

Ruth N. López Turley

Professor of Sociology
Director, Houston Education Research Consortium
Associate Director, Kinder Institute for Urban Research
Rice University

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Research & Teaching

Educational Inequality, Social Stratification, Race & Ethnicity, Research Methods

Education

Harvard University

PhD, 2001, Sociology

Doctoral Fellow, Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy,
Kennedy School of Government

MA, 1999, Sociology

Stanford University

BA, 1996, Sociology & Spanish

Professional Positions

Rice University | Houston, TX

Professor, Department of Sociology, 2014 – present

Associate Director, Kinder Institute for Urban Research, 2013 – present

Director, Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC), 2011 – present

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, 2010 – 2014

University of Wisconsin | Madison, WI

Associate Professor, 2010 – 2011

Assistant Professor, 2003 – 2010

Anna Julia Cooper Fellow, 2002 – 2003

New England Research Institutes | Watertown, MA

Research Associate, 1999 – 2000



Research Briefs by HERC

- “Does a Self-Affirmation Intervention Reduce Stereotype Threat in Predominantly Black and Hispanic High Schools?” Volume 4, Issue 5, 2016.
- “Evaluating the Impact of School Closures in Houston ISD: The Effect of School Closures on Patterns of Student Attendance and Achievement,” Volume 4, Issue 4, 2016.
- “Variation Across Schools in Disability Classifications Process,” Volume 4, Issue 3, 2016.
- “EVAAS Value-Added Scores for Teachers with High Need Students,” Volume 4, Issue 2, 2016.
- “Suggested Revisions to HISD Magnet Matrices,” Volume 4, Issue 1, 2016.
- “Evaluating High School Dropout Indicators and Assessing Their Strength,” Volume 3, Issue 5, 2015.
- “An Evaluation of the Secondary Reading Initiative: Year Two Student Effects,” Volume 3, Issue 4, 2015.
- “Improving Math Scores for African American and Hispanic Females,” Volume 3, Issue 3, 2015.
- “Reading Achievement Among English Language Learners: Evidence of Two-Way Bilingual Immersion Advantages,” Volume 3, Issue 2, 2015.
- “How Do High Status Parents Choose Schools?” Volume 3, Issue 1, 2015.
- “Racial Disproportionality in Special Ed Largely Explained by Correlates of Race Rather than Racially Biased Categorizations,” Volume 2, Issue 3, 2014.
- “An Evaluation of the Houston Independent School District’s Secondary Reading Initiative: First Year Student Effects,” Volume 2, Issue 2, 2014.
- “Does Magnet Choice Improve Student Achievement?” Volume 2, Issue 1, 2014.
- “Houston Independent School District’s ASPIRE Program: Estimated Effects of Receiving Financial Awards, 2010-2011,” Volume 1, Issue 2, 2013.
- “Houston Independent School District’s ASPIRE Program: Estimated Effects of Receiving Financial Awards, 2009-2010,” Volume 1, Issue 1, 2013.



Publications (student names italicized)

- Turley, Ruth N. López. 2016. "Connecting Research and Policy to Reduce Inequality." *The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*, 2(5): 272-285.
- Alvear, Sandra* and Ruth N. López Turley. In press 2016. "The Impact of Immigration Policy on Education." Pp. ___ in *Educational Policies and Youth in the 21st Century*, edited by Sharon L. Nichols. Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- Turley, Ruth N. López, Adam Gamoran, *Alyn Turner McCarty*, and *Rachel Fish*. In press 2016. "Reducing Children's Behavior Problems through Social Capital: A Causal Assessment." *Social Science Research*.
- Turley, Ruth N. López and Carla Stevens. 2015. "Lessons from a School District-University Research Partnership: The Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC)." *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 37(1S):6S-15S.
- Dworkin, A. Gary and Ruth N. López Turley. 2014. "United States of America." Pp. 559-607 in *The Palgrave Handbook of Race and Ethnic Inequalities in Education*, edited by P.A.J. Stevens and A.G. Dworkin. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Fiel, Jeremy, Anna Haskins*, and Ruth N. López Turley. 2013. "Reducing School Mobility: A Randomized Trial of a Relationship-Building Intervention." *American Educational Research Journal*, 50(6):1188-1218.
- National Research Council. 2012. *Monitoring Progress toward Successful K-12 STEM Education: A Nation Advancing?* Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.
- Alvarado, Steven Elías* and Ruth N. López Turley. 2012. "College Bound Friends and College Application Choices: Heterogeneous Effects for Latino and White Students." *Social Science Research*, 41(6):1451-1468.
- Gamoran, Adam, Ruth N. López Turley, *Alyn Turner*, and *Rachel Fish*. 2012. "Differences between Hispanic and Non-Hispanic Families in Social Capital and Child Development: First-Year Findings from an Experimental Study." *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, 30(1):97-112.
- Gamoran, Adam, Ruth N. López Turley, and *Jeremy Fiel*. 2012. "Evidence-Based School Interventions to Reduce Achievement Inequality." *The Oxford Handbook of Poverty and Child Development*, edited by R. King and V. Maholmes. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Turley, Ruth N. López and *Matthew Desmond*. 2011. "Contributions to College Costs by Married, Divorced, and Remarried Parents." *Journal of Family Issues*, 32(6):767-790. **[cited in the New York Times, Time, The Wall Street Journal, Inside Higher Ed, Washington Post, Forbes Magazine, Huffington Post, and nine other media outlets]**
- Crosnoe, Robert and Ruth N. López Turley. 2011. "K-12 Educational Outcomes of

