

CURRICULUM VITAE

CRYSTAL LEE PEREZ

Department of Health Policy & Management
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

PhD/2021 (expected)	Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH) Major in Health Policy and Management Minor in Health and Public Policy <i>Dissertation: Understanding Implementation of Healthy Kids' Meals Policies in the United States</i>
MPH/2016	Texas A&M School of Public Health (TAMSPH) Major in Health Policy and Management
BS/2014	Texas A&M University Major in Biology Minors in English, History

HONORS AND AWARDS

2020	APHA Food & Nutrition Section Fellowship <ul style="list-style-type: none">Awarded to early career professionals and students to support work in nutrition advocacy and research and attendance at APHA
2020	21st Century Cities Initiative 2020 Doctoral Dissertation Award <ul style="list-style-type: none">Awarded for innovative dissertation research focusing on policy-relevant urban research
2017	T32 AHRQ NRSA Training Grant <ul style="list-style-type: none">Awarded to provide training to conduct independent health services research and reduce health disparities for vulnerable populations
2016	Delta Omega Honor Society, Alpha Tau Chapter of Texas A&M School of Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none">Awarded based on scholarly performance and dedication to the advancement of the health of all people
2016	Honor Society of Kappa Phi Kappa, Texas A&M University <ul style="list-style-type: none">Awarded to graduate students with 18 graduate hours and rank in the top 10 percent of their class
2010, 2014, 2017	Gates Millennium Scholarship <ul style="list-style-type: none">Awarded to outstanding under-represented students pursuing advanced education for scholarly achievement

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2020-Present **Researcher**, Department of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
Advisors: Keshia Pollack Porter, PhD, Alyssa Moran, ScD
- Led research on healthy kids' meal policies at the local, state, and federal level
 - Designed and conducted a modified legal mapping study of local and state healthy kids' meal legislation
 - Assessed implementation of healthy default beverage policies and identified facilitators and barriers to implementation using a multiple case study
 - Identified individual and environmental factors associated with kids' meal purchases in chain fast-food restaurants in three Northeastern cities
 - Managed \$5,000 dissertation grant award
- 2019-2020 **Researcher**, Department of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
Co-PIs: Amelie Hecht, PhD, Crystal Perez, MPH
- Contributed to systematic literature review to assess the impact of trade promotion practices of food and beverage companies on retailer practices and consumer purchasing and consumption behavior
 - Developed screening tool for data abstraction
 - Conducted title and abstract screening as well as full-text review for data abstraction
 - Contributed to drafting of academic manuscript and scientific presentation
- 2019-2020 **Research Assistant**, Department of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
PI: Alyssa Moran, ScD, MPH
- Piloted survey tool for collecting marketing data from online grocery websites
 - Collected data about online grocery websites' features and design choices
- 2018-2020 **Research Assistant**, Center for Health Disparities Solutions, Department of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
PI: Darrell Gaskin, PhD
- Conducted surveys in-person and over the phone to assess the impact and cost-effectiveness of an intervention to improve blood

pressure control adherence among low-income older African American women with hypertension

2018-2019

Research Assistant, Welch Center for Prevention Epidemiology and Clinical Research, Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

PI: Wendy Bennett, MD, MPH

- Contributed to literature review on validated measures for childhood obesity
- Contributed to development of screening tool for childhood obesity measures among high-risk populations
- Conducted title and abstract screening as well as full-text review for data abstraction
- Contributed to drafting of academic manuscript and scientific presentation

2018-2019

Research Assistant, Center for a Livable Future, Department of Environmental Health and Engineering, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

PI: Caitlin Misiuzsek, MPH

- Conducted literature review on participatory GIS applications and drafted white paper
- Collected and linked data consisting of locations of SNAP/WIC authorized retailers, proportions of redemptions across retailers from 2008-2017, and census demographic data.
- Analyzed trends in the locations of SNAP authorized retailers and the proportion of benefit redemptions used across different store types in Maryland during and following the Great Recession

2016-2017

Research Assistant, Program for Research & Outreach-Engagement on Nutrition & Health Disparities, Texas A&M School of Public Health, College Station, TX

PI: Joseph Sharkey, PhD, MPH

- Evaluated interrater agreement for mother-child triads and child dyads on household food security survey responses to assess differential food insecurity experiences among siblings in the same household
- Coded and analyzed qualitative interviews from focus group sessions with children to uncover themes related to barriers to and facilitators of physical activity and healthy eating
- Led exploratory factor analysis, item analysis, and confirmatory factor analysis to identify constructs related to the neighborhood food environment
- Drafted and contributed to drafting of academic manuscripts

