

# Garrett Washington

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## EDUCATION

### American University

MA., Sociology Research & Practice

Washington, DC

December 2026

### American University

B.A., Sociology and Political Science

Washington, DC

December 2025

Capstone Paper: "Breaking Chains: Frantz Fanon, Marxism, and the Dialectics of Liberation"

- Independent Study: Deconstructing Race and Capitalism
- Independent Study: Multiracial Identities, Experiences, and Politics

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## RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Political economy, Colonial and postcolonial theory, Neoliberalism and rural communities, Black radical and decolonial thought, Development, Ethnography and mixed methods, Race, class, and inequality, Disability and structural accessibility, Liberatory theory

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### American University

Washington, DC

*Independent Researcher, "Meaning-Making at the Margins: American Understandings of Socialism and Communism in a Politically Polarized Landscape"*

Jan 2025- Present

- Designed and conducted mixed-methods pilot: in-depth semi-structured interviews paired with Political Compass diagnostics
- Secured IRB approval and drafted interview protocol; currently recruiting additional 20+ participants
- Coded initial transcripts in MAXQDA, identifying thematic categories on ideological ambivalence and cultural hegemony
- Authored 1,500-word literature review situating study within theories of social boundaries & intersectionality
- Presented preliminary findings to SOCY-625 seminar; integrated peer feedback to refine analytic framework

**Scope & Next Steps:** expanding to a larger n-sample with an added online survey component; drafting full manuscript for submission to a peer-reviewed journal (target Dec 2025)

**American University***Research Assistant***Washington, DC**

May 2025- Present

- Conducted ethnographic fieldwork for a study on how high school students understand and navigate race in relation to college admissions.
- Attended and observed **Put number here** college admission prep courses Next Generation Scholars, producing detailed jottings and expanded field notes for each.
- Developed skills in participant observation, reflexivity, and abductive qualitative analysis.
- Applied ethnographic methods to analyze how students articulate racial identity in institutional contexts.

**Children's National Hospital***Research Assistant***Washington, DC**

Dec 2024- Present

- Assisted in a study evaluating the accuracy and completeness of short-form media (e.g., TikTok videos) related to child car seat installation across six popular brands.
- Conducted systematic video identification, data extraction, and content coding using Google Forms and REDCap.
- Supported development of coding schema aligned with manufacturer safety guidelines and best practices in child passenger safety.
- Participated in generating summary statistics for eventual manuscript development.

**Global Development Coalition***Founding Researcher***Tsumkwe, NA**

Jan 2024- Present

- Conducted observational fieldwork in Tsumkwe, Namibia, to explore how members of the Ju'hoansi San community perceive and engage with artificial intelligence (AI).
- Participated in informal discussions at a local community center to identify key themes on AI's potential benefits (e.g., education, economic access, knowledge preservation) and risks (e.g., technological dependence, data sovereignty, digital divide).
- Co-developed an exploratory research framework centered on ethical and participatory methods, including plans for IRB-approved follow-up studies.

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**TEACHING EXPERIENCE****Next Generation Scholars***Associate Teacher***Washington, DC**

May 2025- Present

- Co-designed and implemented original curriculum for 9th & 10th grade level courses: **ELA in Society: Environmentalism(s) and Community Uplift Project (CUP)**.
- Developed lesson plans centered on critical pedagogy, student agency, identity, and social justice.
- Integrated project-based learning, reflective writing, and interdisciplinary themes (e.g., power, race, and the environment).
- Created interactive materials, assessments, and culturally relevant content to support

student-led community-based projects.

- Facilitated classroom instruction, discussions, and activities to foster durable skills such as advocacy, resilience, and analytical thinking.

### **American University**

**Washington, DC**

*Core Leader, Race, Racialization, and Power*

Jan 2025- May 2025

- Designed and independently taught a seminar-style session on racial capitalism.
- Provided mentorship and methodological guidance for student-led empirical research projects.
- Supported classroom discussion and collaborative learning by facilitating group activities, offering feedback on assignments, and fostering inclusive dialogue.
- Integrated critical race theory, decolonial perspectives, and qualitative research methods into course discussions and student advising.

