Carina Heckert, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Anthropology

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

The University of Texas at El Paso

Old Main Building, Room 308

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**Education**

Southern Methodist University, Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology, 2015

Southern Methodist University, M.A. in Cultural Anthropology, 2011

Indiana University of Pennsylvania, M.A. in Sociology, 2009

Indiana University of Pennsylvania Robert E. Cook Honors College, B.A. in Anthropology, 2006

**Academic Appointments**

Assistant Professor of Anthropology, 2015-present

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

The University of Texas at El Paso

Adjunct Lecturer, January Term 2015

Southern Methodist University-in-Taos

Adjunct Lecturer, Summer 2013 and Fall 2014

Department of Anthropology

Southern Methodist University

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books**

Heckert, Carina. 2018. *Fault Lines of Care: Gender, HIV, and Global Health in Bolivia.* New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

* Reviewed in *American Journal of Human Biology, The Lancet HIV*, *The Latin Americanist, Medical Anthropology Quarterly, Chronicle of Higher Education* book list
* Nominated for the Eileen Basker Memorial Book Prize from the Society for Medical Anthropology, 2018 and 2019
* Nominated for the Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology Book Prize, 2019

**Peer-Reviewed Publications** (\* indicates student author)

Heckert, Carina. 2021. “Embodied Pathways of Emotional Distress and Birth Complications among Immigrant Women on the US-Mexico Border.” *Ethos*, 48(4): 438-458.

Solis, Isabela\* and Carina Heckert. 2021. “The Intersections of Intimate Partner Violence and Legal Violence among Pregnant Immigrant Women on the US-Mexico Border.” *Affilia*, 36(1): 27-42.

Heckert, Carina. 2020. “The Bureaucratic Violence of the Health Care System for Pregnant Immigrants on the United States-Mexico Border.” *Human Organization*, 79(1): 33-42.

Heckert, Carina. 2019. “Syndemics in Symbiotic Cities: Pathogenic Policy, Border Thinking, and the Production of Health Inequities across Borders.” *Journal of Borderlands Studies.* Online ahead of print:<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/08865655.2019.1700823>.

Heckert, Carina. 2019. “*Travesti* Subjectivity and HIV Care: The Collision of the Global LGBT Rights and Evangelical Ex-Gay Movements in Bolivia.” *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*, 24(2): 406-423.

Heckert, Carina, Timothy Wright, Estefania Hernandez\*, and Victoria de Anda\*. 2019. “Ethnographic Reflections on Communicative Inequities, Global Health Relationships, and Two Decades of HIV in the Bolivian Press.” *Global Public Health,* 14(3): 407-417.

Heckert, Carina. 2017. “Blaming *Machismo*: How the Social Imaginary is Failing Men with HIV in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.” *Medical Anthropology,* 36(2): 157-169.

Heckert, Carina. 2016. “When Care is a ‘Systematic Route of Torture’: Conceptualizing the Violence of Medical Negligence in Resource-Poor Settings.” *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry*, 40(4): 687-706.

Parson, Nia and Carina Heckert. 2014. “The Golden Cage: The Production of Insecurity at the Nexus of Intimate Partner Violence and Unauthorized Migration in the US.” *Human Organization,* 73(4):305-314*.*

Heckert, Carina. 2012. “Latina Immigrants in Rural Western Pennsylvania and Use of Mental Health Resources When Coping with Depression: Implications for Practice.” *International Journal of Culture and Mental Health*, 5(3):182-189.

**Publications under Review**

De Anda, Victoria\* and Carina Heckert. “Stratified Access to Care and Mental Health Implications for Pregnant and Postpartum Immigrants in the US-Mexico Border Region.” Under contract for *Research Handbook on Society and Mental Health.* Edited by Marta Elliot.

