

SUZANNE WOOD

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Ph.D. Candidate
Department of Sociology
University of Notre Dame
4060 Jenkins Nanovic
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Research Affiliate
Center for Research on Educational Opportunity
Program for Interdisciplinary Education Research

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate in Sociology **University of Notre Dame**, Notre Dame IN, USA, Expected **May 2026**

Dissertation: *Teacher Autonomy, Student Agency, and Schools as Racialized, Classed and Gendered Organizations*

Committee: Mark Berends (chair), Anna Haskins, Erin McDonnell, Erika Summers-Effler, Calvin Zimmermann (external)

Area Exams (committee)

Sociology of Education (Amy Langenkamp (chair), William Carbonaro, Joel Mittleman)

Sociology of Gender (Elizabeth McClintock (chair), Abigail Ocobock, Joel Mittleman)

M.A. in Sociology **University of Victoria**, Victoria BC, Canada, **May 2019**

Thesis: *Teacher's Challenges and the Promise of Equitable Classrooms: Why Students Who Need More Get Less*

Advisor: Garry Gray

B.A. in Sociology **Columbia University**, New York NY, USA, **May 2015**, *cum laude*

Thesis: *Chasing Jesus: A Case Study of an Evangelical Megachurch*

Advisor: Thomas DiPrete

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Sociology of Education ♦ Qualitative Methods ♦ Gender ♦ Race ♦ Inequality ♦ Feminist/Queer Theory

PUBLICATIONS

Wood, Suzanne. *Forthcoming.* "He Gave Me Detention Because I went to My Locker for a Pencil?!" in Brooke Kelley, Matthew Jerome Schneider, Tracy Vargas & Julia Waity, eds., *Understanding Poverty through Lived Experiences*, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield. (Anticipated Publication October 2026).

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

Zimmermann, Calvin, and **Suzanne Wood** "Predictable, Not Paradoxical: Black Children's Positive Math and Reading Attitudes in an Anti-Black Society"

PAPERS IN PREPARATION

Wood, Suzanne "Compounding Constraints: District-Level Influences on Classroom-Level Teaching Experiences."
(Dissertation chapter)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, HONORS, & AWARDS

- Reverend James A. Burns Fellowship, Program for Interdisciplinary Educational Research,
Institute for Educational Initiatives and Sociology, University of Notre Dame (\$8,500 per year) **2020 – Current**
- Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts American Dream Grant (\$2,150) **2023**
- Donald Wagg Graduate Scholarship, University of Victoria (\$2,400) **2017**
- University of Victoria Graduate Award (\$8,000 per year) **2016 – 2018**

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"“Detention for a Pencil?”: How Race + Class Shape School Discipline Outcomes." Midwest Sociology of Education Conference, Chicago, IL, 2024

"“Detention for Getting a Pencil?”: How Racialized Poverty Shapes School Discipline Protocol." American Sociological Association annual meeting, Montreal, QC, 2024

"It’s Getting Loud in Here: Classroom Noise and the Impacts of Interaction Interpretation." Chicago Ethnography Conference virtual annual meeting, 2022

"Teacher’s Challenges & The Promise of Equitable Classrooms: Why Students Who Need More Get Less." American Sociological Association virtual annual meeting, 2021

Education as a Means for Cultivating Mental Wellness in Canadian Youth. Society for the Study of Social Problems annual meeting, Montreal, QC, 2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Notre Dame, Department of Sociology **2022-Current**

Instructor of Record

Social Inequality in American Education (SOC 20228), University of Notre Dame, Spring 2025

- 24-student *Sociology of Education* course
- using theories of social constructionism to examine several ways American students experience inequality, across all levels (micro/macro; individual/organizational)

Guest Lecturer

Introduction to Social Problems, Fall 2024

Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Social Problems, Fall 2024

Introduction to Sociology, Fall 2022

University of Victoria, Department of Sociology

2016-2018

Discussion Section Facilitator

Introduction to Sociology, Spring 2018

Contemporary Social Theory, Spring 2017

Guest Lecturer

Crime and Deviance, Spring 2017

Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Sociology, Spring 2018

Crime and Deviance, Fall 2017

Introduction to Sociology, Summer 2017

White Collar Crime, Spring 2017

Contemporary Social Theory, Spring 2017

Media and Contemporary Society, Fall 2016

RESEARCH RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, **University of Notre Dame**, Notre Dame, IN, United States **2020 – 2024**

- Dr. Calvin Zimmermann (3 years) – Attended School District Disciplinary Committee meetings as part of a research consultancyship, summarizing research articles, literature reviews.
- Dr. Amy Langenkamp (1 year) – jurisdictional scan of immigration law and policy; summarizing research articles, annotated bibliography.

Research Assistant, **R.A. Malatest & Associates**, Victoria BC, Canada **2018 – 2020**

- **Skills Developed:** Survey Design/Implementation; In-depth interviews, qualitative data analysis; Program Evaluation, site observation, data collection, quality assurance.
- Worked as a team on multiple research contracts
 - *Program Evaluation of government initiative for universal childcare:* conducted childcare site visits. Research included: Focus Groups with Families, Observational Quality Assessment with a validated instrument, in-depth Interviews with Directors, Supervisors, and Community Partners, Family and Educator Surveys; qualitative data analysis.
 - *Community Living BC's includeMe! Quality of Life Initiative:* hired and trained individuals with developmental disabilities to conduct quality of life surveys with peers.

Student Research Intern, **Ministry of Children and Family Development, Victoria, BC, Canada** **Spring 2017**

- Conducted a comprehensive literature review and jurisdictional scan to analyze best practices for successful Mental Well-Being programs for BC schools.
- Deliverables included a presentation, detailed report, and infographic

Project Consultant, **BC Agriculture Council**, Surrey, BC, Canada **2015 – 2016**

- Research, and writing for BC Farmers Newsletter.
- Communications: information packets & press releases.

Employment Specialist, **The Institute for Applied Behavior Analysis**, Los Angeles, CA, United States **2015**

- Job Development and other support services, including counseling, training, coaching, and more, to individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Keeping detailed records of client progress toward individual objectives.
- Writing Individual Service Plans: assessing clients' strengths and needs.

DATA ANALYSIS SKILLS

- Analysis Software: MAXQDA, Atlas.TI, NVIVO, STATA, SPSS, EXCEL
- Qualitative: Survey Design, Ethnography, Participant Observation and Interview Methods, Focus Groups
- Quantitative: Linear & Logistic Regression, Multilevel Models

SERVICE & OUTREACH

Prospective Student Committee; University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN	2023 – 2025
Grad Student Mentor; University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN	2024 – 2025
Grad Committee Rep; UViC Department of Sociology, Victoria, BC	2017 – 2018
Alternate Grad Rep; UViC Department of Sociology, Victoria, BC	2016 – 2017

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association (ASA)	2021 – Current
Sections: Sociology of Education	
American Educational Research Association (AERA)	2021 – Current
The Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE)	2021 – Current

REFERENCES

Mark Berends, Professor of Sociology, University of Notre Dame (PhD Advisor)
mberends@nd.edu 574-222-3947

Anna Haskins, Andrew V. Tackes Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Notre Dame
ahaskins@nd.edu 574-631-0414

Calvin Zimmermann, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Georgia Institute of Technology
Czimmermann8@gatech.edu 312-206-1273