

Francisco Vidal-Franceschi

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EDUCATION

Expected 2031	Ph.D. in Sociology, University of Delaware , Newark, DE.
May 2025	B.A. in Sociocultural Anthropology, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras . Second major in Sociology of Gender and Culture. Summa cum laude; Dean's Honor List.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Disasters and society; gender and sexuality; queer and trans studies; disaster displacement and mental health; language access; risk communication; community-centered research; sense-making and storytelling; Puerto Rico/Caribbean.

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

2026-Present	William Averette Anderson Fund Fellow , 2026 Cohort.
2022-2024	Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow , University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.
2024	American Sociological Association Honors Program , 2024 Student Cohort.

PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS

Vidal-Franceschi, Francisco. (Forthcoming) "Code-Switching and Disidentification among Trans and Boricuir University Students in Puerto Rico." *Sex and Sexualities*.

Vidal-Franceschi, Francisco, Melissa Villarreal, and Lori Peek. 2023. "Language and Disaster: Linguistic Inaccessibility in Disaster Recovery Planning and Its Impacts on Mexican-Origin Women and Community-Based Organizations." *DesignSafe-CI*. <https://doi.org/10.17603/ds2-e21h-ry96>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2024-Present	Citizen Scientist, Rising Voices, Changing Coasts, Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware. Conduct archival and community-engaged research; coordinate meetings among researchers, community members, and local officials; support fieldwork and data collection in Puerto Rico.
Mar-Jun 2025	Citizen Scientist, CHIRRP Planning Project, University of Delaware and University of Cincinnati. Conducted archival and community-engaged research and developed a database of reported landslides in southern Puerto Rico.
2023-2024	Research Assistant, Rising Voices, Changing Coasts, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras. Organized focus groups; transcribed and coded qualitative data; analyzed survey data in SPSS; created study-site maps in ArcGIS; supported community engagement and conference planning.
2023-2024	Principal Investigator, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras. Designed and completed a sociolinguistic thesis on code-switching, disidentification, and survival among trans and boricuir university students using semi-structured group interviews and ATLAS.ti.
Summer 2023	Principal Investigator, NSF NHERI Research Experience for Undergraduates, Natural Hazards Center. Studied linguistic inaccessibility in disaster recovery planning through critical document analysis and qualitative interview coding in ATLAS.ti.
2022-2023	Research Assistant, Risk Communication and Protective Action Decision Making, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras. Transcribed and coded seven focus groups on disaster risk communication and planning in Puerto Rico.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2026	Lab Instructor, SOCI 301 Introduction to Sociological Research, University of Delaware. Design and teach weekly quantitative-methods and SPSS laboratories for sections 020L and 021L; develop and grade assignments; lead guided exercises; hold office hours.
2025-2026	Teaching Assistant, University of Delaware. SOCI 201 Introduction to Sociology (Fall 2025); SOCI 202 Introduction to Emergency Management (Spring 2026); SOCI 341 Welfare and Society (May 2026).

2021 **Teacher, UPR Estudia Contigo, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.** Taught tenth-grade mathematics in partnership with the Puerto Rico Department of Education.

PRESENTATIONS

Jun 2026 **Invited opening plenary panelist.** "Processes for Culturally Responsive Coalition Building." 51st Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop, Broomfield, CO.

Mar 2026 **Oral presentation.** "Breaking the Binary Response: Disaster Impact on Trans and Queer Mental Health." 96th Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Washington, DC.

Nov 2025 **Panel presentation.** "Care and Care-Giving." Second Children's Health and Climate Change Symposium, Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, KS.

Apr 2025 **Panelist.** "Elder and Youth Panel." Rising Voices, Changing Coasts Annual Research Meeting, Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, KS.

Aug 2024 **Oral presentation.** "Deep Hanging Out, Trans Linguistics and Code-Switching: Processes of Disidentification, Utopia, and Survival among Trans and Boricuir Youth." Lavender Languages and Linguistics Conference, University of Brighton, United Kingdom.

Aug 2024 **Panel presentation.** "Disaster Linguicism: The Social Impacts of Linguistic Inaccessibility in Disaster Recovery Planning." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting Honors Program, Montreal, Canada.

Apr 2024 **Panel presentation.** "Perception and Protective Action Adjustments to Risk: The Social Production of Disasters in Puerto Rico." Second Climate Education and Society Symposium, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.

Oct 2023 **Panel presentation.** "Deep Hanging Out, Trans Linguistics and Code-Switching: Processes of Disidentification, Utopia, and Survival among Trans and Boricuir Youth." Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Southeast Regional Conference, Duke University, Durham, NC.

Aug 2023 **Poster and presentation.** "Language and Disaster: Linguistic Inaccessibility in Disaster Recovery Planning and Its Impacts on Mexican-Origin Women and Community-Based Organizations." NHERI REU Conference, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.

Jul 2023 **Poster.** "Towards More Inclusive and Equitable Risk Communication in Puerto Rico." 48th Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop, Boulder, CO.

May 2023 **Panelist.** "Charting the Path Towards a More Inclusive Language: A Linguistic Anthropological Perspective." Anthropological University Association, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.

Oct 2022 **Poster.** "Risk Communication in Concurrent Disasters: An Approach from Culture Theory." Seventh Undergraduate Research and Creation Symposium, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

2026-Present **Service Chair and Faculty Representative, Sociology and Criminal Justice Graduate Student Council,** University of Delaware.

Apr 2024 **Assistant Organizer, The Tangible Promise of Convergence Science,** Rising Voices, Changing Coasts Puerto Rico Hub Regional Workshop and Conference.

Mar 2023 **Volunteer, Second International Afro-descendant Summit,** University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.

Mar 2022 **Volunteer, First International Afro-descendant Summit,** University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.

2021-2022 **Guide and Facilitator, El Cartel: Voz para la Resistencia,** Museum of History, Anthropology and Art, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2025-Present **Board Member, University of Delaware Student Chapter, International Association of Emergency Managers.**

2025-Present **Member, Eastern Sociological Society.**

2024-Present **Member, Sociologists for Trans Justice.**

2024-Present **Member, American Sociological Association.**

2021-2025 **Founding Member, Anthropological University Association,** University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.

RESEARCH METHODS AND SOFTWARE

Quantitative methods: Survey analysis, multivariate regression, latent class analysis, database development, and data visualization.

Qualitative methods: Semi-structured interviews, focus groups, transcription, thematic coding, critical document analysis, archival research, and community-engaged research.

Software: Stata, SPSS, ATLAS.ti, and ArcGIS, NVIVO, Dedoose.

CERTIFICATIONS

2026	CITI Program , Human Subjects Protection.
2023	CONVERGE Training Modules , Positionality in Hazards and Disaster Research and Practice; Understanding and Ending Gender-Based Violence in Fieldwork; Cultural Competence in Hazards and Disaster Research.
2023	CITI Program , Research with Human Subjects.
2022	CONVERGE Training Modules , Social Vulnerability and Disasters; Disaster Mental Health; Conducting Emotionally Challenging Research; Broader Ethical Considerations for Hazards and Disaster Researchers.
2022	CITI Program , Social and Behavioral Research.