

# CAITLIN L. MCMURTRY

Brown School  
Washington University in St. Louis

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(314) 935-3159

## APPOINTMENTS

2022-  
present      **Washington University in St. Louis**      **St. Louis, MO**  
Assistant Professor, Brown School  
Faculty Affiliate, Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity & Equity  
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Advancing Health Services, Policy & Economics Research  
Faculty Scholar, Institute for Public Health  
Faculty Member, Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences

2024-  
present      Co-Director, Advocacy / Global Health EXPLORE Pathway, School of Medicine  
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Advancing Health Services, Policy and Economics Research

## EDUCATION

2016-2022      **Harvard University**      **Cambridge, MA**  
Ph.D. in Health Policy  
Dissertation: *Pressing Challenges in U.S. Health Policy: Polarization, Gun Violence & Discrimination*  
Committee: Drs. Robert Blendon (chair), Jessica Cohen and David Cutler

2013-2015      **Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health**      **Boston, MA**  
S.M. in Health Policy & Management

2005-2009      **Carleton College**      **Northfield, MN**  
B.A. in Sociology & Anthropology, *cum laude*  
Thesis: "The Relationship of Housing Type, Hopelessness, and Isolation to Involvement in Risk Behaviors among Adolescents from Low-Income Neighborhoods."

## FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

2025-2026      *Bullet Related Injury and Policy in St. Louis and the United States*  
Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity, Washington University in St. Louis  
\$5,000 Graduate Course Innovation Grant with Dr. LJ Punch, Power4STL

2024-2025      *State Violence and the Structural Origins of Vaccine Hesitancy*  
Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity, Washington University in St. Louis  
Faculty Fellowship

2022-2024      *The Relationship between State Violence, Trust in Government, and Vaccine Uptake*  
Transdisciplinary Institute in Applied Data Sciences (TRIADS) and the Weidenbaum  
Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy, Washington Univ. in St.  
Louis  
\$27,295 seed grant  
Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis  
\$50,000 grant from the COVID-19 and Health Disparities Research Pilot Funds  
Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity, Washington University in St. Louis  
\$1,000 small grant

Co-Principal Investigators:

Caitlin L. McMurtry  
 Dr. Michael Esposito, University of Minnesota, Sociology  
 Dr. Darrell Hudson, Washington University in St. Louis, Brown School  
 Dr. Matthew Gabel, Washington University in St. Louis, Political Science

- 2023-present *Building community capacity for the study of health equity among Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander populations in the St. Louis Metropolitan Area*  
 Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity, Washington University in St. Louis  
 \$2,000 Research Working Group  
 Principal Investigator: Dr. Bailey Martin-Giacalone, postdoctoral fellow  
 Co-Investigators: Caitlin L. McMurtry  
 Dr. Sunny Lin, Washington Univ. School of Medicine in St. Louis
- 2021-2022 Dissertation Completion Fellowship  
 Harvard University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences  
 \$32,090
- 2018-2019 T32 Training Fellowship  
 U.S Dep't of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality  
 \$24,324
- 2018 Summer Predissertation Fellowship  
 Harvard University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences  
 \$3,000
- 2014 Summer Internship Grant  
 Dep't of Health Policy and Management, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health  
 \$5,000
- 2013-2015 George Gund Fellowship  
 Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health  
 \$30,000
- 2012-2013 Healthy Communities Wyandotte Learning Laboratory Grant  
 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
 \$100,000  
 Co-Principal Investigator with Joe Connor of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS

**AWARDS & HONORS**

- 2024 Brown School Teaching Excellence Award for Full-Time Faculty
- 2020 Dean's Award for Excellence in Student Teaching, Harvard Kennedy School
- 2020 Distinction in Student Teaching, Harvard Kennedy School
- 2019 Distinction in Teaching, Harvard College

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

(\* indicates a student advisee)

