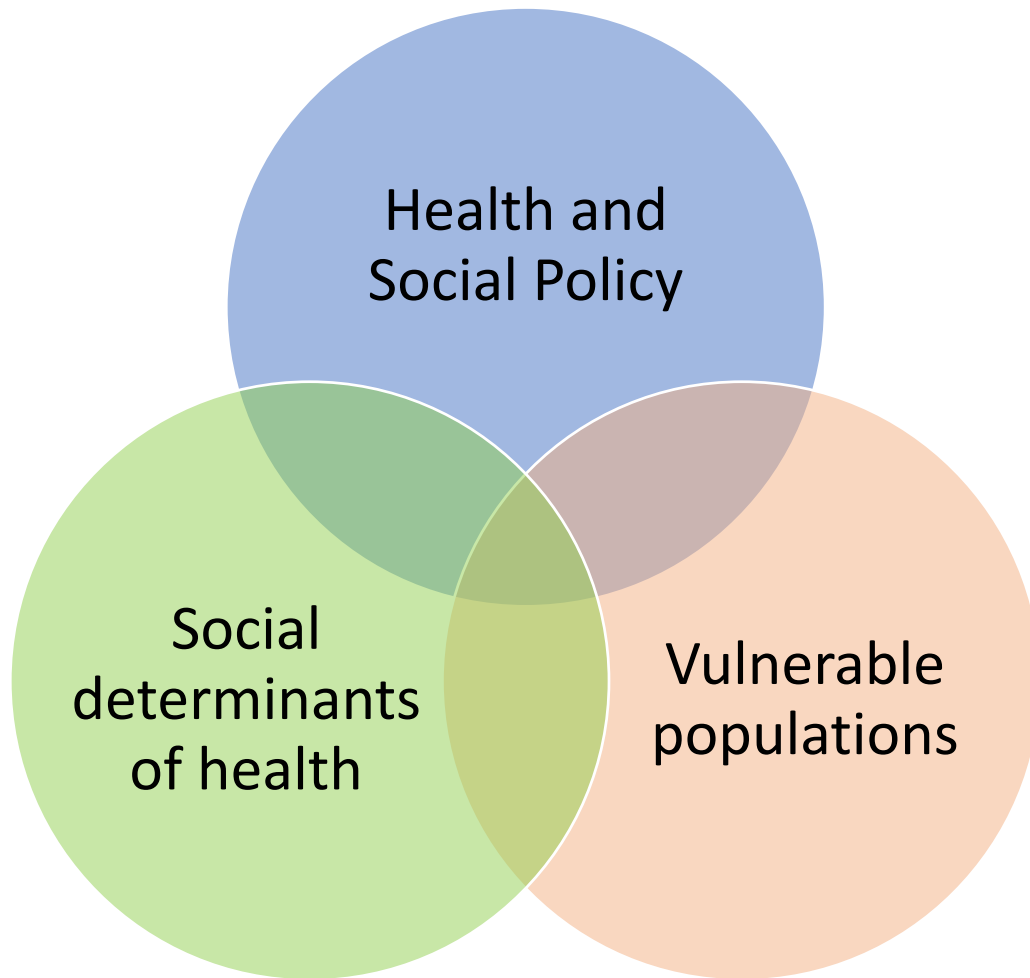- M.A. Economics, Hunter College, CUNY 2009
- M.A. Statistics, Hunter College, CUNY 2010
- Ph.D. Public Policy, Georgia State University & Georgia Institute of Technology, 2015
- 2015-2017, Assistant Professor, Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences, University of Nebraska
- 2018 – present, Assistant Professor, UCF

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Assistant Professor

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Research Areas

Research themes

❑ Understanding factors contributing to health disparities and social inequalities

❑ How can we use policy to reduce these disparities and inequalities?

❑ Quantitative research

❑ Mainly secondary data analyses (e.g., longitudinal data, large pooled cross-sectional data)

Research themes: Examples

❑ Food insecurity

  ❑ Affects ~14% of the US population

  ❑ I have done work trying to understand factors contributing to food insecurity

  ❑ What are some of the negative consequences of food insecurity for vulnerable families (mothers and children)?

  ❑ What interventions are effective in reducing food insecurity for these families?

  ❑ Proposal submitted trying to understand food insecurity among seniors who use food pantries

Research themes: Examples

- ❑ Welfare bans for drug felony convictions
  - ❑ In some US states, lifetime ban on welfare if convicted of drug felony
  - ❑ National Institutes of Health proposal under review that will look at the impact of this policy on
    - Health outcomes (ex-drug felons and their families)
    - Food insecurity
    - Crime recidivism

Other examples of current research projects

❑ Consequences of violence exposure on health

    ❑ Poorer maternal health and greater risk of alcohol and drug abuse (published)

    ❑ Maternal exposure to violence and unmet health care needs in children (under review)

❑ Racial disparities in access to back pain treatment (in progress)

    ❑ White and Blacks are more likely to be prescribed opioids than Asians and Hispanic patients

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