

Norman Ornelas Jr.

nxo7@psu.edu

EDUCATION

- 2021 – In Progress** **Ph.D. Dual-title: Geography and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**
Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA
Advisors: Emily Rosenman and Melissa Wright
- 2014** **Master of Urban Planning**
New York University, Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York, NY
Capstone Project Title: “Trenton’s Food Assets: Data Visualizations and Economic Development”
- 2011** **B.A. Geography; Minor, Sociology**
California State University, Long Beach, Long Beach, CA

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2022** **Department of Geography, Pennsylvania State University**
Graduate Research Assistant, Supervisor: Melissa Wright
Reviewed literature related to queer ecologies and infrastructure governance along the Mexico/United States border.
- 2022 (Summer)** **Department of Geography, Pennsylvania State University**
Graduate Research Assistant, Supervisor: Emily Rosenman
Reviewed policy documents, news articles, and academic papers on retrofit programs in the Cleveland region. Helped develop research questions to analyze the effectiveness of climate justice policy in mitigating impacts to low-income households. Created a network flowchart to map out cash flows and savings within the Cleveland retrofit policy and program landscape.
- 2022 (Summer)** **The Gender Equity Policy Institute, Los Angeles, CA**
Research Fellow in Human Geography
Conducted literature reviews on housing policy and the affordability crisis throughout California. Reviewed California housing legislation and provided recommendations for addressing gender and racial equity. Drafted a report in consultation with United Way to address racial and gender inequalities in the housing market in Los Angeles, CA.
- 2013 – 2014** **CUNY Collaborative Programs, Research and Evaluation, New York, NY**
Data/Research Assistant
Helped maintain databases to track student performance in college prep programs. Used Microsoft Access to check for duplicate and unmatched data entries and SPSS to analyze student performance. Assisted research staff with matching/joining program data with external datasets.

PUBLICATIONS

Papers in Progress

Roberts, Mary K., **Norman Ornelas Jr.**, Lilly Zeitler and Louisa M. Holmes. “Intragroup marginalization, discrimination and self-rated health among young adults in the San Francisco Bay Area.” Target journal: *Social Science & Medicine*.

Norman Ornelas Jr. “Centering Social Value Through a Queer Approach to Labor.” Target journal: *Geoforum*.

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Research Reports

Norman Ornelas Jr. and Natalia Vega Varela, "A Foundation for Equity: Evaluating A Regional Approach to the Los Angeles County Housing Crisis," Gender Equity Policy Institute, August 2022.
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6950350>

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Panels Organized

2022 American Association of Geographers: National Conference - Virtual
Organizer and Panel Moderator: *Exploring Geographies of Care, Supporting Women in Geography 9th Annual Panel*

Papers Upcoming and Presented

2022 The 6th Global Conference on Economic Geography – Dublin, Ireland
Paper title: *Centering Social Value Through a Queer Approach to Labor*

Invited Panels

2022 American Association of Geographers: National Conference - Virtual
Panelist: *Another World is Possible" Proposing Real Utopias in the spirit of Erik Olin Wright*

2018 American Planning Association: California Conference - San Diego, CA
Session Moderator: *Digital Stories: Shaping Meaningful Engagement in Los Angeles*

2016 American Planning Association: California Conference - Sacramento, CA
Session Moderator: *Creating a Safe and Inclusive City for the LGBTQ Community*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Pennsylvania State University

Graduate Teaching Assistant

2022 Geography 30N: Environment and Society in a Changing World

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

2022 Ruby S Miller Award - Pennsylvania State University

2021 Distinguished Graduate Fellowship - Pennsylvania State University
Anne C Wilson Graduate Fellowship - Pennsylvania State University

SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY

2022 – present Graduate Representative to Graduate Students, Department of Geography, Pennsylvania State University

2021 – present Officer, Supporting Women in Geography, Department of Geography, Pennsylvania State University

2012 – 2013 Communications Chair, Stonewall Policy Alliance, New York University

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WORK EXPERIENCE

2015 – 2021

Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, Los Angeles, CA.

Regional Planner

- Project management for policy and land use plans in Los Angeles County.
 - Reviewed deliverables and reports from consultants.
 - Oversaw project budget, timeline, scope of work, and developed policy and land use strategies with consultants.
 - Coordinated with neighboring jurisdictions to align areawide policy goals.
 - Created an online engagement plan with consultants to facilitate outreach during the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - Organized, moderated, and presented project materials at online and in-person community meetings and developed content for project websites.
 - Organized and facilitated community meetings with government agencies and the public.
 - Coordinated youth-focused engagement efforts with universities and local schools.
 - Drafted a successful grant application in collaboration with the Southern California Association of Governments.
 - Drafted a successful award application to the American Planning Association, Los Angeles Chapter 2020 Planning Award for a public outreach effort.
 - Managed multiple interns and provided supervision on project deliverables.
- Project Lead for zoning and land use consistency in the East Los Angeles community. Presented findings to the Regional Planning Commission and LA County Board of Supervisors.
- Social Media Coordinator and Grants Liaison for the Department.
- Reviewed development site plans and assisted the public with land use and zoning.

2014 – 2015

Los Angeles Department of City Planning, Los Angeles, CA

Student Professional Worker

Edited and reviewed citywide policy documents. Assisted planners in data organization and management using ArcGIS. Maintained and organized a GIS street database for the LA City Mobility Plan 2035.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

2022 – present

Board Member, The Audre Lorde Project, New York City, NY

PROFFESIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Association of Geographers (AAG)

Community Economies Research Network (CERN)