8. \*Strombom NA, **McMurtry CL**. “The Trials of Performing Firearm Legal and Legislative Research.” Forthcoming. *Journal of Law, Medicine, and Ethics*.
7. SteelFisher GK, **McMurtry CL**, Caporello H, Lubell KM, Koonin LM, Neri AJ, Ben-Porath EN, Mehotra A, McGowan E, Espino LC, Barnett ML. 2023. “Video Telemedicine Experiences In COVID-19 Were Positive, but Physicians and Patients Prefer In-Person Care For The Future.” *Health Affairs*, 42(4):575-584.
6. SteelFisher GK, **McMurtry CL**, Caporello HL, McGowan E, Schafer TJ, Lubell K, Friedman AL, Allen J, Shockey C, Grady A, Ben-Porath EN. 2021. “Experiences and Views of Domestic Summer Travelers During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Findings from a National Survey.” *Health Security*, 19(3):338-348.
5. **McMurtry CL**, Findling MG, Casey LS, Blendon RJ, Benson JM, Sayde JM, Miller C. 2019. “Discrimination in the United States: Experiences of Asian Americans.” *Health Services Research*, 54(6): 1419-1430.
4. Blendon RJ, Benson JM, **McMurtry CL**. 2019. “The Upcoming U.S. Health Care Cost Debate – The Public’s Views.” *New England Journal of Medicine*, 380(26):2487- 2492.
3. Blendon RJ, Benson JM, **McMurtry CL**. 2018. “Health Care in the 2018 Election.” *New England Journal of Medicine*, 379(18):e32.
2. Sommers BD, **McMurtry CL**, Blendon RJ, Benson JM, Sayde JM. 2017. “Beyond Health Insurance: Remaining Disparities in U.S. Health Care in the Post-ACA Era.” *Milbank Quarterly*, 95(1):43-69.
1. Hero JO, **McMurtry CL**, Benson JM., Blendon RJ. 2016. “Discussing Opioid Risks with Patients to Reduce Misuse and Abuse: Evidence from Two Surveys.” *Annals of Family Medicine*, 14(6):575-577.

**MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW**

(\* indicates a student advisee)

- **McMurtry CL**, \*Cheu, R. “Political Polarization during Public Health Emergencies: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Historical Survey Data from Polio to COVID-19.” Under review.
- \*Kalulu P, \*Fisher A, \*Whitter G, Sener IE, Doering M, Carter D, Gabel M, Ding J, Esposito M, **McMurtry CL**, Sopory P, Huffman MD. “Trust, Trust Repair, and Public Health: A Scoping Review.” Under review.

**BOOK CHAPTERS**

1. Blendon RJ, **McMurtry CL**, Benson JM, Sayde JM. 2017. “Consumers’ Experiences with and Attitudes about Their Health Care,” William D. Nelson, ed., *Advances in Business and Management*, Volume 11, chapter 3. New York: Nova Science Publishers.

**WORKING PAPERS & RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

(\* indicates a student or postdoc advisee)

- McMurtry CL**, \*Anders V, \*Boyd R. “The Role of Physicians in Abortion Ballot Initiative Debates: Analysis of News Media Coverage in Five States.”

**McMurtry CL**, \*Boyd, R. “Attitudes on Abortion Before and After *Dobbs* among College-Educated Women: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Public Opinion Data.”

**McMurtry CL**, Aaron MB, Esposito MH. “Analysis of Permitless Carry Laws and Rates of Firearm Deaths in the United States.”

**McMurtry CL**, Esposito M, \*Clark S, \*Koehle H, \*Romo Alba C, \*Moss J. “‘Distrust Just Trickles All the Way Down’: Narratives of Police Contact, Trust, and Vaccine Hesitancy among Black and White Adults.”

Johnson NM, **McMurtry CL**. “Association of Lead Exposure and COVID-19 Mortality at the County Level.”

Ornelas IJ, Bailey ZD, **McMurtry CL**, Givens ML, Fleming PJ, Gollust S, Heller J, Graetz N, Petteway R, Esposito M, Lee H, Pacheco J, LeBron A, Bailey A, Michener J, Boyd J, Pollack-Porter K, Gilhuly K, Creary M, Johnson S. “How Academic Public Health Is Failing Health Equity.”

\*Siamof C, \*Youssef M, **McMurtry CL**. “Health Policy on the Ballot: Predictors of Successful Measures, 2002-2022.”

