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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2023– **Assistant Professor**, Department of Sociology, University of Utah
Affiliated Faculty, Health, Society & Policy (HSP) Program

EDUCATION

2023 **PhD**, Sociology, Indiana University Bloomington.

Dissertation: “Status and the Psyche: How Mental Health Paradoxes Challenge Theories of Inequality.” Committee: Brea L. Perry (chair), Jane D. McLeod, Anna S. Mueller, and Arthur S. Alderson

Qualifying Exam: Medical Sociology (passed in 2020)
PhD Minor: Social Science Research Methods

2018 **MS**, Sociology, University of Wisconsin–Madison.

2014 **BA**, Sociology, Oberlin College. *Highest Honors; Phi Beta Kappa.*

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Medical Sociology
Mental Health

Inequality/Stratification
Social Psychology

Culture
Theory

PUBLICATIONS (* denotes student coauthor)

IN PRINT

Thompson, Amber D., **Max E. Coleman**, Donald A. Godfrey, Eli Iacob, Catherine Sparks, and Rebecca L. Utz. “Caregiver Burden: Changes over Time and Associations with Anxiety and Depression Symptoms.” *Aging and Mental Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2026.2662508>

Wei, Yehua Dennis, Yu Wang, Meitong Liu, Yue Zhang, Max Coleman, and Ming Wen. 2026. “Natural Environment, Neighborhood Contexts, and Intra-Urban Suicidal Behavior.” *GeoHealth* 10(6):e2025GH001567. [doi:10.1029/2025GH001567](https://doi.org/10.1029/2025GH001567)

Hamilton, Lucas J., Siyun Peng, Max E. Coleman, Liana G. Apostolova, Anne C. Krendl, and Brea

- L. Perry. 2026. "Distinct Social Network Structures and Their Cognitive and Psychological Correlates." *Scientific Reports* 16:10642.
- Hamilton, Lucas J., **Max E. Coleman**, Anne Sprecher, and Lauren A. Rutter. 2026. "Dementia Stigma in the United States: Variation by Target Gender, Degree of Impairment, and Respondent Characteristics." *Alzheimer's & Dementia: Diagnosis, Assessment & Disease Monitoring*. [doi:10.1002/dad2.70260](https://doi.org/10.1002/dad2.70260)
- Andersson, Matthew A., **Max E. Coleman**, Catherine E. Harnois, and Markus H. Schafer. 2026. "Higher Educational Attainment and Later-Life Cognition: Twentieth-Century Linkages by Gender and Race in the United States." *Social Science & Medicine* 391:118883. [doi:10.1016/j.socscimed.2025.118883](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2025.118883)
- Meerts-Brandsma, Lisa, *Carly Knudson, Bryn Spielvogel, Dorothy L. Schmalz, *Lexi Golestani, Julie Lucero, *Sasha Mader, **Max Coleman**, Monisha Pasupathi, and LeeAnn Powell. 2026. "How Parks and Recreation Professionals Communicate Their Health Contributions: Insights from the Multi-Level Leisure Mechanisms Framework." *Journal of Leisure Research*, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00222216.2026.2613155>.
- Andersson, Matthew, Catherine E. Harnois, and **Max E. Coleman**. 2025. "Midlife Gender Discrimination and Later-Life Cognition: Results from the National Survey of Midlife Development in the United States." *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B*. [doi:10.1093/geronb/gbaf143](https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbaf143).
- Coleman, Max E.**, Donald A. Godfrey, Amber Thompson, Catherine Sparks, and Rebecca L. Utz. 2025. "Improving Respite Outcomes for Caregivers: Who Benefits and Under What Conditions?" *Journal of Applied Gerontology*. [doi:10.1177/07334648251324270](https://doi.org/10.1177/07334648251324270).
- Coleman, Max E.** 2025. "5 Ways College Instructors Can Help Students Take Care of Their Mental Health." Pp 175-180 in *The Conversation on Higher Ed*, edited by Mary L. Churchill. Baltimore, MD: JHU Press.
- Godfrey, Donald A., Bob Wong, Amber D. Thompson, **Max E. Coleman**, Catherine Sparks, and Rebecca L. Utz. 2025. "Respite Time-use among Dementia Caregivers." *Frontiers Health Services* 5:1598518. doi: 10.3389/frhs.2025.1598518.
- Osborne, Elsa C., Jeff Rose, Logan Reeves, Kelli Spear, **Max E. Coleman**, Timothy A. Brusseau Jr, Kathy Franchek-Roa, and Akiko Kamimura. 2025. "Indoor Climbing and Well-Being of Young Adults: Perspectives Among Indoor Climbers." *PLOS One* 20(4): e0321542.
- Smith, Nicholas C., and **Max E. Coleman**. 2024. "Beyond Empathy: Familial Incarceration, Stress Proliferation, and Depressive Symptoms Among African Americans." *Social Forces* (2024): soad151. doi.org/10.1093/sf/soad151.†
- † Winner, Graduate Student Paper Award, ASA Social Psychology Section
- Coleman, Max E.**, and Matthew A. Andersson. 2023. "Hurt on Both Sides: Political Differences

