

## SERGIO CHÁVEZ

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### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT AND AFFILIATIONS

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Rice University, 2018-Present.  
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Rice University, 2010-2018.  
Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Sociology & Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2007-2010.

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D. Development Sociology, Cornell University, 2007  
M.S. Rural Sociology, Cornell University, 2002  
M.S. Community Development, University of California, Davis, 1998  
B.A. Sociology (minor in Chicano Studies), University of California, Davis, 1996  
A.A. General Studies, Hartnell Community College, Salinas, California, 1994

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### RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Internal & international migration, economic sociology, work & occupations, social networks, family, and mixed methods.

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### BOOKS

Sergio Chávez (2016). *Border Lives: Fronterizos, Transnational Migrants, and Commuters in Tijuana*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Reviewed in: [\*American Journal of Sociology\*](#), [\*Contemporary Sociology\*](#), [\*Ethnic and Racial Studies\*](#), [\*Frontera Norte\*](#), [\*ILR Review\*](#), [\*International Sociology\*](#), [\*Latino Studies\*](#), [\*Qualitative Sociology\*](#), [\*Rural Sociology\*](#), [\*Social Forces\*](#), [\*Social Anthropology\*](#), [\*Social Services Review\*](#), [\*Sociological Inquiry\*](#), [\*Social Science Journal\*](#), [\*Symbolic Interaction\*](#).

Sergio Chávez, “Economic Boom and Exploitation in the Disaster Recovery Labor Force.” Book-length manuscript to be reviewed by the Russell Sage Foundation Fall 2024.

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### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Sergio Chávez, Robin Paige, and Heather Edelblute (2021). “Emotion Work and Gender Inequality in Transnational Family Life.” *Journal of Family Issues*  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0192513X211054472>

Claire Altman, Sergio Chávez, and Kendal Lowrey (2021). “Nongovernmental Organizations in Tijuana, Mexico Serving Deported Migrants from the United States.” *Revista Frontera Norte* 33(22): 1-34.

Sergio Chávez, Claire E. Altman, and Bridget K. Gorman (2021). "The Migration Decision Process among Returnees: Assessing the Risks and Benefits in Contemporary Mexico-US Migration." *Migration Studies* 9(3): 1517-1535.

Bridget K. Gorman, Claire E. Altman, Rudy Guerra, and Sergio Chávez (2020). "Gender, Education, and Physical Health Conditions among Adults in Central Mexico." *Sociological Perspectives* 63(2): 181-200.

Kate Thomas, Jim Elliott, and Sergio Chávez (2018). "Community Perceptions of Industrial Risks Before and After a Toxic Flood: The Case of Houston and Hurricane Harvey." *Sociological Spectrum* 38(6): 371-386.

Alexis Silver, Heather Edelblute, Ted Mouw, and Sergio Chávez (2018). "Fractured Families, Connected Community: Emotional Engagement in a Transnational Social Network." *International Migration* 56(6): 153-168.

Elizabeth Fussell, Linda Delp, Kevin Riley, and Sergio Chávez (2018). "Implications of Social and Legal Status for Immigrants' Health in Disaster Zones." *American Journal of Public Health* 108(12): 1617- 1620.

Tyler Woods, Claire E. Altman, Sergio Chávez, and Bridget K. Gorman (2018). "Gender, Migration, and Perceptions of HIV Risk in Mexico." *Culture, Health, and Sexuality* 20(12): 1333-1346. DOI: 10.1080/13691058.2018.1434238.

Ashton Verdery, Ted Mouw, Heather Edelblute, and Sergio Chávez (2018). "Communication Flows in a Transnational Social Field." *Social Networks* 53(May): 57-71.

Claire E. Altman, Bridget K. Gorman, and Sergio Chávez (2018). "Exposure to Violence, Coping Strategies, and Diagnosed Mental Health Problems among Adults in a Migrant-Sending Community in Central Mexico." *Population Research and Policy Review* 37(2): 229-260.

Claire E. Altman, Bridget K. Gorman, Sergio Chávez, Federico Ramos Ruiz, and Isaac Fernández Castellón (2018). "The Mental Well-being of Central American Transmigrant Men in Mexico" *Global Public Health* 13(4): 383-399.