\*Sauermaun A, **McMurtry CL**. “Association of Trust in Government and Firearm Ownership Trends: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Survey Data.”

\*Wang Y, **McMurtry CL**, Han HS. “Investigating the Impact of Kansas City’s Tenant Right to Counsel Law on Eviction Outcomes.”

## TECHNICAL REPORTS & BLOG POSTS

19. SteelFisher, G.K., McMurtry, C. L., & Caporello, H. May 2021. “Travel in the Summer of 2021: Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Perspectives.” Harvard Opinion Research Program report for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO) and the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC).
18. SteelFisher, G.K., McMurtry, C. L., & Caporello, H. April 2021. “Mask-Wearing and Vaccination in the Evolving COVID-19 Context: A Tracking Survey for Communication Strategy, Wave II.” Harvard Opinion Research Program report for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO) and the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC).
17. SteelFisher, G.K., McMurtry, C. L., & Caporello, H. February 2021. “Mask-Wearing and Vaccination in the Evolving COVID-19 Context: A Tracking Survey for Communication Strategy, Wave I.” Harvard Opinion Research Program report for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO) and the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC).
16. SteelFisher, G.K., McMurtry, C. L., & Caporello, H. July 2020. “Contact Tracing During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Survey to Support Technical Assistance for State, Local, Territorial, and Federal Communications.” Harvard Opinion Research Program report for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO) and the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC).
15. SteelFisher, G.K., McMurtry, C. L., & Caporello, H. July 2020. “Domestic Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Survey to Support Technical Assistance for State, Local, Territorial, and Federal Communications.” Harvard Opinion Research Program report for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO) and the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC).

14. Blendon, R. J., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. November 2019. "Americans' Views on CBD Products and Marijuana for Recreational Use." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for *Politico*.
13. Blendon, R. J., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. August 2019. "Americans' Views on Data Privacy and E-Cigarettes." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for *Politico*.
12. Blendon, R. J., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. March 2019. "The Public and High U.S. Health Care Costs." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for *Politico*.
11. Blendon, R. J., McMurtry, C. L., Benson, J. M., & Sayde, J. M. October 2018. "Voters and Health Care in the 2018 Congressional Election." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for *Politico*.
10. Blendon, R. J., McMurtry, C. L., Benson, J. M., & Sayde, J. M. July 2018. "Americans' Views on Policies to Address Prescription Drug Prices, the Opioid Crisis, and Other Current Domestic Issues." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for *Politico*.
9. Blendon, R. J., Casey, L. S., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. December 2017. "Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of Asian Americans." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for NPR and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
8. Blendon, R. J., Casey, L. S., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. December 2017. "Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of Native Americans." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for NPR and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
7. Blendon, R. J., McMurtry, C. L., Benson, J. M., & Sayde, J. M. September 2016. "The Opioid Abuse Crisis is a Rare Area of Bipartisan Consensus." *Health Affairs Forefront*.
6. Blendon, R. J., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. May 2016. "Americans' Attitudes about Changing Current Prescription Drug and Medical Device Regulation." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for *STAT News*.
5. Blendon, R. J., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. March 2016. "Americans' Attitudes about Cancer." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for *STAT News*.
4. Blendon, R. J., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. March 2016. "Americans' Attitudes about Prescription Painkiller Abuse." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for *STAT News*.
3. Blendon, R. J., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. February 2016. "Patients' Perspectives on Health Care in the United States: A Look at Seven States and the Nation." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for NPR and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
2. Blendon, R. J., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. November 2015. "The Controversy of Rising Drug Prices: The Public's Views." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for *STAT News*.
1. Blendon, R. J., Benson, J. M., McMurtry, C. L., & Sayde, J. M. October 2015. "Americans' Perspectives on E-Cigarettes." Harvard Opinion Research Program report for *STAT News*.

