

# TRAVIS DAICHI ASHBY

Department of Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles, August 2025

ashby1@ucla.edu | (760) 681-8855 | [linkedin.com/in/travisdashby/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/travisdashby/)

## EDUCATION

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June 2032	Ph.D. Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles. Expected
June 2027	M.A. Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles. Degree in progress
April 2025	M.S. Sociology, Brigham Young University. Thesis project: "Studying Cultural Change with Transhistorical Semantic Directions" Committee: Michael Lee Wood, Ph.D. (Chair), Curtis Child, Ph.D., John P. Hoffmann, Ph.D.
April 2022	B.S. Sociology, Brigham Young University.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Social Movements; Culture; Computational Methods; Race, Class, and Labor; Sociological Theory; Collective Action; Stratification and Inequality

## RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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2023-2025	<b>Graduate Student Researcher</b> (under Curtis Child, Ph.D.) Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University-Provo.
2022-2025	<b>Graduate Student Researcher</b> (under Michael Lee Wood, Ph.D.) Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University-Provo.
2024-2025	<b>Managing Editor</b> Rural Sociological Society. <i>Rural Sociology</i> journal.
2021- 2022	<b>Undergraduate Research Assistant</b> (under Michael Lee Wood, Ph.D.) Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University-Provo.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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2023	<b>Ashby, Travis</b> , Omar Lizardo, Dustin S. Stoltz and Michael L. Wood. 2023. "The Raw and the (Over) Cooked: States are Physical Qualities." <i>Metaphor and the Social World</i> 14(1):22 - 42.
2024	Wood, Michael Lee and <b>Travis Ashby</b> . "Cultural Power via Contaminating Dualities." <i>Poetics</i> 110 (1):

## REVIEWS AND OTHER WRITING

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- 2024 **Ashby, Travis.** 2024. Review of *China's New Urbanization: Inequality and the New Chinese Dream*, by Jiabao Sun. *Rural Sociology* 89(4).

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

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**Ashby, Travis,** Michael Lee Wood, Omar Lizardo, and Dustin S. Stoltz. "Race as a Value Sphere: Thinking with Weber and Du Bois." Targeted for *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*.

Norton, Sam, **Travis Ashby**, and Curtis Child. "Meaning Less: The Curious Case of Plasma Donation." Targeted for *Voluntas*.

Jarvis, Jon, **Travis Ashby**, Hannah Dixon Everett, Ashley Kernan, and Julia Meredith. "Globalization in the Middle: International Student Strategies at a Mid-Tier University."

**Ashby, Travis.** "The Mediating Effect of Self-Control on the Relationship between Financial Hardship and Delinquency."

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

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- 2025 "'Because We Shared Topaz:' Shared Identity and Interracial Memory of an Internment Camp School." Presented at the April 2025 Mary Lou Fulton Student Research Conference in Provo, UT (with Kathryn Blau).
- 2nd Place Award, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies category.
  - 3rd Place Award, History category.
- 2025 "The Ram-bler: A Space for Student Dissent in the Topaz Internment Camp." Presented at the April 2025 Mary Lou Fulton Student Research Conference in Provo, UT (with Kathryn Blau).
- 1st Place Award, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies category.
- 2024 "Authentic is Unprocessed: Measuring Metaphors with Diachronic Word Embeddings." Presented at the December 2024 Mary Lou Fulton Student Research Conference in Provo, UT.
- 1st Place Award, Sociology – Graduate category.
- 2024 "Meaning Less: The Curious Case of Plasma Donation." Presented at the November 2024 Annual Meeting of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) in Washington, D.C. (with Sam Norton and Curtis Child).
- 2024 "Globalization in the Middle: International Student Strategies at a Mid-Tier University." Presented at the November 2024 BYU Asian Studies Student Symposium in Provo, Utah.
- 2024 "Cultural Power via Contaminating Dualities." Presented at the August 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association in Montréal, Canada (with Michael Lee Wood).

- 2024 "Globalization in the Middle: International Student Strategies at a Mid-Tier University." Presented at the August 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association in Montréal, Canada (with Jonathan Jarvis).
- 2024 "Race as a Value Sphere: Thinking with Weber and Du Bois." Presented at the April 2024 Garner Summer Fellowship Symposium in Provo, UT.
- 2023 "Charity for Money: The Curious Case of Plasma Donation." Presented at the December 2023 Mary Lou Fulton Student Research Conference in Provo, UT (with Sam Norton and Curtis Child).
- 3rd Place Award, Civic Engagement category.
- 2023 "Race as a Value Sphere: Thinking with Weber and Du Bois." Presented at the August 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association in Philadelphia, PA (with Michael Lee Wood, Omar Lizardo, and Dustin Stoltz).
- 2023 "The Mediating Effect of Self-Control on the Relationship between Financial Hardship and Delinquency." Presented at the April 2023 Mary Lou Fulton Student Research Conference in Provo, UT (with Melissa Jones).
- 1st Place Award, Sociology – Graduate category.

## **FUNDING, GRANTS, AND OTHER SUPPORT**

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- 2024 **Professional Presentation Award**, Graduate Student Society, Brigham Young University.
- 2024 **Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant**, Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University.
- 2024 **Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant**, Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University.
- 2023 **Garner Research Fellowship Award**, "Race as a Value Sphere: Thinking with Weber and Du Bois," Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University  
Faculty Mentor: Michael Lee Wood, Ph.D.
- 2023 **Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant**, Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University.
- 2021 **Brigham Young Scholarship**, Brigham Young University.

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

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- 2024 **Professional Presentation Award**, Graduate Student Society, Brigham Young University.
- 2023 **Garner Research Fellowship Award**, "Race as a Value Sphere: Thinking with Weber and Du Bois," Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University.  
Faculty Mentor: Michael Lee Wood, Ph.D.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- 2022    **Teaching Assistant**, Brigham Young University.  
Social Inquiry (Sociology 310).
- Course on undergraduate-level sociological theory.
- 2022    **Teaching Assistant**, Brigham Young University.  
Sociology of Culture (Sociology 330).
- Course on undergraduate-level cultural sociology.

## CERTIFICATIONS

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Certifications and skills:

- CITI Social & Behavioral Research Investigator Certification.
- Stata experience (Sociology 307, 605, 606).
- R experience (Thesis).
- MaxQDA.
- Dedoose.

## OTHER EXPERIENCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

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- 2024-2025    **Culture Division Committee Member**, Japanese Student Association, Brigham Young University.
- 2023    **Panel Moderator**, BYU Asian Studies Student Symposium, Brigham Young University.
- 2021-2022    **Vice-President**, BYU Homeless Alliance, Brigham Young University.
- 2020-2022    **Communications Coordinator**, BYU Homeless Alliance, Brigham Young University.

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- 2024-Present    **Rural Sociological Society**.
- 2024-Present    **Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action**.
- 2023-Present    **American Sociological Association**.