in Health and Well-Being during the COVID-19 Pandemic.” *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 2023:1–16. doi.org/10.1177/00221465231200500.

Perry, Brea L., Nicholas C. Smith, **Max E. Coleman**, and Bernice A. Pescosolido. 2023. “Social Networks, the COVID-19 Pandemic, and Emerging Adults’ Mental Health: Resiliency Through Social Bonding and Cohesion.” *American Journal of Public Health* 2023:e1-e10. doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2023.307426.

Hamilton, Lucas J., **Max E. Coleman**, and Anne C. Krendl. 2023. “Contact Reduces Substance Use Stigma through Bad Character Attributions, Especially for US Health Care Professionals.” *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors* 37(6):734–45.

Coleman, Max E., *Meghann E. H. Roessler, Siyun Peng, Adam R. Roth, Shannon L. Risacher, Andrew J. Saykin, Liana G. Apostolova, and Brea L. Perry. 2023. “Social Enrichment on the Job: How Complex Work with People Preserves Cognitive Function, Promotes Brain Reserve, and Reduces the Risk of Dementia.” *Alzheimer’s & Dementia* 2023:1–11. doi.org/10.1002/alz.13035. †

† In the top 10% of most-viewed papers published by the journal in 2023.

Coleman, Max E., *Mohit K. Manchella, Adam R. Roth, Siyun Peng, and Brea L. Perry. 2022. “What Kinds of Social Networks Protect Older Adults’ Health During a Pandemic? The Tradeoff Between Preventing Infection and Promoting Mental Health.” *Social Networks* 70(2022): 393–402.

Coleman, Max E. 2022. “Mental Health in the College Classroom: Best Practices for Instructors.” *Teaching Sociology* 50(2):168–82. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0092055X221080433>. † ‡

† In the top 5% of all publications [scored by Altmetric](#), a measure of the “attention surrounding scholarly content.” Top-scoring of all publications in *Teaching Sociology* (#1 of 596 as of January 2026).

‡ Invited to write a guest post at *The Conversation* (March 14, 2022): “5 Ways College Instructors Can Help Students Take Care of Their Mental Health.” <https://theconversation.com/5-ways-college-instructors-can-help-students-take-care-of-their-mental-health-178757>. Cross-posted at [35 news outlets](#).

Roth, Adam R., Siyun Peng, **Max E. Coleman**, Liana G. Apostolova, and Brea L. Perry. 2022. “Do Subjective or Objective Cognitive Measures Better Predict Social Network Type Among Older Adults?” *Biodemography and Social Biology*, 67(1):84–97.

