

YULIN YANG, PHD

Yulin.Yang@ucsf.edu

550 16th Street, Second Floor
San Francisco, CA 94158

APPOINTMENTS

- 2021.9- Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of California, San Francisco
- 2020.10-2021.8 Postdoctoral Fellow, Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine

EDUCATION

- 2020 Ph.D. in Sociology. University at Buffalo, State University of New York
Dissertation: *Chronic Pain and Social Relationship among Midlife and Older Adults in the United States*
- University at Buffalo (UB) Outstanding PhD Dissertation Award
 - Sole dissertation nominated by UB for Council of Graduate Schools/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award
- 2013 M.A. in Sociology. Xiamen University, China
- 2010 B.A. in Sociology (major), Economics (minor). Xiamen University, China

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Social determinants of health, aging & life course, State social & health policy evaluation, quantitative methods

PUBLICATIONS (*indicates current or former graduate student co-author)

Peer-reviewed total: 32

- Forth. Cenzer, Irena, Jacqueline Torres, **Yulin Yang**, Karla Renata Flores Romero, Mary Thoma, Ashwin Kotwal. "Development and Evaluation of a Brief Social Isolation Measure in the Nationally-Representative Health and Retirement Study." *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*
- Forth. Chen, Ruijia, Harold Lee, Jinxuan Wang, **Yulin Yang**, Sakurako Okuzono, Kristen Nishimi, Lindsay Kobayashi, Maria Glymour, and Laura Kubzansky. "Independent and Joint Associations of Key Social Exposome Components with Cognitive Aging: Triangulating Evidence Through Cross-National Data." *American Journal of Epidemiology*
- Forth. Sun, Feinuo, **Yulin Yang**, and Richard L. Nahin. "Prevalence and correlates of "undiagnosed pain"—Evidence from the US national Medical Expenditure Panel Survey." *PAIN* [10.1097/j.pain.0000000000003754](https://doi.org/10.1097/j.pain.0000000000003754)
- Forth. Zimmerman, Scott C., Ruijia Chen, Mary Thoma*, Lucia Pacca, Jillian Hebert, Alicia Riley, Min Hee Kim, Annie Pederson, **Yulin Yang**, Peter Buto, Willa D Brenowitz, M Maria Glymour, Ashwin Kotwal, and Jacqueline M Torres. "The Association of Alzheimer's Disease Genetic Risk with Social Connectedness in Middle-And Older-Ages." *American Journal of Epidemiology*, kwaf122. <https://doi.org/10.1093/aje/kwaf122>
- 2025 Sun, Feinuo, **Yulin Yang**, and Richard Nahin "Development of Chronic Pain and High-Impact Chronic Pain across the U.S. Rural-Urban Continuum, 2019-2020" *Journal of Rural Health* 41(2): e70036. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jrh.70036>

