
Christina Nefeli Caramanis

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LBJ School of Public Affairs & Population Research Center
The University of Texas at Austin

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Social Policy Expected May 2020

Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Dissertation: "Income, Policy, and Stable Center-Based Care: Towards Reducing the Achievement Gap"

Committee: Cynthia Osborne (chair), Robert Crosnoe, Elizabeth Gershoff, Paul von Hippel, Pat Wong

Portfolio: Applied Statistical Modeling

Track: Demography (UT Population Research Center)

M.A., Developmental Psychology December 2006

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY

B.A., Sociology & Philosophy May 2003

Boston University, Boston, MA

EXTERNAL FUNDING

Research Support from Overdeck Family Foundation Grant (\$14,250) September 2017 – May 2020

Center for Research on Child Wellbeing, FFCWS, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

NICHD Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award; Predoctoral Research Traineeship (\$24,850) June 2016 – June 2017

Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Manuscripts Under Review

Caramanis, Christina. "Income and Stable Center-based Childcare: Evidence from the Earned Income Tax Credit." (under review). *Submitted for peer-review to Journal of Policy Analysis and Management.*

Caramanis, Christina, Zhang, Anao, and Susan De Luca. "The Long-term Effect of Bullying Victimization on Adolescents' Self-rated Health: Mental Health as a Mediator and Gender as a Moderator." (under review). *Submitted for peer-review to Journal of Adolescent Health.*

Manuscripts in Progress

Caramanis, Christina. "Are Two Programs Better than One? Understanding Stable Center-based Care in the Context of Child Care Subsidies and the Earned Income Tax Credit."

Caramanis, Christina. "Child Care Choices and Academic Achievement: The Moderating Role of Sociodemographic Structure."

Caramanis, Christina and Cynthia Osborne. "The Dynamics of Childcare Instability."

De Luca, Susan, **Caramanis, Christina** and Anao Zhang. "Sexual Minority Youth and Suicidal Ideation: The Mediating Role of Bullying Victimization, Parental Attachment, and Connectedness at School."

Owens, Jayanti, and **Christina Caramanis.** "School Suspension and Expulsion in Texas: Using Administrative Data to Unpack the Drivers of Racial Disparities."

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Caramanis, Christina. "Child Care Choices and Academic Achievement: The Moderating Role of Sociodemographic Structure." To be presented at the Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Fall Research Conference. Denver, CO, November 2019.

Caramanis, Christina, Zhang, Anao, and Susan De Luca. “The Long-term Effect of Bullying Victimization on Adolescents’ Self-rated Health: Mental Health as a Mediator and Gender as a Moderator.” Presented at the annual conference of the American Sociological Association. New York, NY, August 2019.

Caramanis, Christina. “The Causal Role of Income on Stable Center-based Care: Evidence from the Earned Income Tax Credit.” Presented at the annual conference of the Population Association of America. Denver, CO, April 2018.

Caramanis, Christina and Cynthia Osborne. “The Dynamics of Childcare Instability.” Presented at the annual conference of the Population Association of America. Chicago, IL, April 2017.

Caramanis, Christina and Cynthia Osborne. “Childhood Instability: Dynamics and Cumulative Impacts.” Presented at the 3rd Annual International Conference on Demography and Population Studies. Athens, Greece, June 2016.

INVITED TALKS

Caramanis, Christina. “Linking FFCWS and Administrative Data in Texas: The Association Between Stable Center-Based Care and Academic Success Over Time.” Invited Talk for Spring 2019 Fragile Families Working Group. Princeton, NJ, February 2019.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Barbara Jordan Professional Development Award (\$1,000) September 2018
LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Barbara Jordan Professional Development Award (\$1,000) April 2017
LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Barbara Jordan Professional Development Award (\$1,000) June 2016
LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

LBJ School of Public Affairs Fellowship (\$20,000) January 2016 – May 2016
LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

LBJ School of Public Affairs Recruitment Fellowship (\$20,000) September 2013 – May 2014
LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant September 2015 – May 2016
The Ray Marshall Center for the Study of Human Resources (RMC), Austin, TX

