

Maddie O. Kerr

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EDUCATION

University of California - Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.

Ph.D. in Sociology | Aug. 2025 - Current

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.

B.A. in Sociology with Honors, Minor in Psychology | Sept. 2020 - June 2025

- *Concentration*: Sociology of Health, Medicine, and Science; *Minor*: Psychology
- *Honors Thesis*: "Evidence, Expertise, and Exploration: Politics of Knowledge in Gender Therapy" (Advisor: Prof. Steven Epstein).
- GPA: 3.99/4.00 (Summa Cum Laude)

PUBLICATIONS

Kerr, M. (2026). Evidence, expertise, and exploration: Politics of knowledge in gender therapy. *The Sociological Quarterly*, 67(3), 507-533. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00380253.2026.2656897>.

Davoudpour, S., **Kerr, M.**, & Phillips, G. (2025). Alcohol and HIV risk behaviors in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, United States, 2005-2021: A systematic review. *Healthcare*, 13(18), 2370. <https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare13182370>.

Kerr, M. (2026). Invisibilization under the microscope: Experiences of PhD students with chronic illness. *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*, 19(2), 146–158. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dhe0000643>

Kerr, M., Davoudpour, S., Phillips, G. II, Beach, L. B., & Felt, D. (2026). Mental health of gender minority older adults in the United States: A systematic review. *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity*, 13(1), 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1037/sgd0000708>

Kerr, M. and Rebecca Ewert. (2025). Constructing the autistic-transgender intersection: A critical discourse analysis. *Sociology of Health and Illness*, 47, e70063. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-9566.70063>.

Rich, A.J., McGorray, E.L., Felt, D., **Kerr, M.**, Baldwin-SoRelle, C., Beach, L., Phillips II, G., & Poteat, T. (2025). Sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity measurement in health research: A systematic review and narrative synthesis. *LGBT Health*, 12(6):395-406. <https://doi.org/10.1089/lgbt.2024.0105>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Kerr, M. (2025, August 9-13). Alcohol and HIV risk behaviors in the U.S. Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2005-2021: A systematic review. [Roundtable session]. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Budzynski, E. & **Kerr, M.** (2025, June 25). *From curiosity to connection: Supporting the spiritual development of Northwestern Students* [Presentation]. Northwestern University 2025 Student Affairs Assessment Conference, Evanston, IL.

Kerr, M. (2025, May 23). *Evidence, expertise, and exploration: Politics of knowledge in gender therapy* [Poster]. Northwestern University Undergraduate Research Expo, Evanston, IL.
<https://doi.org/10.21985/n2-d7ad-d825>

Kerr, M. (2024, August 9-13). *Constructing the autistic-transgender intersection: A critical discourse analysis* [Roundtable session]. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montréal, Québec.

Budzynski, E. & **Kerr, M.** (2024, June 26). *Spiritual yearning: Understanding the spiritual but not religious student community at Northwestern University* [Presentation]. Northwestern University 2024 Student Affairs Assessment Conference, Evanston, IL.

Kerr, M. (2024, May 23). *Constructing the autistic-transgender intersection: A critical discourse analysis* [Paper session]. Northwestern University Undergraduate Research Expo, Evanston, IL.
<https://doi.org/10.21985/n2-n681-tz28>

Kerr, M. (2024, April 11-14). *“Not built for people like us”: Experiences of PhD students with chronic illness* [Paper session]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting 2024, Philadelphia, PA.

Kerr, M. (2023, May 17-18). *‘That’s me on the iPad!’: Online individual music instruction for students with disabilities in a community music program.* [Poster]. Northwestern University Undergraduate Research Expo, Evanston, IL. <https://doi.org/10.21985/n2-jy43-2950>

Kerr, M., Davoudpour, S., Phillips, G., Beach, L., & Felt, D. (2022, July 28-30). *The mental health of older gender minorities: A systematic review of the literature* [Poster presentation]. National LGBTQ Health Conference 2022, Chicago, IL.

PUBLIC WRITING

Kerr, M. (2024, September 30). Climate matters for the autistic community. Policy Impact Project. A.J. Drexel Autism Institute. [Blog]. <https://policyimpactproject.org/climate-matters-for-autistic-community/>

Kerr, M. (2024, July 31). Busting myths about the intersection of autism and transgender identity. Policy Impact Project. A.J. Drexel Autism Institute. [Blog].
<https://policyimpactproject.org/busting-myths-about-the-intersection-of-autism-and-trans-identity/>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2022-2025	Research Assistant, Impact Institute, Northwestern University.
2023-2025	Assessment Assistant, Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, Northwestern University
2024	Research Assistant, Policy and Analytics Center, AJ Drexel Autism Institute
2022-2023	Research Assistant, Center for the Study of Education and the Musical Experience, Northwestern University
2022-2023	Research Cohort Participant, Emerging Scholars Program, Northwestern University

GRANTS AND HONORS

2026	Graduate Research Fellowship Program, National Science Foundation.
2025	Chancellor's Fellowship, University of California - Berkeley.
2020-2025	Dean's List (all quarters), Northwestern University.
2025	Departmental Honors in Sociology, Northwestern University.
2025	Brentano Prize for Best 3rd or 4th Year Philosophy Paper, Northwestern University.
2024	Summer Internship Grant Program, Northwestern University.
2024	Phi Beta Kappa Inductee, Northwestern University.
2024	Best Oral Presentation - Undergraduate Research Expo, Northwestern University.
2024	Fletcher Award for Undergraduate Research Grant Finalist, Northwestern University.
2023-2025	Conference Travel Grants (x3), Northwestern University.
2023	Academic Year Undergraduate Research Grant, Northwestern University
2022-2023	Emerging Scholars Program, Northwestern University.
2022	Fletcher Award for Undergraduate Research Assistants, Northwestern University.
2022	Undergraduate Research Assistant Program, Northwestern University.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

2026-2027	<i>Programming and Curriculum Chair</i> , Graduate Student Association, University of California - Berkeley.
2026-2027	<i>Cal Pals Mentor</i> , Gender Equity Resource Center, University of California - Berkeley.
2024-2025	<i>Co-Founder and Treasurer</i> , Sociology Collective (student sociology club), Northwestern University.
2024-2025	<i>Undergraduate Ambassador</i> , Department of Sociology, Northwestern University.
2022-2025	<i>Health and Wellness Committee</i> , Associated Student Government, Northwestern University.
2021-2025	<i>Chapter Executive Board Member</i> , Active Minds (mental health advocacy organization), Northwestern University.

MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association
Society for the Study of Social Problems

CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

Human Subjects Research Certification, Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) | January 2026
Responsible Conduct of Research Training, *All of Us* Program, National Institutes of Health | June 2024
Conflicts of Interest Certification, Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) | June 2024