McLeod, Jane D. and **Max E. Coleman**. 2021. “Mental Health Inequalities.” Pp. 113–23 in *The Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Inequalities and the Life Course*, edited by Magda Nico and Gary Pollock. London: Routledge.

Perry, Brea L., Will R. McConnell, **Max E. Coleman**, Adam R. Roth, Siyun Peng, and Liana G. Apostolova. 2021. “Why the Cognitive ‘Fountain of Youth’ May Be Upstream: Pathways to Dementia Risk and Resilience Through Social Connectedness.” *Alzheimer’s & Dementia*

18(5):934–41. <https://doi.org/10.1002/alz.12443>

Perry, Brea L, William R McConnell, Siyun Peng, Adam Roth, **Max Coleman**, *Mohit Manchella, *Meghann Roessler, Heather Francis, Hope Sheean, and Liana Apostolova. 2021. “Social Networks and Cognitive Function: An Evaluation of Social Bridging and Bonding Mechanisms.” *The Gerontologist*, 62(6):865–75. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnab112>.

Roth, Adam R., Siyun Peng, **Max E. Coleman**, Evan Finley, and Brea L. Perry. 2020. “Network Recall among Older Adults with Cognitive Impairments.” *Social Networks* 64(2021):99–108

REVISE & RESUBMIT

Coleman, Max E. “Does Privilege Protect? Self-Harm and Suicidality in High-SES College Students.” (Revise and resubmit at *Social Forces*.)

*Mishra, Aadi, and **Max E. Coleman**. “Silent Echoes: Understanding and Predicting the Widespread Mental Health Impact of Mass Shootings.” (Revise and resubmit at *Frontiers in Public Health*.)

IN PROGRESS

Andersson, Matthew A., and **Max E. Coleman**. “Can We Leave the Children Out of It? Ideology, Party, and Mental Illness Stigmatization.”

Andersson, Matthew A., **Max E. Coleman**, Catherine E. Harnois, and *Osaki Bilaye-Benibo. “Early Twenty-First Century Intersectional Mental Health Disparities in the United States.”

Andersson, Matthew A., **Max E. Coleman**, Kelly Ytilato, and Markus H. Schafer. “An Intersectional, Constrained Activity Approach to Later-Life Falls and Cognition.”

Coleman, Max E. “The Healthy Immigrant Paradox Reconsidered: Testing Differential Exposure and Vulnerability to Stressors.”

Coleman, Max E. “Rising Suicidality in Black Youth: What Explains the Trend? Exploring Resilience & Vulnerability Factors.”

*Hsu, Anna, **Max E. Coleman**, Amber D. Thompson, Catharine Sparks, and Rebecca L. Utz. “Perceptions of Caregiving and Family Caregivers’ Desire to Institutionalize.”

Korous, Kevin M., **Max E. Coleman**, *Anais Shari Geronimo Jimenez, and Paul K. Piff. “Homophily Networks: High-Income & High-Achieving Friendships and Adolescent Outcomes.”

RESEARCH FUNDING

Ongoing & Completed Projects:

