

Jessica Yauk, MGS

School of Aging Studies
 College of Behavioral and Community Sciences
 University of South Florida
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Candidate**, Aging Studies 2020- Present
 University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
Research Interests: Long-term care utilization, staffing, and policies. Caregiving, decision making, hospice and palliative care utilization, quality of life and end of life.
 Advisor: Dr. Debra Dobbs, Ph.D.
- M.G.S.**, Masters of Gerontological Studies 2020
 Miami University, Oxford, OH
Thesis Title: *Planning for Long-Term Care*
 Chair: Dr. Robert Applebaum, Ph.D.
 Committee: Dr. Sara McLaughlin, Ph.D. & Dr. Jane Straker, Ph.D.
- B.S.**, Sociology 2017
 College of Charleston, Charleston, SC

RESEARCH

- Research Assistant** 2020- Present
Supervisor: Dr. Debra Dobbs, Ph.D.
Palliative Care Education in Assisted Living (PCEAL); University of South Florida, School of Aging Studies
 - Assisted in data management, analysis, and writing manuscripts focused on outcomes related to PCEAL education, advance care planning documentation, hospice use, and pain.
- Research Assistant** 2019-2020
Supervisor: Dr. Jane Straker, Ph.D.
 Miami University, Department of Sociology and Gerontology
 Ohio Long-Term Care Research Project
 - Assisted in data analysis and management for Ohio's long-term care facilities' biennial survey. Responsibilities included literature review, synthesis, data management, and report writing.
- Research Assistant** 2018- 2019
Supervisor: Dr. Phyllis Cummins, Ph.D.
 Miami University Department of Sociology and Gerontology

- Conducted primary data collection through surveys and secondary data analysis for the Mixed-Methods Study of Middle-Aged and Older Adults: Lifelong learning, Skill, Proficiencies, and Employment in the U.S. and Selected OECD Countries (Grant No. R305A170183).

Senior Research Project

Supervisor: Brenda Sanders, M.S.

2017

The College of Charleston, Department of Sociology and Anthropology

- Conducted primary research (qualitative and quantitative) through participatory observation at a local funeral home. Logged, reviewed, and analyzed informal interviews. Presented findings in a final research paper and presentation.

PUBLICATIONS

Yauk, J., Dobbs, D., & Meng, H. (2024). Racial and ethnic disparities in the utilization of advance care planning among older adults in the U.S.: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. *Under Review*.

Dobbs, D. **Yauk, J.** Vogel, C. E., Fanfan, D., Buck, H., Haley, W. E., & Meng, H. (2023). Feasibility of the palliative care education in assisted living intervention for dementia care providers: A cluster randomized trial, *The Gerontologist*, gnad018, <https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnad018>

Yauk, J., Veal, B., & Dobbs, D. (2023). Understanding the link between retirement timing and cognition: A scoping review. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/07334648231213745>

Young, A. M., **Yauk, J.,** Straker, J., Nelson, M., and Applebaum, R. (2021). *Residential Care: An emerging sector of the Ohio system of long-term care services*. Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University. Retrieved from Scripps.MiamiOH.edu/publications.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

Yauk, J., Dobbs, D., & Peterson, J. L. (2024, November). Assisted living staff views of family involvement in the palliative care for residents with dementia. Poster to be presented at The Gerontology Society of America (GSA) 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting. Seattle, WA.

Yauk, J., Dobbs, D., Meng, H. (2024, April). The influence of social relationships among

caregivers and non-caregivers and the impact on mental health: Findings from the health and retirement study. Symposium paper presented at The Southern Gerontological Society (SGS) 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting. Greenville, SC.

Yauk, J. & Dobbs, D. (2023, November). The role of self-efficacy in advance care planning: Does race and ethnicity affect this relationship? Poster presented at The Gerontology Society of America (GSA) 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting. Tampa, FL.

Yauk, J., Veal, B., Dobbs, D. (2023, April), Does timing of retirement affect cognition or risk of dementia: A systematic review. Poster presented at The Southern Gerontological Society (SGS) 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting. Norfolk, VA.

Dobbs, D., Meng, H., **Yauk, J.**, Buck, H., & Haley, W. (2023, November). An educational program in assisted living to increase staff self-efficacy in provision of dementia palliative care. Symposium paper presented at The Gerontology Society of America (GSA) 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting. Tampa, FL.

Yauk, J., Meng, H., and Dobbs, D. (2022, November). Assessing Racial and Ethnic Differences in Advance Care Planning: Does cognition moderate the relationship? Symposium paper to be presented at The Gerontology Society of America (GSA) 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting. Indianapolis, IN.

Dobbs, D., **Yauk, J.**, Fanfan, D., Vogel, C., Buck, L., Haley, B., and Meng, H. (2022, November). Effectiveness of a PC Education Program in Assisted Living in Improving Discussions with Dementia Family Caregivers. Symposium paper to be presented at The Gerontology Society of America (GSA) 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting. Indianapolis, IN.

Veal, B., **Yauk, J.**, Meng, H. (2022, November). Are Caregivers Healthier? Assessing caregivers' episodic memory in a matched and unmatched sample. Poster to be presented at The Gerontology Society of America (GSA) 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting. Indianapolis, IN.

Yauk, J., Cummins, P. A., & Harrington, A.K. (2019, April). Employment Type and Literacy Skills Among U.S. Older Adult Workers. Poster presented at the 43rd Annual Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education. Oxford, OH.

PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- Advance care planning and the effect on caregivers' perceptions of end-of-life care using the National Health and Aging Trends Study (NHATS) data.
- Interviews with twelve Black/African American caregivers to better understand end-of-life discussions and planning.

