

# VICTORIA FISHER

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[GitHub](#)

[Creative Portfolio](#)

Cambridge, MA

## EDUCATION

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### **MPH, Epidemiology** University of Michigan (Sept 2021 - April 2023)

Thesis: "Association of neighborhood segregation and epigenetic age in older American adults"

Advisors: Dr. Kelly Bakulski, PhD, Dr. Margaret Hicken, PhD, MPH

GPA: 3.99/4

- Through multivariate regression, conducted a cross-sectional analysis of the relationship between residential racial segregation clustering and epigenetic age acceleration in a subset of nationally representative older American adults.
- This research fills a gap in the literature exploring neighborhood segregation as a proxy for structural racism and its relationship to epigenetic ageing, as an indicator of health inequity.
- Worked with two research groups to align thesis analysis with grant and publication requirements.

### **ND, Linguistics** University of Chicago (Oct 2019 – Dec 2020)

Supervisor: Lenore Grenoble, PhD

GPA: 4/4

- Graduate-level linguistics student (non-degree) and research assistant focusing on post-Soviet contact linguistics and Czech syntax.
- As a graduate student research assistant, oversaw three multi-author editorial projects, comprising over 20 international linguists.
- Managed peer review, formatting, copy editing, and English translations from Czech and Slovak.

### **BS, Marketing; BA, Fine Arts** Boston College (Aug 2013 - May 2017)

GPA: 3.5/4

- Double major in marketing (strategic brand management) and fine arts (photography/digital design)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### **Research Associate and Project Manager**

May 2023 to Present

*Michigan State University (remote)*

PI: Richard Sadler, PhD, MPH

- Research associate tackling novel quantitative methods to understand how exposure to historical racist policies in housing and urban planning has impacted health in a longitudinal cohort of older African American adults in Baltimore, MD.

- Funding: National Institute of Aging R01: “Examining Influences of Place-Based Long-Term and Contemporary Neighborhood Factors on Aging-Related Disease Risk Trajectories: Leveraging the HANDLS Dataset”

PI: Dr. Nadia N. Abuelezzam, ScD

- Computational researcher employing political economics, human geography, sociology, and systems science frameworks to develop novel methods for quantifying mechanisms of health disparities.
- Led or co-authored 4 peer-reviewed scientific articles; have presented 5 projects at national conferences including two oral presentations.
- Serve as statistical analysis support for junior researchers.
- Funding: National Institute of General Medical Science R35 (terminated May 2025)

### **Communications & Research Assistant**

Sep 2022 to April 2023

*University of Michigan, Housing Solutions for Health Equity Initiative*

- Assist with conceptualization and oversee the initiative’s social media, policy impact, and communication strategies. Maintain the initiative’s website to include current content and update the website as needed.
- Create and design a newsletter to disseminate to our academic, policy, and community partners on the confluence of public health and housing policy.
- Create descriptive statistics tables and linear models; assist with literature reviews, manuscript writing, and editing.

### **Statistician**

Sep 2022 to Jan 2023

*University of Michigan, STATCOM*

- Worked with a small team of graduate students to create statistical models for the City of Detroit Housing Commission assessing the role rental assistance programs played in percentage of late rental payments for public housing tenants during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Developed descriptive statistics tables and generalized linear models grouped by building to assess trends in tenant demographics and payment timing. Designed a brochure for preliminary findings.
- STATCOM is a community-facing student volunteer group that aims to help local nonprofits who need help solving complex statistical problems.

### **Graduate Research Assistant**

Jan 2020 to Aug 2021

*University of Chicago, Linguistics Department*

- As a graduate student research assistant, oversaw three multi-author editorial projects, comprising over 20 international experts on Slavic languages.
- Focused on post-Soviet language contact along Russian borders and socio-cultural implications.
- Managed peer review, formatting, copy editing, and English translations from Czech and Slovak.

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## **ACADEMIC HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

### **Winner, Epidemiology Poster Session**

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, November 2022

- My poster, “Is residential racial segregation associated with epigenetic ageing?” was one of six winners selected at the University of Michigan Department of Epidemiology annual poster session, which features over 100 posters.

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Fisher VP**, Sadler, DC, Abuelelam NN. A Quantitative Intersectional Approach to Measuring Change in Built Environment Amenities and the Association with Mortality in U.S. Counties. *Social Science & Medicine*. *Under review Aug 2025*.

- Role: project conception, data sourcing, analysis, main writing, editing.

Alkhouri NB, **Fisher VP**, Abuelelam NN. Equity in Wastewater Surveillance: Assessment of the National Wastewater Surveillance System for COVID-19. *AJPM Focus*. doi:10.1016/j.focus.2025.100434

- Role: Supported research design, statistical analysis, and developmental edits.

**Fisher VP**, Alkhouri N, Michel I, O'Connor C, Abuelelam NN. The impact of historical redlining policies on community composition and the COVID-19 pandemic in Boston. *PLOS One*. 20(6): e0324020.

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0324020>

- Role: Co-first author (equal responsibility), led statistical analysis, developmental edits.

