

MELANIE L. NADON

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

2024 **Ph.D.**, Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice
(exp.) University of Chicago

- Study Emphases: Child welfare, policy implementation, social service administration, poverty and income policy, child and family policy
- Dissertation Title: *The Nexus of Poverty, Place, Race, and Bureaucracy: A Multi-Method, Multi-Level Examination of Child Welfare Investigations*
- Dissertation Committee: Jennifer Mosley, Ph.D. (chair); Marci Ybarra, Ph.D.; Gina Miranda Samuels, Ph.D.; Scott Allard, Ph.D.

2017 **Master of Public Administration**, Evans School of Public Policy & Governance
University of Washington

- Study Emphases: Social policy, social service administration, child welfare policy and practice, poverty and income policy, housing policy
- Master's Capstone Project: *Holistic Service Provision for Child Welfare-Involved Families: Designing and Evaluating the Center for Children & Youth Justice's Family Advocacy Center*
- Advisors: Scott Allard, Ph.D. (academic), Heather Hill, Ph.D. (capstone)

2015 **Bachelor of Arts, Summa Cum Laude**

University of La Verne

Majors: Gender, Law, & Policy and Speech Communication, Department Honors

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Nadon, M.L., Park, E., Feng, H., Courtney, M.E. (2022). Examining Prevalence and Predictors of Economic Hardships for Transition-age Foster Youth. *The Journal of the Society for Social Work Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1086/721667>.

Nadon, M. L. (2020). Making the Transition: How Asset Building Services Can Promote Positive Adult Outcomes for Foster Youth. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 105083.

Reports and Briefs

Nadon, M.L., Mosley, J., Benjamin, L., Marwell, N., Gugerty, M.K. (2022). *Knowledge Integration and Evidence in the Implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act: Findings from Minnesota*. Chicago, IL.

Park, K., Courtney, M.E., Okpych, N. J., & **Nadon, M.L.** (2020). *Foster Youth Would Benefit from Emphasis on Prevention and Treatment to Reduce Justice System Involvement*. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Courtney, M. E., Okpych, N. J., Park, E., Harty, J., Feng, H., **Nadon, M.L.**, Ditto, D.J., & Park, K. (2020). *Findings from the California Youth Transitions to Adulthood Study (CalYOUTH): Conditions of youth at age 23*. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Nadon, M.L. (2018). *Gender Responsive Juvenile Justice: A Girls Court*. Seattle, WA: The Center for Children & Youth Justice.

Nadon, M.L. (2018). *Military Youth Project Literature Review: 2017 Overview*. Seattle, WA: The Center for Children & Youth Justice.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Park, E., **Nadon, M.L.**, Courtney, M. Examining Prevalence and Predictors of Food Insecurity for Transition-Age Foster Youth.

Nadon, M.L., Ybarra, M. The Intersections of State-Level Variations in Safety Net Generosity and Child Welfare Service Utilization for Youth Aging out of Foster Care: An Equity-Framework Analysis.

Nadon, M.L., Guz, S. Housing Service Characteristics and Experiences of Homelessness and Incarceration for Youth Aging out of Foster Care.

Mosley, J., Gugerty, M.K., Benjamin, L., Marwell, N., Sandfort, J., **Nadon, M.L.** Negotiation and Operationalization of Evidence in the Implementation of Child Welfare Policy.

Lambert, S., Cho, H. **Nadon, M.L.**, Swanson, R., Carreon, E. Essential but Undervalued: Experiences of Care Workers and Service Workers in the Context of Covid-19.

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

Nadon, M.L., Ybarra, M. “The Intersections of State-Level Variations in Safety Net Generosity and Child Welfare Service Utilization for Youth Aging out of Foster Care: An Equity-Framework Analysis,” presentation. APPAM Annual Research Conference, November 2022. *Accepted*.

Maschke, A., Sandfort, J., Mosley, J. **Nadon, M.L.** “From Knowledge Repositories to Knowledge Regulators: How Evidence Clearinghouses Risk Compounding Marginalization in the Social Safety Net,” presentation. APPAM Annual Research Conference, November 2022. *Accepted*.

