

EDUCATION

University of California, Merced Ph.D., Public Health Advisor: Ricardo Cisneros, Ph.D. Dissertation: Structural Determinants of Asthma in a Predominantly Hispanic/Latinx Population Dissertation Committee: Ricardo Cisneros, Ph.D. (chair), Mariaelena Gonzalez, Ph.D., Paul Brown, Ph.D.	August 2022 Merced, CA
California State University, Fresno M.A., General-Experimental Psychology Advisor: Matthew J. Sharps, Ph.D. Thesis: Effects of Weapon Exposure on Confidence in Weapon Identification	May 2013 Fresno, CA
California State University, Fresno B.A., Psychology	May 2010 Fresno, CA

ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIPS AND STIPENDS

Health Policy Research Scholar Fellowship <i>Ph.D. student, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Awarded \$120,000 (5-year period) for a leadership development program for full-time doctoral students who are from historically marginalized populations and want to apply their research to advance health equity.	September 2017-21 Merced, CA
Graduate Peer-Mentor <i>Ph.D. student, University of California, Merced</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Was nominated by faculty and awarded a \$500 stipend to mentor an incoming Ph.D. student.	September 2018-19
Graduate Student Opportunity Fellowship <i>Ph.D. student, School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts at UC Merced</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1-year fellowship to support academically promising graduate students in acquiring and developing advanced research skills. Resulted in a peer-reviewed publication in the <i>International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health</i>.	September 2017-18
Post-Graduate Student Fellowship <i>Post-M.A. Grad, Central Valley Health Policy Institute</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1-year fellowship to develop skills in program evaluation. Conducted analyses and for the CDC-funded Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH) in collaboration with the Fresno County Department of Public Health.	August 2014-15

GRANTS & FUNDING ACQUIRED

Collaborating for Wellness Evaluation <i>\$175,000, Fresno County Department of Public Health</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Evaluation of CDC-funded DP18-1817 Category B funding of Fresno County Department of Public Health's capacity to reduce uncontrolled hypertension among vulnerable populations.	August 2020-Present
Fresno County CalFresh Healthy Living Program Evaluation <i>\$540,000, Fresno County Department of Public Health</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Evaluate efforts to make policy, systems, and environmental change to promote healthy eating and physical activity. Partnership with Fresno County Department of Public Health, California Health Collaborative, and Fresno County Superintendent of Schools.	September 2019-Present
Advancing Health Literacy Evaluation <i>\$87,000, Fresno County Department of Public Health</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Evaluation of Fresno County Department of Public Health's capacity to improve health literacy among Hispanic/Latinx agricultural workers living in rural communities by increasing knowledge of and access to COVID-19 services and chronic condition referrals.	October 2021- Present
Community Health Needs Assessment <i>\$62,000, Northern and Central California Hospital Council</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Consultation of instrument development, data collection process, and completed data analysis and interpretation.	October 2021-22

\$295,000, Fresno County Department of Public Health

- Design methods, collect and analyze data, and develop oral health needs assessment report. Convene advisory committee, develop health improvement plan, and evaluation implementation.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATION

Alcala, E., Cisneros, R., & Capitman, J. (under review). Major life experiences of discrimination and asthma.

Alcala, E., Capitman, J., & Cisneros, R. (under review). Ecological analysis of air pollution and environmental degradation and asthma-related emergency department visits among a Hispanic/Latinx population.

Alcala, E., Capitman, J., & Cisneros, R. (2023). The moderating role of housing quality on concentrated poverty and asthma-related emergency department visits among Hispanic/Latinos. *Journal of Asthma*, (just-accepted) 1-11.

Torres, J.M., **Alcala, E.,** Shaver, A., Collin, D.F., Franck, L.S., Gomez, A.M., Karasek, D., Nidey, N., Hotard, M., Hamad, R., & Pacheco-Werner, T. (2022). The deferred action for childhood arrivals program and birth outcomes in California: A quasi-experimental study. *BMC Public Health*.