Bridget K. Gorman, Claire E. Altman, and Sergio Chávez (2017). "US Migration Experience and Mental Health Status among Adult Men and Women Living in Guanajuato, Mexico." *Migration and Health: Perspectives on the Immigrant Population*. Edited by the National Population Council of Mexico and the University of California UC-Mexico Initiative Working Group and the Health Initiative of the Americas, UC Berkeley School of Public Health.

Sergio Chávez and Claire E. Altman (2017). "Gambling with Life: The Occupational Risks of Being an Unauthorized Migrant Roofer in the United States." *American Journal of Industrial Medicine* 60(6): 537-547. DOI 10.1002/ajim.22721

Sergio Chávez, Heather Edelblute, and Elizabeth Korver-Glenn (2016). "Life on the Edge: Balancing Gendered and Occupational Identities among Unauthorized Migrant Roofers." *Qualitative Sociology*, 39(2): 125-146.

Ted Mouw, Sergio Chávez, Heather Edelblute, and Ashton Verdery (2014). “Binational Social Networks and Assimilation: A Test of the Importance of Transnationalism.” *Social Problems*, 61(3): 329-359.

Jacqueline Hagan, Jean Luc Demonsant, and Sergio Chávez (2014). “Skills of the Unskilled: Lifelong Human Capital Transfers Across the U.S.-Mexico Migratory Circuit.” *Journal of Migration and Human Security*, 2(2): 76-99.

Ted Mouw and Sergio Chávez (2012). “Linguistic Niches and the Wage Growth of Latino Immigrants.” *Social Forces*, 91(2):423-452.

Sergio Chávez (2012). “The Sonoran Desert’s Domestic Bracero Programme: Institutional Actors and the Creation of Labour Migration Streams.” *International Migration*, 50(2): 20-40.

Reprinted in: Paul López. Editor. *¿Que Fronteras? Mexican Braceros and a Re-examination of the Legacy of Migration*. Kendall/Hall Publishers. Dubuque, IA. 2nd Edition. Fall 2017.

Sergio Chávez (2011). “Navigating the U.S.-Mexico Border: The Crossing Strategies of Undocumented Workers in Tijuana, Mexico.” *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 34(8): 1320-1337.

Magalí Muría and Sergio Chávez (2011). “Shopping and Working in the Borderlands: Enforcement, Surveillance and Marketing in Tijuana, Mexico.” *Surveillance and Society*, 8(3): 355-373.

Sergio Chávez (2005). “Community, Ethnicity, and Class in a Changing Rural California Town,” *Rural Sociology*, 70(3): 28-49.

## **WORKING MANUSCRIPTS**

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### *Work in Progress*

Sergio Chávez, Robert Bozick, and Jing Li. “How Housing, Job, and Legal Precarity affect the Sleep of Migrant Workers: A Mixed Methods Study.” Revise and Resubmit *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*.

Claire Altman and Sergio Chávez. “No Time to Be Injured: Workplace Absenteeism in a Latino Recovery Labor Force.”

Sergio Chávez. “Sampling Hard-to-Find Populations: Methodological Reflections on Data Collection.”

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL WORKS**

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Ariel Mojica, Sergio Chávez, and Areli Veloz. (2018). “Braceros: De retaguardia productiva a olvidados.” México: Colegio de Michoacán. **49 minutes**, [Watch it here](#).

Michael Emerson, Jenifer Bratter, and Sergio Chávez. (2016). *(Un)Making Race and Ethnicity: A Reader*. New York: Oxford University Press.

## **SURVEYS DESIGNED**

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2020- to date *The Career of the Roofer: Labor, Migration, and Health in a Dangerous Occupation* [PI]  
2010- 2011 *Network Survey of Immigrant Transnationalism* [N= 607]  
2013- 2014 *Study of Health and Migration in Mexico* [N= 480 surveys, N= 49 in-depth interviews]

## **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

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Sergio Chávez, Jing Li, and Jim Elliot, “Economic Boom and Exploitation in the Disaster Recovery Labor Force: A Mixed Methods Longitudinal Study.” Russell Sage Foundation’s Future of Work, \$49,078, October 19, 2021.

Sergio Chávez (PI) and Jing Li (Co-PI), “Occupational Risks and Injuries among Unauthorized Migrant Roofers: A Binational Mixed-Methods Study.” Faculty Initiative Fund Grant Award: \$29,719, Spring 2020.

