

Tim Thomas

URBAN SOCIOLOGIST
DEMOGRAPHER
DATA SCIENTIST

University of Washington
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206.290.6512

Appointments

University of Washington
Moore-Sloan & Washington Research Data Science Postdoctoral Fellow, Sociology
& The eScience Institute
2017 - present

Education

University of Washington
Ph.D., Sociology
2017

Dissertation: "Forced Out: Race, Market, & Neighborhood Dynamics of Evictions"
Committee: Kyle Crowder (Chair), Stewart Tolnay, Nathalie Williams, & Thaisa Way (GSR)
Exam Topics: Residential Segregation, Neighborhood Mobility, Gentrification, Neighborhood Crime, Social Disorganization, & Spatial Methods
Minor: Demographic methods & spatial statistics

M.A., Sociology
2013

Thesis: "Revisiting Crime Hot-Spot Interventions: Displacement, Longevity, and Neighborhood Impacts."

B.A., Sociology, with honors
2009

Honor's Thesis: "Seattle's Martin Luther King, Jr. Way: A 40 Year Reflection on a Dream."

Seattle Central Community College
Associate of Arts
2007

Research & Teaching Interests

Urban Sociology, Race & Ethnicity, Residential Segregation, Housing & Poverty, Residential Mobility, Demography, Social Organization, Data Science, Statistics, Spatial Analysis

Publications

Lanfear, Charles C., Lindsey R. Beach, and Timothy A. Thomas. 2018. "Formal Social Control in Changing Neighborhoods: Racial Implications of Neighborhood Context on Reactive Policing" *City & Community*, 17:4. doi: 10.1111/cico.12346

Williams, Nathalie E., Timothy A. Thomas, Matthew Dunbar, Nathan Eagle, and Adrian Dobra. 2015. "Measures of Human Mobility Using Mobile Phone Records Enhanced with GIS Data." *PLoS ONE*, 33. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0133630

Under Review

Thomas, Timothy A. "Displaced by Race: Evictions, Segregation, & the Housing Market."

Thomas, Timothy A., Ott Toomet, Ian Kennedy, and Alex Ramiller. "The State of Evictions: Enumerating Evictions & Measuring Racial Disparities through Machine-Learning & Text Recognition of Washington State Court Records: 2004 to 2017."

In Progress

Thomas, Timothy A. "Towards a Theory of Eviction Ecology: Local and Extra-Local Neighborhood Effects"

Thomas, Timothy A. and Michael Babb. "Neighborhood Change & Displacement: Re-imagining the Concentric Zone Theory to Measure Migration from Gentrification."

Thomas, Timothy A. and Michael Esposito. "Health & Racial Neighborhood Segregation: A Multi-City Comparison."

Thomas, Timothy A. and Ryan Gabriel. "Segregation within Integration: Exploring Micro- Level Segregation in Seattle's Integrated Tracts Using Spatial & Qualitative Analysis."

Thomas, Timothy A. "Revisiting Crime Hot-Spot Interventions: Displacement, Longevity, & Neighborhood Impacts."

Fellowships & Grants

Moore/Sloan Data Science and Washington Research Foundation Innovation in Data Science Postdoctoral Fellowship. University of Washington (\$220,000) 2017-2020

Raikes Foundation Young Adult Homelessness Study Grant. Seattle, WA (\$5,000) 2019

Enterprise Community Partners Washington State Evictions Research Seed Grant. Seattle, WA (\$4,000) 2018-2019

West Coast Poverty Center Research Seed Grant, University of Washington (\$10,000) 2015

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. University of Washington (\$105,000 + tuition) 2012-2015

Advanced Spatial Analysis Workshop Grant, Pennsylvania State University (\$600) 2011

Mary Gates Research Scholarship, University of Washington (\$3,000) 2009

Awards

Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology Best Poster Award,
“Neighborhood Change and Racial Dynamics of Complainants, Suspects, &
Arrestees.” University of Washington. (with Lindsey R. Beach and Charles
Lanfear). 2016