Nadon, M.L., *session organizer*. “Devolving Implementing Authority: How Policy Choices Shape Equity in Outcomes,” panel session. APPAM Annual Research Conference, November 2022. *Accepted*.

- Park, E., **Nadon, M.L.***, Okpych, N., Harty, J., Courtney, M.E. “Examining Prevalence and Predictors of Food Insecurity for Transition-Age Foster Youth,” student research presentation. APPAM Annual Research Conference, November 2022. *Accepted*.
- Lambert, S., Haley, A. Cho, H. **Nadon, M.L.**, Swanson, R., Carreon, E. “Essential but Undervalued: Experiences of Care Workers and Service Workers in the Context of Covid-19,” presentation. Work and Family Research Network Annual Conference, June 2022.
- Mosley, J., Gugerty, M.K., Benjamin, L., **Nadon, M.L.** “The Administration of Evidence Based Policy: Implications for Equity,” presentation. Public Management Research Conference (PMRC), May 2022.
- Mosley, J., Gugerty, M.K., Benjamin, L., Marwell, N., Sandfort, J., **Nadon, M.L.** “Negotiation and Operationalization of Evidence in the Implementation of Child Welfare Policy,” presentation. APPAM Annual Research Conference, March 2022.
- Nadon, M.L.**, Guz, S. “Housing Service Characteristics and Experiences of Homelessness and Incarceration for Older Foster Youth,” presentation. APPAM Annual Research Conference, March 2022.
- Nadon, M.L.**, Guz, S. “Housing Service Characteristics and Experiences of Homelessness and Incarceration for Youth Aging out of Foster Care,” Paper presentation. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, January 2022.
- Nadon, M.L.**, Park, E., Feng, H., Courtney, M.E. “Examining Prevalence and Predictors of Economic Hardships for Transition-age Foster Youth,” Paper presentation. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, January 2022.
- Nadon, M.L.**, Guz, S., Washington, D.M. “The Social Work Profession’s Role in Working Within Vulnerable Youth Systems,” presentation. Council on Social Work Education Conference, virtual, November 2020. *Accepted*.
- Nadon, M.L.** “Making the Transition: How Asset Building Services Can Promote Positive Adult Outcomes for Foster Youth,” presentation. Society for Social Work and Research Conference, San Francisco, California, January 2019.
- Nadon, M.L.** “Making the Transition: How Asset Building Services Can Promote Positive Adult Outcomes for Foster Youth,” poster presentation. Association for Public Policy and Management Conference, Washington, D.C., November 2018.
- Donlin, M., Fernandez, T., Ferrer-Vaughn, M., **Nadon, M.L.** “School Engagement for Trafficked Youth: Partnerships, Resources, and Best Practices”. Task Force Against the Commercial and Sexual Exploitation of Children Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, October 2017.

Nadon, M.L. “Making the Transition: How Asset Building Services Can Promote Positive Adult Outcomes for Foster Youth,” poster presentation. Evans School of Public Policy & Governance Research Symposium, Seattle, WA, May 2017.

Nadon, M.L. “Unequal Childhoods: How Washington State’s Child Welfare System Targets and Fails Youth of Color,” presentation. University of Washington Graduate and Professional Student Senate Academic Conference, Seattle, WA, May 2017.

Cumbo, G., Carson, M., Holliday, N., **Nadon, M.L.** “Family Advocacy Center: Using a Multidisciplinary Team to Provide Holistic Services to Child Welfare Involved Families.” Washington State Access to Justice Conference, Yakima, WA, May 2017.