Ruth N. López Turley



Immigrant Youth." *The Future of Children*, 21(1):129-152.

Turley, Ruth N. López, *Matthew Desmond*, and *Sarah Bruch*. 2010. "Unanticipated Educational Consequences of a Positive Parent-Child Relationship." *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 72:1377-1390.

Turley, Ruth N. López and *Geoffrey Wodtke*. 2010. "College Residence and Academic Performance: Who Benefits from Living on Campus?" *Urban Education*, 45(4): 506-532. **[in March 2011, ranked as the 2nd most read article in the journal]**

Turley, Ruth N. López. 2009. "College Proximity: Mapping Access to Opportunity." *Sociology of Education*, 82(2):126-146.

Desmond, Matthew and Ruth N. López Turley. 2009. "The Role of Familism in Explaining the Hispanic-White College Application Gap." *Social Problems*, 56(2):311-334.

Deil-Amen, Regina and Ruth N. López Turley. 2007. "A Review of the Transition to College Literature in Sociology." *Teachers College Record*, 109(10):2324-2366.

Turley, Ruth N. López, *Martín Santos*, and *Cecilia Ceja*. 2007. "Social Origin and College Opportunity Expectations across Cohorts." *Social Science Research*, 36(3):1200-1218.

Turley, Ruth N. López. 2006. "When Parents Want Children to Stay Home for College." *Research in Higher Education*, 47(7):823-846.

Turley, Ruth N. López. 2003. "When Do Neighborhoods Matter? The Role of Race and Neighborhood Peers." *Social Science Research*, 32(1):61-79.

Turley, Ruth N. López. 2003. "Are Children of Young Mothers Disadvantaged Because of Their Mother's Age or Family Background?" *Child Development*, 74(2):465- 474.

Turley, Ruth N. López. 2002. "Is Relative Deprivation Beneficial? The Effects of Richer and Poorer Neighbors on Children's Outcomes." *Journal of Community Psychology*, 30(6):671-686.

Papers in Progress (student names italicized)

Shifrer, Dara, Ruth N. López Turley, and Holly Heard. "Do Teacher Financial Awards Motivate Teachers and Boost Student Achievement in an Urban Disadvantaged School District?" Revised & Resubmitted to the *American Education Research Journal*.

Arce-Trigatti, Paula, Irina Chukhray, and Ruth N. López Turley. "Research-Practice Partnerships in Education," *Handbook of the Sociology of Education in the 21st Century*, Springer.

Grants Awarded

Houston Endowment, Inc. (2016-2017), Identifying Factors that Produce a Leaky

Ruth N. López Turley



Educational Pipeline in Harris County, Principal Investigator (\$147,000).

Spencer Foundation (2016-2019), National Education Research-Practice Partnerships Network, Principal Investigator (\$300,000).

Laura and John Arnold Foundation (2015-2017), National Education Research-Practice Partnerships Network, Principal Investigator (\$200,000).

William T. Grant Foundation (2015-2018), National Education Research-Practice Partnerships Network, Principal Investigator (\$300,000).

Houston Endowment, Inc. (9/1/15-2018), Houston Education Research Consortium, Principal Investigator (\$1,326,471).

Wallace Foundation (2015), National Education Research-Practice Partnerships Network, Principal Investigator (\$150,000).

