

KATIE R. BILLINGS

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EDUCATION

- Expected 2025 **PhD, Sociology Department**
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Dissertation: *Surviving Suicide*
Committee: Mark C. Pachucki (co-chair), Kathryn M. Young (co-chair), Naomi Gerstel, Jennifer Lundquist, and Anna S. Mueller
**Defended August 20th, 2024, degree to be conferred May 2025*
- 2019 **MA, Sociology Department**
University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2016 **BA, Psychology Department**
Dartmouth College
High Honors in Psychology, cum laude

RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

Medical Sociology, Mental Health, Race, Class & Gender, Law & Society, Mixed Methods, Stratification

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 **Billings, Katie R.** and Kathryn M. Young. “How cultural capital shapes mental health care seeking in college.” *Sociological Perspectives*, 65(4) 637–60.
doi.org/10.1177/07311214211042856
- 2022 Statz, Michele, **Katie R. Billings**, Jordan Wolf. “Rurality as concordance: Mental health service delivery for rural survivors of intimate partner violence.” *Sociological Perspectives*, 65(3) 485–505.
doi.org/10.1177/07311214211019078
- 2021 **Billings, Katie R.**, David A. Cort, Tannuja D. Rozario, and Derek P. Siegel. “Stigma beliefs in context: Country and regional variation in the effects of instrumental stigma beliefs on protective sexual behaviors in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Southern Africa.” *Social Science & Medicine*, 269(2021) 113565.
doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2020.113565
- 2021 **Billings, Katie R.** “Stigma in class: mental illness, social class, and tokenism in elite college culture.” *Sociological Perspectives*, 64(2) 238–57.
doi.org/10.1177/0731121420921878

- 2020 Young, Kathryn M. and **Katie R. Billings**. “Legal consciousness and cultural capital.” *Law & Society Review*, 54(1) 33–65.
doi.org/10.1111/lasr.12455
- Featured in *JOTWELL; The Journal of Things We Like (Lots)*, June 2020, Prof. Elizabeth Chambliss.
 - Awarded Wiley’s Top-Cited Article in 2020

PEER-REVIEWED R&RS

- 2024 **Billings, Katie R.** “Can suicide narratives save lives?: First-hand suicide survival, meaning-making, and suicide prevention.” [R&R at the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*]

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 **Billings, Katie R.** “Mental illness and culture.” [Forthcoming] Invited chapter in *Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Health, Illness, Behavior, and Society*.
- 2023 Young, Kathryn M. and **Katie R. Billings**. 2023. “An intersectional examination of U.S. civil justice problems. *Utah Law Review*, 2023(3).
doi.org/10.26054/0d-zv1c-rh2z
- Featured in *JOTWELL; The Journal of Things We Like (Lots)*, July 2023, Prof. Seth Endo.
- 2019 **Billings, Katie R.** 2018. “Book review: ‘Navigating conflict: How youth handle trouble in a high-poverty school,’ by Calvin Morrill and Michael Musheno.” *Law & Society Review*, 52(2), 551–4.

WORKING PAPERS

Under Review

Billings, Katie R. “A survivor-centered definition of suicidality.” [Under review at *Society and Mental Health*]

Billings, Katie R. *Surviving Suicide*. [Book proposal]

Manuscripts in Progress

Billings, Katie R. “Does subjective social status predict suicidality beyond objective social status in the United States?” [Working paper]

Billings, Katie R. “I’m going to do something violent to express these horrible feelings”: Masculine overcompensation and suicidal masculinities.” [Working paper]

Billings, Katie R. and Kathryn M. Young. “Race, policing, and ‘colorblind’ legal standards.” [Working paper]

Pachucki, Mark and **Katie R. Billings**. “Social status in social networks: How various measures of social status predict signed tie formation in early adolescence.” [In preparation]

GRANTS

National

- 2020–23 Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant,
National Science Foundation (\$15,986)
- 2020 Research Grant, Section on Culture, American Sociological
Association (\$500)

Institutional

- 2024 Graduate Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$8,000)
- 2023 Anderson Graduate Enrichment Award for Research on Inequality (\$1,030)
- 2021 Graduate Return to Research Grant, UMass Graduate School (\$5,000)
- 2020 Dissertation Grant, UMass Sociology Department (\$3,500)
- 2019 Predissertation Graduate Research Grant, UMass Graduate School (\$520)
- 2017 Comprehensive Exam Grant, UMass Sociology Department (\$3,500)
- 2016 First-Year Summer Research Grant, UMass Sociology Department (\$2,000)

