

## Natalie L. Fensterstock

UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare  
337 Charles E Young Drive E, 3250 Public Affairs Building, Los Angeles, CA, 90095  
(203) 837 - 7140 • [nfensterstock@ucla.edu](mailto:nfensterstock@ucla.edu)

### EDUCATION

---

**UCLA | Los Angeles, CA | Ph.D. in Social Welfare** 2024 (expected)  
*Advisor:* Dr. Todd Franke

**UCLA | Los Angeles, CA | M.A. in Education** 2020  
*Division:* Social Sciences and Comparative Education  
*Capstone – with honors:* A Global Crisis: A comparative literature review of social cohesion and wellbeing for immigrant and native youth in the United States and Sweden

**Loyola Marymount University | Los Angeles, CA | Single Subject Teaching Credential** 2015  
*Concentration:* Urban Education Policy and Administration

**Wake Forest University | Winston-Salem, NC | B.A. in English** 2014  
*Minors:* Secondary Education and Sociology

### RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

---

Holistic Youth & Family Wellbeing  
Ongoing School Readiness  
Whole Child Education

Social Determinants of Health  
Program Evaluation  
Qualitative Methods

Anti-poverty Policy  
Inequality & Stratification  
Sociology of Education

### SCHOLARSHIP

---

#### Research Briefs

**Fensterstock, N.** Wang, W., Bailey, D., and Campos Montoya, B. (2020). Integrated Data Systems: Informing Student Supports in Community Schools. Report for UCLA Center for Community Schooling.  
<https://communityschooling.gseis.ucla.edu/integrated-data-systems/>

Anaya, R., Barclay, R., Beebe, J., Burrows, S., **Fensterstock, N.**, Fitzgerald, H., Xavier Nguyen, V., Nitsos, C., Perez, A., Wert Rapp, C. (2019). Investing in Teacher Mentoring to Strengthen the Foundation for School Improvement: Recommendations from Teach Plus California Policy Fellows. Report for Teach Plus California.  
[https://teachplus.org/sites/default/files/publication/pdf/tplus\\_ca\\_investing\\_in\\_teacher\\_mentoring.pdf](https://teachplus.org/sites/default/files/publication/pdf/tplus_ca_investing_in_teacher_mentoring.pdf)

#### Presentations

Baker, P., Ciarrocca, B., Daniels, J., **Fensterstock, N.**, Koval, M., Waszkowski, A., and Youngblood, K. (2013). Teaching the Best Young Adult Fiction of 2012/2013. Oral Presentation. North Carolina English Teachers Association. Wilmington, NC.

## Research Projects

**UCLA Center for Community Schooling | Los Angeles, CA** 2021 – Present

*Teacher Leadership for Whole Child Education and Community Schooling.* Serve as a graduate student researcher in support of a collaborative project between the UCLA Center for Community Schooling and the University of South Carolina. Conduct two exploratory case studies of two school districts, one in California and one in British Columbia, that are investing in community schooling and moving toward a system of teacher leadership for whole child education.

**UCLA Department of Social Welfare | Los Angeles, CA** 2020 – Present

*Vicarious Teacher Trauma.* Collaborate with project lead to code, analyze, and report findings from semi-structured interviews with secondary teachers in Los Angeles on their experiences with trauma in and out of the classroom utilizing a healing justice framework. Focus on cycles of institutional trauma embedded in schools.

*Ongoing School Readiness.* Analyze secondary data from the National Survey of Children's Health utilizing Stata. Identify and curate subsets of predictor variables from survey, including ACE score composites, family socioeconomic indicators, and physical and mental health indicators to examine relationships between predictors and academic indicators such as ongoing school readiness and problems with school. Supervised by faculty advisor.

**UCLA Center for Community Schooling | Los Angeles, CA** 2020

Collaborated with working group comprised of community school staff, UCLA doctoral students, and UCLA Center for Community Schooling staff to track, evaluate, and improve the efficacy of Integrated Student Supports and use of Integrated Data Systems at two university-assisted community schools. Developed literature review and conducted participant observation and semi-structured interviews. Published research-practice partnership brief.

**Teach Plus California | Richmond, CA** 2019

Collaborated with working group to research and develop a policy initiative aimed at strengthening early career teacher mentoring in California. Developed evaluative rubric to reflect shifts in California Teacher Credentialing (CTC) guidelines, interviewed school districts and charter management organizations statewide, and determined needs and trends with new CTC guideline implementation. Published research brief.