Jadhav, R., **Alcala, E.,** Sirota, S., & Capitman, J. A. (2021). Risk factors for acute urticaria in central California. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18(7), 3728.

Zografos, K., **Alcala, E.,** Capitman, J.A., & Khang, L. (2020). Integrating undergraduate research experience into public health curricula: Effects on undergraduate students' knowledge of neighborhood inequalities, perception of research, and motivation to talk about health issues. *Pedagogy in Health Promotion*.

Garcia, T. D., **Alcala, E.,** & Capitman, J. A. (2020). Has the Affordable Care Act Influenced Cardiology Disease Rates in the San Joaquin Valley? *Research in health science*, 5(3). doi: <http://www.scholink.org/ojs/index.php/rhs/article/view/3174>

Alcala, E., Brown, P., Capitman, J. A., Gonzalez, M., & Cisneros, R. (2019). Cumulative Impact of Environmental Pollution and Population Vulnerability on Pediatric Asthma Hospitalizations: A Multilevel Analysis of CalEnviroScreen. *International journal of environmental research and public health*, 16(15), 2683.

Lama, G., **Alcala E.,** & Capitman, J.A. (2018). Poor people are hospitalized three times more for mental health services than the non-poor in Central Valley California. *Healthcare Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute*, Vol. 6, No. 1, p. 5.

Alcala, E., Cisneros, R., & Capitman, J.A. (2017). Health care Access, concentrated poverty, and pediatric asthma hospital care use in California's San Joaquin Valley: A multilevel approach. *Journal of Asthma*, 1-9.

Lessard, L., **Alcala, E.,** & Capitman, J.A. (2015). Pollution, poverty, and potentially preventable childhood morbidity in central California. *Journal of Pediatrics*. Original Articles www.jpeds.com doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jpeds.2015.08.007>

Zografos, K., Krenz, V., Yarmo, K., & **Alcala, E.** (2015). College students' utilization of protective alcohol-use behaviors: Effects of age, gender, and year in school. *California Journal of Health Promotion* 12(3), 49-58

Sharps, M.J., Herrera, M., Dunn, L., & **Alcala, E.** (2012). Repetition and reconfiguration: Demand-based confabulation in initial eyewitness memory. *Journal of Investigative Psychology and Offender Profiling*, 9,149-160. doi: 10.1002/jip.1361

TEACHING

Health Policy Leadership Program

Co-Lecturer, Central Valley Health Policy Institute

September 2022-Present

September 2019-20

- Established by Dr. John A. Capitman in 2005, the Health Policy Leadership Program brings together diverse professionals from multiple sectors who are dedicated to achieving health equity and addressing systems change. Each year up to 30 participants are enrolled in a competitive nine-month program to learn and apply concepts of health equity.

Guest Lecturer

Introduction to Public Health, University of California, Merced

Spring 2022

- Lectured on the Social and Environmental Determinants of Health

Guest Lecturer

Fall 2021

Environmental Health, University of California, Merced

- Lectured on Introduction to Public Health

Guest Lecturer

Spring 2021

Environmental Health, University of California, Merced

- Lectured on Introduction to Toxicology

Guest Lecturer

Fall 2014

Introduction to Statistics, California State University, Fresno

- Lectured on Distribution Theory

Guest Lecturer

Fall 2014

Introduction to Statistics, California State University, Fresno

- Lectured on the F Distribution

PRESENTATIONS

Alcala, E., Chan, S., Cruz, A., Lopez, A., Oberholtzer, D., & Garcia, M. (2021). Positive effects in controlling hypertension in a hispanic population through medication therapy management and electronic health record use.

Alcala, E., Silva, Y., Megally, H., Doherty, R., & Capitman, J. A. (2020). Innovative Design for Identifying Priority needs in the San Joaquin Valley: Fresno County Community Health Needs Assessment. American Public Health Association (APHA) annual conference, Virtual Convening. October 28.