AWARDS

National

- 2024 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science (IAPHS)
Student Award – *A national recognition for the most promising rising scholar in
population health sciences*

University of Massachusetts Amherst

- 2024 MASSPIRG Affordable Education Instructor/Faculty Award Nomination
- 2022 Graduate Fellow, Center for Justice, Law, & Societies
- 2022 Image of Research Contest Winner, UMass Graduate School
- 2019 Annual Graduate Student Peer Mentor Award, UMass Sociology Department
- 2018 Annual Best Comprehensive Examination Paper Award, UMass Sociology
Department
- 2018 Annual Best Teaching Assistant Award, UMass Sociology Department

Dartmouth College

- 2016 Best Thesis Award, Dartmouth Psychological & Brain Sciences Department
- 2016 Rufus Choate Scholar – First Honor Group (top 5% of senior class)
- 2016 High Honors, Dartmouth Psychological & Brain Sciences Department

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Invited Research Presentations

- 2024 “Patient or criminal?: Police responses to suicidal crises.” Sociology Department, Dartmouth College. October 2024.
- 2023 “‘I’m going to do something violent to express these horrible feelings’: Thwarted privilege and suicidal masculinities.” Suicide Cultures Seminar Series. University of Edinburgh. December 2023.
- 2023 “A survivor-centered definition of suicidality.” Sociology Department, Dartmouth College. October 2023.

Conference Presentations

- 2024 Plenary Presenter. “Defining suicidality for population health science.” *Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science*. September. St. Louis, MO.
- 2024 Presenter. “Suicidal masculinities and masculine overcompensation.” *American Sociological Association*. August. Montréal, QC.
- 2024 Presenter. “I’m going to do something violent to express these horrible feelings.” *Eastern Sociological Society*. March. Washington, D.C.
- 2023 Presenter. “Suicide disclosure as suicide prevention: how narrative translates to healing.” *Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science*. October. Baltimore, MD.
- 2023 Presenter. “‘I don’t want a mouth, I want an ear’: Suicide survival, meaning making, and narrative healing.” *American Sociological Association*. August. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023 Presenter. “Using suicide survivors’ narratives to inform suicide prevention legislation.” *Law & Society Association*. June. San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2023 Session Chair and Discussant. “Legal consciousness, class, and categorization.” *Law & Society Association*. June. San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2023 Presenter. “Suicide survival and suicide disclosure.” *UMass Power, Resistance, & Identity Graduate Conference*. May. Amherst, MA.
- 2023 Presider and Presenter. “‘I don’t want a mouth, I want an ear’: Suicide survival, meaning making, and narrative healing.” *Eastern Sociological Society*. February. Baltimore, MD.
- 2022 Presenter. “The Breadth of Suicide Experience.” *American Association of Suicidology*. April. Chicago, IL.
- 2022 Presider and Presenter. “Defining suicidality: What can suicide survivors’ experiences teach us about suicidality?” *Eastern Sociological Society*. March. Boston, MA.
- 2021 Presenter. “How social movements shift legal consciousness.” *UMass Center for Justice, Law, & Societies*. September. Amherst, MA.
- 2021 Presenter. “How cultural capital shapes mental health care seeking in college.” *American Sociological Association*. August. Chicago, IL.
- 2021 Presenter. “Rurality as concordance: Mental health service delivery for rural survivors of intimate partner violence.” *Law & Society Association*. May. Chicago, IL.

- 2020 Presenter. "Suicide survival narratives: How class, race, gender, and LGBTQ+ status affect individuals' cultural narratives of suicide." *Eastern Sociological Society*. February. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2019 Organizer and Presenter. "Cultural capital and legal consciousness: A longitudinal examination." *Law & Society Association*. June. Washington, D.C.
- 2019 Presenter. "Objective versus subjective measures of social status predicting suicidality." *Eastern Sociological Society*. March. Boston, MA.
- 2018 Presenter. "Police-citizen encounters, legal consciousness, and the hidden role of cultural capital." *Law & Society Association*. June. Toronto, ONT.
- 2017 Presenter. "Stigma in class: Social class, mental illness stigma, and tokenism in elite college culture." *American Sociological Association*. August. Montreal, QC.

