

**Kristina Dzara**  
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Department of Sociology  
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**ACADEMIC PREPARATION:**

Ph.D. Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale IL, 2009 (expected)  
Major: Sociology G.P.A. – 3.8  
Concentrations: Family, Gender, Sexuality; Social Inequalities

M.A. University of Central Florida, Orlando FL, 2005  
Major: Applied Sociology G.P.A. – 3.969  
Concentrations: Applied Sociology, Sexuality, Research  
Methodology

Thesis Title: Is Gay Really Gay?: A Heterosexual/Homosexual Quality of Life  
Comparison

B.A. University of Central Florida, Orlando FL, 2003  
Major: Advertising/Public Relations Minor: Sociology G.P.A. – 3.475

**RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

Research

Family Sociology  
Sexuality  
Social Inequality  
Applied Sociology

Teaching

Social Statistics  
Sociology of Gender  
Research Methodology  
Introduction to Sociology

**RESEARCH SKILLS**

- Utilized SPSS extensively for data entering, cleaning, and analysis
- Knowledgeable regarding survey and evaluation research techniques
- Competent using Word, PageMaker, Excel, PowerPoint and Endnote

**PROGRESS TOWARD DEGREE COMPLETION**

**Doctoral Comprehensive Exam**

- Completed January, 2007
- Received Grade of “PASS”

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, August 2006 – May 2007, August 2007 to present  
Department of Sociology, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Instructor of record for:

- “SOC 223: Women and Men in Contemporary Society”
  - o Fall 2006
  - o Spring 2007
  - o Fall 2007

**Graduate Research Assistant**, August 2005 – May 2006, May 2007 to July 2007  
Department of Sociology, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

- Assist professor with academic research including conducting extensive literature reviews and data entry and cleaning. Projects include:
  - o Structural Determinants of Rape in São Paolo Brazil, 1982-1998
  - o Structural Determinants of Homicide in São Paolo Brazil, 1982-1998
  - o Social Conditions in the City of São Paolo Brazil, 2004
  - o Biographical Study of Lynching Apologists and Proponents
  - o Lynching Memorials and Monuments in the United States

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, August 2003 – May 2004, August 2004 – May 2005  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Central Florida

- Assisted professor with academic research
- Worked with class curriculum, formatted tests, tracked grades and attendance, and interacted with students as T.A. for the following courses: Medical Sociology, Sociology of Drug Abuse, Sociology of Mental Illness and Sociology of Aging

**Special Projects Coordinator**, October 2004 – July 2005.

Institute for Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Central Florida

- Conducted administrative tasks including employee training, mailings, data tracking, employee relations, and CATI software training and instruction as part of contracted research projects with the City of Orlando and the City of Eustis, FL

**Data Specialist**, May 2004 – August 2004

Institute for Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Central Florida, Dr. Jim Wright, P.I.

- Utilized SPSS to enter and clean 964 variable survey as part of project team for a National Institute of Justice federal research grant.

**CATI Software Trainer/Lead Research Associate**, June 2004 – July 2004

Institute for Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Central Florida

- Solicited participants, obtained phone surveys, and tracked survey completion data as part of contracted research project for the city of Winter Springs, FL

**Survey Researcher**, October 2003 – January 2003

Institute for Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Central Florida

- Solicited participants, obtained phone surveys, and tracked survey completion data as part of contracted research projects

**Research Assistant**, December 2003 – January 2004

National Institute for Aging, Research Grant, Dr. Elzbieta Sikorska-Simmons, P.I.

- Organized, entered and cleaned data for federal research grant

**PUBLICATIONS**

Dzara, Kristina. (in press). "Obesity Epidemic." Encyclopedia entry in the *Encyclopedia of the Culture Wars*, edited by Roger Chapman. New York: M.E. Sharpe.

**PAPERS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW**

Dzara, Kristina, Timothy W. Clark, and Shelly A. McGrath. "The Structural Determinants of Homicide in São Paulo, Brazil." Submitted August 2007, *Criminology*.

**PARTICIPATION IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

"Exploring Marital Status and Gender Differences in the Effect of Sexual Behavior on Subjective Quality of Life." Presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2007. New York NY.