Graduated with Honors, Sociology, University of Washington. 2009

Invited Presentations

“The State of Evictions During the Affordability Crisis: Measuring Prevalence
and Disparate Impact through Machine Learning on Court Records.”
Presentation, University of Pennsylvania & University of Oxford Symposium on
Affordable Housing in the Advanced Economies.
Oxford, UK 2019

“The Washington State Evictions Project: Using Demographic Estimation to
Find Racial Disparities.” Presentation, Annual Housing Justice Network
Conference.
New Orleans, LA 2019

“The State of Evictions: Racial and Sex Disparities in Evictions.” Expert
testimony, Seattle City Hall.
Seattle, WA 2019

“The State of Evictions: Racial and Sex Disparities in Evictions.” Presentation,
Washington Low Income Housing Alliance.
Seattle, WA 2019

“Housing, Segregation, & Mobility in Washington State: The Impact of Policies,
Economics, & Evictions” Expert Testimony, Washington State Senate Housing
Stability & Affordability Committee.
Olympia, WA 2019

“Segregation & Mobility in Washington State: The Impact of Policies,
Economics, & Evictions.” Expert testimony, Washington State House of
Representatives Community Development, Housing, & Tribal Affairs Committee.
Olympia, WA 2018

“Forced Evictions, Neighborhood Change, & Race: From Jim Crow to
Gentrification.” Presentation, The City of Seattle’s Office of Arts & Culture.
Seattle, WA 2018

“Eviction Ecology.” Presentation, Department of Sociology, University of Texas.
Austin, TX 2018

“Race, Place, & Evictions.” Presentation, School of Social Transformations,
Arizona State University.
Tempe, AZ 2017

“Racial and Gender Estimations of Unlawful Detainers.” Keynote Speaker,
Northwest Civil Rights Legal Aid Conference.
Portland, OR 2016

<p>“Are Diverse Neighborhoods Truly Integrated? Micro-segregation in Seattle.” Presentation, Open Seattle: Technology for Civic Engagement, Socrata. Seattle, WA</p>	2016
<p>“Segregation within Integration: Exploring Micro-level Segregation in Seattle’s Integrated Tracts.” Presentation, The Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology Seminar, University of Washington. Seattle, WA</p>	2015
<p>“Segregation within Integration: Exploring Micro-level Segregation in Seattle’s Integrated Tracts.” Presentation, Department of Sociology, Seattle Pacific University. Seattle, WA</p>	2014
<p>“Hidden Segregation: Disaggregating Tract-level Stratification Using Spatial and Qualitative Methods.” Presentation, Department of Sociology, University of Washington. Seattle, WA</p>	2014
<p>“Measuring Mobility Using Cell Phone Call Data Records: Developing Big Data for Demographic Science.” Presentation, The Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, University of Washington. Seattle WA</p>	2014
<p>“Does Crime Move?: Quantifying Crime Displacement After a Hot-Spot Intervention.” Presentation, The Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, University of Washington. Seattle, WA</p>	2013
<p>“Does Crime Move? Quantifying Crime Movement After Hot-Spot Operations.” Presentation, Department of Sociology, University of Washington. Seattle, WA</p>	2012
<p>“Mapping Inequality.” Keynote Speaker, Annual Urban Poverty Forum, Town Hall. Seattle WA</p>	2010

Conference Presentations

<p>“Eviction Ecology: Local and Extra-local Neighborhood Effects.” Presentation, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA</p>	2018
<p>“Neighborhood and Demographic Disparities in Evictions: Using Spatial Analysis and Bayes Estimation to Define a Previously Unknown Population in King County, WA.” Presentation, Population Association of America. Denver, CO</p>	2018
<p>“Health & Racial Neighborhood Segregation: A Multi-City Comparison.” Poster with Michael Esposito, Population Association of America Annual Meeting. Denver, CO</p>	2018
<p>“Forced Out: Race, Market, and Neighborhood Dynamics in Evictions.” Presentation, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Montreal, QC</p>	2017