- 2025 Ferguson, Erin*, Mehta, Shivani*, Miramontes, Silvia*, Choi, Minhyuk, Kim, Ye Ji, Hill-Jarrett, Tanisha, Cevallos, Nicolas*, **Yang, Yulin**, Zimmerman, Scott, Chen, Ruijia, Kim, Min Hee, Sims, Kendra, Schwartz, Gabriel "Identifying and addressing housing insecurity in older patients: trends, referrals, and inequities in a California medical system" *The Gerontologist* 65(5): gnaf027.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnaf027>
- 2025 Kim, Min Hee, Silvia Miramontes*, Shivani Mehta*, Gabriel L. Schwartz, Ye Ji Kim, **Yulin Yang**, Tanisha G. Hill-Jarrett et al. "Extracting Housing and Food Insecurity Information from Clinical Notes Using cTAKES." *Health Services Research* 60(Suppl 3): e14440.
2024. **Yang, Yulin**, Ah-Reum Lee Elena Portacolone, Thomas Rapp, and Jacqueline Torres. "State home- and community-based services spending and unmet care needs by living arrangements and cognitive impairment status." *Journal of American Geriatrics Society* 72(11): 3598-3600.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/jgs.19088>
2024. Lutz, Gabriel, **Yulin Yang**, Yilin Zhang, Chixiang Chen, and Raya Elfadel Kheirbek, "A Tale of Two Experiences: Navigating End of Life Care with a History of Incarceration." *The Journals of Gerontology: Series A* 79(11): glae200. <https://doi.org/10.1093/gerona/glae200>
- 2024 Romero, Karla Renata Flores, **Yulin Yang**, Sharon H. Green, Sirena Gutierrez, Erika Meza, and Jacqueline M. Torres. "Adult child educational attainment and older parents' psychosocial outcomes during the COVID-19 pandemic." *BMC Public Health* 24(1): 2056.
- 2024 **Yang, Yulin**, Ah-Reum Lee, Ruijia Chen, Maria Glymour, Thomas Rapp, and Jacqueline Torres. "State Home and Community-Based Services Expenditures and Unmet Care Needs in the U.S.: Has Everyone Benefitted Equally?" *Health Services Research* . 59(2): e13269.
- 2024 Wang, J., Hill-Jarrett, T., Buto, P., Pederson, A., Sims, K. D., Zimmerman, S. C., DeVost, M. A., Ferguson, E., Lacar, B., **Yang, Y.**, Choi, M., Caunca, M. R., La Joie, R., Chen, R., Glymour, M. M., & Ackley, S. F. "Comparison of approaches to control for intracranial volume in research on the association of brain volumes with cognitive outcomes." *Human Brain Mapping* 45(4): e26633.
- 2024 Hill-Jarrett, Tanisha G. Minhyuk Choi, Peter Buto, Silvia Miramontes Marilyn D. Thomas, **Yulin Yang**, Min Hee Kim, Kendra D. Sims, M. Maria Glymour. "Associations of Everyday and Lifetime Experiences of Discrimination with Willingness to Undergo Alzheimer's Disease Predictive Testing" *Neurology*. 102(2). <https://doi.org/10.1212/WNL.0000000000208005>
- 2024 **Yang, Yulin**, Kendra D Sims, Nancy E Lane, Kate A Duchowny, Jacqueline M Torres. "Perceived Neighborhood Characteristics and Later-Life Pain Outcomes: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study." *Journal of Aging and Health* 36(3-4): 246-256
<https://doi.org/10.1177/08982643231185382>
- 2023 **Yang, Yulin**, Gabriel Lutz, Yilin Zhang*, Chixiang Chen, Raya Elfadel Kheirbek. "The Hidden Toll of Incarceration: Exploring the Link Between Incarceration Histories and Pain Outcomes among Older Adults in the United States." *Innovation in Aging*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igad116>
- 2023 Portacolone, Elena, Tung T. Nguyen, Barbara J. Bowers, Julene K. Johnson, Ashwin A. Kotwal, Robyn I. Stone, Sahru Keiser, Thi Tran, Elizabeth Rivera, Paula Martinez, **Yulin Yang**, Jaqueline Torres, Kenneth Covinsky. "Perceptions of the Role of Living Alone in Providing Services to Patients with Cognitive Impairment." *JAMA Network Open* 6(8): e2329913.
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2808490>