- Caregiving and cognition using the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) data.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Instructor

University of South Florida, School of Aging Studies

- The Life Span (DEP 2004)- Online Summer 2023
- The Life Span (DEP 2004)- Online Spring 2023
- The Life Span (DEP 2004)- Online Fall 2022
- The Life Span (DEP 2004) - Online Summer 2022
- The Life Span (DEP 2004)- Online Spring 2022
- The Life Span (DEP 2004)- Online Fall 2021

Guest Lecture

- ProSeminar in Aging Studies (GEY 7649) 10/6/2023
Title: Becoming a Journal Peer Reviewer
- Social & Health Issues/Aging (GEY 7623) 02/12/2024
Title: How to Write a Systematic Review

Graduate Teaching Assistant

University of South Florida, School of Aging Studies

- Psychology of Aging (GEY 4612) Fall 2020
Instructor: Dr. William Haley
- Psychology of Aging (GEY 4612) Fall 2020
Instructor: Dr. Nasreen Sadeq

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Miami University, Department of Sociology and Gerontology

- Issues and Controversies in Aging (GTY 354) Spring 2019
Instructor: Dr. Jessie Leek
- Aging and Health (GTY 456/556) Fall 2019
Instructor: Dr. Sara McLaughlin
- Global Aging (GTY 260) Spring 2018
Instructor: Dr. Sara McLaughlin

HONORS & AWARDS

H. Edward Greely and Mildred Greely Endowed Fellowship in Aging Studies 2024
The USF School of Aging Studies

Graduate Assistantship Award 2023-2024
The Center for Hospice, Palliative Care, and End-of-Life Studies at USF

Southern Gerontological Society (SGS) 2023 Student Poster Award 2023

Awarded third place, Norfolk, VA

Colonial Services Long-Term Care Research Award Department of Sociology and Gerontology, Miami University	2020
School of Humanities and Social Science (HSS) Scholar Department of Sociology and Anthropology, The College of Charleston	2017
Center for Creative Retirement Gerontology Award Scholarship Department of Sociology and Anthropology, The College of Charleston	2017

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Gerontological Society of America (GSA)	Since 2018
American Society on Aging (ASA)	Since 2018
Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education (OAGE)	2018-2020
Alpha Kappa Delta the International Sociology Honor Society	Since 2017
Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society	Since 2017

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Walk to End Alzheimer's , Tampa, FL	2019
Volunteer , Respite Care Charleston, Charleston, SC	2016-2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided companionship and assistance to individuals with dementia. Assisted staff and participated in group activities including painting, music, exercise, and serving/eating lunch together. 	
Volunteer , More. Good. Days. Art Gala and Silent Auction. Charleston, SC	2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Served guests and helped in the set-up and clean-up for the annual silent auction to support people with dementia and their caregivers. 	
Volunteer , Annual Candlelight Memorial Ceremony, Charleston, SC	2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted in the planning and coordination of the yearly fundraiser. Duties included confirming attendance, creating and posting flyers, and online marketing. 	
Volunteer/Buddy , Shannon's Hope Camp, Charleston, SC	2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was a buddy, on a weekend long camp offering support and companionship to children who had lost a loved one. 	

Direct Patient Care Volunteer, Franke at Seaside, Charleston, SC 2015-2017

- Volunteer in the memory care unit assisting the volunteer coordinator in planning and implementing activities for residents with dementia.
- Coordinated with staff to get residents to and from activities.
- Attended activities such as bingo, karaoke, trivia night, happy hour, art and music therapy.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Journal of Applied Gerontology: Managing Editor 2023- Present

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

- Manage manuscripts and assign reviewers
- Ensure manuscript reviews are completed in a timely manner
- Work with associate editors and editorial board members
- Manage the Journal of Applied Gerontology email. Answer author and reviewer inquiries
- Schedule and attend meetings for the Journal and SAGE

End-of-Life Center: Administrative Assistant 2022- Present

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

- Create meeting agendas and manage announcements
- Document and distribute minutes for networking and executive meetings
- Coordinate presenters and presentations for meetings
- Assist in the planning of conferences

Dementia Program Coordinator Intern 2019

Ebenezer Senior Living Operator, Minneapolis, MN

- Designed and delivered a Care Partner Support Group leader training to staff in both nursing homes and assisted living facilities around the Twin Cities area.
- Created Hot Topic trainings on dementia, sent out weekly.
- Observed sites and interviewed staff to assess their implementation of the Dimensions Best Practices checklist.

Service Coordinator Intern 2018

Family Eldercare, Austin, TX

- Worked onsite coordinating services for seniors and people with disabilities at an independent living apartment building.
- Carried a caseload of 2-5 clients.
- Created action plans and found residents resources including home management, meal service, transportation, healthcare service information.

Marketing Director Intern 2016

McAlister-Smith Funeral & Cremation, Charleston, SC

- Helped with the transfer to a new software system and achieved the goal of end of January implementation.

- Assisted in filing monthly state reports.
- Co-facilitated weekly grief groups at a local senior center.
- Completed setup of online marketing through Facebook, and Twitter.

Service Coordinator Intern

2016

Bridges for End-of-Life, Charleston, SC

- Co-facilitator of Rainbows for all Children grief groups in schools for at-risk youth.
- Attended caregiver and senior expos to provide information and resources.
- Collected literature about grief in childhood used in writing grant proposals.
- Organized and updated volunteer, attendee, and donor information using Salesforce.

Administrative Assistant

2008-2015

Yada Systems, St. Paul, MN

- Screened calls, managed calendars, and made travel plans for employees.
- Responsible for completing invoices in a timely manner while ensuring accuracy.