## TEACHING

### Washington University in St. Louis

Brown School (graduate level)

S55-6107: Skill Lab: Gun Violence Epidemiology and Policy in the United States, Instructor

Fall 2024, one section

S55-6108: Skill Lab: Political Strategy for Gun Policy in the United States, Instructor

Fall 2024, one section

S55-5910: Public Health Seminar I, Discussion Leader  
 Fall 2024, two sections  
 S40-5742: Health Administration and Policy, Instructor  
 Spring 2024, one section; Fall 2023, one section; Spring 2023, two sections

Medical School (graduate level)  
 M81-725: Infectious Diseases and Health Equity (KISC), Co-Instructor  
 Fall 2024 and Fall 2025, one section  
 Advocacy and Global Health EXPLORE Pathway, Co-Lead  
 Summer 2025

## Harvard University

Harvard Kennedy School (graduate level)  
 API 201: Quantitative Analysis and Empirical Methods; Fall 2019 teaching fellow

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (graduate level)  
 HPM 552: Health Policy and Leadership with Gov. Peter Shumlin; Fall 2019 teaching fellow  
 HPM 552: Health Policy and Leadership with Gov. Ted Strickland; Spring 2018 teaching fellow  
 HPM 247: Political Analysis and Strategy for U.S. Health Policy; Spring 2017, 2019 teaching fellow  
*Course crosslisted with Harvard Kennedy School*

Harvard College (undergraduate level)  
 USW 11: American Health Care Policy; Spring 2019 teaching fellow (two sections)

Harvard X (massive open online course)  
 U.S. Health Policy; Winter 2014 teaching assistant

## ADVISING

(\* indicates a graduate research course mentee receiving course credit, ‡ indicates a manuscript coauthor)

### Dissertation Advisees

Hannah Kinzer (Washington University in St. Louis, Public Health Sciences PhD), current

Current	‡ Victoria Anders (MPH) *‡ Ri'enna Boyd (PhD) Maddie Hayes (MPH) Brynn Lau (MPH) ‡ Han Koehle (PhD) ‡ Jayda Moss (MPH) ‡ Cinthia Romo Alba (PhD)	Nichole Stonich (MPH) *‡ Armin Sauermann (PhD) Al Setili (MPH) ‡ Cerise Siamof (MD) *‡ Nicole Strombom (PhD) ‡ Yi Wang (postdoc) Regina Xu (MPH) ‡ Michael Youssef (MD)
Past	Rachana Cheu (MPH) Shannon Chiu (MD/MPH) Cassandra Ezike (MPH) Raul Gierbolini (PhD)	Bailey Martin-Giacalone (postdoc) Lorna Pineda (MPH) Shri Sendilkumar (MPH) Kush Sharma (MPH)

**EMPLOYMENT**

	<b>Harvard Opinion Research Program</b>	<b>Boston, MA</b>
2016-2022	Research Fellow	
2015-2016	Research Assistant	
	<b>United States Senate</b>	<b>Washington, DC</b>
2014	Health Policy Intern	
	<b>Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS</b>	<b>Kansas City, KS</b>
2012-2013	Program Coordinator for Health Communities Wyandotte	
	<b>Kansas Health Institute</b>	<b>Topeka, KS</b>
2010-2012	Analyst	
2009-2010	Research Assistant	
	<b>University of Alabama at Birmingham</b>	<b>Mobile, AL</b>
2007	Research Intern	

**PRESENTATIONS**

2024	Invited speaker: “Election 2024: Health Policy Platform Comparison” Washington Univ. School of Medicine, Health Economics and Policy Interest Group Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis Invited panelist: “Navigating Charged Topics in the Classroom” Center for Teaching and Learning, Washington University in St. Louis Podium presentation: “Differences in Policy Contact, Trust, and Accountability by Race: Findings from Focus Groups in Milwaukee” Interdisciplinary Assn. for Population Health Science (IAPHS) Annual Meeting Guest Lecture: “Health Equity and Advocacy” Introduction to Global Health, Washington University School of Medicine Invited speaker / podium presentation: “Association of Lead Exposure and COVID-19 Mortality at the County Level: Environmental Racism and Pandemic Preparedness” Washington Univ. in St. Louis, Ctr for Adv. Health Serv., Policy, & Econ. Research Washington University in St. Louis, GlobeMed Hilltop Conference
2023	Discussant: “Effects of Permitless Carry on Violent Crime and Injury” American Society of Health Economists
2022	Guest lecture: “The Politics of U.S. Health Policy” Influencing Policy Implementation, Washington University in St. Louis Health Administration and Policy, Washington University in St. Louis
2021-2023	Invited speaker / podium presentation: “Political Polarization during Disease Outbreaks: A Historical Analysis of Survey Data from Polio to COVID-19” AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting (poster) AHRQ NRSA Trainees Research Conference American Political Science Association Annual Meeting American Public Health Association Annual Meeting SUNY-Buffalo, School of Public Health and Health Professions Tulane School of Public Health, Department of Health Policy and Management University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, College of Public Health

