

Sofia I. Dueñas
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Education

Ph.D. Sociology, University of Notre Dame Expected May 2027
Minor: Advanced Quantitative Social Sciences
Dissertation Title: “An Analysis of Violence & Discipline: Teacher Mobility & Student Achievement”
Committee: Steven Alvarado (chair), Mark Berends, William Carbonaro, and Amy Langenkamp

M.A., Sociology, University of Notre Dame 2023

M.A., Urban Education: Policy & Administration, Loyola Marymount University 2019

B.A., Sociology & Education Policy, Whittier College 2017

Research Interests

Stratification, Sociology of Education, Urban Inequality, Race-Ethnicity, Quantitative Methods

Publications

Cho, V. & **Dueñas, S.** (2025). Surprises from the Shadows: Confronting Intrusions from Bots & Generative AI in Survey Research. *Journal of Educational Research and Practice*, 15(1), 27.

Cho, V., Barragan, S., & **Dueñas, S.** (2025). Beyond behavior management: Exploring the role of ClassDojo in parent–teacher communication and problem-solving. *School Community Journal*, 32 (2), 113.

Publications Under Review

“From Disneyland to Disorganized: Marketing Schools in a Competitive School Choice Landscape” with Bridget Curry

“‘Another School Districts Misfortune’: Open Enrollment Policies in Indiana” with Bridget Curry

Research in Progress

“Panic on the Playground: A Research Note on the Distribution of Guns in Indiana Schools” with Steven Alvarado

“Danger in the Halls: School Weapons and Student Academic Performance in Indiana” with Steven Alvarado

“Immigration Enforcement in Schools: Principals Protecting Children & Families” with Vincent Cho

Selected Presentations

Population Association of America	May 2026
Danger in the Halls: The Distribution of Guns and Deadly Weapons in Indiana Schools with Steven Alvarado	
Population Association of America	May 2026
Panic on the Playground: Weapons in School and Student Academic Performance in Indiana with Steven Alvarado	
University Council for Educational Administration	November 2025
Beyond Locked Doors: Teachers Conceptualizations & Experiences with School Safety	
University Council for Educational Administration	November 2024
The Cumulative Effects of School Discipline on High School Graduation	
American Educational Research Association	April 2024
“I Don’t Think There’s Enough Families:” Reputation, Recruitment, and Enrollment Across Schools in Indiana with Bridget Curry	
University Council for Educational Administration	November 2023
Parent–Teacher Communication via ClassDojo: An Explanatory Mixed Methods Study with Vincent Cho	
Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness	September 2023
Discretion & Inequity: Third Grade Reading & Retention Policies	
Association for Education Finance and Policy	March 2023
Who gets to decide? Inequity and Discretion in Reading & Retention Policy	

Fellowships, Grants & Awards

2026, Excellence in Scholarly Research Award, Honorable Mention, University of Notre Dame
2026, SomosND Graduate Student Impacto Award, University of Notre Dame
2025, MDRC Gueron Doctoral Scholar Fellowship
2025, Outstanding Teaching Assistant, Graduate School, University of Notre Dame
2025, Mellon Mays Graduate Travel & Research Award
2025, Mellon Mays Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant
2024, Emerging Education Policy Scholars, American Enterprise Institute
2024, Graduate Student Research Award, Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts
2024, Mellon Mays Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant
2023, APPAM Equity & Inclusion Fellowship
2023, Graduate Justice Fellowship, Institute for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame
2023, Graduate Student Research Award, Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts
2023, Mellon Mays Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant
2022, Research in Color Foundation Fellow
2022 & 2023, SREE Researchers of Color Mentored Travel Award
2019- 2020, Fulbright English Teaching Assistant, Fulbright España
2020, NoVo Foundation- Positive Relationships through Social Justice, Art & Community
2017, NoVo Foundation- Parents, Community Building & Technology
2015-2017, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record, SOC 30903 Statistics, University of Notre Dame	2026
Teaching Assistant, SOC 61997 Linear Regression, University of Notre Dame	2024, 2025
Summer Instructor, Mellon Mays Graduate School Bootcamp, Whittier College	2024
Teacher, Para Los Niños Gratts Primary Center	2020-2021
Data & Assessment Coordinator, Instructional Leadership Team, 2 nd Grade Level Lead	
English Teaching Assistant, CIEP Tinguaro	2019-2020
Teacher, Para Los Niños Gratts Primary Center	2017-2019
Data & Assessment Coordinator, Instructional Leadership Team, 1 st Grade Level Lead	
Teaching Assistant, EDTL 60001 Policies and Practices for Inclusive Classrooms, Loyola Marymount University	2018
Teaching Assistant, EDUC 550 Urban Education, Whittier College	2017
Teaching Assistant, SOC 310 Approaches to Social Research, Whittier College	2016

Policy Experience

Data Analyst Intern, South Bend Community School Corporation	2026
Fellow, Indiana Office of the Chief Equity, Inclusion, and Opportunity Officer	2022
Fellow, Indiana General Assembly, Urban Leaders Fellowship	2022
Field Intern, Los Angeles Unified School District- Board District 5	2015-2016
Intern, U.S. Department of Education- Office of Innovation and Improvement	2015

Technical Skills & Certifications

California Clear Multiple Subject Teaching Credential	Expires in 2031
Bilingual Authorization in Spanish (BASP)	Expires in 2031
Stata (Advanced), RStudio (Basic), SQL (Basic), MAXQDA (Advanced), Dedoose (Advanced)	