Other Invited Presentations

April 2022 – National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN), Spring Data User Flash Talks

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

July 2022 – **Inaugural Dissertation Research Grants**

June 2023 Russell Sage Foundation (\$5,900)

July 2022 – **National Dissertation Award**

Sept. 2023 Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin-Madison (\$25,000)

July 2022 – **Travel Research Grant**

Sept. 2022 Center for the Study of Race, Politics, & Culture, University of Chicago (\$2,500)

April 2022 – **National Institute of Aging Predoctoral Fellowship**

March 2024 National Institute on Aging, Grant Award T32 AG000243 (\$25,836, annually)

Sept. 2021 – **Center for Health Administration Studies (CHAS), University of Chicago**

Sept. 2023 Doctoral Research Stipend (\$3,000)

Sept. 2021 – **Brewster C. Denny Fellowship,**

Sept. 2022 University of Washington Evans School of Public Policy & Governance (\$46,000)

Aug. 2011 – **Communication Performance Scholarship**

May 2015 University of La Verne Speech Communication Department (\$130,000)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Research Assistant, Knowledge Integration Initiative (KII) Project, University of Chicago, *July 2020 – Present*

- Conduct qualitative interviews and participant observation with child welfare system stakeholders on the implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2017 (FFPSA)
- Organize, code, and analyze qualitative data

- Contribute to reports and memos for project stakeholders
- Principal Investigators: Jennifer Mosley, Ph.D., Lehn Benjamin, Ph.D., Nicole Marwell, Ph.D. Mary Kay Gugerty, Ph.D., Jodi Sandfort, Ph.D.

Project Manager, Fair Work Week Study, University of Chicago, *March 2020 – Feb 2022*

- Oversaw study recruitment, data collection, and study progress
- Trained and managed a team of 10 remote research assistants
- Contributed to the design and implementation of data collection instruments, including surveys and interview protocols
- Supervised the creation and use of a qualitative data coding scheme
- Principal Investigators: Susan Lambert, Ph.D. and Anna Haley, Ph.D.

Doctoral Research Assistant, CalYOUTH Study, University of Chicago, *Sept. 2019 – Present*

- Conduct literature reviews on topics relevant to transition-age foster youth
- Assist with quantitative data analysis for administrative and survey data
- Code and analyze qualitative survey data
- Contribute to reports and memos for child welfare stakeholders
- Principal Investigator: Mark Courtney, Ph.D.

Research Assistant, Creating Moves to Opportunity (CMTO), Johns Hopkins University, *February 2019 – September 2019*

- Recruited study participants for the CMTO project in Seattle and King County, WA
- Conducted in-depth, in-person interviews with treatment and control group families
- Coded and analyzed interview transcripts for reports and papers
- Principal Investigator: Stefanie DeLuca, Ph.D.

Research Assistant, Seattle Secure Scheduling Ordinance Evaluation, University of Chicago, *April 2017 – September 2019*

- Recruited study participants for the Seattle Secure Scheduling Ordinance evaluation
- Conducted in-depth, in-person interviews with stakeholders, write reports on interview findings, and code and analyze transcribed interviews
- Contributed to analysis for reports to the City of Seattle
- Principal Investigators: Susan Lambert, Ph.D. and Anna Haley, Ph.D.

Student Research Assistant, Family Advocacy Center, *January 2017 – June 2017*

- Conducted evaluation research including literature reviews, interviews, and mixed methods data analysis
- Wrote and designed logic models, reports, newsletters, program expansion proposals, and data collection instruments
- Program Evaluator: Anne Nicoll, Ph.D.

Research Assistant, University of La Verne Speech Communication Department, *July 2014 – May 2015*

- Contributed to mixed methods research on the effectiveness of equity programs in competitive debate
- Collected and analyzed survey and administrative data from tournaments in Canada, Malaysia, South Africa, the U.K, and the U.S.
- Principal Investigator: Robert Ruiz, Ed.D.