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023–present Statistics Consultant, *The George Washington University Law School*

2019–23 Editorial Assistant, *Law & Society Review*

2017–23 Research Assistant, *UMass Amherst Sociology Department*

Projects: Understanding access to justice: Social sources of variation in everyday relationships to law; Cultural capital and access to justice; Rights consciousness and police-citizen interactions
Principal Investigator: Dr. Kathryn Young

Project: Measuring social status in adolescence
Principal Investigator: Dr. Mark Pachucki

Project: Stigma beliefs in context: Country and regional variation in the effects of instrumental stigma beliefs on protective sexual behaviors in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Southern Africa
Principal Investigator: Dr. David Cort

2015–16 Research Assistant, *Dartmouth College Sociology Department*

Project: Why declining trust in medicine? An affect control theory perspective; The meaning of feminism
Principal Investigator: Dr. Kathryn Lively

2014–16 Research Assistant, *Mood Disorders – Geisel School of Medicine*

2014 Research Assistant, *Bowdoin Children's Learning Laboratory*

2013–14 Research Assistant, *Addiction Health – Geisel School of Medicine*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Associates, University of Massachusetts Amherst

- The Family (In-person, Spring 2024)
- Self & Society (Online, Summer 2023)
- Deviance & Social Order (In-person, Spring 2023)
- Conformity & Deviance (In-person, Fall 2022)

Teaching Assistantships, University of Massachusetts Amherst

(* denotes teaching a discussion section)

- The Family (Spring 2018*, Fall 2023*, Fall 2024*)
- Statistics (Spring 2020*; Fall 2018*)
- Self and Society, (Fall 2019, Fall 2016)
- Race, Gender, Class, and Ethnicity (Fall 2017)
- Introduction to Sociology (Spring 2017)

Guest Lectures

- Invited Lecturer. 2024. “Cultural capital and mental health care-seeking in college.” Invited lecture at Dartmouth College in Sociology 35, “Sociology of Mental Health.” October 2024. *Instructor: Jason Houle.*
- Invited Lecturer. 2024. “Can suicide narratives save lives?” Invited lecture at Vassar College in Sociology 330, “Death & Birth.” October 2024. *Instructor: Catherine Tan.*
- Invited Lecturer. 2024. “Suicide survival narratives.” Invited lecture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in Sociology 356, “Social Forces, Health, and the Life Course.” October. *Instructor: Mark Pachucki.*
- Invited Lecturer. 2024. “Economically disadvantaged families.” Invited lecture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in Sociology 222, “The Family.” October. *Instructor: Ana Villalobos.*
- Invited Lecturer. 2023. “Hookup culture and sexual scripts.” Invited lecture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in Sociology 222, “The Family.” November. *Instructor: Ana Villalobos.*
- Invited Lecturer. 2023. “Hookup culture and sexual scripts.” Invited lecture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in Sociology 107, “Social Problems.” October. *Instructor: Ofer Sharone.*
- Invited Lecturer. 2023. “Social class and policing.” Invited research lecture at California State University Sacramento in “Criminal Justice.” October 2023. *Instructor: Nicole Fox.*
- Invited Lecturer. 2023. “Cultural capital, college context, and mental health care-seeking.” Invited lecture at Dartmouth College in Sociology 35, “Sociology of Mental Health.” October 2023. *Instructor: Jason Houle.*
- Invited Lecturer. 2021. “Legal consciousness and cultural capital.” Invited research lecture at California State University Sacramento, Criminal Justice. November. *Instructor: Nicole Fox.*

- Invited Lecturer. 2019. “The sociology of suicide.” Invited lecture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in Sociology 364, “Sociology of Mental Health.” September. *Instructor: Terra Steinkuehler.*
- Invited Lecturer. 2018. “Childhood socialization and social class. Invited lecture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in Sociology 222, “The Family.” April. *Instructor: Professor Naomi Gerstel.*
- Invited Lecturer. 2018. “Social relationships and health.” Invited lecture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in Sociology 356, “Social Forces, Health, and the Life Course.” February. *Instructor: Professor Mark Pachucki.*