Heckert, Carina and Andrea Daniella Mata\*. “Stratified Access and Experiences of Maternal Health Care in the US-Mexico Border Region.” *Social Work in Public Health.*

Heckert, Carina and Nia Parson. “Recalibrating the Scales: Unexpected Ethnographic Uses of Standardized Mental Health Instruments.” *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry.*

**Book Reviews**

Heckert, Carina. 2018. “Robert Wyrod’s *AIDS and Masculinity in the African City: Privilege, Inequality, and Modern Manhood.*” *City and Society,* 30(3)*.*

Heckert, Carina and Ophra Leyser-Whalen. 2017. “Kathryn Rhine’s *The Unseen Things: Women, Secrecy, and HIV in Northern Nigeria.*” *Gender and Society,* 31(4): 559-561.

**White Papers and Research Reports**

Román, Cathy\*, Carina Heckert, Rachel Curtis, and Regina Vadney. 2020. “Expanding Birth Choices in El Paso: Women’s Perceptions of the Midwifery Model of Care.” Research report prepared for local hospital OBGYN departments.

Heckert, Carina. 2019. “Emotional Distress and Maternal Health among Pregnant Latinas at the Intersections of Immigration and Health Policy on the US-Mexico Border.” Policy brief prepared for the Latino Center for Leadership Development-Tower Center at Southern Methodist University.

Heckert, Carina, Tyler Beltran\*, Claudia Borunda\*, Viridiana Edwards\*, Elizabeth González\*, Brittany Hearn\*, Gabriella Mendoza\*, Hannah Penklis\*, and Sonia Ramos\*. 2018. “Filling in Healthcare Coverage Gaps: What Can El Paso Learn from Other Healthcare Delivery Models?” Report prepared for local policymakers as a part of the Sociology of Health graduate seminar.

Heckert, Carina. 2014. “Una Etnografía de las Experiencias de Personas Viviendo con VIH-Sida Dentro del Sistema de Salud en Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia.” Research report prepared for Servicio Departamental de Salud Santa Cruz (SEDES), Centros de Vigilancia y Referencia de VIH-Sida (CDVIR), and Civil Society Organizations.

Heckert, Carina. 2013. “Primary Data Formative Research Report: Heterosexuals Living in High-Risk Areas Cycle 3 (HET-3), Dallas Metropolitan Division.” Research report prepared for Texas Department of State Health Services and the CDC.

Heckert, Carina. 2012. “Primary Data Formative Research Report: Injection Drug Users Cycle 3 (IDU-3), Dallas Metropolitan Division.” Research report prepared for Texas Department of State Health Services and the CDC.

Brettell, Caroline, Shay Cannedy, Lisa Haayen, Carina Heckert, Laura Jarvis, Beibei Yang, and Amber Zabka. 2010. “Burmese Refugees and Healthcare in Dallas.” A report for Texas Health Resources and Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas, TX.

**Other Publications**

“Engaged Anthropology Grant: Carina Heckert.” 2016. The Wenner-Gren Blog. <http://blog.wennergren.org/2016/12/eag_heckert/>.

**Podcasts**

“Maternal Health and Emotional Distress on the US-Mexico Border.” 2019. Heckert, Carina, Victoria de Anda, Isabela Solis, and Jesus Aleman. <https://soundcloud.com/user-213239205/maternal-health-and-emotional-distress-on-the-us-mexico-border>.

**Conference Papers**

2018. “Emotional Distress, Maternal Health, and the Syndemics of Deportability on the US-Mexico Border.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA.

2018. “Syndemics in Symbiotic Cities.” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

2016. “‘When I Was a *Travesti*’: Evangelicalism, HIV Care, and Transgender Subjectivity in Bolivia.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN.

2016. “Decolonization in Crisis: Healthcare Reform and HIV Care in Plurinational Bolivia.” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

2015. “Blaming *Machismo*: The Social Imaginary and the Illness Experiences of Men with HIV in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

2014. “‘I’m Poor, but I’m not Stupid!’: Contesting the Symbolic Violence of Medical Negligence toward People with HIV.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

2010. “Latina Immigrants in Rural Western Pennsylvania and Use of Mental Health Resources: Implications for Practice.” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Merida, Mexico.

