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Education

- 2023 PhD Tulane University, New Orleans, LA**
Department of Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences
Dissertation: Death by English: Navigating an Anglo-centered Food and Nutrition Environment as a Linguistically Isolated Latino Adult Living in the United States
- 2019 MPH Tulane University, New Orleans, LA**
Department of Epidemiology
Practicum: Longitudinal Association between Serum NT-proANP and Central Obesity Findings from Gusu Cohort of Chinese Adults
- 2017 BS Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX**
Department of Nutritional Science | Coordinated Program in Dietetics
Thesis: An Analysis of Metabolic Feedback to High-fat Meals of Assorted Fatty Acid Composition

International Professional Experience

Research Assistant, Asociación Benefica Prisma

Lima, Peru | May 2019 – August 2019

- Surveyed head of households of randomly selected households and electronically recorded (REDCap) data on food (in)security status, food access, and observations/perceptions of the surrounding food environment.
- Designed map of income-stratified stratified and randomly selected households surveyed in Villa El Salvador, a rural and low-income district in Lima, Peru.
- Executed statistical analysis plan; analysis included but was not limited to chi square, one-way ANOVA, and multivariable logistic regression modeling.

Research Assistant, Soochow University

Suzhou, China | May 2018 – August 2018

- Designed data protocol for prospective cohort study, to explore the association between non-traditional biomarkers of obesity, body mass index, and waist circumference.
- Analyzed primary data collected; analysis included but not limited to correlation analyses, frequency distribution analyses, and Cox proportional-hazards modeling.
- Drafted research manuscript; designed and presented research poster with guidance from local mentors.

Nutritionist, La Fundacion Gota de Leche

Seville, Spain | May 2016 – July 2016

- Trained incoming interns to properly match powdered milk formulas to infants' needs.
- Facilitated student breakfast program for Paloma Blanca, a low-income elementary school.
- Designed and implemented a schedule to better organize non-corporate dietary donations.

Domestic Professional Experience

WIC Postdoctoral Fellow, Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition (GSCN)
Omaha, NE (remote location: New Orleans, LA) | July 2023 – Present

- Oversee Support scientific aspects of research and evaluation projects.
- Aid in new project generation by supporting the development and submission of grant applications and RFP proposals.
- Help initiate and maintain partner relationships, including relationships with funders and clients.
- Develop project work plans that include research designs, participants, data elements, measurement tools, and deliverables.
- Review comprehensive project plans to ensure alignment with workplans.
- Support the development of measurement tools by participating in planning sessions and reviewing tools.
- Help ensure the integrity of sampling and data collection efforts.
- Support the collection of qualitative data by conducting key informant interviews or focus groups when needed.
- Support the analysis of data by conducting analyses and reviewing qualitative and quantitative output for accuracy.
- Oversee the development of project deliverables by participating in storyboarding sessions, creating outlines, and reviewing drafts.
- Provide guidance and feedback to workstream members on project plans, measurement tools, data analysis, and deliverables.
- Maintain a working knowledge of significant developments and trends in nutrition-related fields.
- Participate in Scientific Advisory Committee meetings, Scientist Retreats, and other appropriate meetings.

Culinary Medicine Instructor, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (UTSWMC)
Dallas, TX (remote location: New Orleans, LA) | November 2021 – Present

- Develop lesson plan for Spanish and English nutrition classes, respectively, with areas of focus including: learning objectives, dietary guidelines, evaluation measures, timeline, and a culinary activity.
- Conduct a 2-hour educational nutrition-focused culinary demonstration to about 10 patients per class.
- Draft educational handouts, and other resources, in Spanish and English; emphasizing medical nutrition therapy for patients living with type II diabetes, hypertension, and other nutrition-related chronic diseases.

High Risk Nutritionist, Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health
New Orleans, LA | May 2023 – July 2023

- Collaborated with a team of interdisciplinary healthcare providers to provide nutritional counseling and perform/document clinical assessments of pediatric patients and their mothers.
- Prescribe appropriate food benefits packages to pediatric patients and their mothers.

Data Analyst, Healthy Neighborhoods Project
New Orleans, LA | January 2020 – May 2022

- Interviewed households of randomly selected neighborhoods and electronically recorded data on demographics, health, social norms, and perceived/observed neighborhood blight.
- Analyzed primary survey data and an assortment of secondary data; analysis included but not limited to: frequency distributions, correlations, central tendencies, and multivariable logistic regression modeling.
- Geocoded surveyed households and spatially matched with secondary data; spatial analysis included but not limited to: distance matrices, kernel density, household buffers, and clustering.