Jadhav, R., **Alcala E.,** Sirota, S., & Capitman, J. A. (2020). Risk factors for acute urticaria in central California American Public Health Association (APHA) annual conference, Virtual Convening. October 28.

Larsen, M., **Alcala, E.,** Tawfik, A., Capitman, J., & Sadeeghvaziri, E. (2020). Exploring the effects of traffic-related air pollution on public health in census tract level. *International Conference on Transportation and Development*, 75-85.

Alcala, E., Wiemann, A., & Capitman, J.A. (2019). Race/ethnicity, nativity, interpregnancy interval and preterm delivery in the San Joaquin Valley. American Public Health Association (APHA) annual meeting and exposition. (Nov. 2 – Nov. 6).

Capitman, J. A., Pacheco-Werner, T., Chambers, B., Mendoza, S., Chan, S., **Alcala, E.** (2019). Using science and community to create a preterm birth policy agenda. American Public Health Association (APHA) annual meeting and exposition. (Nov. 2 – Nov. 6).

Alcala, E., & Capitman, J.A. (2017). Neighborhood Context and the Latino Paradox among Mexican American Elders in Central California. American Public Health Association (APHA) annual conference, Atlanta, GA. November 7.

Alcala, E., & Capitman, J.A. (2016). Pollution, Insurance Coverage, and Childhood Asthma Morbidity in Central California. Presentation at Valley Children’s Hospital for the Central California Asthma Coalition, Madera, CA. November 11.

Alcala, E. (2016). Racial & ethnic disparities in birth outcomes in central California. Presentation at the California WIC Association 2016 Annual Conference and Trade Show in San Diego California, April 18-19.

Alcala, E., & Capitman, J.A. (2015). Social Determinants of Health: CalEnviroScreen and Potentially Preventable Childhood Morbidity in California’s Central Valley. Presentation at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences/Environmental Protection Agency (NIEHS/EPA) Children’s Centers Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

Capitman, J.A., & **Alcala, E.** (2015). Social determinants of health: The San Joaquin Valley. Webinar/presentation on individual and neighborhood determinants of health inequities in California’s Central Valley. <http://www.csufresno.edu/chhs/cvhipi/presentations/index.html>

Alcala. E., Wiemann, A., & Captimant, J.A. (2019). Race/ethnicity, nativity, interpregnancy interval and preterm delivery in the San Joaquin Valley. American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA. November 3.

Alcala. E., Conley, A., Garcia, T., Silva, Y., & Capitman, J.A. (2019). Estimated Regional Impact of the Public Charge Proposal. American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA. November 5.

- Alcala, E., & Capitman, J.A.** (2017). Emergency department and hospital utilization in an asthmatic pediatric population in central California. American Public Health Association (APHA) annual conference, Atlanta, GA. November 6.
- Alcala, E., & Capitman, J.A.** (2016). Pollution, poverty, and childhood asthma morbidity in central California. American Public Health Association (APHA), Denver, CO. October 31.
- Alcala, E., & Capitman, J.A.** (2015). Social Determinants of Health: CalEnviroScreen and Potentially Preventable Childhood Morbidity in California's Central Valley. Poster board session at NIEHS/EPA Children's Centers Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- Alcala, E., Lessard, L., & Capitman, J.A.** (2014). Place and health: Preventable hospitalizations for adults in the Central Valley of California. Poster presented at the American Public Health Association (APHA), New Orleans, LA.