2009. “Teaching Diversity through Ethnography.” Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Annual Diversity Summit, Harrisburg, PA (Invited Presentation with Victor Garcia and Qiana Lightner).

2009. “A Typology for Understanding Depression in Latina Immigrants.” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Santa Fe, NM.

2008. “Understanding Depression in Latina Immigrants in Rural Western Pennsylvania.” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Memphis, TN.

**Conference Posters**

De Anda, Victoria\* and Carina Heckert. “Mental Health Needs and Coping Strategies Reflected in Pregnancy Narratives among Immigrant Women in El Paso.” UTEP COURI Spring Virtual Symposium, 2020.

De Anda, Victoria\* and Carina Heckert. “Mental Health Needs and Coping Strategies Reflected in Pregnancy Narratives among Immigrant Women in El Paso.” UTEP Women’s History Month Spring Virtual Conference, 2020.

Mata, Daniella\* and Carina Heckert. “Stratified Healthcare Access and Implications for Maternal and Infant Health among First- and Second-Generation Immigrant Women in the US-Mexico Border Region.” UTEP COURI Spring Virtual Symposium, 2020.

Mata, Daniella\* and Carina Heckert. “Stratified Healthcare Access and Implications for Maternal and Infant Health among First- and Second-Generation Immigrant Women in the US-Mexico Border Region.” UTEP Women’s History Month Spring Virtual Conference, 2020.

Milam, James\* and Carina Heckert. “Provider Perceptions of Pregnant Immigrant Women’s Experiences Accessing Healthcare.” UTEP COURI Spring Virtual Symposium, 2020.

Solis, Isabela\* and Carina Heckert. “The Intersections of Experiences of Violence and Immigration-Related Stress in Pregnant Women in the Borderland Region.” UTEP Annual COURI Symposium, 2019.

Milam, James\* and Carina Heckert. “Provider Perceptions of Healthcare Access for Pregnant Immigrant Women.” UTEP Annual COURI Symposium, 2019.

**Conference Panels Organized and/or Chaired**

2018. “Methods and Practices in Health and Health Research.” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA. Panel Chair.

2018. “Border Women’s Health Issues.” Women’s History Month Conference, University of Texas at El Paso. Chair of Student Panel.

2017. “Gender and Representation in Cross-Cultural and Historical Perspective.” Women’s History Month Conference, University of Texas at El Paso. Organizer and Chair of Student Panel.

2017. “Methods for Engaging Students in Research.” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Santa Fe, NM. Organizer and Chair of Student Panel.

2016. “Bodies for Hire.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN. Panel Chair.

2016. “Local Advocacy, Global Issues: Promoting Women’s Rights on a Global Scale.” Women’s History Month Conference, University of Texas at El Paso. Organizer and Chair of Student Panel.

**Invited Talks and Guest Lectures**

Virtual BUILDing Scholars Research Experiences Discussion, University of Texas at El Paso. July 28, 2021.

Virtual book discussion of *Fault Lines of Care*. Liberal Arts Honors Program Book Discussion Series, University of Texas at El Paso. February 27, 2021.

Virtual book discussion of *Fault Lines of Care.* For the course Health, Healing, and Ethics at Spelman College. November 11, 2019.

Panelist for Viva la Girl, Viva la Mujer Leadership Summit hosted by Con Mi Madre. El Paso, TX. June 7, 2019.

Book discussion of *Fault Lines of Care.* For the course Contemporary Medical Anthropology at New Mexico State University. April 2, 2019.

“Fault Lines of Care.” Health and Society Lecture Series. Southern Methodist University. February 26, 2019.

Virtual book discussion of *Fault Lines of Care.* For the course Medical Anthropology at the University of Texas at Arlington. March 25, 2019.

Book presentation of *Fault Lines of Care*. UTEP Center for Inter-American and Border Studies, September 19, 2018.

Meet the author book discussion and signing for *Fault Lines of Care.* City Lights Bookstore and Café, Sylva, NC. May 31, 2018.

“Syndemics as a Theoretical Tool for Health Research.” UTEP Culture and Health Symposium. May 4, 2018.