- 2015-2016 **Research Assistant**, Office of Special Programs & Global Health, Texas A&M School of Public Health, College Station, TX
PI: Barbara Quiram, PhD
- Drafted and compiled materials for grant applications to support breastfeeding/infant nutrition education campaign
 - Designed and implemented a text message-based breastfeeding education program in English and Spanish in El Salvador and Ecuador
- 2015 **Research Intern**, National Institute of Food & Agriculture, USDA, Washington, DC
PI: Ahlshia Shipley, PhD, Mallory Koenings, PhD, RDN
- Analyzed existing data of NIFA-funded projects related to obesity and nutritional guidelines to identify the different types of projects funded and location of projects
- 2015 **Research Assistant**, Service in Faith and Technology Medical Mission Trip, Guamaní, Ecuador
PI: Marlynn May, PhD
- Facilitated focus groups and daily walks using the photo voice method to describe and capture unmet health needs and resources within the community of Guamaní
 - Contributed to development of report documenting community resources and needs for community policymakers and families based on focus group findings

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Society Membership and Leadership

2020-Present	Member, The Obesity Society
2020-Present	Communications Chair, Maryland American Public Health Association
2019-Present	Secretary, Maryland American Public Health Association (MdPHA)
2017-Present	Member, American Society of Nutrition
2017-Present	Member, Advocacy Committee, MdPHA
2017-Present	Member, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
2020-Present	Food and Nutrition Section Fellow, APHA
2014-Present	Member, American Public Health Association (APHA)
2017-2020	Member, Academy Health

Abstract Reviewer

2020	MdPHA (Virtual) Conference
2017	APHA Annual Meeting

Film Reviewer

2018

APHA Annual Meeting Film Festival

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

1. Hecht, A. A., **Perez, C. L.**, Polascek, M., Thorndike, A. N., Franckle, R. L., & Moran, A. J. (2020). Influence of food and beverage companies on retailer marketing strategies and consumer behavior. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17(20), 7381.
2. Foti, K., **Perez, C.**, Knapp, E., Kharmats, A., Sharfman, A., Arteaga, S., Moore, L., & Bennett, W. (2020). Identification of measurement needs to prevent childhood obesity in high-risk populations and environments. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.
3. Koenings, M. M., Krishnan, K., **Perez, C.**, & Chester, D. N. (2016). Does the left hand know what the right hand is doing? Part I: Alignment between the AFRI Foundational Function and Efficacy of Nutrients Program and the 2010 Dietary Guidelines. *The FASEB Journal*, 30(1 Supplement), 131-1.
4. Koenings, M. M., **Perez, C.**, Krishnan, K., & Chester, D. N. (2016). Does the left hand know what the right hand is doing? Part II: Alignment between the AFRI Childhood Obesity Prevention Challenge Area Program and the 2010 Dietary Guidelines. *The FASEB Journal*, 30(1 Supplement), 433-2.

Publications in Progress

1. **Perez, C.**, Moran, A., Headrick, G., McCarthy, J., Craddock, A., & Pollack Porter, K. (2020). State and Local Healthy Kids' Meal Laws in the United States: A Review and Analysis. *Pending Journal*
2. Perez, C., Craddock, A., Harack, L., Lorenzana-Peasley, J., Wiant, M., Block, J., Roberto, C., & Moran, A. (2021). Children's meal orders and dietary intake at fast-food restaurants in three large urban areas. *Pending Journal*.

Articles, Editorials and Other Publications Not Peer Reviewed

1. Perez, C. ["Prince George's County is aiming to make kids' meals healthier"](#) *Washington Post*. November 16, 2020.

CURRICULUM VITAE

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PART II

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Invited Guest Lecturer

- 2021 "Is the COVID-19 Crisis Leading to Better Food Policy?"
Guest lecturer, Crisis & Response in Public Health Policy & Practice
course
Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health
- 2019, 2020, 2021 "Advocacy Tools: Social Math"
Guest lecturer in Health Advocacy course
Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health

Senior Teaching Assistant

- 2020 Department of Health Policy and Management
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Selected to help faculty transition their courses to virtual or hybrid models and underwent training in pedagogic best practices and active learning strategies.

Teaching Assistant

- 2020, 2021 300.650.01 Crisis and Response in Public Health Policy and Practice
Course Instructor: Dr. Joshua Sharfstein
- 2019, 2020, 2021 RWJF Health Policy Research Scholars Program
Course Instructors: Dr. Keshia Pollack Porter and Dr. Attia Goheer
- 2019, 2020 301.645.01 Health Advocacy
Course Instructor: Dr. Josh Horwitz
- 2019 300.610.01 Public Health Policy
Course Instructor: Dr. Joshua Sharfstein
- 2018, 2019 300.712.01 Formulating Policy: Strategies and Systems of Policymaking
in the 21st Century
Course Instructor: Dr. Shannon Frattaroli

Teaching Certificates

- 2019 **Teaching Institute Certificate of Completion**
- Explored and tested multiple teaching methods to engage and assess diverse students

- Created peer-reviewed instructional materials
- Identified strategies that help prioritize teaching practices

RESEARCH GRANT PARTICIPATION

Active Research Support

21st Century Cities Initiative Perez (PI) 06/01/20-05/31/21

Understanding Implementation of Healthy Kids' Meals Policies in the United States

This project seeks to evaluate the implementation of state and local policies designed to improve the nutritional quality of kids' meals by comparing policies, conducting stakeholder interviews, and analyzing kids' meal purchases.