Claire E. Altman, Bridget K. Gorman, Sergio Chávez, and Federico Ramos Ruiz, “The Physical and Mental Well-being of Central American Transmigrants in Mexico” 2014 Puentes Consortium, University of Arizona, \$6,000

Sergio Chávez (PI), Bridget Gorman, and Claire Altman “Unauthorized Migration from Mexico to the United States: Implications for Health and Medical Care among Return and NonMigrants.” Internal funding from Rice University:

- 2014 Social Sciences Research Initiative (SSRI) Seed Grant Award: \$20,000
- 2014 Faculty Initiative Fund (FIF) Grant Award: \$50,000

Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation Career Enhancement Fellowship (2013)

Ted Mouw (Co-PI), Rachel Kimbro (Co-PI), Sergio Chávez, Heather Edelblute, and Ashton M. Verdery. Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Project: “Formative Social Networks and Immigration in a Mexican Diaspora: A Study of Information Flows, Transnationalism, and Health.” Summer 2012 (Internal Grant). \$10,800

Institute for the Study of the Americas Travel Grant, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2009. Project: “Skill Transfer Among Return Migrants in Guanajuato.” \$1,000

Ford Predoctoral Fellowship, National Academies, 2003-2006

Fulbright Fellowship for International Studies, 2003 (declined)

## **AWARDS**

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Postdoctoral Award for Research Excellence, Office of Postdoctoral Studies at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2009-2010

## **INVITED TALKS/WORKSHOPS**

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Sergio Chávez, “The Life and Afterlife of Migrant Illegality: The Past, Present, and Future of Latinx Immigration.” Northwestern University, Latinx Studies Symposium Participant, May 12-13, 2022.

Sergio Chávez, “Sampling Hard-to-Find Populations: Methodological Reflections of Data Collection in an Era of COVID-19” Sociology Colloquium, University of California Davis.

Faculty Fellow, 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the University of Chicago Ethnography Incubator, March 12-13, 2020. [Not attended due to COVID-19 travel restrictions].

Sergio Chávez, “Cultura y fronteras: los estudios culturales desde la región fronteriza México-Estados Unidos, Departamento de Estudios Culturales, Colegio de la Frontera Norte, November 3, 2016.

Sergio Chávez, “Gender, Emotion, and Migration in a Binational Social Network.” Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, October 14, 2016.

*Border Lives: Commuters and Migrants in the Tijuana/San Diego Borderlands*

- Centro de Estudios Demográficos, Urbanos y Ambientales, El Colegio de México, February 20, 2017
- El Instituto de Investigaciones Económicas y Empresariales de la Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo, February 21, 2017
- Colegio de La Frontera Norte (COLEF), Tijuana, Mexico, November 3, 2016
- National Steinbeck Center, 2016 Steinbeck Festival, Salinas, CA, May 6, 2016
- University of California Los Angeles, Program for International Migration, April 25, 2014

Claire E. Altman, Bridget K. Gorman, Sergio Chávez, and Federico Ramos Ruiz, “The Physical and Mental Well-Being of Central American Transmigrants in Mexico.” School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, June 10, 2015.

Claire E. Altman, Bridget K. Gorman, Sergio Chávez, “The Study of Health and Migration in Mexico.” School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, June 10, 2015.

Claire E. Altman, Bridget K. Gorman, Sergio Chávez, and Keerthi Bandi, “Self-Rated Health and US-Mexico Migration: Differences by Stage of the Migration Process among Men and Women” School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, February 19, 2014.

Sergio Chávez. “Rooferos: Occupational Networks and Group Work Dynamics among Migrant Workers.” The Center for Mexican American Studies, University of Texas at Austin, January 29, 2014.

Sergio Chávez. “Emotional Remittances: The Role of Non-Migrant Women in the Migration Process.” University of Houston Downtown, Department of Sociology, November 14, 2013.

Sergio Chávez. “The Return Migration and Economic Integration of Braceros in Tijuana, Mexico.” Invited Presentation at El Centro de Investigaciones sobre América del Norte (CISAN) de La Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, September 30, 2011, Mexico City, Mexico

Sergio Chávez. "Crossing Borders in an Era of Increased Security." NASA's Hispanic Heritage Month, October 20, 2011, Houston, Texas.

Sergio Chávez, "Social Closure at the U.S.-Mexico Border: An Ethnographic Exploration." City University of London, September 9-10, 2009, London, UK.