- 2023 Huang, Rui*, **Yulin Yang**, Anna Zajacova, Zachary Zimmer, Yuhang Li*, and Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk. "Educational disparities in joint pain within and across US states: do macro sociopolitical contexts matter?" *PAIN* 164(10): pp.2358-2369. <http://doi.org/10.1097/j.pain.0000000000002945>
- 2022 Lee, Kristen Schultz and **Yulin Yang**. "Educational Attainment and Emotional Well-Being in Adolescence and Early Adulthood." *SSM-Mental Health* 2(2022):100138.
- 2022 Torres, Jacqueline M., **Yulin Yang**, Kara E. Rudolph, Erika Meza*, M. Maria Glymour, Emilie Courtin. "Adult Child Schooling and Older Parents' Cognitive Outcomes in the Survey of Health, Aging and Retirement in Europe (SHARE): a Quasi-Experimental Study?" *American Journal of Epidemiology*. doi: [10.1093/aje/kwac151](https://doi.org/10.1093/aje/kwac151)
- 2022 **Yang, Yulin**, Rui Huang*, Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk, Jacqueline M. Torres. "Social network change after new-onset pain among middle-aged and older European adults." *Social Science and Medicine* 310(2022): 115215. doi: [org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2022.115215](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2022.115215)
- 2022 Torres, Jacqueline, **Yulin Yang**, Kara Rudolph, Emilie Courtin. "Increased Adult Child Schooling and Older Parents' Health Behaviors in Europe: A Quasi-Experimental Study" *SSM-Population Health* 19(2022): 101162. doi: [org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2022.101162](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2022.101162)
- 2022 **Yulin Yang**, Kaitlin Swinnerton, Isabel Elaine Allen, Elena Portacolone, Jacqueline M. Torres, Kate Duchowny. "Difficulties with Activities of Daily Living and Receipt of Care among Older Adults with Cognitive Impairment: Differences Between Those Living Alone and Those Living with Others." *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease* 89(1):31-37. doi: [10.3233/JAD-220172](https://doi.org/10.3233/JAD-220172)
- 2022 **Yang, Yulin**, Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk, Cary Reid, and Karl Pillemer. "The Relationship between Pain and Psychological Distress during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Is Social Technology Use Protective?" *Pain Medicine* 23(2):280-287. doi: [org/10.1093/pm/pnab262](https://doi.org/10.1093/pm/pnab262)
- 2022 **Yang, Yulin**, Cary Reid, Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk, and Karl Pillemer. "Racial-Ethnic Disparities in Pain Intensity and Disability among Middle-Aged and Older U.S. Adults" *Journal of Gerontology: Medical Sciences* 77(2): e74-e81. doi: [org/10.1093/gerona/glab207](https://doi.org/10.1093/gerona/glab207)
- 2021 **Yang, Yulin** and Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk. "Chronic Pain and Friendship among Middle-Aged and Older US Adults" *Journal of Gerontology: Social Science* 76(10):2131–2142. doi:[10.1093/geronb/gbaa185](https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbaa185)
- 2021 Adelman, Robert M., **Yulin Yang**, Lesley Williams Reid, Mike Maciag, and James Bachmeier. "Using Estimates of Undocumented Migration to Study the Immigration-Crime Relationship." *Journal of Crime and Justice* 44(4):375-400. doi: [org/10.1080/0735648X.2020.1819375](https://doi.org/10.1080/0735648X.2020.1819375)
- 2021 *Journal of Crime and Justice* Outstanding Paper Award
 - Featured in the [New York Times](#); Euronews.com; Forbes Magazine; The Marshall Project; National Public Radio Affiliates (Boise State Public Radio; KUNC; WBFO; WXXI; Wyoming Public Media); Rolling Stone
- 2021 Smiley, Kevin T. and **Yulin Yang**. "How the size of a city's immigrant population influences feelings of trust and safety in urban Europe." *LSE European Politics and Policy blog* (Policy Brief)
- 2021 Smiley, Kevin and **Yulin Yang**. "Big City, Little Worries? Little City, Big Worries? How immigration levels and city size shape safety perceptions in urban Europe." *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*. 84(2021): 264-275. [Doi.org/10.1016/j.ijintrel.2021.08.007](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijintrel.2021.08.007)

2021. Smiley, Kevin and **Yulin Yang**. “Do urban Europeans trust their fellow city dwellers? Immigration, Group Threat and Trust in 63 European cities.” *International Journal of Sociology* 51(1):23-47. doi: [org/10.1080/00207659.2020.1859262](https://doi.org/10.1080/00207659.2020.1859262)
- 2020 Smiley, Kevin and **Yulin Yang**. “Urban Europeans’ Viewpoints on Immigrants in their City: Reconsidering how group threat operates across national and urban contexts.” *Social Science Research* 92(2020). doi: [org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2020.102474](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2020.102474)
- 2020 Yu, Jiao*, **Yulin Yang**, and Eva Kahana. “Productive Activities Patterns and Functional Health: A Comparison of Urban and Rural Chinese Adults.” *International Journal of Aging and Human Development* 91(4):538-562. doi: [org/10.1177/0091415019900168](https://doi.org/10.1177/0091415019900168)
- 2016 Brewer, Carol S., Christine T. Kovner, Maja Djukic, Farida Fatehi, William Greene, Thomas P. Chacko*, and **Yulin Yang**. “Impact of Transformational Leadership on Nurse Work Outcomes.” *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 72(11):2879-93. doi: [10.1111/jan.13055](https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.13055)
- Report*
- 2014 Tian, Yuan, Li Jie, Wei Jie, Zhang Liu, **Yang Yulin**. *An Analysis of Critical Illness Medical and Social Aid for Chinese Children*. Beijing, China: China Philanthropy Research Institute. [in Chinese: 中国儿童大病医疗保险与社会救助分析].