Mentoring and Advising, University of Massachusetts Amherst

- Grace Bleakney. Honors Colloquium Advisor. 2024. “The Family.”
- Fatima (Zahra) Marashi. Honors Colloquium Advisor. 2024. “The Family.”
- Annabel Mendum. Undergraduate Research Assistant. 2023. “Mental health providers and suicide care.”
- Alyssa Selverian. Graduate Research Assistant. 2023. “Mental health providers and suicide care.”
- Raphael Barglow. Honors Thesis Committee Member. 2022–2023. “Electronic monitoring: Constructing the new prison.”
- Sarah Lincoln. Undergraduate Research Assistant. 2022–2023. “Suicide survival narratives: How social class, race, gender, and LGBTQIA+ status affect survivors’ cultural narratives about suicide experiences.”
- Kiera Florance. Undergraduate Teaching Assistant. 2023. Sociology 342: Deviance & Social Order.
- Juliana Granville. Undergraduate Teaching Assistant. 2022. Sociology 248: Conformity & Deviance.
- Jennifer Garfield-Abrams. Graduate Research Assistant. 2021–2022. “Suicide survival narratives: How social class, race, gender, and LGBTQIA+ status affect survivors’ cultural narratives about suicide experiences.”
- Isabel Levin. Undergraduate Research Assistant. 2020–2022. “Understanding access to justice: Social sources of variation in everyday relationships to law.”
- Lane Mehlretter. Honors Thesis Committee Member. 2020–2021. “Graphic memoir, healing and hope: Illness and caregiving in *Guts, Lighter Than My Shadow* and *Last Things*.”
- Nicolas Asnes. Undergraduate Research Assistant. 2020. “Understanding Access to Justice: Social Sources of Variation in Everyday Relationships to Law.”
- Emma Aulenback. Undergraduate Independent Study. 2020. “What’s wrong with UMass? A qualitative podcast series about students’ experiences at UMass.”
- Alexis Umeh. Undergraduate Research Assistant. 2018. “Rights consciousness and social class.”
- Emma Aulenback. Undergraduate Research Assistant. 2017–2018. “Rights consciousness and social class.”
- Kim Le. Undergraduate Independent Study. 2017. “Perceived social status and suicide.”

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

- 2023 Talk Saves Lives: Train the Trainer Program. April 3. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, online.
- 2022 Talk Saves Lives: An Introduction to Suicide Prevention. Dec. 1. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, online.
- 2022 Suicide Postvention Training. Nov. 29. Riverside Community Care. University of Massachusetts Amherst. Amherst, MA.
- 2021 Up and Running with MAXQDA. June 30 – July 1. Institute for Social Science Research, University of Massachusetts Amherst. Amherst, MA.
- 2020 Qualtrics Workshop. June 29 – July 1. Institute for Social Science Research, University of Massachusetts Amherst. Amherst, MA.
- 2019 Question, Persuade, Refer Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training. May 9. QPR Institute, online.
- 2019 Qualitative Interviewing Workshop. June 13 – 14. Institute for Social Science Research, University of Massachusetts Amherst. Amherst, MA.

Software Fluency: ATLAS.ti, NVivo, STATA, MAXQDA, Qualtrics

SERVICE

Field/Discipline

- 2024 Volunteer. First-Generation/Working Class Sociologists. *American Sociological Association*.
- 2022–present Committee Member. *American Foundation for Suicide Prevention*. Massachusetts Chapter Educational Programming Team.
- 2021–present Committee Member. *American Foundation for Suicide Prevention*. Massachusetts Chapter Advocacy Committee.
- 2019 Panel Organizer, Legal Consciousness Across Contexts Panel, *Law & Society Association*
- 2016–17 Communications Coordinator, Child and Youth Section, *American Sociological Association*
- 2015–16 Volunteer. *American Foundation for Suicide Prevention*. Out of the Darkness Campus Walks for Suicide Prevention.

Peer Reviewer

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Adversity and Resilience Science</i> <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> <i>American Sociological Review</i> <i>Humanity & Society</i> <i>Social Forces</i> <i>Social Problems</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Sociological Perspectives</i> <i>Sociology of Education</i> <i>Law & Human Behavior</i> <i>Law & Social Inquiry</i> <i>Law & Society Review</i> <i>Work and Occupations</i> |
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Institutional

- *Graduate Representative*, Undergraduate Policy Committee 2023–24
- *Co-Chair*, Sociology Colloquium and Special Events Committee 2022–23
- *Graduate Peer Mentor*, UMass Sociology Department 2023
- *Graduate Mentor*, The Stonewall Center 2018–19
- *Secretary*, Sociology Graduate Student Association 2016–18
- *First-Year Graduate Mentor*, UMass Sociology Department 2018

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Sociological Association (Medical Sociology, Mental Health, Sociology of Culture, Sociology of Law, and Social Psychology)
- Law & Society Association
- Eastern Sociological Society
- American Association of Suicidology
- Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science

REFERENCES

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