REPORTS, POLICY STATEMENTS, TESTIMONIES, AND BRIEFS

- Alcala, E., Kincaid, S., Luchini, D., Ruvalcaba, M., and Kellet, K.** (2020). Fresno County Community Health Needs Assessment. URL: <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/home/showpublisheddocument/44681/637273059301000000>
- Alcala, E., Megally, H., & Capitman, J.** (2020). Fresno County Oral Health Improvement Plan. URL: <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/home/showpublisheddocument/52959/637509840086970000>
- Alcala, E., Megally, H., & Capitman, J.** (2020). Fresno County Oral Health Needs Assessment. URL: <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=48979>
- Central Valley Health Policy Institute (2017) Preventable Childhood Illness: Individual and Neighborhood Characteristics. San Joaquin Valley Public Health Consortium. URL: <https://chhs.fresnostate.edu/cvhpi/documents/ChildIllness3.pdf>
- Central Valley Health Policy Institute (2017) Adolescent Health in the San Joaquin Valley: Individual and Neighborhood Characteristics. San Joaquin Valley Public Health Consortium. URL: <https://chhs.fresnostate.edu/cvhpi/programs/sjvphcreportseries/adolescenthealthreport.html>
- Central Valley Health Policy Institute (2017). Longevity for San Joaquin Valley Elders. San Joaquin Public Health Consortium. URL: <https://chhs.fresnostate.edu/cvhpi/documents/OlderAdults3.pdf>

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- Study Examines Effects of DACA Policy on Birth Outcomes** October 2022
Press Release, Fresno State College of Health and Human Services
<https://www.fresnostatenews.com/2022/10/25/study-examines-effects-of-daca-policy-on-birth-outcomes/>
- Another Reason California's Air Pollution is Deadly? It Increases COVID Risks, Study Says** August 2022
Article, Fresno Bee
<https://www.fresnobee.com/news/local/article264326031.html#storylink=cpy>
- Sunday Morning Matters** August 2018
Interview, KSEE24 Channel
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLjkAdsR5Kw>
- Prestigious Fellowship Furthers Grad Students' Asthma Research** August 2017
Article, University of California, Merced Newsroom
<https://news.ucmerced.edu/news/2017/prestigious-fellowship-furthers-grad-student%E2%80%99s-asthma-research>

EXPERIENCE

Central Valley Health Policy Institute

2019-Present

Assistant Director

- Collaborate with the Director to acquire funding and to design, implement, and oversee evaluation projects.
- Assist in managing more than 15 staff members including Research Assistants, Analysts, and Associates.
- Oversee student internship program and serve as preceptor to as many as 5 interns per semester for a total of 35 throughout tenure.
- Manage budgets for approximately 9 FTE staff across several projects

Central Valley Health Policy Institute

2017-2019

Research Associate

- Acquire funding for community-based evaluation and research projects by developing and maintaining relationships with community-based organizations and funding institutions.
- In collaboration with researchers across institutions working with the Children's Health and Air Pollution Study (CHAPS), develop research protocols, questions, and study designs toward manuscript development.

University of California, Merced

Spring 2016

Graduate Student Researcher (GSR)

- Assist Dr. Sidra Golman-Mellor and Dr. Paul Brown in managing large health datasets acquired from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD).

Central Valley Health Policy Institute

May 2013-16

Research Analyst

- Conduct statistical analyses across various software including SPSS, STATA, and HLM7. Statistical tests including t-tests, ANOVA's, OLS regression, Poisson-based regression, and multilevel regression.

Independent Contracts

May 2013-16

Statistical Consultant

- Consult faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students on statistical analyses for manuscripts and theses.

Cognitive Psychology Lab

Research Assistant (Unpaid)

- Assisted in administration of research studies, coding qualitative and quantitative data, building scoring rubrics, conducted inter-rater judging, used SPSS to manage data and statistical analyses including reliability tests and basic inferential statistics.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND AFFILIATIONS

Theses Committee Service

August 2017-Present

Committee Member, California State University, Fresno

- I have served as a committee member on at least 7 successfully defended MPH thesis projects. My primary role has been to provide statistical consulting to the graduate students including methodological design and testing procedures as well as to advise on concepts of health equity.

American Public Health Association

Section: Applied Public Health Statistics

Section: Environmental Health