

Catherine “Peyton” Cunningham

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she/her/hers - 512.981.9327

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Student, Sociology, University of Chicago 2022-present
- Institute for Education Sciences Fellow
 - Representative of Sociology Department on Dean’s Advisory Council
 - Selected Member of SSD First Year Scholars Program
- A.B., Sociology, Princeton University, magna cum laude 2015-2020

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Education, Identity Formation, Belonging, Stratification, Qualitative Methods

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Undergraduate Thesis, “Social Belonging at Princeton by Class and Race” 2019-2020
- Designed and conducted 55 interviews on social belonging, alienation, and community for students at Princeton, under the advising of Timothy J. Nelson, Ph.D.
 - Analyzed experiences of race, gender, religion in student body. Exploration of student athletes and first gen. low-income students.
- Independent Research, “Belonging and Alienation for Princeton Upperclassmen” 2019
- Examined academic, emotional, and social sense of belonging in upperclassmen. Developed, collected, and analyzed over 750 surveys using STATA, under the advising of Tod Hamilton, Ph.D.
 - Selected to present and published in the 2020 Macksey National Undergraduate Research Symposium and Journal at Johns Hopkins University.

Research Assistant, “Dancing with Neurological Motor Challenges” 2018

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Andy Roddick Foundation, Program Development 2020-2022
- Built capacity to better serve youth during the pandemic while also creating plans for transitioning our programming out of the pandemic.
 - Developed and managed volunteer systems for recruiting, training, and thanking volunteers.
 - Created resources for children and families as they transitioned to middle school, including guides on magnet schools.
 - Supported needs assessments and helped create program curricula to address those needs in the short- and long-term, including the development of child, parent, and whole family programming around social and emotional learning.
 - Monitored quality of programs using standardized tools and evaluations via Weikart Youth Program Quality Assessment Certification.
 - Served in the AmeriCorps VISTA program through City of Austin’s site placement.
- Matriculate Advisor 2018-2019
- Mentored and counseled low-income, first generation high performing high school students through the college admissions process from discussing colleges to applications and financial aid.

Ballet Austin, Dance Fellow

2016-2017

SERVICE

Neighborhood Schools Program Tutor

2022-present

- Provide individualized tutoring for local families through the University of Chicago's Office of Civic Engagement's community outreach program

Court Appointed Special Advocate

2020

- Advocate for youth in Child Protective Services and welfare system as a Court-appointed guardian ad litem to make informed recommendations to the judge about the children's best interest.

Princeton Prize in Race Relations Evaluator, Club of Austin Representative

2020-2021

Princeton University Ballet, President

2018

- Elected to lead student-run ballet company, responsible for managing performances and community outreach from strategy and fundraising to execution.
- Additional positions held: Publicity Chair, Production Chair, Merchandise Chair, and Dancer from 2015-2020.

Sociology Department Student Representative, Princeton University

2019-2020

GRANTS

- Segal Education Grant

2020-2022

TEACHING

- Teaching Assistant, DAN101: Introduction to Ballet

2018-2020

SKILLS

- MAXQDA, STATA, Adobe Photoshop, iMovie, Canva