

# TIFFANY N. FORD, MPH, PhD

## Curriculum Vitae

University of Illinois at Chicago  
School of Public Health  
Division of Community Health Sciences  
1603 West Taylor Street  
Chicago, IL 60612-4394

Email: [tford5@uic.edu](mailto:tford5@uic.edu)

### EDUCATION

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- 2018 – 2021      **Doctor of Philosophy in Policy Studies**  
Concentration in Social Policy  
University of Maryland College Park, School of Public Policy
- 2014 – 2016      **Master of Public Health**  
Department of Community Health Sciences  
University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Public Health
- 2010 – 2014      **Bachelor of Science in Education, cum laude**  
Double major in Human and Social Development (community track) and Economics;  
Minor in Health Sector Management and Policy  
University of Miami

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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- 2023 – present      **Assistant Professor (tenure track)**  
Department of Community Health Sciences  
University of Illinois Chicago, School of Public Health
- 2021 – 2023      **Postdoctoral Fellow**  
Center for Economic Security and Opportunity (Formerly: Center on Children and Families), Future of the Middle Class Initiative  
Brookings Institution
- 2021 – 2022      **Health Equity Postdoctoral Research Associate**  
Politics of Race, Immigration, Class and Ethnicity Research Initiative  
Advisor: Jamila Michener  
Cornell University, Department of Government
- 2020      **Adjunct Professor, Leadership for the Common Good (Public Leaders and Active Citizens)**  
University of Maryland, School of Public Policy
- 2020      **Adjunct Professor, Internships in Political Institutions**  
University of Maryland, School of Public Policy
- 2019      **Graduate Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics and Policy Analysis**  
University of Maryland, School of Public Policy

2019

**Adjunct Professor**, *Examining Pluralism in Public Policy*  
University of Maryland, School of Public Policy

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## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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Structural racism; Gendered racism; Power; Intersectionality; Subjective well-being; Determinants of subjective well-being; Structural determinants of health; Social determinants of health; Qualitative research methods; Mixed methods research; Public health policy; Racial health inequality

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## PUBLICATIONS

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### Manuscripts (Under Review)

2024 Adkins-Jackson, P., Higgins Tejera, C., Cotton-Samuel, D., Foster, C. L., Brown, L. L., Watson, K. T., **Ford, T.**, Bragg, T., Wondimu, B. B., Manly, J. J. “Rest of the folks are tired and weary”: The impact of historical lynchings on biological and cognitive health for older adults racialized as Black. Submitted to *Social Science & Medicine*.

### Manuscripts (Revise & Resubmit)

2024 Adkins-Jackson, P., Gobaud, A., Kim, B., **Ford, T.**, Hill-Jarrett, T., Higgins Tejera, C., Ko, M., Bailey, Z., Hardeman, R., Tsai, A. Gee, G., Thorpe, R., Uzzi, M., Matz, M., Solomon, G., Avila-Rieger, J., Belsky, D., Babulal, G., Barnes, L., Manly, J., Szanton, Alang, S. “The place where danger waits”: Ten years of incarceration after the 1994 Crime Bill and cognitive function among older adults. Submitted to *American Journal of Epidemiology*.

### Published Manuscripts

2024 **Ford, T.**, Ibe-Lamberts, K., Edmonds, S., Abrams, I. Chaudry, A., Daniels, P., Do, M., Edmiston, B., Fokum, S., Gary, C., Ghebenei, D., Hebert-Beirne, J., Jibrell, H., Jones, J., Kelleher, M., Lynch, J., Mahajan, A., Marcus, N., Pinsker, E., Salgado, S., Taylor, S., Turner, G., Valentin, N., Velonis, A., Shaw, B. Challenges and Opportunities for Participatory Evaluation of Local Public Health Efforts to Address Structural Racism and Advance Health Equity. *Journal of Participatory Research Methods*, 5(2). <https://doi.org/10.35844/001c.118717>

2024 Adkins-Jackson, P., Joseph, V., **Ford, T.**, Avila-Rieger, J., Gobaud, A., Keyes, K. State-level structural racism and adolescent mental health in the United States. *American Journal of Epidemiology*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/aje/kwae164>