UNDER REVIEW & MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

- Yang, Yulin** “Perceived Neighborhood Cohesion Across the Life Course and Late-Life Friendship: Evidence from the U.S. Health and Retirement Study.” *Revise & Resubmit*
- Yang, Yulin**, Feinuo Sun, Zachary Zimmer, Rui Huang, , Anna Zajacova, Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk, and Jacqueline M. Torres. “Rural-urban differences in chronic pain prevalence and trends among middle-aged and older adults in the United States.” *Revise & Resubmit*
- Yu, Chang, Ashley B Barr, **Yulin Yang**, and Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk “The Impact of Multisite Pain and Pain Interference on Cognitive Functioning among Older Adults” *Revise & Resubmit*
- Hangqing, Ruan, **Yulin Yang**, Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk “Which is More Predictive of Mortality—Pain Severity or Pain Interference? Evidence From U.S. Longitudinal Data.” *Revise & Resubmit*
- Yang, Yulin**, Mary Thoma, Ulrike Muench, Jaqueline Torres, Ashwin Kotwal. “Association of social isolation and loneliness with pain and pain medication use in older population” *Under Review*
- Flores Romero, Karla Renata*; **Yang, Yulin***; Gutierrez, Sirena; Lee, Ah-Reum; Nichols, Emma; Torres, Jacqueline “Cross-National Comparison of the Association between Adult Child Educational Attainment and Older Parents’ Functional Health” *Under Review* (* co-first author)
- Yang, Yulin**, Karla Renata Flores Romero, Emilie Courtin, and Jacqueline Torres. “Interconnected paths: a quasi-experimental study of offspring education and parents’ functional health.” *Prep for Submission*
- Yang, Yulin**, Minhyuk Choi, Ruijia Chen, Scott Zimmerman, Willa Brenowitz, Thomas Hoffmann, Carla Perissinotto, Maria Glymour, Jacqueline Torres, Ashwin Kotwal. “Does Genetic Risk for Alzheimer’s Influence Loneliness and Social Support? A Modified Mendelian Randomization Study in the All of US Data Set.” *Prep for Submission*

HONORS AND AWARDS

2023	Funded Participant. Annual Berkeley Workshop in Formal Demography, UC Berkeley.
2023-24	University at Buffalo (UB) Outstanding PhD Dissertation Award 2023-2024
2022	University at Buffalo sole allowable nominee for the 2022 CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Social Sciences.
2021	Outstanding Article Award, <i>Journal of Crime and Justice</i>
2020	Nathalie D. Howe Paper Award, Department of Sociology, University at Buffalo.
2017	Selected funded Participant, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Workshop on “Health Disparities, Health Inequities, and Vulnerable Population.” Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan.

TEACHING

Instructor - University at Buffalo

Social Research Methods (2018 Summer; Undergraduate)
Getting Started with R & Stata, Basic Statistics for Beginners, Missing Data

Teaching Assistant- University at Buffalo

Basic Statistics for Social Science (Graduate)
Multiple Linear Regression (Graduate)
Basic Statistics for Social Science (Undergraduate)
Cinematic Sociology (Undergraduate)
Social Inequality and Health (Undergraduate)

Guest lecturer

Introduction to Sociology (Undergraduate; Topic: Immigration and Crime)-UB
Cinematic Sociology (Undergraduate; Topic: Immigration in Europe)-UB
Social Inequality and Health (Undergraduate; Topic: Social Relationships and Health)-UB
Classic Sociological Theory (Undergraduate; Topic: Critical Race Theory)-UB
Sociology of the Life Course (Undergraduate; Topic: Social Relationships and Chronic Pain in Later Life)-
Singapore Institute of Management, UB-SIM Program
Gerontology (Undergraduate; Topic: Chronic pain in later life); The University of Texas at San Antonio
Social Inequality and Health (Undergraduate; Topic: Neighborhood and Health)-UB

GRANT/RESEARCH SUPPORT

2023-2024	Co-Investigator. (PI: Feinuo Sun, Co-I: Anna Zajacova) “Rural-Urban and Within-Rural Disparities in Chronic Pain Among Older Adults” The Interdisciplinary Network on Rural Population Health and Aging (IRNPHA, funded).
2025-2027	Co-Investigator (UCSF site PI). “The diagnosis gap in chronic pain and its health consequences across the rural-urban continuum” National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Aging (R21; submitted, pending for scientific review)
2025-2027	Principle Investigator. “Risks of unmanaged pain among racially minoritized older adults living with dementia: the role of care networks” Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship to Promote Diversity (AARF-D; LOI approved; unfunded)

2024-2029 Principle Investigator. “Understanding the role of neighborhood social and built environments on chronic pain in older adults.” National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Aging (K99/R00; original submission score 33; resubmission score 29; unfunded).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

Yang, Yulin, Karla Renata Flores Romero, Sirena Gutierrez, Ah-Reum Lee, Emma Nichols, and Jacqueline M. Torres. “Cross-National Comparisons of the Association between Adult Child Educational Attainment and The Risk of ADL and IADL Disabilities.” 2025 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA). Washington, DC.

