the association between nutritional knowledge and diet quality in the US elderly?*. Poster presentation at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Global Health Fair in Piscataway, NJ, December 3.

Teaching

Courses

- *Statistical Methods in Sociology I*: graduate course, lab and statistics teaching assistant. Spring 2017.
- *Statistical Methods in Sociology II*: graduate course, lab and statistics teaching assistant. Fall 2016.
- *Development of Sociological Theory*: undergraduate course, teaching assistant, two sections. Spring 2016.
- *Contemporary Sociological Theory*: undergraduate course, teaching assistant, two sections. Spring 2015, Fall 2015.
- *Introduction to Social Research*: undergraduate course, teaching assistant, two sections. Fall 2014.

Invited lectures

- *Introduction to Stata*. Statistical Methods in Sociology II. Fall 2016.
- *Cross-Tabulations using the General Social Survey Website*. Social Research Methods. Fall 2016.
- *Categorical Independent Variables*. Statistical Methods in Sociology II. Fall 2016.
- *Introduction to R*. Quantitative Applications Workshop. Spring 2017.

Other

- *Teaching with Technology Certificate*: awarded by the Rutgers Teaching Assistant Project for completing Basic Web Design, Basic RefWorks, Excel for Grading, and Managing a Course Website workshops.
- *Teaching Honor Roll*. Obtained average student rating above 4.5 for teaching effectiveness and the overall quality of instruction. Spring 2016.

Service

- *Ad hoc reviewer*. Injury Epidemiology, Journal of Applied Gerontology, Journal of Family Issues, The Gerontologist, The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, Social Science Research.
- *Multi-Generational Mentoring (MGM) Program* service (NSF Advancing Graduate Education at Rutgers initiative). Held roles of Co-Director, Writing Clinic Coordinator, and Undergraduate Mentor. Fall 2013 through Spring 2018.
- *Graduate assistant to Deborah Carr in organizing Rutgers' Public Engagement Project*. Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016.
- *Graduate assistant to Robin Leichenko in organizing Rutgers' Climate Hazards Symposium*. Fall 2015, Spring 2016.
- *Graduate assistant to Steven Brechin in organizing Rutgers' 100 Days Symposium: Global Climate Change and Inequality*. Fall 2014, Spring 2015.
- *Graduate co-organizer with Norah MacKendrick for Rutgers' Environmental Justice and the Future of Environmental Health Research symposium*. Fall 2016, Spring 2017.
- *Rutgers Graduate Union of Sociology Students (GUSS)* service. Held roles of Graduate Program Committee Representative and Secretary. Fall 2014, Spring 2015.
- *Graduate student representative*. Rutgers Sociology Department junior health hiring committee. Fall 2017.

Public Sociology

- *Blog posts*. Blog posts published at Everyday Sociology Blog, Sociological Images, Jezebel, and The Pacific Standard. Original posts collected at <http://aservingofsociology.wordpress.com>.
- *Three Projects in the Sociology of Family, Food, and Aging*. Invited presentation given at annual meeting of the Association of Slovenes Educated Abroad in New York City, November 2016.

Certifications

- Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative Certification, License 16587631 (7/2015 – 7/2018), Rutgers University.
- Protection of Minors Training Course Certification, License XDLIKH0EG403YB0C (4/2017 – 4/2018), Rutgers University.
- Good Clinical Practice Training for Social and Behavioral Research Certification, License 19628 (4/2017), National Institutes of Health.

Skills

- Language: Slovenian (native), English (fluent), French (functional), Spanish (functional).
- Statistical programming environments: Stata, Mplus, R.
- Other skills: Qualtrics, Joomla, GitHub.