Annie E. Casey Foundation (2015), National Education Research-Practice Partnerships Network, Principal Investigator (\$50,000).

Laura and John Arnold Foundation (9/1/15-12/31/17), Houston Education Research Consortium, Principal Investigator (\$884,314).

Laura and John Arnold Foundation (9/1/13-8/31/15), Houston Education Research Consortium, Principal Investigator (\$1,822,438).

Laura and John Arnold Foundation (9/1/11-8/31/13), for establishing the Houston Education Research Consortium, a partnership between Rice University and the Houston Independent School District, Principal Investigator (\$1,319,936).

National Institutes of Health (NIH), R01 Grant (8/17/11-7/31/15), "Mentoring Functions in Scientist Development," Co-Investigator (PIs: John Rodgers, Baylor College of Medicine, and Michelle Hebl, Rice University) (\$1.4 million).

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Administrative Supplement (9/1/10-8/31/11). "Social Capital and Children's Development: An Experimental Study," Co-Principal Investigator with Adam Gamoran (\$255,612).

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), Diversity Supplement for supporting minority graduate assistants (5/09-4/13). "Social Capital and Children's Development: An Experimental Study," Co-Principal Investigator with Adam Gamoran (\$205,970).

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), R01 Grant (7/08-6/13). "Social Capital and Children's Development: An Experimental Study," Co-Principal Investigator with Adam Gamoran (\$3.3 million).



The University of Wisconsin Graduate School (7/06-6/07). "College Application Patterns of Hispanic Youth: The Role of College Proximity and High School Peers," Principal Investigator (\$26,992).

Texas Higher Education Opportunity Project, Co-sponsored by NSF, Ford, Mellon, Hewlett and Spencer Foundations, as well as institutional support from the Office of Population Research at Princeton University (12/05-12/06). "College Application Patterns of Hispanic Youth. The Role of College Proximity and High School Peers," Principal Investigator (\$24,000).

National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship (1/05- 12/05). "When College Proximity Matters," Principal Investigator (\$50,000).

The University of Wisconsin Graduate School (7/04-6/05). "When College Proximity Matters," Principal Investigator (\$29,077).

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (11/03-11/04). "The Wisconsin Child Support Policy Research Project," Principal Investigators: Maria Cancian, LaFollette School of Public Affairs, and Tom Kaplan, Institute for Research on Poverty (\$31,389).

Russell Sage Foundation (7/03-6/04). "Toward Equal Opportunity? Changes in the Effect of Socioeconomic Background on Educational Attainment," Principal Investigator (\$27,758).

Teaching & Mentoring Awards

George R. Brown Award for Superior Teaching, Rice University, based on alumni votes, 2016.

Honored Instructors Award, University Housing, University of Wisconsin, in recognition of invaluable contribution to student learning, 2009 & 2010.

Dr. Brenda Pfaehler Award of Excellence, University of Wisconsin, selected by TRIO students (low-income, first generation college students) for having a positive impact on their lives, 2008.

Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, Faculty Honorary Member, selected by student members of the Board, 2008.

Award for Excellence in Teaching, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin, 2006, selected by students and faculty, based on teaching evaluations.

Teaching Academy Fellow, University of Wisconsin, selected in 2005, recognizing excellence in teaching.

Exceptional Professor Award, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, 2004, based on a survey of 700 freshmen choosing professors who "passionately engage their students in the course material and genuinely work for their students' success."



Additional Training

US Department of Education, IES Research Training Institute: Cluster Randomized Trials, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, June 17-29, 2007 (30 fellows selected from 170 applicants).

International Service

Research Grant Council of Hong Kong (RGC), Proposal Reviewer, Humanities, Social Sciences & Business Studies Panel, 2012.

Israel Science Foundation, Proposal Reviewer, Higher Education, 2010 & 2015.

National Service

Advisory Board, The Thurgood Marshall Alliance, “Strengthening Schools and Community through Diversity,” Johns Hopkins University, 2015-present.

Committee on Committees (elected), American Sociological Association, 2016-2017.

Secretary Treasurer (elected), Sociology of Education Section, American Sociological Association, 2014-2017.

Board of Directors, Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE), which works to advance and disseminate research on causal effects of education practices, interventions, programs, and policies, 2013-present.

Chair, Minority Fellowship Selection Committee, American Educational Research Association (AERA), 2014-2016, Chair-designate 2013-2014 (Presidential Appointment).