2024 Adkins-Jackson PB, Kim B, Tejera CH , **Ford, T.**, Gobaud AN, Sherman-Wilkins KJ, Turney IC, Avila-Rieger JF, Sim KD, Okoye SM, Belsky DW, Hill-Jarrett TG, Samuel L, Solomon G, Cleeve JH, Gee G, Thorpe Jr. RJ, Crews DC, Hardeman RR, Bailey ZD, Szanton SL, Manly JJ. “Hang ups, let downs, bad breaks, setbacks”: Impact of structural socioeconomic racism and resilience on cognitive change over time for persons racialized as Black. *Health Equity*. 2024;8(1).  
<https://doi.org/10.1089/heq.2023.0151>

2023 Francis, B. Bosah, C. Plaisime, M. **Ford, T.**, Keene, D., Ray, N., Sealy-Jefferson, S. A Conceptual Understanding of the Impact of Interconnected Forms of Racism on Maternal Hypertension through Black Women’s Lived Experiences. (2023). *Social Science and Medicine – Qualitative Research in Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmqr.2023.100329>

2023 Michener, J. & **Ford, T.** Racism and Health: Three Core Principles. (2023). *Milbank Quarterly*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-0009.12633>

### Technical Reports and Protocols

2024 **Ford, T.**, Hill-Muhammad, T., Hanneke, R., & Mitchell, U. Subjective well-being for people racialized as Black in the United States: Scoping Review Protocol. Available [here](#).

2023 **Ford, T.** “Historical unemployment for Black women and men in the United States: 1954-2021” *Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

2022 Michener, J and **Ford, T.** “Engaging Voice to Support Racially Equitable Policymaking.” *The Commonwealth Fund*. <https://doi.org/10.26099/yysm-sk47>

**Ford, T.** and Michener, J. “Medicaid Reimbursement Rates Are a Racial Justice Issue.” *The Commonwealth Fund*. <https://doi.org/10.26099/h5np-x425>

2021 Broady, K., **Ford, T.**, & Romer, C. “July jobs report shows Black teens struggling with the highest unemployment rate.” *The Avenue: Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.**, Silva, J., Welch, M., & Sawhill, I. “No Time to Spare: Exploring the middle class time squeeze.” *Time and the Middle Class: Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.** & Goger, A. “The value of qualitative data for advancing equity in policy.” *Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.** “Testimonial: The Deadly Intersection of Race and Policing in America.” *State of Black America 2021: Structural Racism. National Urban League*. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.** & Broady, K. “Investing in a New Normal: Reimagining Public Health and Safety.” *State of Black America 2021. National Urban League*. Available [here](#).

Broady, K., **Ford, T.**, & Perry, A. “Mitigating the Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Black Communities through Fintech.” *State of Black America 2021: Economic Collapse. National Urban League*. Available [here](#).

2020 Silva, J. & **Ford, T.** “Navigating race and injustice in America’s middle class.” *Race in American Public Policy: Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

Kinder, M. & **Ford, T.** “Black essential workers’ lives matter. They deserve real change, not just lip service.” Report: Brookings Institution. Available [here](#).

Silva, J., Sawhill, I., Welch, M., & **Ford, T.** “What if something

happens?': A Qualitative Study of the Hopes and Anxieties of the American Middle Class Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic." *Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.**, Reber, S., & Reeves, R. "Race gaps in COVID-19 deaths are even bigger than they appear." Up Front: *Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

Reeves, R. & **Ford, T.** "COVID-19 much more fatal for men, especially taking age into account." Up Front: *Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.** & Reeves, R. "College for people like me: How majority-Black campuses boost social mobility." Up Front: *Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

2019 **Ford, T.** & Schuetz, J. "How are communities making housing more affordable for middle-income families?" *Policy 2020: Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.** & Schuetz, J. "Workforce housing and middle-income housing subsidies: A primer." *Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.** & Schuetz, J. "Tackling zoning to help the middle class: 5 policy approaches." Up Front: *Brookings Institution*. Available [here](#).

2018 **Ford, T.**, Eplin, W., & Schaps, M. "A Qualitative Review of Chicago's West Suburban Safety Net: Consequences, Adaptation, and Recommendations for Future Reform." *Health & Medicine Policy Research Group*. Available [here](#).

Eplin, W. & **Ford, T.** "Beyond the Clinic: A National Health Equity Review, Implications for our local safety net." *Health & Medicine Policy Research Group*. Available [here](#).

