

Danielle Jo Thomas, PhD
Curriculum Vitae—March 2026

Department of Sociology
122 William Stubbs Hall
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Office: Stubbs 143/North Hall 109
Ph: (225) 578-5798
Fax: (225) 578-5102
Email: dthom68@lsu.edu

EDUCATION

- 2016: **Ph.D., Sociology (December 2016)**
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
Dissertation: “Leveling the Playing Field: Sport and Resistance in Low-Wealth Minority Communities”
Committee: Lori L. Martin (chair), Dana Berkowitz, Troy Blanchard, Kenneth Fasching-Varner
General Exam (January 2014): Qualitative Approaches to Applied Sociology: Participatory Action Research,
Feminist Methodology, Community Sociology, Race and Poverty
Exam Committee: Sarah Becker (chair), Dana Berkowitz and Troy Blanchard
- 2012: **M.A., Sociology (December 2012)**
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
Empirical Paper: “*African Woman Magazine* as a Cultural Map for Globalized Living: How the Domestic Virtue
Guides Women in Becoming ‘Modern’ While Remaining Good”
Committee: Dana Berkowitz (chair), Mark Schafer and Helen Regis
Graduate Minor in Women’s and Gender Studies
- 2010: **B.A., Sociology and Humanities (May 2010)**
Milligan University, Milligan College, TN
Summa cum laude, First in Class, 4.0 GPA
Undergraduate Minor in French

TEACHING

Teaching evaluations consistently place me at and above the LSU Sociology Department averages. Scores in parentheses after each course are the most recent, out of a possible 5 points. Some scores are an average evaluation of multiple sections. Selected student comments in italics.

- Core Courses** SOCL 2001 Introduction to Sociology SLO (4.8)
Very passionate about the subject and provides practical examples of topics and answers questions thoughtfully
SOCL 2002 Introduction to Sociology Honors SLO (4.7)
SOCL 2211 Research Methods in Sociology* SLO (5)
- Electives** SOCL 2501 Contemporary Social Problems**/*** SLO / C-I (4.9)
Had an even amount of test, assignments, and essays...great fit [for] all learning styles
SOCL 2255 Sociology of Sport SLO / C-I (4.7)
- Upper Level** SOCL 4521 Sociology of Gender SLO / C-I (4.9)
SOCL 3901 Directed Reading and Research in Sociology (NA)
SOCL 3911 Research Practicum in Sociology (5)
You supported and encouraged me so much! I am so glad to get to work with you!
HNRS 4000 Capstone (NA)
- Other** HSS 1000 Introduction to Research** SLO / C-I (4.8)
HSS 1001 Introduction to Career** SLO / C-I (4.9)
Very motivated teacher, connects with her students well, very supportive

*Courses offered in person as well as in a fully online format as part of the LSU Online program

**Courses offered within the Humanities and Social Sciences Residential College

SLO = certified as Service-Learning Optional with the Center for Community Engagement, Learning & Leadership

C-I = certified as Communication-Intensive with Communication across the Curriculum

RESEARCH & PRESENTATIONS

April 2026	Thomas, Danielle Jo. "Beyond the Playing Field? Young Adults Reflect on their Experiences Playing Youth Sports." Research will be presented at the Annual Meeting of Southern Sociological Society
In Progress	Thomas, Danielle Jo. "Beyond the Playing Field? Young Adults Reflect on their Experiences Playing Youth Sports"; this is an extension of my dissertation research
In Progress	Haskins, Narcissa, Boyd, Jazzlynn, and Danielle Jo Thomas. "Implementing and Evaluating the '7-Step Toolkit for Novice Research Writing'"
2016	Thomas, Danielle Jo, Lathan, Derrick, Maryland, Ashley, and Lori L. Martin. "The Educational Plight of Black Men and Boys in Baton Rouge: A Critical Demography Perspective." Chapter in <i>Race, Population Studies, and America's Public Schools: A Critical Demography Perspective</i> edited by Hayward Derrick Horton, Lori L. Martin, and Kenneth Fasching-Varner. New York: Bloomsbury Publishing.
2016	Becker, Sarah, Thomas, Danielle Jo, and Michael Cope. "Post-Feminism for Children: Feminism 'Repackaged' in the Bratz Films." <i>Media Culture & Society</i> 38(8):1218-1235.

RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT & EXPERIENCE

2024-present	<p>The College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA Rector of the Humanities and Social Sciences Residential College (HSSRC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leading a multi-faceted team that includes administrators, advisors, faculty, and residential life staff; together we support the success and positive social and intellectual development of 240+ first year students• Communicating with department chairs, administrators, and faculty to create semester course offerings for HSSRC students that include 8-10 general education courses• Planning and hosting programs that fit with the HSSRC mission as a supportive "living and learning" community; examples include research workshops; career and communications coaching sessions with peer mentors; professional networking panels with HSSRC and LSU alumni; and social activities such as "fuel up for finals"• Managing the HSSRC budget of over \$100,000 annually, including strategic spending and investment in programming and materials; preparing expense reports according to university guidelines• Advising students and connecting them to campus resources during 10+ weekly office hours in the HSSRC• Teaching 4 sections of HSS courses (college readiness and career readiness) each semester as well as one 3-credit hour sociology course annually within the HSSRC community
2021-present	<p>Department of Sociology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA Instructor of Sociology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create syllabus policies and sociology content for in-person and online college courses that range from introductory level to advanced and equal 6-9 hours of teaching per semester (I currently have a course-release related to my work in the residential college, above)• Oversee 300-500 students across my courses each semester, including in-classroom instruction, in-office advising and support, email interactions, and grading assignments and exams• Facilitate engaging lecture and discussion-based classroom sessions; vary teaching strategies and technology use depending on course content and objectives as well as the needs of the students• Engage students in specialized communication and service-learning activities in courses certified with the Center for Community Engagement, Learning, & Leadership and Communication across the Curriculum offices at LSU• Emphasize translating discipline specific knowledge and general academic abilities into marketable job skills• Supervise graduate assistants by assigning them teaching and grading tasks, providing feedback, evaluation, and mentorship as they transition into teaching assistant roles• Conduct community-based research focused on youth sport for development programs and mentorship in academic and community spaces; mentor undergraduate student thesis projects

2023-2024

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Associate Rector of the Humanities and Social Sciences Residential College (HSSRC)

- Maintained 7-10 office hours for student advising in the HSSRC each week
- Developed positive rapport and mentoring relationships within a socially and culturally diverse community of students so that students will approach me with questions and needs
- Prepared and taught 3-6 hours of HSSRC courses each semester designed specifically for first-year student success
- Assisted with event planning and hosting for all HSSRC programs
- Managed social media accounts and a bulletin board academic calendar for the HSSRC program

2017-2021

Department of Sociology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Adjunct Instructor of Sociology

- Planned and taught 2-3 sociology courses per semester, including developing syllabi, selecting course materials and creating assignments and assessments

AWARDS

- Louisiana Soccer Association Girls Recreation Coach of the Year (2026)
- CxC Faculty C-I Teaching Fellowship Recipient (2025-2026)
- Nominated for the Outstanding Service-Learning Faculty Award at LSU (2025)
- LSU Center for Community Engagement, Learning & Leadership Happy Award for Service-Learning (2024)
- Baton Rouge Honorary ESPY Award for Service Through Sports (2021)
- Baton Rouge Big Buddy Program College Mentorship Award (2018)
- Tom Dutton Award for Leadership and Community Service at LSU (2014)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- HSS 1000 orientation for new instructors and end-of-semester HSS 1000 evaluation meeting (2022-present)
- Honors College Thesis Committee Chair, 7 students (2021-present)
- McNair Scholars Research Advisor, 2 students (2021-present)
- CxC Distinguished Communicator Medal Advisor, 3 students (2021-present)
- Distinguished Undergraduate Research Program Advisor, 2 students (2021-present)
- HSS Doctoral Scholars Bridge Program, research instructor (2022)
- 20+ letters of recommendation annually for scholarships, law school, graduate school, and medical school programs

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SERVICE

Co-leader and Founder of La Mesa (a Spanish and English Language Learning Program), 2022-present

- Prepare and teach weekly beginner-level English classes
- Established a service-learning partnership between LSU and La Mesa in which 10+ college students are serving as ESL facilitators under my supervision and mentorship
- Plan bilingual cultural activities to foster positive relationships amongst ESL students and other Baton Rouge residents
- Create flyers and promotional materials for La Mesa using Canva
- Lead curriculum and program development, conduct research on language learning programs and resources
- Partnered in 2025 with a PR class at LSU to give students a chance to work in strategic planning with a nonprofit

Co-leader, Head Administrator and Coach with Gardere Youth Alliance (GYA), 2015-present

- Coordinate registration for a soccer program with 5 teams for 75+ youth ages 4-18 years old
- Serve as the liaison between the Baton Rouge Soccer Club and Gardere Youth Alliance teams
- Plan and lead soccer practices for athletes ages 8-13 lasting 1-2 hours
- Coach soccer games for elementary and middle school soccer teams
- Mentor and oversee college students who are completing service-learning hours with the soccer program

SKILLS

Microsoft Office Suite, Zoom, Moodle, ATLAS TI, Canva, Conversational Spanish (intermediate level)

REFERENCES

Lori L. Martin, PhD
Associate Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Professor of African and African American Studies
Louisiana State University
Lorim@lsu.edu
225-578-1856

Rebecca Caire, PhD
Assistant Dean, Student Services
College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Louisiana State University
Rcaire@lsu.edu
225-578-3141

Troy Blanchard, PhD
Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Professor of Sociology
Louisiana State University
troy@lsu.edu
225-578-8273