Domestic Professional Experience (Continued)

Senior Research Assistant, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
New Orleans, LA | November 2020 – November 2021

- Hired and trained research assistants on how to construct recipes using NHANES data, update existing recipe database, and other research policies, procedures, and troubleshooting.
- Managed a team of 4-5 research assistants, designing recipes to calculate greenhouse gas emissions of meals eaten by respondents of NHANES.
- Served as a liaison between research assistants, research coordinators, and principal investigator, communicating on progress, difficulties, and needs of the research assistants.

Evidence Coordinator, Kids Eat in Color
College Park, MS (remote location: New Orleans, LA) | January 2020 – May 2022

- Drafted research briefs for health practitioners on best practices to adequately feed children experiencing picky eating habits.
- Conceptualized, drafted, and edited a cognitive and behavioral theoretical framework focused on stages of picky eating among children and best phases to introduce new foods.

Research Assistant, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
New Orleans, LA | November 2019 – May 2020

- Designed and ran data analyses on the Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) datasets; analyses included but not limited to: frequency distributions, binary analyses, and multivariable logistic regression modeling.

Maternal and Child Health Trainee, Louisiana Department of Health, Bureau of Family Health (BFH)
New Orleans, LA | December 2018 – May 2019

- Conducted key informant interviews with Title V staff; compiled and presented findings on framing nutrition's role in achieving health equity among infants in New Orleans.
- Co-designed an assessment to better measure nutrition guidelines integration into BFH programs.
- Drafted and presented recommendations for integrating nutrition guidelines into the next Title V State Action Plan.

Graduate Assistant, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
New Orleans, LA | July 2018 – May 2019

- Planned and executed social and academic events with faculty and students in the Department of Epidemiology.
- Directed student-alumni mentorship program within Department of Epidemiology.

Research Assistant, Tulane University School of Medicine
New Orleans, LA | October 2017 – May 2018

- Instructed Spanish-speaking outpatient adults on dietary tools used to control blood glucose levels (i.e., carbohydrate counting, food pairing, meal planning, MyPlate).
- Counseled outpatient adults on setting specific and attainable goals to measure and compare at concurrent counseling sessions.

Graduate Assistant, Tulane University, Office of Multicultural Affairs/Office of Gender and Sexual Diversity
New Orleans, LA | August 2017 – May 2018

- Advised on University's plan to eliminate food insecurity among undergraduate students, Title IX reporting, and undocumented student support.

Research Assistant, Texas Christian University, Obesity Prevention Lab
New Orleans, LA | August 2017 – May 2018

- Managed indirect calorimetry metabolic cart functions (i.e., equilibration, methanol burns).
- Aliquoted, stored, and assayed blood sampled collected from research participants.
- Analyzed trends of fat metabolism from primarily gathered indirect calorimetry metabolic cart data.

Teaching Assistantships

2022 - 2023	Graduate Teaching Assistant , Nutrition in Lower- and Middle-income Countries, Department of Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
2018 - 2022	Graduate Teaching Assistant , Epidemiological Methods I, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
2018 - 2019	Graduate Teaching Assistant , Epidemiological Methods II, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
2016 - 2017	Teaching Assistant , Community Nutrition, Department of Nutritional Science, Tucker College of Science and Engineering, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX
2015 - 2016	Teaching Assistant , Introduction to Nutrition, Department of Nutritional Science, Tucker College of Science and Engineering, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX

Peer-Reviewed Publications

1. **Lopez M.A.**, Fuster M., George A., N., Chaparro M.P. The association between language use and food insecurity among Hispanic adults residing in the USA depends on nativity. *Public Health Nutr.* 2023;1-9. doi:10.1017/S1368980023000885
2. Chaparro M.P., **Lopez M.A.**, Food insecurity and food consumption among children who receive federal food assistance. *Appetite.* 2022;178:106268. doi:10.1016/j.appet.2022.106268
3. Chaparro M.P., **Lopez M.A.**, Hernandez J., Brewer J.D., Santos M.P., Paz-Soldan V.A. The association between the observed and perceived neighborhood food environment and household food insecurity in a low-income district in Lima, Peru. *Journal of Nutritional Science.* 2022;11. doi:10.1017/jns.2022.88
4. Willits-Smith A., **Lopez M.A.**, O'Malley K., Rose D. Self-selected diets in the U.S. show a reduction in carbon footprints over ten years. *Current Developments in Nutrition.* 2022;6(Supplement_1):83-83. doi:10.1093/cdn/nzac050.013
5. Santos M.P., Brewer J.,D. **Lopez M.A.**, Paz-Soldan V.A., Chaparro M.P. Determinants of food insecurity among households with children in Villa El Salvador, Lima, Peru: the role of gender and employment, a cross-sectional study. *BMC Public Health.* 2022;22(1). doi:10.1186/s12889-022-12889-4.
6. Brewer J.,D. Santos, M.P., **Lopez M.A.**, Paz-Soldan V.A., Chaparro M.P. Use of formal and informal food resources by food insecure families in Lima, Peru: a mixed-methods analysis. *Journal of Community Health.* 2021;46(6):10969-1077. doi:10.1007/s10900-021-00989-y.
7. Rose D., Vance C., **Lopez M.A.**, Livestock industry practices that impact sustainable diets in the United States. *The International Journal of Sociology of Agriculture and Food.* 2021;27(1). doi:10.48416/ijaf.v27i1.87