### **American University**

**Washington, DC**

*Core Leader, Power, Privilege, and Inequality*

Jan 2024- May 2024

- Facilitated weekly classroom discussions on key sociological topics, including gender, race, colonialism, and ethics.
- Provided detailed feedback on written assignments, supporting student development in ethical reasoning and sociological thinking.
- Delivered two seminar-style lectures: an introduction to The Communist Manifesto and a critical discussion of Frantz Fanon's chapter "On Violence", framing both texts within the context of structural inequality and liberation ethics.
- Supported students' inquiry and critical thinking by guiding analysis of moral dilemmas and introducing foundational sociological theory to a largely non-major audience.

### **Grassroots Health**

**Washington, DC**

*Health Coach*

Jan 2023- Dec 2024

- Taught three 60 min classes weekly on mental health in Title 1 middle schools, classes ranging in size from 35-60 students
- Implemented health curricula by facilitating discussions and group activities
- Introduced students to methods for stress relief and healthy nutrition
- Critically analyzed mental health in a group setting

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## **REPORTS & PUBLICATIONS**

2025 Washington, G. et. al (Forthcoming). Endometriosis: The Crossroads of Healthcare and Internalized Ableism

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## **PRESENTATIONS & TALKS**

(2025) “AI and the Ju’hoansi San: Indigenous Perspectives on Emerging Technology”, Robyn Rafferty Mathias Student Research Conference, American University

(2025) “Endometriosis: The Crossroads of Healthcare and Internalized Ableism”, Robyn Rafferty Mathias Student Research Conference, American University

(2025) “Endometriosis: The Crossroads of Healthcare and Internalized Ableism”, Eastern Sociological Society Conference 2025, Boston MA

(2022) “Equity in Safety”, NSC Congress and Expo, San Diego CA

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## GUEST LECTURES

(2025) “Displaying the Other: Orientalism, Museums, and the San in Namibia”, Sociology Department, American University

(2025) “Displaying the Other: Orientalism, Museums, and the San in Namibia”, Sociology Department, American University

(2025) “Artificial Intelligence, Indigenous Knowledge, and the Ethics of Representation: The Case of the San”, Sociology Department, American University

(2025) “Political Inequality and Postcolonial Governance in Namibia”, Political Science Department, American University

(2024) “Color-Blind Racism and Structural Inequality”, Sociology Department, American University

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## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Tsumkwe Development Organization**

**Tsumkwe, Namibia**

*Board Member*

Jan 2025 - Present

- Facilitate quarterly board meetings focused on financial oversight, community priorities, and strategic planning.
- Collaborated with community members to identify local priorities and helped manage the distribution of a \$30,000 fund in support of those initiatives.
- Supported participatory research efforts grounded in the lived experiences and knowledge of the San community.

### **National Safety Council**

**Washington, DC**

*Policy Intern*

May 2024 - Aug 2024

- Researched safety policies and drafted recommendations that informed federal initiatives.
- Co-authored policy briefs and white papers to support federal and industry advocacy efforts.
- Participated in stakeholder meetings with government and industry partners, providing

input on proposed regulations.

- Delivered presentations on safety data and policy trends to internal and external audiences.
- Strengthened analytical and communication skills through cross-functional collaboration and data-driven policy work.

### **Safe Kids Worldwide**

**Washington, DC**

*Programs Intern*

May 2024 - Dec 2025

- Supported national transportation safety programs through research, planning, and coalition coordination.
- Co-wrote and coordinated a major grant proposal to Honda USA.
- Managed intern team workflow and project progress.
- Researched partner organization structures to inform strategy.
- Collaborated with senior staff on equity-focused public health initiatives.

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### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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| Association of Black Sociologists  | 2025 - Present |
| American Sociological Association  | 2025 - Present |
| DC Sociological Society  | 2023 - Present |
| National Association of Black Compliance & Risk Management Professionals | 2023 - Present |