Sergio Chávez, "La Bracereada: Institutional Actors and the Creation of Internal and International Migration Streams During the Bracero Program." Sociology Colloquium, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, February 13, 2008.

Sergio Chávez, "Premiere of Braceros: De retaguardia productiva a olvidados." Documentary presented at *Envisioning Bracero History Conference* at the University of Texas at El Paso, November 11, 2005.

### **PAPER PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS**

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- 2016 Sergio Chávez, Claire E. Altman, and Bridget K. Gorman, "Migration Re-Intentions: The Risks and Dangers of Crossing the U.S.-Mexico Border." *American Sociological Association*, Seattle, Washington.
- 2015 Sergio Chávez. "Rooferos: The Occupational Networks of Migrant Roofers." *American Sociological Association*, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2015 Altman, Claire E., Bridget K. Gorman, Sergio Chavez, and Federico Ramos Ruiz. "The Mental Well-being of Central American Transmigrants in Mexico." *American Sociological Association*, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2015 Claire E. Altman, Bridget K. Gorman, Sergio Chávez, and Federico Ramos Ruiz, "The Physical and Mental Well-Being of Central American Transmigrants in Mexico." Paper presented at the *Southern Sociological Society*, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2014 Sergio Chavez, Claire E. Altman, and Bridget K. Gorman, "The Risks and Dangers of Crossing the U.S.-Mexico Border" Paper presented at the *Southern Demographic Association*, Memphis, Tennessee.
- 2014 Robin Paige and Sergio Chávez. "When Women Remain Behind: The Emotional Management of Transnational Family Life from a Community of Origin." *American Sociological Association*, San Francisco, California.
- 2014 Claire E. Altman, Bridget K. Gorman, and Sergio Chávez, "The Meaning of Self-Rated Health Among Mexican Immigrants" Paper presented at the *Southern Demographic Association*, Memphis, Tennessee.
- 2014 Sergio Chávez. "Rooferos: The Occupational Networks of Highly Mobile Labor Force." Paper presented at the *Pacific Sociological Association*, Portland, Oregon.
- 2014 Sergio Chávez and Robin Paige. "Emotions across Borders: The Role of Nonmigrant Women in the Migration Process." Paper presented at the *Pacific Sociological Association*, Portland, Oregon.

- 2012 Jackie Hagan, Jean Luc Demonsant, and Sergio Chávez “Skills of the Unskilled: Reconceptualizing the Relationship between Human Capital and the Economic Mobility of Migrants.” *American Sociological Association*, Denver, Colorado.
- 2012 Sergio Chávez, Ted Mouw, Heather Edelblute, and Ashton M. Verdery. “Combining Community and Structure to Collect Binational Migrant Network Data through a Mixed Methods Approach.” *Population Association of America*, San Francisco, California.
- 2011 Sergio Chávez, Ted Mouw, Heather Edelblute, and Ashton M. Verdery. “Collecting Binational Network Data on a Migration Stream between the US and Mexico.” *American Sociological Association*, Las Vegas, Nevada.
- 2011 Alexis Silver, Sergio Chávez, and Ted Mouw. “Family Separation and Emotional Distress in a Transnational U.S-Mexico Immigrant Community.” *Population Association of America*, Washington, DC.
- 2011 Sergio Chávez and Robin Paige, “The Role of Women at the Origin in the Emotional Management of International Migration.” Paper presented at the *Pacific Sociological Association*, Seattle, Washington.
- 2009 Sergio Chávez, “The Emotional Cost of Migration: An Examination of Video Information Content between Families in North Carolina and Guanajuato.” *Population Association of America*, Detroit, Michigan.
- 2008 Sergio Chávez, Ted Mouw, and Jacqueline Hagan, “Occupational Enclaves and the Wage Growth of Hispanic Immigrants.” *Population Association of America*, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2007 Sergio Chávez, “Remembering the Bracero Selection Process: Internal Migration, Labor Markets, and Social Network Formation in Northern Mexico.” *American Sociological Association*, New York, New York.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

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Editorial Board Member, *Social Forces*, June 6, 2018- December 31, 2022.

Editorial Board Member, *Contexts*, American Sociological Association, January 1, 2017- December 31, 2019.

*Secretary-Treasurer* (elected), Section of International Migration of the American Sociological Association, 2013-2016.

