

Michelle Cosens

Social scientist with 6+ years of leading award-winning research that brings clarity to the complex problems of our world.
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EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

PhD, Sociology, expected May 2027, Cumulative GPA 4.00

MA, Sociology, May 2023

Dissertation: "Tik Tok and the New Parenting Economy: How Algorithms Fuel Postpartum Anxiety"

Awards: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, CEW+ Riecker Fellowship, Bodine Distinguished Graduate Fellowship, Rackham International Travel Grant, Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

BA, Sociology (major), American Culture (minor), and Urban Studies (minor), May 2017, Cumulative GPA 3.936

Honors Thesis: "Justice Farms and the Mediation of New and Old Detroiters: An Ethnography"

Awards: Magna Cum Laude, High Distinction and Honors in the Major, William J. Brainstorm Award, Robert Cooley Angell Award for best honors thesis, Virginia Voss Award for excellence in writing

HIGHLIGHTED EXPERIENCE

University of Michigan, *PhD Candidate, Research Assistant, and Teaching Assistant*, Ann Arbor, MI, Sep. 2021 – present

- Collected and synthesized qualitative data from 100+ interviews to create innovative sociological frameworks
- Developed screener surveys for targeted demographics to streamline recruitment processes
- Managed project administration, including scope, timeline, scheduling, and data storage for independent and collaborative research
- Conducted comprehensive reviews of existing research to find gaps in information and drive research design
- Wrote 3 manuscripts for publication at top academic journals
- Presented independent and collaborative research at leading national and international sociology conferences
- Supervised, trained, and onboarded 4 undergraduate research assistants each term
- Taught 5 writing-intensive class sections to over 100 students, communicating complex information in easily digestible formats

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, *Service Design Intern*, Detroit, MI, May 2024 – Aug. 2024

- Synthesized market research and consumer data to support business goals across 10,000-person enterprise
- Conducted focus groups and 1:1 interviews with cross-functional stakeholders to find and present customer experience pain points to executive leadership
- Designed protocols to guide 160+ HR employees through redesigning a new employee onboarding experience

Equity, Civil Rights, Title IX Office (University of Michigan), *Stakeholder Relations Adviser*, Ann Arbor, MI, 2023

- Conducted trauma-informed listening sessions on the challenges of reporting sexual misconduct at the university
- Synthesized insights into digestible reports for the president and executive leadership to guide process improvement

PUBLICATIONS

Michelle Cosens, "Visibility Work in College: How Class and Capital Shape Student Profiles on Instagram", forthcoming at *Social Problems*

Michelle Cosens and Jeff Sheng "Towards a Theory of Ephemeral Status: The Value and Pursuit of Identity-Masking in Cultural Production Online", revise & resubmit at *Poetics*

Paige Sweet, **Michelle Cosens**, and Emma Tiersten-Nyman, "Maneuvering Systems: How Domestic Violence Survivors Negotiate Gendered Risks in the Institutional Circuit", revise & resubmit at *American Journal of Sociology*

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Editor for the economic sociology journal *Accounts* | **Planned and implemented** roundtable discussions at the American Sociological Association annual conference | **Planned and implemented** departmental workshops and panel discussions for in-house and visiting scholars | **Mentor** for Honors Sociology undergraduate program | **Mentor** for first-generation student program | **Moderator** for the CEW+ Annual Symposium

SKILLS

Research Design | Project Management | Data Analysis and Synthesis | Public Speaking | Statistics | Inclusive Research | Workshop Planning and Facilitation | Concept Design | Stakeholder Relationships and Communication | Rapport Building