- Worked closely with Dr. Christopher T. King on the Dual-Generation Strategy Initiative to develop a multi-year dual-generation research agenda and develop an initial evaluation design for the planned multi-site pilot demonstration

Graduate Research Assistant September 2013 – January 2014
Child and Family Research Partnership (CFRP), The LBJ School of Public Affairs, Austin, TX

- Worked on quantitatively connecting Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study measures with mother surveys intended for the Texas Home Visiting Program Evaluation project
- Prepared and assisted with policy memos, briefs, and reports related to family structure and instability, child and adolescent well-being, and family strengthening

Research Assistant February 2009 – February 2010
Graduate School of Social Service (GSSS), Fordham University, New York, NY

- Prepared and wrote literature reviews to support research publications in areas including family policy, safety nets, and risk factors within Hispanic (and Puerto Rican where available) communities and capacity building within Faith-Based Organizations (FBO)

Research Assistant September 2005 – April 2006
National Center for Children and Families (NCCF), Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY

- Contributed to NCCF development of quantitative coding scale designed to code the speech samples of mothers for research examining the relationships between child care, maternal employment, parenting practices, and economic factors to determine the impact these policy areas have on fragile families

Research Assistant

September 2005 – July 2006

Professor Suniya Luthar, Ph.D. – Research Laboratory,
Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY

- Assisted in the development of a coding scheme for psychometric assessment of depression and substance use to support efforts within a developmental psychopathology research laboratory identifying stressors and protective factors in high-risk youth
- Exercised psychometric skills by administering questionnaire measures, scoring large data sets, and entering, cleaning and verifying data using data entry and management software

PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Consultant and Analyst

March 2010 – December 2010

Girl Scouts of the USA, Girl Scout Research Institute (GSRI), New York, NY

- Researched Out of School Time (OST) literature as related to quality programming and various child-level outcomes and issues including academic success, child obesity/physical activity, at risk populations, and family involvement, among others
- Created online measurement tools including National Question Library of program quality for use alongside national survey
- Provided developmental psychology expertise to advance Girl Scout Leadership Experience for over three million girls nationally

Research Associate

March 2007 – March 2009

National Center for Schools and Communities (NCSC), Fordham University, New York, NY

- Worked on various program evaluation projects including: Annual review of after school program implementation and child level data in 140 schools serving 12,500 students operated by the YMCA *Y After school Program*; Validation study of after school program evaluation measures; Implementation and outcome evaluation of the 21st Century Community Learning Center after school program serving 400 students in four schools; and Implementation and outcome evaluation of a multi-site early childhood learning program serving 250 children
- Developed measures and protocols pertaining to after school program quality
- Researched after school literature and best practices for in-depth literature review to support the final Field-test version of the *Y After school Program Standardized Evaluation Survey Instrument*
- Performed extensive descriptive and inferential statistical analyses including multivariate statistical methods for timely completion of interim and annual reports, briefings, and presentations to clients and funders
- Participated in research design and conceptual development of ideas for center projects
- Prepared drafts of interim and annual reports towards final report production
- Directed work of research assistants and work-study students as needed for reports written on findings from data analyses

Research Assistant

December 2006 – February 2007

Appleseed Network, No Child Left Behind Parent Involvement Project, New York, NY

- Conducted parent focus groups and community organization interviews in North Carolina (NC) to explore the challenges and identify the successes experienced by schools when parental involvement in children's education is increased
- Researched school, district and state-level parental involvement policies
- Prepared final report combining focus group and interview findings with factual research of three NC counties, making recommendations for parent involvement policies to low-income school districts to improve student academic performance

Research Consultant

May 2006 – November 2006

Out2Play, Inc., New York, NY

- Assisted nonprofit organization focused on advancing the well-being of children in the New York City public school system through the provision of safe, fun and developmentally beneficial play spaces
- Developed survey and questionnaire protocols to assess children's physical/social experiences and subsequent behaviors during recess both before and after exposure to gentrified play spaces
- Conducted advanced database searches to report on current research and inform hypotheses regarding the effects of developed play spaces on children's physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development