Katherine Donato and Sergio Chávez, Session Organizers Section on International Migration Roundtable, *American Sociological Association*, August 17, 2014, San Francisco, California.

Ad Hoc Journal Reviewer: *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*, *Archives of Environmental and Occupational Health*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *Ethnography*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Journal of Borderland Studies*, *Journal of Ethnic and*

*Migration Studies, Journal of Marriage and Family, Journal of Material Culture, International Migration, Population Studies, Qualitative Sociology, Social Forces, Social Problems, Sociological Forum, Socius.*

Occasional Reviewer:

Ford Foundation Reviewer, 2020

Proposal Reviewer, **National Science Foundation**, 2016.

Publishers: University of California Press and Oxford University Press.

## **SERVICE**

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### *University Service*

Nominations and Elections Committee, Faculty Senate, Rice University (2020-2022)

Faculty Senate, Rice University (2018-2021)

Executive Committee (Faculty Senate), Rice University (2018-2019)

Faculty Evaluation and Teaching Load Assessment, Dean's Office (2016)

School Course Review Committee, Dean's Office, Rice University (2015-present)

Head Resident Fellow, Lovett College, Rice University (2013-2017)

Rice Affiliate, Center for Mexican Studies, Rice University (2013-2016)

Faculty Associate, Brown Residential College (2010-2012)

Sociology Representative, Social Sciences Faculty Advisory Committee (2011-2013; 2018-2019)

Undergraduate Mentor, Office of Undergraduate Research at UNC, (2007-2009)

### *Departmental Service*

Director of Undergraduate Studies (2014- 2023)

Sociology Speaker Series Co-Organizer (2017- 2021)

Co-Chair, Sociology Search Committee (2011, 2013, 2016, 2023)

Committee Member for Sociology Post-doctoral Selection Committee (2015 & 2020)

## **MENTORING**

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*Postdoctoral Fellow:* Claire E. Altman (2013-2015).

*Dissertation Committees (chair):* Erick Samayoa (2018 to present), Kieran Turner (2022 to present).

*Dissertation Committees (member):* Raul Casarez (2019 to present), Simiranjit Khalsa (2016-Present), and Di Di (2019). Christian Mealey (2018), (Business), Erika Rendon (2019), (History).

*Master's Theses Committees:* Sandra Alvear (2015), William Rothwell (2015), Adriana Garcia (2015), Elizabeth Korver-Glenn (2014), Di Di (2014), and Amanda Bancroft (2014).

*Sociology Senior Honor's Theses:* Yves Ye (2019), Amina Williams (2019), Kate Thomas (2017), Abraham Younes (Chair, 2016), Lorenza Haddad Talancon (Chair, 2015), Tyler M. Woods (2015), Colleen Fugate (Chair, 2014), Lilly Yu (Chair, 2014), Sarah James (2011), Christina Rojas (2012), and Jonathan E. Endean (2011).



*Undergraduate Mentor:* Yvonne Carrillo, Mellon Mays Fellow (2018-2020); Rocio Rosa-Lebron, Century Scholars Program (2013-2015); Kristin Foringer, Jett-Moeller Scholar (2011-2013).

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

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*Undergraduate:* Ethnographic Research, Qualitative Methods, Social Stratification, Sociological Theory, Sociology of the Family, and Work and Occupations.

*Graduate:* Contemporary Theory, Ethnographic Research, Qualitative Methods, Research Design, and Social Stratification.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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American Sociological Association  
Population Association of America  
Latin American Studies Association

## **MEDIA MENTIONS AND INTERVIEWS**

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Immigrant workers who help rebuild after storms fear coming to Florida over DeSantis law, by Syra Oritz Blanes, [Miami Herald](#), September 11, 2023.

*Migrant workers already leaving Florida's Hurricane Ian Cleanup*, by Hannah Critchfield and Juan Carlos Chavez, [Tampa Bay Times](#), October 11, 2022.

*Undaunted by DeSantis, immigrant workers are headed up to Florida to help with hurricane cleanup* by Catherine E. Shoichet, [CNN](#), October 6, 2022.

*The Migrant Workers Who Follow Climate Disasters* by Sarah Stillman, [The New Yorker](#), November 1, 2021.

Office Hours Podcast for [Border Lives](#), The Society Pages, January 6, 2017.

Houston Matters Radio Interview [Border Lives](#), May 4, 2016.