- UCLA, Fielding School of Public Health, Health Policy and Management (declined)  
 UCSD, Wertheim School of Public Health, Division of Health Policy  
 University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Department of Public Health  
 University of Texas at Austin, Department of Political Science  
 Univ. of Michigan, School of Public Health, Dep't of Health Management and Policy  
 Washington University in St. Louis, Brown School  
 Washington University in St. Louis, Transdisciplinary Inst. in Applied Data Science  
 Washington University in St. Louis, Digital Transformation Symposium
- 2020      Invited panelist: “Confronting Xenophobia and Supporting our Asian Community During COVID-19,” Massachusetts General Hospital
- 2019      Guest lecture: “The Politics of U.S. Health Policy”  
                  American Health Care Policy, Harvard College  
 Guest lecture: “The Fundamentals of American Government”  
                  Political Analysis and Strategy for U.S. Health Policy, Harvard Kennedy School &  
                  Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- 2017      Invited speaker: “Integrating Social Services into Mental Health Care for Minority Populations,” National Academy for State Health Policy and Massachusetts General Hospital  
 Guest lecture: “The U.S. Political System,” Political Analysis and Strategy for U.S. Health Policy, Harvard Kennedy School & Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- 2013, 2012      Guest lecture: “Kansas Health Impact Assessment Project: Examining Casino Development Legislation and Its Effects on Health,” University of Kansas
- 2012      “Mobilizing Multi-Sectoral Partners to Transition from Community Health Data into Action” with Joe Reardon and Joe Connor, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting  
 “Kansas: Assessing State Gaming Legislation and Engaging Diverse Stakeholders,” National Health Impact Assessment Meeting  
 Invited speaker: “Healthy Communities Wyandotte: Implementing Community Health Improvement Plans through Multi-Sectoral Collaboration,” Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds, University of Kansas Medical Center  
 Invited speaker: “Take Action: Evaluating Actions In-Depth,” County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, webinar  
 Invited speaker: “Home Visiting: Identifying Communities at Risk in Kansas,” Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program presentation series, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, webinar
- 2011      “Multisectoral Perspectives on Using County Health Rankings to Mobilize Community Action” with Joe Reardon and Joe Connor, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting
- 2010      “Personal Responsibility for Health: Implications for Policymakers” with Tatiana Lin, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting  
 Invited speaker: “KATCH Evaluation: Project Overview and Relationship to PRAMS,” Kansas Blue Ribbon Panel on Infant Mortality

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Professional Associations:

Member, AcademyHealth  
Member, American Political Science Association (APSA)  
Member, American Public Health Association (APHA)  
Member, American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon)  
Member, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)  
Member, Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science (IAPHS)

**Ad Hoc Scientific Journal Reviews:** *Ethnicity & Health; Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law; Social Currents*

## SERVICE ACTIVITIES

### Professional:

2023-present Founding Member, Health and Power Organizing Project (HPOP), University of Wisconsin-Madison and W.K. Kellogg Foundation

### University:

Washington University in St. Louis

2023-2024 Geospatial Public Health Interest Group Co-Lead, Transdisciplinary Institute in Applied Data Science (TRIADS)

2023 Member, Undergraduate Public Health Major Committee

Harvard University

2020-2021 Member, Student Mental Health Working Group

2020-2021 Coordinator, Antiracist Student Discussion Group