- 2025–2026** “Rising Suicidality in Black Youth: What Explains the Trend? Exploring Resilience & Vulnerability Factors.” University of Utah College of Social and Behavioral Science (CSBS): Mental Health Research & Community Engagement Fund. Sponsor: Healthy Mind Map Gives. Role: Principal Investigator.
- 2025–2026** “The Explanatory Role of Individual- and State-Level Labor Market Factors across the Life Span in the Education–ADRD Link.” (PI: Reynolds.) *Network on Education, Biosocial Pathways, and Dementia in Diverse Populations* Call for Pilot Project Proposals (Year 4). Role: Co-Investigator.
- 2024–2025** “Place, Physical Environment, and Mental Health: A Study of Suicide Behaviors in Salt Lake City, Utah.” (PI Wei). 1U4U Seed Grant Program (2024): The Future of Sustainability. University of Utah. Role: Co-Investigator.
- 2024** “Virtual Coaching to Maximize Dementia Caregivers’ Respite Time-Use: A Stage 1 Pilot Test for Feasibility and Efficacy.” (PI Utz, R01-AG061946). Role: Co-Investigator.
- 2023–2024** “Testing of an Indoor Climbing Program to Promote Physical, Mental and Social Well-Being for College Students.” (PI Kamimura). 1U4U Innovation Funding. University of Utah. Role: Collaborator.
- 2019–2023** “Leveraging Neuroimaging Biomarkers to Understand the Role of Social Networks in Alzheimer's Disease” (PI Perry, R01-AG057739). Role: Research Assistant.
- Not Funded:
- 2025** “Labor Market Institution Generosity, Employment Volatility, and Cognition: Evidence from the PSID.” (PI: Reynolds.) 2026 Research on Economics of Alzheimer’s/Dementia (READ). National Bureau of Economic Research.
- 2025** “Who Cares for Caregivers? Human-Centered Design of a Digital Social Support Platform for Women Caring for Loved Ones with Neurodegenerative Disorders.” (PIs: Coleman and Pandey.) 1U4U Innovation Funding. Role: Principal Investigator.
- 2025** “A Cohort-Based, Intersectional Approach to Later-Life Cognition and Dementia.” (PI: Andersson). *Network on Education, Biosocial Pathways, and Dementia in Diverse Populations* Call for Pilot Project Proposals (Year 4).
- 2024** “Examining the Sustainability and Impact of Free Recreation Access for Salt Lake County Youth.” (PIs Meerts-Brandsma, Littman, and Coleman). 1U4U Seed Grant Program (2024): The Future of Sustainability. University of Utah.
- 2024** “Dementia Stigma in the United States: A Vignette Experiment.” (PIs Coleman and Hamilton.) Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS) 2024 Competition for Early-Career Investigators.

- 2024** “Listening to Patients’ Voices: Fusing Human-Centered Computational Tools with Theories from Medical Sociology” (PIs Pandey and Coleman). 2024 Inspiring Digital Health Innovations. University of Utah Digital Health Initiative.
- 2024** “Measuring Variation in Dementia Stigma Using a Survey Experiment.” (PIs Coleman and Hamilton.) Center for Advancing Sociodemographic and Economic Study of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias (CeASES-ADRD) 2024-2025 Pilot Award.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Utah

- Spring 2026** Population and Society (*3000-level course*)
Social Epidemiology (*3000-level course, cross-listed with Health, Society & Policy program*)
- Fall 2025** Introduction to Sociological Theory (*3000-level course*)
Social Epidemiology (*3000-level course, cross-listed with Health, Society & Policy program*)
- Spring 2025** Social Epidemiology (*3000-level course, cross-listed with Health, Society & Policy program*)
Health, Society & Policy Capstone: Technology & Health
Social Psychology of Modernity: Culture, Technology, and the Search for Meaning (*Directed Reading*)
- Fall 2024** Social Psychology (*3000-level course*)
Social Epidemiology (*3000-level course, cross-listed with Health, Society & Policy program*)
- Spring 2024** Health, Society & Policy Capstone: Wildfires – Impacts & Implications
- Fall 2023** Social Epidemiology (*3000-level course, cross-listed with Health, Society & Policy program*)

Indiana University Bloomington

- Fall 2020** Sociology of Mental Illness (*300-level course for juniors and seniors*)
- Spring 2019** Graduate Assistant, Politics and Society (*Responsible for grading & office hours*)
- Fall 2018** Graduate Assistant, Introduction to Sociology (*Responsible for grading & office hours*)

University of Wisconsin–Madison

- Spring 2017** Teaching Assistant, Marriage and the Family (*Responsible for 5 sections of 20 students*)
- Fall 2016** Teaching Assistant, Survey of Sociology (*Responsible for 2 writing-intensive discussion sections of about 15 students each*)

STUDENT MENTORING

Graduate Students

Dissertation Committees:

- 2025–** Attrayee Bandyopadhyay. “Occupational History & Dementia: Exploring Mediating and Moderating Factors.” (Role: Dissertation committee member.)
- 2025** Lauren E. Solkowski. “Deciphering Death: A Sociological Analysis of Suicide Determination in the United States.” (Role: Dissertation committee member.)