Early Career Award Selection Committee, American Educational Research Association (AERA), Division G (Social Context of Education), 2013-2014.

Editorial Board (appointed), *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 2012-2015.

Committee on the Evaluation Framework for Successful K-12 STEM Education (appointed), National Research Council of the National Academies, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, 2012-2013.

Reviewer, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, National Research Council, 2010.

Editorial Board (appointed), *Sociology of Education*, 2010-2012.

Coleman Award Selection Committee, American Sociological Association, Sociology of Education Section, 2009-2010.

Ruth N. López Turley



Proposal Evaluator, Sociology, National Science Foundation, 2008 & 2011.

Council Member (elected), Sociology of Education Section, American Sociological Association, 2007-2010.

Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award Selection Committee (formerly DuBois-Johnson-Frazier), American Sociological Association, 2005-2007.

Field Reviewer, Sociology, Social Science Research Council, 2003-2004.

Manuscript Referee, *American Sociological Review*, *Child Development*, *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, *Journal of Family Issues*, *Housing Studies*, *Population Studies*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *Social Psychology of Education*, *Social Science and Medicine*, *Social Science Research*, *Sociological Methods and Research*, *Sociology of Education*.

Local Service

Mayor Sylvester Turner's Hispanic Advisory Board, Education Subcommittee, 2016-

Fifth Ward Education Task Force, A Fifth Ward Coalition of Churches, June 2015-present.

Keynote Speaker, Breakthrough Houston, Annual Luncheon, April 25, 2013.

Keynote Speaker, Houston Association of Hispanic Media Professionals, Annual General Managers' Luncheon, April 11, 2013.

Keynote Speaker, YES Prep Public Schools All Staff Day, August 12, 2011.

Advisory Board, Families Empowered, 2011-present.

Academic Advisory Board, Children at Risk Institute, a policy and research collaborative promoting solutions to the challenges faced by children, including oversight of the *Growing Up in Houston* publication and the *Journal of Applied Research on Children*, 2011-present.

Keynote Speaker, "The Patterns of Social and Education Inequality: Aiming to Close Socioeconomic Gaps in Achievement and Attainment," The Future of Fort Bend's Children Conference, sponsored by The George Foundation and Fort Bend's Chamber of Commerce, Richmond, TX, Feb 28, 2011.

Center for Houston's Future, K-12 Data Group for Center's Indicator Program, "2011 Counting on Quality of Place: Human Capital/Education" benchmark report.

University Service

Rice University | Houston, TX

Faculty Address to All Incoming Students, Orientation Week, 2016.



Personnel, Priorities and Planning Committee, School of Social Sciences, 2016-2018.

Dean of Social Sciences Search Committee, 2015.

Chief Information Officer Search Committee, 2014.

Centennial Campaign Video, 2013.

Underrepresented Minority Steering Committee, 2013-present.

Committee on Examinations and Standing, Presidential Appointment, 2012-2013.

Faculty Senate, Presidential Appointee, 2011-2014.

Committee on the Status of the Faculty, Office of the Provost for Academic Affairs, 2011-present.

Social Science Dean's Advisory Board, 2010-2013.

Faculty Address to all Incoming Students, Orientation Week, 2010.

University of Wisconsin | Madison, WI

McNair Scholars Program Faculty Mentor, 2009-2011.

Pathways Scholars Program Mentor, 2009.

Chancellor's Scholarship Program Mentor, 2008-2012.

Advisory Team, Wisconsin Center for the Advancement of Postsecondary Education (WISCAPE), 2008 Spring Symposium on First Generation College Students.

Institute for Research on Poverty, Poverty Studies Cluster Hire Committee, 2007-2008.

Institute for Research on Poverty, Executive and Proposal Planning Committee, 2004- 2005.

Faculty Senate, University of Wisconsin, 2004-2006.

Department Service

Faculty Search Committee, Co-Chair, Department of Sociology, Rice University, 2013-2014.

Graduate Committee, Department of Sociology, Rice University, 2011-present.



Teaching and Service Committee, Department of Sociology, Rice University, 2011-present.

Postdoctoral Selection Committee, Department of Sociology, Rice University, 2010-2011.

Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology, Rice University, 2010-2014.

Minority Recruitment and Retention Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin, 2005-2010.