Manuscript(s) Under Review

1. **Lopez M.A.**, Fuster M., Fleckman J., George A., Chaparro M.P. (Under Review). Time-trends in food insecurity among U.S.-born and foreign-born Hispanic adults varied by language use: an analysis of NHANES data, 1999-2018. *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.*
2. Chaparro M.P., **Lopez M.A.** (Under Review). Trends in food insecurity among households with children participating in WIC and SNAP in California, 2005-2017. *Maternal and Child Health Journal.*

Selected Posters and Presentations

1. **Community Nutritionists Serving Non-English Speaking Latino Adults in the U.S.: Perceptions and Cultural Barriers (Speaker).** Knowing Food Annual Conference – Insights from around the Table. Boston, MA. June 2023.

Selected Posters and Presentations (Continued)

2. **Food for Thought: Perceived Food Environment and its Association with Food Insecurity in a Low-income District in Lima, Peru.** American Society for Nutrition – Where the Best in Science and Health Meet. Virtual. November 2020.
3. **A longitudinal Association between Serum NT-proANP and Central Obesity: Findings from Gusu Cohort of Chinese Adults (Speaker).**
 - a. Health Science Research Conference. New Orleans, LA. November 2019.
 - b. Minority Health International Research Training Trainee Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA. October 2019.
4. **An Analysis of Metabolic Feedback to High-fat Meals of Assorted Fatty Acid Composition (Speaker).**
 - a. 19th Texas National McNair Research Conference. Denton, TX. June 2017.
 - b. The Texas Christian University Ronald E. McNair post-baccalaureate Achievement Program. Fort Worth, TX. November 2017.
 - c. Maryland National Conference for Undergraduate Research. College Park, MD. October 2017.
 - d. Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Annual Conference. Georgetown, TX. September 2017.

Invited Lectures

1. **Lopez M.A.** It's a White Bread's World: The Unbearable Whiteness of the United States' Food and Nutrition Environment.
 - a. Introduction to Public Health (SPHU 1010). Tulane University. 2023.
 - b. Introduction to Public Health (SPHU 1010). Tulane University. 2022.
2. **Lopez M.A.** Death by English: Navigating an Anglo-centered Food and Nutrition Environment as a Linguistically Isolated Latino Adult Living in the U.S. SALUD for Latin American Communities. 2021.
3. **Lopez M.A.** Nutrition Facts: Understanding and Using Nutrition Facts and Labels.
 - a. Concepts of Health and Wellness (SPHU 2220). Tulane University. 2022.
 - b. Concepts of Health and Wellness (SPHU 2220). Tulane University. 2021.
4. **Lopez M.A.** *Tipo de Asistencia Utilizada por Familias con Inseguridad Alimentaria en Lima, Peru.* SALUD for Latin American Communities. 2019.
5. **Lopez M.A.** Hungry at the Banquet: Building an Equitable Food System. Nutrition and Chronic Disease (SPHU 3200). Tulane University. 2019.

Invited Participant or Expert Panel Member

2023	Maternal and Child Health Symposium. New Orleans, LA.
2022	Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs. New Orleans, LA.
2021	Perspectives on Transformative Learning Opportunities in Central America: People and the Environment. Remote (Central American).

Scholarships, Grants, and Contracts - Past

Scholarships

2013-2017	The Community Scholar Scholarship. Texas Christian University.
2013-2023	Bill and Melinda Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) Scholarship. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Scholarships, Grants, and Contracts - Past (Continued)

Training Grants

2022 – 2023	Tulane Program to Advance Representation in Minority Health Research. National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.
2020-2023	Sprinting to the Front Lines (An Emergency COVID-19 Program Relief Fund). Celia Weatherhead and the Weatherhead Foundation.
2019-2021	Maternal and Child Health Nutrition Leadership Training (NLT) Program. The Health Resources and Services Administration.
2019	Tulane Program to Advance Representation in Minority Health Research. National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.
2016-2017	The Science and Engineering Research Center (SERC) Undergraduate Research Grant. Texas Christian University, College of Science and Engineering.
2015-2017	Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program. U.S. Department of Education (Federal TRIO Program).

Professional Memberships

Member

2022 – Present	American Society of State Public Health Nutritionists
2022 – Present	Diversify Dietetics
2021 – Present	New Orleans Dietetics Association
2017 – Present	Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Other Community Memberships

Founder (Chapter President, 2016-2017)

2016	Food Recovery Network. Texas Christian University.
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