Nzinga-Johnson, S., **Ford, T.**, & Powell, S. "Criminalization of People of Color as a Barrier to Diversifying the Health Workforce: Sentencing & Incarceration." *Health & Medicine Policy Research Group*. Available [here](#).

2017 Darnell, J., Mora, N., Cahn, S., [and 5 others, including **Ford, T.**]. "Strengthening the Safety Net in Illinois After Health Reform." *Health & Medicine Policy Research Group*. Available [here](#).

Nzinga-Johnson, S., **Ford, T.**, & Powell, S. "Criminalization of People of Color as a Barrier to Diversifying the Health Workforce: Arrests & Detainment." *Health & Medicine Policy Research Group*. Available [here](#).

Nzinga-Johnson, S., **Ford, T.**, & Powell, S. "Criminalization of People of Color as a Barrier to Diversifying the Health Workforce: Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)" *Health & Medicine Policy Research Group*. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.** & Eplin, W. "Report Release: Efficient Health Workforce Data Collection in Illinois." *Health & Medicine Policy Research Group*. Available [here](#).

Eplin, W., **Ford, T.**, & Spees, C. "Everything is health: Tracking Legislation in the Illinois General Assembly." *Health & Medicine Policy Research Group*. Available [here](#).

2016 Nzinga-Johnson, S., Epplin, W., **Ford, T.**, & Alvarez, R. “Recommendations for Measuring Structural Racism in Chicago.” Health & Medicine Policy Research Group. Available [here](#).

### Public Scholarship, Interactives, and Opinions and Editorials

2023 **Ford, T.**, Donoghoe, M., & Perry, A. M. “What community factors are helping—or hurting—Black health and well-being? We want to hear from you.” [Data interactive] Brookings Institution. Available [here](#).

2020 **Ford, T.** “8 Ways To Support The Protests And #BlackLivesMatter Movement From Home.” Blavity. Available [here](#).

2018 **Ford, T.** “Juneteenth is African American Independence Day and it’s past time we celebrate it.” Health & Medicine Policy Research Group. Available [here](#).

2017 **Ford, T.** & Epplin, W. “Does Chicago really need more police officers?” Letter to the editor, Chicago Tribune. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.** & Epplin, W. “CPS, Health Equity, and Illinois’ Revenue Problem.” Health & Medicine Policy Research Group. Available [here](#).

**Ford, T.** & Epplin, W. “Ending Police Violence is a Public Health Responsibility.” Health & Medicine Policy Research Group. Available [here](#).

2016 Nzinga-Johnson, S., **Ford, T.**, & Epplin, W. “More police? What about more teachers?” Letter to the editor, Crain’s Chicago Business. Available [here](#).

### SPONSORED RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

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#### Awarded

2024-26 Principal Investigator  
*Exploring subjective well-being, power, and policy for people racialized as Black in Cook County, Illinois*, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)

2024-25 Co-Investigator (PI: Benjamin Shaw)  
*Evaluation of Recently-Implemented Racial Equity Initiatives in the Division of Community Health Sciences*, UIC Chancellor Advancing Racial Equity Award Program

2024-25 Co-Investigator (PI: Benjamin Shaw)  
*Developing Regional Health Equity Zones in Illinois*, Illinois Department of Public Health

2022-24 Co-Investigator (PI: Benjamin Shaw)  
*CDC Health Disparities Grant Evaluation*, Chicago Department of Public Health

#### Submitted (Under Review)

2024 Co-Investigator (PI: Paris B. Adkins-Jackson)

*A psychometric validation study of a historically-informed, multidimensional, life course measure of anti-Black structural racism*, National Institute on Aging (NIA), R01. Grant period: 2024-2028

### Submitted (Not Funded)

2023 Co-Investigator (PI: Yamile Molina)  
*Illinois Advancing Cancer Control Equity Research through Transformative Solutions (I-ACCERT) Center, Community Responsive Project: Illinois Community Health Worker Policy Opportunities Within Equity Research (I-CHW POWER)*, National Cancer Institute (NCI), U19. Grant period: 2024-2026

### AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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2023 – present Non-Resident Fellow, Brookings Institution, Economic Studies  
2023 Non-Resident Fellow, Brookings Institution, Brookings Metro  
2023 Emotional Well-Being and Physical Health Summer Short Course Tuition Fellowship, Network for Emotional Well-Being  
2022 – 2023 Scholar, Michigan Integrative Well-being and Inequality (MIWI), University of Michigan School of Public Health, NCCIH (R25-AT010664)  
2022 Scholar, Summer Mentoring Workshop, University of Michigan, Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research, NIH (P30 AG015281)  
2021 Innovative Research Award, University of Maryland, School of Public Policy  
2021 Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Award for Excellence in Graduate Studies, Sadie Collective  
2021 Seed Grant on Race, Policy, Equity, and Social Justice, University of Maryland, School of Public Policy  
2021 Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship, University of Maryland, Graduate School  
2018 – 2020 Dean’s Fellowship, University of Maryland, School of Public Policy  
2018 – 2019 Joseph W. Rogers Fellowship, University of Maryland, School of Public Policy

### SKILLS AND WORKSHOPS

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2023 Emotional Well-Being and Physical Health Summer Short Course, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Research Department of Behavioural Science and Health at University College London  
2022 Synthesizing Qualitative Data with Johnny Saldaña and Matt Omasta, QRSI

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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2024 “From theory to action: Unpacking the role of co-created “Epidemics of Injustice” course in radicalizing public health pedagogy.” 2024 National Collaborative for Education to Address the Social Determinants of Health (NCEAS) Annual Conference, February 2024. *Poster presented with student authors.*  
2023 “Soaring Optimism: The Black-white Subjective Well-being Paradox.” 2023 Annual Science Meeting, Society for the Analysis of African American Public Health Issues (SAAPHI), November 2023. *Poster presented with student author.*

- 2023 “The Black-White Subjective Well-being Paradox in the United States.” STATEC Research Measuring Progress Annual Workshop, June 2023. Available [here](#).
- 2022 “Exploring complexity in subjective well-being: A discussion of the Black women’s well-being paradox.” Georgetown University Race and Ethnic Politics Workshop, Department of Government, May 2022
- 2021 “What the “outsider within” can teach us about policy: A mixed methods exploration of well-being among Black middle-class women.” Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research, November 2021
- 2018 “A Qualitative Review of Chicago’s West Suburban Safety Net: How political fear shapes healthcare action.” American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting, November 2018
- 2017 “#ThisIsPublicHealth: Bridging the Gap Between Public Health Professionals and Social Movements.” APHA Annual Meeting, November 2017
- 2016 “Preparing Students to Pursue Health Equity: Unpacking Structural Determinants of Health Inequities in the Classroom.” APHA Annual Meeting, November 2016
- 2016 “Teaching the Causes of the Causes: Capitalism, Neoliberalism, and Structural Oppression.” APHA Annual Meeting, November 2016
- 2015 “Radical Curriculum: Breaking Bad Political Economics of Neoliberalism and #BlackLivesMatter to Public Health.” APHA Annual Meeting, November 2015
- 2015 “Separate and Not Equal: the Impact of Modern Day Segregation on Health Inequities.” APHA Annual Meeting, November 2015
- 2012 “Transactional theory of coping: What works for whom and under what circumstance.” Association for Psychological Science Annual Meeting, May 2012

#### INVITED TALKS, PANELS, AND PRESS

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Invited Talk: *Gendered racism and subjective well-being in the United States*. SHADES ERG, National Opinion Research Center (NORC) (August 2024)

Invited Talk: *Black women’s paradoxical subjective well-being in the United States.: How individuals intervene to support well-being and how policy could*. Gender in Medicine of the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin. (June 2023)

Invited Panelist: *Radical Public Health Alumni Panel*. University of Illinois at Chicago, IPHS 430: Epidemics of Injustice. (April 2023)

Invited Panelist: *Public Health Systems and Structures*. The Future of Population Health: Challenges and Opportunities, Boston University School of Public Health. Event [recorded here](#). (April 2023)

Invited Talk: *Structural racism and subjective well-being*. 14<sup>th</sup> Annual University of Illinois at Chicago Minority Health Conference: Interprofessional Health. (April 2023)

Invited Presenter: *NAACP and Brookings Institution partnership*. NAACP Board Meeting. (February 2023)

Invited Talk: *Is the Black-White Subjective Well-being Paradox Consistent Across Gender and Determinants of Well-being?* Brookings Institution Economic Studies Scholar Lunch. (August 2022)

Invited Moderator: *Let's Talk: Innovating the Education of Economics*. 2021 Research and Networking Reception by the Sadie Collective. (November 2021)

Invited Talk: *"Trying to make a change": Black middle-class women's subjective well-being and what that means for policy*. Brookings Institution Economic Studies Lunch and Learn. (October 2021)

Invited Talk: *Exploring Complexity in Well-being: A mixed methods examination of the Black women's well-being paradox*. Brookings Institution Opportunity for All lecture series. (July 2021)

Invited Panelist: *How to support Black women in economics*. February 11, 2021. Panelist for 2021 Sadie T.M. Alexander conference research reception organized by the Sadie Collective.