DeAngelis R, **Fisher VP**, Dou J, Bakulski K, Rigby D, Hicken M. Residential Segregation and Epigenetic Age Acceleration Among Older-Age Black and White Americans. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 2025; 22(6):837. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph22060837>

- Role: Original research for MPH thesis; developmental edits to manuscript iteration.

**Fisher VP**, Boretsky A, Alkhouri N, Abuelelam NN. Then and now: umbrella variables mask temporal mechanisms of structural racism in US urban environments. *Critical Public Health*. 2025;35(1):2492798. doi: [10.1080/09581596.2025.2492798](https://doi.org/10.1080/09581596.2025.2492798)

- Role: First author; conceptualized, led statistical analysis, wrote manuscript.

Boretsky A, **Fisher VP**, Abuelelam NN. Intersectionality of sex and race in COVID-19 mortality and vaccination inequities in Massachusetts. *BMC Public Health*. 2024;24(1):2987. Published 2024 Oct 29. doi:10.1186/s12889-024-20340-z

- Role: Guided statistical analysis and developmental editing.

## PRESENTATIONS & INTERVIEWS

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### 2025 Society for Epidemiologic Research Annual Meeting

Boston, MA, June 2025



*Panel presentation:* “Historical Political Economics for Population Health Research” in the “What’s in a place? Incorporating place-based context into intersectional epidemiology research on health disparities” session.



*Oral Abstract Presentation:* “Extending Intersectional Methods to Population Health Research” in the “Methods: Definitions, Approaches, and Challenges” session.

### 2025 Health Academy Annual Research Meeting (accepted, not presented)

Minneapolis, MN, June 2025



*Poster presentation:* “Understanding Structural Determinants of Health and U.S. County COVID-19 Mortality: A Novel Intersectional Methodology”

### **2024 Academy Health Annual Research Meeting**



Baltimore, MD, July 2024

*Poster presentation:* “Delineating mechanisms of structural racism by time: excess all-cause mortality in Kansas City, 2020 - 2021”

### **2024 Society for Epidemiologic Research Annual Meeting**



Austin, TX, June 2024

*Poster presentation:* “Trends in Tuberculosis: Geographic changes in TB prevalence among US-Born cases, 2016 - 2022”



*Poster presentation:* “Historical disenfranchisement, contemporary disadvantage, and excess all-cause mortality in Kansas City, 2020 – 2021”

### **Speaking of Alzheimer’s – Alzheimer’s Association New England**



May 2024

[\*Podcast episode:\*](#) “Shaping the Future of the Ageing & Dementia Workforce”

### **Epidemiology Department Poster Session**



University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, November 2022

*Poster presentation* “Is residential racial segregation associated with epigenetic ageing?”

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **Graduate Student Instructor, Public Health**

Sept 2022 to Dec 2022

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

- Assisted Dr. Victor Strecher with ‘Social and Behavioral Foundations of Public Health’, an undergraduate course averaging 50 students per semester.
- Independently created lesson plans and taught two discussion sections of approximately 25 students each.

## **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

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### **School of Public Health Summer Session**

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, July 2022

Course: Spatial Statistics for Epidemiology—a one-week intensive course on spatial epidemiological methods in R.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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### **Gerontological Society of America**

2025 – Present

Early Career Member

### **Society for Epidemiologic Research**

2024 - Present

Early Career Member

### **Network for Innovation Methods in Longitudinal Ageing Studies**

2022 - Present

Working Group: The creation of high-quality longitudinal data for ageing minority populations

**SKILLS**

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**Programming:** R (proficient), Python (learning), SAS (familiar), HTML/CSS (intermediate)

**Research:** Study design, advanced statistical methods (hierarchical models, Bayesian models, time-series analysis, dimension-reduction techniques), project management, literature review, science writing & editing, real-world data analysis

**Languages:** English (native), French – B1, Spanish – A2/B1, German – A2/B1, Norwegian - Beginner

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

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**Communications Specialist**, Center for Social Solutions      Sept 2020 to Sept 2022  
*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI*

- Oversaw all strategic communications efforts for the racial and social justice research center, including thought leadership, editorial calendar development, fundraising initiatives, PR, branding, social media, website management, and event production.
- Managed the multi-team research website development project; identified stages, delegated duties, designed feedback strategies, presented products to leadership.
- Interviewed, hired, and delegated to undergraduate and graduate communications assistants.

**Marketing Associate**      Feb 2020 to Aug 2020  
*Opportunity International, Chicago, IL*

- Developed communication collateral including capital campaigns, event invitations, presentations, brochures and social media fodder.
- Contributed to fundraising event production that raised over \$500,000.
- Managed contact database, expense reports, and website inquiries.

**Communications Coordinator**      May 2019 to Jan 2020  
*Skidmore Owings & Merrill, Chicago, IL*

- Supported firm-wide and local communications managers in the advancement of strategic communications initiatives, including the creation of project storytelling, narratives, white paper development, and award submissions.
- In-house videographer and producer, copyright manager.
- Press relations and press monitoring.

**Communications Coordinator**      June 2017 to April 2019  
*Sasaki, Watertown, MA*

- Communications coordinator specializing in multimedia content production.
- Developed thought leadership and areas of focus for the firm's editorial calendar; ghostwrote for practice leadership.
- Co-managed communications interns and assistants.