

SARA D. ROCKS

University of South Florida
4202 E Fowler Ave #1036 Tampa, FL 33617
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sara-rocks/>
Email: sararocks@usf.edu

I. EDUCATION

- 2022 - Present **Ph.D., Sociology, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL**
The Department of Sociology
- 2020 - 2022 **M.A., Sociology, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL**
The Department of Sociology
Thesis Paper Title: “Stitched Together: What We Learn from Secret Stories in Public Media”
Thesis Committee: Dr. Sara Green, Dr. Donileen Loseke, Dr. Byron Miller
- 2016 - 2020 **B.A., Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, University of South Florida St. Petersburg, FL**
The Department of Interdisciplinary Social Sciences
Seminar Paper Title: “Utopian Quest: A Value Analysis of Intentional Communities”

II. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020 - 2022 **Graduate Public Sociology Research Assistant**
University of South Florida | Tampa, FL
In this position, I assisted in research grant writing, conducted interviews, analyzed qualitative interview data, collaborated with local activist and nonprofit organizations, engaged in participant observation research, designed a professional after-action review report, and was trained in World Café conversational leadership.
- 2016 - 2020 **Social Media Director & Assistant Store Manager**
Sweet Divas Chocolates | St. Petersburg, FL
In this position, I managed store inventory and product displays, launched a new social media strategy, designed marketing materials such as menu boards, promotional flyers, and all digital materials, assisted in event planning and catering, and trained new hires.
- 2017 - 2019 **Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Social Science Research Assistant**
University of South Florida | St. Petersburg, FL
In this position, I designed surveys, was trained in statistical data analysis, edited manuscripts, synthesized relevant literature, collaborated with other research assistants, presented research at a national sociological conference.

III. TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2022 - Present **Graduate Student Instructor**
University of South Florida, Tampa | The Department of Sociology

Courses taught: Introduction to Sociology

2020 - 2022 **Graduate Sociology Teaching Assistant**
University of South Florida, Tampa | The Department of Sociology
Courses TA'd for: Introduction to Sociology (x2), Social Psychology, Senior Seminar

IV. RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests primarily focus on the Sociology of Emotions, Narrative Sociology, Visual and Media Studies.

V. PUBLICATIONS

A. Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Miller, Byron, Savanah Catalina, **Sara Rocks** and Kathryn Tillman. 2021. "It is Your Decision to Date Interracially: The Influence of Family Approval on the Likelihood of Interracial/Interethnic Dating." *Journal of Family Issues* 43(2): 1-24.

Miller, Byron, **Sara Rocks**, Savanah Catalina, Nicole Zemaitis, Kia Daniels and Jamie Londono. 2019. "The Missing Link in Contemporary Health Disparities Research: A Profile of The Mental and Self-Rated Health of Multiracial Young Adults." *Health Sociology Review* 28(2): 209-227.

B. Book Reviews

Rocks, Sara. 2021. Review of "The Digital City: Media and the Social Production of Place" by Germaine R. Halegoua. *Urbanities Journal*, 11(1): 111-114.

C. Other Professional Reports

Rocks, Sara. 2022. Masters Thesis: "Stitched Together: What We Learn from Secret Stories in Public Media." *ProQuest*.

Vasilakes, Argerie, **Sara Rocks**, Frank Biafora, Jesse Coraggio, Jenny Fessler, Carol Gorelick, Sharon Joy Kleitsch, Russell Meyer, Deb Close. 2021. *Strengthening Community Through Conversational Leadership: a Case Study of World Café – St. Petersburg*.

VI. CONFERENCES

Rocks, Sara. 2022. "The New Media Landscape and the Culture of Confession." Paper presented at annual meeting of the Society of the Study of Social Problems, Los Angeles, CA.

Rocks, Sara. 2021. "PostSecret, A Virtual Third Place: An Analysis of Placemaking and Shame Negotiation Through Virtual Confessions and Community Support." Paper presented at annual meeting of the Society of the Study of Social Problems, Virtual.

Catalinia, Savannah, **Sara Rocks**, and Byron Miller. 2018. "It's Your Decision to Date Interracially: The Influence of Family Support." Paper presented at annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, LA.

VII. PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 2022 - 2023 | Sociology Graduate Student Association
Treasurer |
| 2021 - 2023 | Southern Sociological Society |
| 2020 - 2021 | Society for the Study of Social Problems |