AWARDS & HONORS

May 2017 **Dean’s Award for Outstanding Research Poster**
Evans School of Public Policy & Governance

May 2015 **Commencement Speaker,**
University of La Verne

May 2015 **Speech Communication Department Academic Recognition Award**
University of La Verne

April 2015 **Top Panel Submission Award**
Central States Communication Association

*Fall 2011 –
Spring 2015* **Dean’s List**
University of La Verne

Nov. 2014 **Top Speaker Award and Semi-Finalist**
Lord Hugill International Debating Championships

June 2013 **World Finalist**
Global Debate and Public Policy Challenge (GDPPC)

April 2013 **Top Speaker Award and Semi-Finalist**
United States Universities National Debating Championships

Oct. 2012 **2nd Place**
U.S. National Debate Open Championships

May 2011 **State Champion**
American Association University of Women (AAUW) Speech Trek

TEACHING

University of Chicago – Crown School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice

- *SSAD 4880* – Child and Family Policy
 - Instructor of Record, Winter 2022

- *SSAD 2581* – Social Problems, Social Policy, and Social Change
 - Teaching Assistant, Winter 2021
- *SSAD 3000* – Social Intervention: Programs and Policies
 - Teaching Assistant, Winter 2021
 - Instructor of Record, Winter 2024

University of Chicago – Parrhesia Program for Public Discourse

- *PARR 1300* – Public Speaking Theory and Practice
 - Teaching Assistant, Spring 2020
- *PARR 11300* – Communicating Effectively: Free Expression, Civic Argument, and Public Advocacy
 - Teaching Assistant, Summer 2021
 - Teaching Assistant, Summer 2020

OTHER EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Project Manager, Center for Children & Youth Justice (CCYJ), *August 2016 – August 2019*

- Conducted needs assessment research and formative evaluations for pilot projects
- Designed, implemented, and provided evaluation support for child welfare and juvenile justice programs
- Managed project budgets, supported fundraising events, and oversaw grant writing efforts
- Staffed and provided administrative support for stakeholder committees/task forces
- Created and managed stakeholder trainings for program implementation
- Supported policy advocacy efforts for child welfare and juvenile justice reform by conducting research, providing legislative testimony, and writing policy briefs/reports

Assistant Debate Coach, Pacific Lutheran University, *September 2015 – March 2018*

- Taught argumentation, communication, and research skills to undergraduate students
- Managed team events including mentorship programs and fundraisers

Policy Analysis & Evaluation Intern, Saltchuk Resources, Inc., *June 2016 – September 2016*

- Designed an evaluation plan for the company’s Ethical Code of Conduct policy
- Contributed to national and local policy analysis for the Government Affairs Department

Debate Coach, Bonita High School, *August 2013 – September 2015*

- Taught public speaking, rhetoric, and argumentation to high school students
- Managed overall speech and debate team operations, including program budget, team travel, participation at tournaments, and practice sessions

Administrative Assistant, Premier Hospitalist Group, *July 2013 – September 2015*

- Maintained patient and accounting databases for the clinic
- Managed clinic communications

Clerical Assistant, California Concrete Cleaning, *June 2011 – May 2013*

- Performed accounting and budgeting tasks, including invoicing, payroll, and reimbursements
- Completed general administrative and communications duties

SERVICE, LEADERSHIP, & ENGAGEMENT

Referee

Child Maltreatment

Social Service Review

Social Currents

Other Service

July 2020 – **Co-Chair**

July 2021 Doctoral Student Social Committee

July 2018 – **Board of Directors Treasurer**

July 2020 Past in Pixels

May 2013 – **President**

May 2017 Lordsburg Debate Union

March 2016 – **Convener & Chief Adjudicator**

March 2018 Western Regional Womxn’s Round Robin Debates

March 2016 – **Ombudsman**

March 2018 United States Universities Western Regional Debating Championships

Jan 2012 – **Vice President**

June 2015 Southern California Women’s Debate Forum

May 2015 – **Volunteer Community Organizer**

Sept. 2015 House of Ruth

TRAININGS & CERTIFICATIONS

- University of Michigan ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, *Session II July-August 2022*
- University of Michigan Mixed Methods Research Workshop, *Summer 2021*
- National Institutes of Health “Protecting Human Research Participants” Certification, *September 2020*

- Human Capital & Economic Opportunity Global Working Group “Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality”, *July 2018*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM)
- Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)
- Work and Family Research Network (WFRN)
- Public Management Research Association (PMRA)