Comprehensive Exams:

- 2026** Jordana Cashman, (1) Health and Medical Sociology (2) Gender, Sex, Sexuality

Research Mentorship:

- 2025–** Siwei (Wesley) Li
- 2024–** Chelsea Patterson

Teaching Mentorship:

- 2024–2025** Yasamin Shaker, Sociology of Gender and Sexuality (Role: Teaching mentor)

Undergraduate Students

Honors Theses:

- 2027 (expected)** Mirabella McIntyre. HSP 4999 (Honors Thesis). “Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Dentistry.” (Role: Thesis faculty supervisor.)
- 2025** Olive Kimball. HSP 4999. (Honors Thesis.) “Orthorexia: A Disease of Culture?” (Role: Thesis faculty supervisor.)
- 2025** Ryan Smith. HSP 4999 (Honors Thesis). “Stains on the Sidewalk: Why Regulating Betel Nut in Papua New Guinea Gets It Wrong.” (Role: Thesis faculty supervisor.)
- 2024–2025** Jillian McBane. HSP 4999 (Honors Thesis): “Collectivity in Flourishing: An Argument Against Flourishing Alone.” (Role: Thesis faculty supervisor.)
- 2024** Ashlyn M. Henriod. HSP 4999 (Honors Thesis): “Political and Legal Considerations for the Future of Telehealth in the United States Following the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.” (Role: Thesis faculty supervisor.)

Directed Readings:

- 2025** Erika Pedersen and Hannah Speckman. SOC 3951-002 (Directed Reading): Social Psychology of Modernity: Culture, Technology, and the Search for Meaning

Other Mentorship:

2024 Finnean R. McEneany. BIOL 4965 (Independent Professional Internship): Biosociology and Gene–Environment Interactions. (Role: Faculty mentor and internship supervisor.)

Other Students

2024– Aadi Mishra, The Waterford School. (Role: Informal research supervisor.)

INVITED TALKS

2022 “Mental Health in the College Classroom: Best Practices for Instructors.” Coffee & Conversation hosted by *Teaching Sociology*, February 27, 2022.

MEDIA

2024 Interviewed in “Sad Emoji: How Social Media Affects Mental Health,” Hannah Rauthworth, *Indianapolis Recorder*, May 30, 2024. <https://indianapolisrecorder.com/sad-emoji-how-social-media-affects-mental-health>.

2022 “5 Ways College Instructors Can Help Students Take Care of Their Mental Health.” *The Conversation*, March 14, 2022. <https://theconversation.com/5-ways-college-instructors-can-help-students-take-care-of-their-mental-health-178757>.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2026 “Rising Suicidality in Black Youth: What Explains the Trend? Exploring Resilience & Vulnerability Factors.” Panelist, *Revising the Sociology of Suicide*. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

2024 “The Healthy Immigrant Paradox Revisited: Testing Differential Exposure and Vulnerability to Stressors.” 18th International Conference on Social Stress Research.