<p>“Neighborhood Change and Racial Dynamics of Complainants, Suspects, & Arrestees.” Presentation with Lindsey R. Beach and Charles Lanfear, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA</p>	2016
<p>“Neighborhood Change and Racial Dynamics of Complainants, Suspects, & Arrestees.” Poster with Lindsey R. Beach and Charles Lanfear, Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America. Washington D.C.</p>	2016
<p>“Segregation within Integration: Exploring Micro-level Segregation in Seattle’s Integrated Tracts.” Presentation with Ryan Gabriel, Population Association of America Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA</p>	2015
<p>“Measuring Mobility Using Cell Phone Call Data Records: Developing Big Data for Demographic Science.” Presentation with Nathalie Williams, Matt Dunbar, Nathan Eagle, & Adrian Dobra, Population Association of America Annual Meeting. Boston, MA</p>	2014
<p>“Spatial Methods for Quantifying Crime Displacement: Measuring Crime Movement After a Hot-Spot Policing Intervention.” Poster, Population Association of America Annual Meeting. Boston, MA</p>	2014
<p>“Spatially Defined Measures of Mobility.” Poster with Nathalie Williams, eScience Big Data Colloquium, University of Washington. Seattle, WA</p>	2013
<p>“Seattle’s MLK Way: A Spatial Comparison of MLK Residents From 1980-2000.” Presentation, The Pacific Sociological Association. Seattle, WA</p>	2011
<p>“Seattle’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Way: A 40 Year Reflection on a Dream.” Presentation, Sociology Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Washington. Seattle, WA</p>	2009

Research & Consultation

<p>Principal Researcher “The State of Evictions: Measuring Prevalence & Racial Disparities.” The eScience Institute & Dept. of Sociology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA</p>	2018-present
<p>Principal Researcher “Housing Insecurity Longitudinal Database: Linking Public Housing & Homelessness Data.” University of Washington, eScience Institute, Seattle, WA.</p>	2017-present
<p>Principal Researcher “Quantifying Displacement: Neighborhood Change & Migration in the Puget Sound Region.” University of Washington, Cascadia Urban Analytic Collective, Seattle, WA.</p>	2017-2018

<p>Researcher</p> <p>"Hate Crimes and Micro-segregation." The City of Seattle Auditor's Office, Seattle, WA.</p>	2017-2018
<p>Principal Researcher & Expert Witness</p> <p>"Racial and Gender Disparities in Evictions." ACLU & The Northwest Justice Project, Washington State.</p>	2016-2017
<p>Program Coordinator</p> <p>The UW Homelessness Initiative, University of Washington, Urban@UW, Seattle, WA.</p>	2016-2017
<p>Consultant</p> <p>"Spatial Patterns of Homeless Encampments." The City of Seattle Mayor's Office, Seattle, WA.</p>	2016-2017
<p>Research Assistant</p> <p>"Migration Patterns of Seattle and King County's Public Housing Recipients." Kyle Crowder, University of Washington, Department of Sociology, Seattle, WA.</p>	2015-2016
<p>Research Assistant & Consultant</p> <p>Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, Matthew Dunbar, University of Washington, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, Seattle, WA.</p>	2015
<p>Research Assistant</p> <p>"Spatial Analysis of Seattle Alcohol and Marijuana Citations." Katherine Beckett, University of Washington, Department of Sociology, Seattle, WA.</p>	2015
<p>Research Assistant</p> <p>"Mapping Legal Financial Obligations and Stratification." Alexes Harris, University of Washington, Department of Sociology, Seattle, WA.</p>	2015
<p>Researcher</p> <p>"Koreans and Korean Americans in the Pacific Northwest Project." Korean American Historical Society and the Wing Luke Museum, Seattle WA.</p>	2012
<p>Research Assistant</p> <p>"Spatial Crime Data Collection at the Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology." Matthew Dunbar, University of Washington, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, Seattle, WA.</p>	2011
<p>Research Assistant</p> <p>Southern Migration Linkage Project, Stewart Tolnay, University of Washington, Department of Sociology, Seattle, WA.</p>	2011
<p>Research Assistant</p> <p>"Royal Navy Mutiny Research." Steve Pfaff, University of Washington, Department of Sociology, Seattle, WA.</p>	2010