Students Supervised

Advisees: Sandra Alvear, Amanda Bancroft, Jill Bowdon, Irina Chukhray, Alicia Dean, Jaime Ditman, Horace Duffy, Dominique Dust, Jeremy Fiel, Rachel Fish, Courtney Luedke, Jie Min, William Oliver, David Rangel, William Rothwell, Esmeralda Sanchez, Vansa Shewakramani, Megan Shoji

Postdoctoral Fellows: Erin Baumgartner, Daniel Bowen, Brian Holzman, Dara Shifrer, Kori Stroub, Diego Torres

Dissertations: James Benson, Matthew Desmond, Caroline Faulkner, Rachel Fish, Sean Kelly, Carolina Milesi, Julie Minikel-Lacocque, Carrie Obenland, Martín Santos, Luisa Schwartzman

Master's Theses: Sandra Alvear, Brian An, Amanda Bancroft, Jill Bowdon, Cecilia Ceja, Irina Chukhray, Alicia Dean, Dominique Dust, Jeremy Fiel, Rachel Fish, Mami Fujii, Jeffrey Grigg, Victoria Healey-Etten, Junia Howell, Elizabeth Korver-Glenn, Courtney Luedke, Jie Min, David Rangel, Michelle Robinson, Lauren Schudde, Vansa Shewakramani, Megan Shoji

Undergraduate Theses: Adrianna Chrestopoulos, Kelsey Enriquez, Matthew Minami, Rebba Moore, Adara Robbins, Sergio Romero, Geoffrey Wodtke

Invited Presentations

"The Coleman Report at Fifty: Its Legacy and Enduring Value," Johns Hopkins University, October 2016.

Indiana University, Race & Education Symposium, September 16, 2016.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Austin, TX, August 19, 2016.

Laura and John Arnold Foundation, Policy Labs, Cambridge, MA, June 17, 2016.

University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education, April 26-28, 2016.

American Educational Research Association, ED Talk, Presidential Session, Washington, DC, April 9, 2016.



Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness, Washington, DC, February 2-4, 2016.

Education Research Knowledge Forum, American Educational Research Association, Washington, DC, February 17-18, 2016.

University of Wisconsin – Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, January 29, 2016.

Stanford University, Stanford, California, January 14, 2016.

West Coast Poverty Center, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, January 11, 2016.

“Causal Effects of Social Capital on Children’s Behavior,” “Reducing School Mobility: A Randomized Trial of a Relationship-Building Intervention,” and “The Neighborhood Context of Family Engagement in Schools,” The People’s University of China (Renmin University) and Peking University, Beijing, China, May 12-14, 2013.

“School District-University Partnerships,” American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Sociology of Education Keynote Panel, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, April 14, 2012.

“Reducing Student Mobility in Hispanic Elementary Schools through a Randomized Intervention,” Center for Research on Educational Opportunity, Notre Dame University, April 18, 2011.

Author Meets Critic Session: *Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses*, by Richard Arum and Josipa Roksa, University of Chicago Press, Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, FL, April 6-9, 2011.

“The Role of Familism in Explaining the Hispanic-White College Application Gap,” Institute of Higher Education, University of Georgia, March 18, 2009.

“Latinos Staying Home for College,” Texas Higher Education Opportunity Project Research Seminar, Princeton University, Office of Population Research, Princeton, NJ, August 17-19, 2006.

“Neighborhood Effects on Adolescent Development,” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Research Workshop on the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, Montreal, Canada, August 12, 2006.

“Proximidad Residencial y Elección de Universidad en EEUU,” Departamento de Sociología VI, Facultad de Educación, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, España, June 28, 2006.

“College Proximity: Mapping Access to Opportunity,” American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA, April 10, 2006.

“College Proximity: Mapping Access to Opportunity,” National Academy of Education

Ruth N. López Turley



Annual Meeting, Teachers College, Columbia University, October 21, 2005.

“When Parents Want Children to Stay Home for College,” Northwestern University,
Department of Sociology, Evanston, IL, February 10, 2005.

“A Review of the Transitions to College Literature in Sociology,” Meeting of the Transitions
to College Committee, Social Science Research Council, New York, NY, July 1-2, 2004.

Affiliations

Los Angeles Education Research Institute, 2011-present

La Follette School of Public Affairs, 2007-2011

Wisconsin Center for Education Research (WCER), 2007-2011

Wisconsin Center for the Advancement of Postsecondary Education (WISCAPE), 2007-2009

Interdisciplinary Training Program in Education Sciences (ITP), 2005-2011

Center for Demography and Ecology (CDE), 2003-2011

Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP), 2002-present