**Bio**

Sara J. Tomczuk

I am a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of Washington. I am interested interested in sociology of culture, race & ethnicity, qualitative methods, and interethnic relations. The title of my dissertation-in-progress is "Environment of Tension, Moments of Conflict: A Comparative Study of Czech, Slovak, and Roma Interethnic Relations." For this project, I conducted interview-based fieldwork in the Czech Republic and Slovakia from June 2014 to June 2015, primarily funded by a fellowship from IREX. My 2016 publication in the*International Journal of Comparative Sociology*compared collective memories of communism in eastern Europe through media discourse analysis.

As an instructor, I’ve enjoyed teaching introductory, upper-level, online, and service-learning courses. In my present position as the UW Department of Sociology Writing Center teaching assistant, I advise both students in their essays and instructors in designing goal-oriented prompts. I’ve also pursued opportunities to teach at a Seattle community college and further my training through pedagogical courses.

I earned my M.A. in sociology from UW in 2011 and my B.A. in sociology and history from The College of New Jersey in 2008. Off campus, I like to spend my free time swing dancing quite well and playing the ukulele quite poorly.

**Links**

Sociology page: <https://soc.washington.edu/people/sara-tomczuk>

IREX: <https://www.irex.org/>

IJCS article: http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0020715216658187

Qualitative Multi Method Research Initiative (QUAL): http://depts.washington.edu/qual/