Yang, Yulin, Ashwin Kotwal, Lauren Hunt, Scarlett Gomez, and Jacqueline Torres. "The role of neighborhood disadvantage in pain and use of pain medication." Gerontological Society of America (GSA) 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting. Seattle, WA.

Yang, Yulin, Jacqueline Torres, and Ashwin Kotwal. “Social isolation, loneliness, and pharmacological pain management” 2024 Annual Meeting of Society for Epidemiological Research (SER). Austin, TX.

Yang, Yulin, Feinuo Sun, Zachary Zimmer, Rui Huang, , Anna Zajacova, Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk, and Jacqueline M. Torres. . “Rural/urban differences in chronic pain prevalence and trends in the United States.” 2024 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA). Columbus, OH

Yang, Yulin, Gabriel Lutz, Yilin Zhang, Chixiang Chen, Raya Elfadel Kheirbek. “The Hidden Toll of Incarceration: Exploring the Link Between Incarceration Histories and Pain Outcomes among Older Adults in the United States.” Gerontological Society of America (GSA) 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting. Tampa, FL

Yang, Yulin, Karla Renata Flores Romero, Emilie Courtin, Jacqueline Torres. “Adult Child Education and Functional Health of Older Adults in Europe: A Quasi-Experimental Study.” The 2023 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA). New Orleans, LA

Yang, Yulin, Kendra Sims, Nancy, Lane, Kate Duchowny, and Jacqueline Torres. “Are perceived neighborhood characteristics associated with pain in middle aged and older adults? Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study.” The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting. Indianapolis, IN

Lee, Kristen and **Yulin Yang**. “Education and Happiness in Adolescence and Early Adulthood.” The 2019 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), New York, NY

Yang, Yulin and Ashley Barr. “How Do Young Adults’ Stressors Impact the Health of Their Parents Over Time?” The 2019 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA), Austin, TX

Adelman, Robert M., **Yulin Yang**, Lesley Williams Reid, and Mike Maciag. “Using Estimates of Undocumented Migration to Study the Immigration-Crime Relationship.” The 2019 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), Philadelphia, PA.

Yang, Yulin. "How Opioid Prescription Affects Chronic Pain and Mental Health Trajectories Among the US Older Adults." The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA). Denver, CO

Yang, Yulin. “Cumulative Inequality or Turning Point? The Role of College Completion on the Relationship between Childhood Adversity and Long-Term Health.” The 2017 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada

Yang, Yulin. “Social Class, Lifestyle, and Health in China: Evidence from the China Health and Nutrition Survey.” The 2016 Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociology Society (ESS), Boston, MA

SERVICE

Ongoing	Ad Hoc Reviewer for <i>BMC_Musculoskeletal Disorders</i> , <i>BMJ Public Health</i> , <i>Health & Social Care in the Community</i> , <i>Innovation in Aging</i> , <i>Journal of Aging and Health</i> , <i>Journal of Aging and Social Policy</i> , <i>Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences</i> , <i>Journal of Gerontology: Medical Sciences</i> , <i>Longitudinal and Life Course Studies</i> , <i>PAIN</i> , <i>Pain Medicine</i> , <i>Population Research and Policy Review</i> , <i>Research on Aging</i> , <i>Social Problems</i> , <i>Social Science & Medicine</i> , <i>Social Science Research</i> , <i>The Gerontologist</i> .
2023	Editorial board member (Associate Editor)– <i>Journal of Alzheimer's Disease</i>
2018	Student representative, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology, University at Buffalo
2016-2017	Secretary, Sociology Graduate Student Association, University at Buffalo
2015-2016	Secretary, Chinese Student & Scholar Association, University at Buffalo

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2017- Population Association of American (PAA)
- 2017- Gerontological Society of America (GSA)
- 2022- Society of Epidemiological Research (SER)
- 2022- Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science (IAPHIS)

REFERENCES

Jacqueline M. Torres, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
University of California, San Francisco
Jacqueline.Torres@ucsf.edu

Hanna Grol-Prokopczyk, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
University at Buffalo, SUNY
hgrol@buffalo.edu

Kristen Schultz Lee, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair
Department of Sociology
University at Buffalo, SUNY
kslee4@buffalo.edu