Research Assistant
Spatial Demographic Data Collection for Seattle, Center for Studies in Demography
and Ecology, Matt Dunbar, University of Washington, Center for Studies in
Demography and Ecology,
Seattle, WA. 2010

Research Assistant
The Lynching Database, Stewart Tolnay, University of Washington, Department of
Sociology,
Seattle, WA. 2008-2011

Teaching

Instructor
Undergraduate Research Practicum, "Mapping mobility patterns of Seattle and King
County Public Housing Residents 2004-2016." University of Washington. 2016

Instructor
Spatial Epidemiology Workshop, University of Nairobi, Kenya. 2015

Instructor
Introduction to GIS, University of Washington (online course). 2015

Co-Instructor
Urban Sociology, University of Washington, Seattle. 2014

Teaching Assistant
Criminology, University of Washington, Seattle. 2012

Teaching Assistant
Sociological Methods, University of Washington, Seattle. 2012

Teaching Assistant
Sociological Methods, University of Washington, Seattle. 2011

Co-Instructor
Visual Sociology, University of Washington, Seattle. 2011

Co-Instructor
Visual Sociology, University of Washington, Seattle. 2010

Public Scholarship

"Is Seattle's past paving its future?"
Seattle Growth Podcast. 2017

"Black life is draining out of Seattle, Census shows."
NPR KUOW. 2017

"Seattle's 'Diverse' Neighborhoods Are Surprisingly Segregated."
NPR KUOW. 2016

"Seattle's Neighborhoods Have Experienced 'Segregation Within Integration'."
Curbed. 2016

"When 'diverse' neighborhoods are more segregated than they appear."
Kinder Institute for Urban Research. 2015

Membership & Service

Population Association of America 2012-present

American Sociological Association 2013-present

Research Liaison and Organizer
City of Seattle & University of Washington Data/Research Collaboration. 2012-2015

Graduate Student Administration Representative
Department of Sociology, University of Washington 2013-2015

Coordinator
University of Washington and the City of Seattle Research Colloquium, City Hall, Seattle, WA. 2013

Coordinator
University of Washington and the City of Seattle Research Colloquium, University of Washington. 2012

Graduate Student Representative
Student Technology Fund Committee, University of Washington. 2011-2012

Technical

R	Python	Unix (Linux, Debian, Ubuntu)
Amazon Web Services	git	html
QGIS	ArcGIS	

References

Kyle Crowder

Professor (Dissertation Chair), University of Washington, Department of Sociology,
kylecrow@uw.edu, (206) 616-1203

Tyler McCormick

Associate Professor (Postdoc Mentor), University of Washington, Department of
Sociology & Statistics, tylermc@uw.edu, (206) 221-6981

Thaisa Way

Professor, University of Washington, Landscape Architecture, tway@uw.edu, (206)
685-2523

Stewart Tolnay

Professor Emeritus (Dissertation Committee Member), University of Washington,
Department of Sociology, tolnay@uw.edu, (206) 685-2284

Bill Howe

Assistant Professor, University of Washington, iSchool, billhowe@uw.edu

Mark Ellis

Professor (Postdoc Mentor), University of Washington, Department of Geography,
ellism@uw.edu

Nathalie Williams

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Washington, Department of Sociology, natw@uw.edu, (206) 616-6270