Invited Panelist: *Reimagining Healthy Communities*. Faith in Place Action Fund and Southsiders Organized for Unity and Liberation. Webinar [recorded here](#). (August 2020)

Invited Panelist: *Are Police in Schools Keeping Us Safe?* Mt. Rainier Organizing for Racial Equity, Public Health Awakened, and P.G. Change Makers. (August 2020)

Live Interview: *Let's talk about health policy with Dr. Tiffany N. Ford, MPH, PhD*. Chicago Area Health Education Center (AHEC) virtual speaker series, [recorded here](#). (April 2022)

Live Interview: *The state of the Black middle class*. WBOK 1230 am radio show, The Good Morning Show. (October 2021)

Live Interview: *The Brookings Debrief: Black Americans and the middle class*. Brookings Institution Instagram Live show, [recorded here](#). (February 2021)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Public Health - Graduate Courses

IPHS 430: Epidemics of Injustice. Instructor of Record for a course which provides a historical and contemporary understanding of structural determinants of health and advocacy efforts co-developed with Radical Public Health. (Spring 2024)

CHSC 434: Introduction to Qualitative Methods in Public Health. Course development for a research methods course which introduces students to data collection, analysis, and study design for qualitative research. (Fall 2023)

### Classroom Guest Lectures

University of Illinois at Chicago, CHSC 551: Advanced Research Methods for Community Health Sciences. *Mixed Methods Study Designs: Parallel, Explanatory sequential, and Exploratory sequential designs*. (April 2023, 2024)

University of the District of Columbia-Brookings lecture series, Discovery Civics. *Time as a determinant of well-being*. (November 2021)

## SERVICE ACTIVITIES

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### Service to the School of Public Health

2023 – present Radical Public Health Faculty Advisor

### Service to the Division of Community Health Sciences

2023 – 2024 CHS Curriculum Committee

2023 – 2024 Advancing Racial Equity Student Working Group, Faculty Lead

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATIONS

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[Chicago United for Equity](#) (CUE), Board Secretary (2023+)

[Society for the Analysis of African American Public Health Issues](#) (SAAPHI), Chair- Annual Meeting Planning Committee (2023), Board Secretary (2021-2022)

[Public Health Awakened](#), Founded Washington, DC Action Team (2019), Founding member national steering committee (2017-2020)

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), Member

American Public Health Association (APHA), Member

## ADDITIONAL RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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2021 Senior Fellow, **Chicago United for Equity**, [People's Budget Chicago](#)

2020 – 2021 Lab member and Consultant (2021), **Social Epidemiology to Eliminate Disparities (SEED) Lab**, Social Engagement to Combat Unjust Residential Evictions Study (PI: Shawnita Sealy-Jefferson)

2019 – 2021 Research Analyst, Future of the Middle Class Initiative, **Brookings Institution**

2016 – 2018 Senior Policy Analyst for Health Reform and Health Equity, **Health & Medicine Policy Research Group**

2015 – 2016 Graduate Research Assistant, Urban Medicine (UMed) program, **University of Illinois College of Medicine**

2015 – 2016 Assessor and FUEL Facilitator, Community Outreach Intervention Projects: IMARA, **University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Public Health**

2015 Graduate Practicum Intern, **Health & Medicine Policy Research Group**

2014 – 2015 Graduate Research Assistant I, **NORC at the University of Chicago**

2014 Prosperity Health Intern, **Catalyst Miami**

2013 Research Assistant, Center of Excellence for Health Disparities Research: El Centro, Coordinated Victims Assistance Center Health Education Study, **University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies**

2012 Patient Satisfaction, Detroit Community Health Connection, Inc., Summer Enrichment Program, **University of Michigan School of Public Health**

2011 – 2013 Research Assistant, Race, Ethnicity, Culture and Promoting Strengths (RECAPS) Lab, **University of Miami School of Education and Human Development**