"A Multiple Capital Explanation for the Persistence of the AIDS Dissident Movement." Presented at the Mid-South Sociological Society Annual Meeting, October 2006. Lafayette, LA

"They Give You a Prescription and Then They Send You on Your Way: Co-Operative Grocery Store Employee Beliefs about Health and Wellness." Presented at the Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, March 2006. Omaha, NE

"Sexual Orientation, Marital Status, and Subjective Quality of Life." Presented at the Mid-South Sociological Society Annual Meeting, October 2005. Atlanta, GA

"Is Gay Really Gay: A Heterosexual/Homosexual Quality of Life Comparison." Presented at the Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, April 2005. Charlotte, NC

"The Sleeping Patterns of Homeless Men in Orlando, FL." Presented at the Mid-South Sociological Society Annual Meeting, October 2004. Biloxi, MI

**EMPLOYMENT**

**Summer Orientation Advisor**, May - August 2003, May - August 2004, May - August 2005

University of Central Florida, First Year Advising and Exploration

- Advised incoming freshmen regarding academic coursework during summer orientation sessions
- Acted as a liaison between students and university services

**Annual Fund Intern**, January 2002 – April 2002, September 2002 – January 2003

UCF Foundation, Inc.

- Devised, implemented and analyzed 34 question survey tool in order to investigate UCF alumni attitudes toward UCF
- Worked with the UCF Alumni Association on project to increase student involvement

## **HONORS/AWARDS**

- Alpha Kappa Delta (International Sociology Honor Society), National Member, 2003 – 2007
- Alpha Kappa Delta, Southern Illinois University Carbondale Vice President, 2006-2007
- Graduate Women's Scholarship, American Association of University Women, Carbondale IL Branch, March 2006
- Graduate Student "Paper of Distinction" Award, Mid-South Sociological Society Annual Meeting, October 2005
- Who's Who at UCF, 2004 and 2005 – Academic Leadership Scholarship
- Alpha Kappa Delta, University of Central Florida Chapter Vice President, 2003 – 2004
- Florida Bright Futures Scholarship, 1999 – 2003
- UCF High Achievement Scholarship, 1999 – 2003
- Phi Beta Lambda National Conference, "3<sup>rd</sup> Place Public Speaking", July 2000
- National Residence Hall Honorary Scholarship, 2000

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

- SIUC Department of Sociology "Introductory NVIVO Training," Participant, June 2007
- SIUC Department of Sociology "Peer Teaching Mentor Training," Participant, April 2007
- SIUC University Professional Advancement "Updating Women, Advancing All," Presenter, November 2006
- SIUC Department of Sociology "Undergraduate Teaching Mentor Training," Participant, April 2006
- SIUC Department of Sociology Colloquium Series, Presenter: "Sexual Orientation, Marital Status, and Subjective Quality of Life", September 2005
- UCF Graduate Research Forum, Presenter: "Is Gay Really Gay: A Heterosexual/Homosexual Quality of Life Comparison", March 2005
- Graduate Teaching Development Conference, Attendee, August 2004
- UCF Graduate Research Forum, Presenter: "Alcohol Misuse and Self-Neglect Among the Elderly", March 2004
- UCF Ally (Homosexuality/Diversity Initiative), Completed February 2003

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- American Sociological Association, Member, 2003 – 2007
- Mid-South Sociological Society, Member, 2004 - 2007
- Midwest Sociological Association, Member, 2006
- Midwest Society for Women in Sociology, Member, 2006
- Southern Sociological Society, Member, 2003 - 2005

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS/VOLUNTEERING**

- Research consultant, Neighborhood Co-op, August 2007 - Present
- Volunteer, Girl Scouts of Shagbark County, March 2006 – May 2006, 5 hours per month
- Volunteer, Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida, May 2004 – July 2005, 15 hours per month
- Interviewee, UCF Metro with Linda Chapin, Homelessness and Poverty Episode, July 2004
- Research Volunteer, University of Central Florida, March 2004, 1 day soup kitchen qualitative interviews to benefit Orlando’s homeless population