2022 “Social Enrichment on the Job: How Complex Work with People Preserves Cognitive Function, Promotes Brain Reserve, and Reduces the Risk of Dementia.” Coauthors: Meghann Roessler, Siyun Peng, Adam R. Roth, Shannon L. Risacher, Andrew J. Saykin, Liana G. Apostolova, and Brea L. Perry. Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

2021 “Educational Disparities and Cognition in Later Life: The Role of Social Networks.” Coauthors: Siyun Peng, Adam Roth, Mohit Manchella, and Brea Perry. Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

2020 “Subjective Social Status and Major Depression: Applying the ‘Future Control’ Strategy to Address Unmeasured Confounding.” American Sociological Association

(ASA) Annual Meeting.*

- 2020** “It’s Not What You Know: Educational Disparities and Cognitive Decline.” Coauthors: Siyun Peng, Adam Roth, Mohit Manchella, and Brea Perry. Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) Annual Meeting.*
- 2019** “The Non-Contractual Foundations of Contract: Declining Institutional Consensus in the Era of Donald Trump.” Indiana University Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference.
- 2018** “Subjective Social Status and Major Depression: A Path Analysis of Biological and Psychosocial Mechanisms.” Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

*Canceled due to COVID-19

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2025** Faculty Success Program. *National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity*.
- 2024** Mental Health First Aid USA (Certified August 1, 2024 by the National Council for Mental Wellbeing)
- 2023** Snowbird Faculty Development Retreat, University of Utah. (October 18–20, 2023).

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2026** Faculty Fellow Award, University Research Committee, University of Utah
- 2023** Graduate Student Paper Award, ASA Social Psychology Section, for “Beyond Empathy: Familial Incarceration, Stress Proliferation, and Depressive Symptoms Among African Americans” (co-authored with Nicholas C. Smith).
- 2017** Phi Kappa Phi, University of Wisconsin–Madison. (Top 10% of graduate students.)
- 2015** University Fellowship, University of Wisconsin–Madison. “Awarded by the Graduate School to a few outstanding entering students and dissertators.”
- 2014** Phi Beta Kappa, Oberlin College
- 2014** Comfort Starr Prize in Sociology, Oberlin College
- 2014** Highest Honors in Sociology, Oberlin College

SERVICE

Professional Service

Editorial Activities:

- 2024–** Editorial Board Member, *Society and Mental Health*. (Reappointed in 2026.)
- 2018–** Ad Hoc Reviewer: *American Journal of Sociology*; *American Sociological Review*; *Health & Place*; *Journal of Classical Sociology*; *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*; *Journals of*

Gerontology, Series B: Social Science; Social Science Research; Social Sciences; Sociological Inquiry; Teaching Sociology.

Conference Activities:

- 2024** Session Organizer and Presider, “Stress and Inequality.” 18th International Conference on Social Stress Research.
- 2024** Session Organizer and Chair, “Health Paradoxes and Their Underlying Mechanisms” Population Association of America Annual Meeting.
- 2024** Session Organizer, “The Healthy Immigrant Paradox.” Population Association of America Annual Meeting. (*Accepted for April 2024.*)

Other Professional Service:

- 2025–** Membership Chair, ASA Section on the Sociology of Mental Health
- 2021–2023** Scribe, Scientific Advisory Board of the General Social Survey
- 2020–2022** Student Representative, ASA Section on the Sociology of Mental Health

Institutional/Departmental Service

University of Utah:

- 2026** Executive Committee Member, Sociology Dept.
- 2025** Community, Belonging, and Development Committee Member, Sociology Dept.
- 2024** Reviewer, Undergraduate Research 2024 Fall Symposium
- 2024** Presenter, “The Art of Networking: Bridging and Bonding Networks.” Women’s Leadership Day (Co-Presenter with Harriet Hopf).
- 2024–** Undergraduate Committee Member, Sociology Dept.
- 2023–2024** Graduate Committee Member, Sociology Dept.
- 2023** Reviewer, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP)

Indiana University Bloomington:

- 2021–2023** Executive Committee Member, Sociology Dept.
- 2021** Awards Committee Member, Sociology Dept.
- 2020–2021** Secretary, Graduate Student Association (GSA)
- 2019–2020** Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Member, Sociology Dept.
- 2019–2020** Sociology Representative, IU Graduate and Professional Student Government
- 2019** Awards Committee Member, Sociology Dept.