Funding Level: \$5,000

Role: Principal Investigator

ACADEMIC AND VOLUNTEER SERVICE

2020-2021	Doctoral Student Council, JHSPH
2019-2021	Doctoral Under-Represented Minorities Organization, JHSPH
2019-2020	Maryland Hunger Solutions, Baltimore City, MD
2019-2020	Hopkins Votes Volunteer, JHSPH
2018-2019	Student Coordinating Committee Social Chair, JHSPH
2017-2019	Elementary Math Tutor - The Commodore John Rodgers School, Baltimore City, MD
2015-2016	Texas A&M Public Health Student Association President, TAMSPH
2015-2016	Student Health Insurance Advisory Committee, TAMSPH
2014-2016	Planning Representative for Disaster Day, Texas A&M Health Science Center

PRESENTATIONS

Scientific Meetings

*All oral presentations unless otherwise noted; * indicates co-author presented*

1. Headrick, G., Khandpur, N., **Perez, C.**, Smith-Tallie, L., & Moran, A., "A content analysis of online grocery policies & practices: implications for the snap online purchasing pilot" poster presented at The Obesity Society Annual Meeting (virtual), 10/20*
2. Hecht, A. & **Perez, C.**, "Influence of food and beverage companies on retailer practices and consumer behavior" poster presented at the RWJF Healthy Eating Research Annual Meeting in Denver, CO, 03/20
3. Moran A., Khandpur N., Tallie L., Headrick G., **Perez C.**, Greatsinger A., Bleich S., Rimm E., "Supermarkets in cyberspace: assessing online food retail marketing practices" presented at the RWJF Healthy Eating Research Annual Meeting in Denver, CO, 03/20*

4. Hecht, A. & **Perez, C.**, “Influence of food and beverage companies on retailer practices and consumer behavior” presented at the RWJF Healthy Retail Research Convening, Washington DC, 01/20
5. Bennett, W., Foti, K., **Perez, C.**, Kharmats, A., Moore, L., Samuels, A., & Arteaga, S., “Identification of measurement needs to prevent childhood obesity in high-risk populations and environments” poster presented at the RWJF Healthy Eating Research Annual Meeting in Detroit, MI, 03/19*
6. Sharkey, J., **Perez, C.**, & Garcia, R., “Sibling dynamics and complexities of intra-household food insecurity experiences” presented at the International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity in Hong Kong, China, 06/18*
7. McClendon, M. E., Umstattd Meyer, M. R., Sharkey, J. R., **Perez, C. L.**, Garcia, R., Bridges, C., Prochnow, T., “Perceived facilitators and barriers to child physical activity among Mexican-origin mothers” poster presented at the American Academy of Health Behavior Annual Conference, Banff, Canada, 02/18*
8. Koenings, M. M., Krishnan, K., **Perez, C.**, & Chester, D. N., “Does the left hand know what the right hand is doing? Part I: Alignment between the AFRI Childhood Obesity Prevention Challenge Area Program and the 2010 Dietary Guidelines” presented at the Experimental Biology Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA, 04/16*
9. Koenings, M. M., Krishnan, K., **Perez, C.**, & Chester, D. N., “Does the left hand know what the right hand is doing? Part II: Alignment between the AFRI Childhood Obesity Prevention Challenge Area Program and the 2010 Dietary Guidelines” presented at the Experimental Biology Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA, 04/16*
10. **Perez, C.** & Krishnan, K., “NIFA project funding related to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2010” poster presented at the Texas A&M College of Medicine Summer Research Symposium in College Station, TX, 08/15

SKILLS

Software: Microsoft Suite, SAS, Stata, R, Atlas.ti, MaxQDA, MPlus, Qualtrics
Language: Spanish (Limited Working Proficiency)

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

- Qualitative Research Theory and Methods
- Qualitative Data Analysis
- Mixed Methods for Public Health Research
- Statistics for Psychosocial Research: Measurement and Structural Models
- Analysis of Longitudinal Data
- Multilevel Statistical Models in Public Health
- Causal Inference in Medicine and Public Health
- Behavioral Economics

REFERENCES

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