- Prepared extensive literature review regarding the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive benefits of play in childhood, as well as implications for future research design and policy

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lab & Section Instructor, UT Austin (*undergraduate level*)

September 2017 – Present

Department of Sociology

Intro to Social Statistics SOC 317L (Fall 2019)
Intro to Social Statistics SOC 317L (Fall 2019)
Intro to Social Statistics SOC 317L (Spring 2019)
Intro to Social Statistics SOC 317L (Spring 2019)
Intro to Social Statistics SOC 317L (Fall 2018)
Intro to Social Statistics SOC 317L (Spring 2018)
Intro to Social Statistics SOC 317L (Spring 2018)
Global Inequalities and Health UGS 303 [three sections] (Fall 2017)

Guest Lecturer, UT Austin (*undergraduate & graduate level*)

September 2014 – May 2019

The LBJ School of Public Affairs & Department of Sociology

Intro to Social Statistics
Global Inequalities and Health
Analyzing Government Economic Statistics
Advanced Empirical Methods
Applied Microeconomics for Policy Analysis

Teaching Assistant, UT Austin (*graduate level*)

September 2014 – December 2015

The LBJ School of Public Affairs

Applied Microeconomics for Policy Analysis PA 393K (Fall 2015)
Research Design PA 390E (Fall 2015)
Analyzing Government Economic Statistics PA 397C (Spring 2015)
Advanced Empirical Methods for Global Policy Studies PA 397C (Spring 2015)
Applied Microeconomics for Policy Analysis PA 393K (Fall 2014)
Applied Microeconomics for Policy Analysis PA 393K (Fall 2014)

Teaching Assistant, Fordham University (*graduate level*)

May 2009 – July 2009

Graduate School of Social Service (GSSS)

Social Welfare Policy & Services (Summer 2009)

Teaching Assistant, Columbia University (*graduate level*)

September 2007 – December 2007

Department of Human Development, Teachers College

Personality Development and Socialization in Childhood (Fall 2007)

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teacher

The Beekman School, New York, NY

September 2010 – July 2013

Courses taught: Economics, Geometry, Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology, Ecology, Modern World History, Italian II, Spanish I, English IV, Web Design, and Digital Photography

Teacher

Chapel Hill-Chauncey Hall School, Waltham, MA

September 2004 – November 2004

Courses taught: English 11, Learning Center, Dance, Theater Improvisation (*faculty leave of absence*)

Academic Tutor

March 2003 – July 2013

Private Operation, Waltham, MA & New York, NY

Subject areas tutored: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Precalculus, Calculus, Environmental Science, Chemistry, Economics, English, Psychology and Computer Technology

Child Care Worker

November 2003 – July 2004

The Italian Home for Children, Jamaica Plain, MA

- Worked with culturally diverse children in a therapeutic environment for emotionally disturbed, often abused or neglected children ages 3-14 to reinforce, improve and teach emotional coping, basic-care behavior and academic skills
- Promoted child well-being through weekly meetings and frequent communication with on-site psychiatrist, clinicians and teachers to discuss children's progress and aid children and families in crisis

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Round Table Session Presider, American Sociological Association, "Children and Youth" August 2019
Reviewer and Discussant, Family Analysts Meeting to Discuss Emerging Manuscripts, UT Austin September 2017 – Present
Reviewer and Discussant, Inequality Working Group, UT Austin August 2019 – Present

AD-HOC REVIEWER

Journal of Adolescent Health
American Journal of Public Health

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management 2014 – Present
American Sociological Association 2018 – Present
 Section: Children and Youth
Population Association of America 2016 – Present

LANGUAGE

Native English/Greek; Fluent Italian; Proficient French; Learning Spanish

SKILLS

Stata, Mplus, R, SPSS, Excel, HTML
Familiarity with Python, SAS, AMOS, LISREL, and HLM