**GO Public Schools | Richmond, CA** 2018

Collaborated with a team of community stakeholders to design a college readiness advocacy campaign. Conducted research on A-G course sequence and graduation requirement alignment across the state of California to source replicable best practices for school district. Presented to the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education.

**Kinvolved | New York, NY** 2015

Analyzed New York City Department of Education student demographic data and community profile data in partnering schools and districts and conducted semi-structured interviews with educators and administrators regarding user experience of family engagement app aimed at reducing chronic absenteeism. Co-developed 2014-2015 pilot impact assessment for Certified B Corporation.

## AWARDS

---

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship | UCLA 2021

Social Work Doctoral Student Policy Forum | CSWE-SSWR-GADE 2021

## UNIVERSITY TEACHING

---

### Teaching Assistant

*Duties: planned and led discussion sections, developed study materials, conducted weekly office hours, graded student assignments.*

Advanced Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups: School Social Work: UCLA. Fall 2021.

Contemporary Sociological Theory: UCLA. Winter 2020.

Sociology of Education: UCLA. Spring 2020.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

### Graduate Researcher | Education Policy Student Innovation Lab | Los Angeles, CA 2021

- Selected as a member of the inaugural cohort of graduate students across the world to deepen skills linking academic research to education policy.
- Designed a qualitative case study of a youth center in Richmond, CA with small team of graduate researchers from UCLA and San Francisco State University to capture high school youth experience of defining and pursuing post-secondary plans in light of COVID-19 with the support of arts- and justice-oriented programming.

### Teaching Policy Fellow | Teach Plus California | Richmond, CA 2018 - 2019

- Selected as part of a cohort of 25 teachers to deepen knowledge of education policy, strengthen skills in advocacy, research, and political storytelling.
- Collaborated with working group to research and develop a targeted policy initiative to strengthen the induction process and early career teacher support system in California.

### Mentor Teacher | Teach For America (TFA) | Oakland, CA 2018-2019

- Designed and facilitated professional development workshops on effective communication, student voice elevation and survey analysis, and teaching of academic skills.
- Engaged in a series of training workshops to develop skills in equitable listening, targeted coaching stances, and a holistic, trauma informed, cultural humility approach to coaching with TFA and the National Equity Project.
- Supported 15 incoming Corps Members through weekly observation and feedback coaching cycles, facilitation of video clinics, and close monitoring of summer data goals for student academic success.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English Teacher | Summit Public Schools | Richmond, CA 2017 – 2018

- Designed differentiated learning experiences aligned to project-based 7th grade English Summit curriculum outcomes and developmentally appropriate socio-emotional and cognitive interventions.
- Monitored academic data and facilitated the creation and execution of personalized action plans in partnership with families for 18 mentees.
- Led committee of teachers to establish Department Level consultancy Professional Learning Communities to deepen cultural responsiveness and elevate innovation.

### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade English Teacher | Leadership Public Schools | Richmond, CA 2016 – 2017

- Designed 10th grade English curriculum by adapting SpringBoard content for cultural relevancy, varying student skill levels, and performance-based assessments with teachers across the LPS network.
- Reduced failing grades by 50% for Fall semester in 10th Grade English by co-designing language scaffolds with the 10th grade team and collaborating weekly with Support Team to differentiate instruction for over 50 students classified as English Language Learners or having an Individualized Education Plan/504 Plan.

**Policy and Advocacy Fellow | Leadership for Educational Equity for Kinolved | New York, NY** 2015

- Coordinated projects to collect, analyze, and report data regarding targeted school demographics, educator feedback, and larger community profiles.
- Designed and co-facilitated professional development workshops on family engagement and app usage.
- Co-developed annual impact report outlining key findings on Kinolved's role in improving student attendance by facilitating real-time communication of data among schools, families, and youth programs.

**Teach for America Corps Member | Making Waves Academy | Richmond, CA** 2014 – 2016

- Created curriculum utilizing evidence-based practices for 9th grade Writing and Technology course focused on digital literacy and academic writing skills.
- Co-designed and implemented Spoken Word Poetry workshops to be culturally responsive for urban youth for 12-week stints with Digital Storytellers leading to long-term school connection and Slam Poetry Team.
- Adapted 12th grade English curriculum for the first two graduating classes to include rigorous supplemental reading and writing plans, leading to an average of 1.5 grade levels of growth in each academic year.

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

---

American Educational Research Association

**SOFTWARE PACKAGES**

---

Atlas.ti, Google Suite, Microsoft Office Suite, SPSS, Stata, Zoom, Zotero