“Emotional Distress, Maternal Health, and the Syndemics of Deportability.” UTEP Public Administration Interdisciplinary Colloquium Series. March 29, 2018.

“Ethics and Ethnography.” For the course Bioethics at the University of Texas at El Paso. September 27, 2017.

“Applying Anthropology in Global Health: An Ethnography of Bolivia’s AIDS Funding Crisis.” Inaugural Lecture for the Mid-Atlantic Addiction Training Institute Lecture Series on Health and Disadvantaged Communities. Indiana University of Pennsylvania. February 29, 2016.

“Gender, Sexuality, and Evangelicalism.” For the course Gender and Sex Roles at Southern Methodist University. March 26, 2015.

**Workshops and Roundtables**

Salud LGBTQ en la Frontera Juárez-El Paso. El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, Ciudad Juárez, Mexico. January 31, 2020. Invited Roundtable Panelist.

Society for Medical Anthropology-Research on US Health Roundtable: Addressing Access and Barriers to Health in the US. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. November 2019. Roundtable Panelist.

Invited participant/reviewer for book manuscript workshop for *Queer Amazon* by Justin Perez*.* Princeton University. May 11, 2019.

Mental Health and Pregnancy on the Border. UTEP Women’s History Month Conference. March 11, 2019. Organized Student Roundtable.

Culture and Health Symposium. University of Texas at El Paso, May 4, 2018. Participant and Presenter.

Frontera Women’s Healthcare Access Roundtable: Connecting Women on the Border to Healthcare. University Medical Center Neighborhood Health Center, El Paso, TX. March 23, 2018. Participant.

“Feminist Methods for Qualitative Health Research.” University of Texas at El Paso, November 27, 2017. Co-presenter with Ophra Leyser-Whalen for Interdisciplinary Feminist Methods Workshop Series.

Anthropological Writing: Engaging Various Audiences. Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Santa Fe, NM. March 2017. Roundtable Panelist and Co-organizer.

Building Research Experiences into Undergraduate Social Science Courses. University of Texas at El Paso, January 28, 2017. Workshop Participant.

Perspectivas en Mejorando la Calidad de Vida de Personas Viviendo con VIH. Santa Cruz, Bolivia. July 14, 2016. Roundtable Organizer and Moderator.

Mejorando la Calidad de Vida de Personas Viviendo con VIH. Talleres Interinstituciónales y para Personas Afectadas. Santa Cruz, Bolivia. June 30 and July 6, 2016. Workshop Series Organizer and Presenter.

Academic Convening on Border and Immigration Issues: Preparing Local and National Narratives on Border and Immigration for 2016 and 2017. University of Texas at El Paso, April 28-29, 2016. Workshop Participant.

**RESEARCH**

**Extramural Research Funding**

National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates Supplement to Grant #1947551 for “Pandemic Distress among Low-Income Postpartum Latinas in the US-Mexico Border Region,” August 2021-May 2022, Role: PI

National Science Foundation Senior Researcher Grant #1947551, joint funding from Cultural Anthropology and Sociology Programs for “Emotional Distress and Pathways of Embodied Maternal Health Vulnerability among Immigrant Women on the US-Mexico Border,” August 2020-July 2023 ($318,383), Role: PI

Latino Center for Leadership Development at Southern Methodist University Tower Center Research Grant for “Emotional Distress and Maternal Health among Pregnant Immigrant Latinas at the Intersections of Immigration and Health Policy on the US-Mexico Border,” August 2018-August 2019 ($9,986.85), Role: PI

Wenner-Gren Engaged Anthropology Grant for “Improving Experiences of Care for People Living with HIV/AIDS in Santa Cruz, Bolivia,” Summer 2016 ($4,256), Role: PI

Wenner-Gren Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fieldwork Grant for “Gender Relations, Illness Experiences, and HIV/AIDS Care in Santa Cruz, Bolivia,” August 2013-August 2014 ($19,983), Role: PI

**Ethnographic Consulting**

Texas Department of State Health Services and Texas A&M Public Policy Research Institute CDC Funded, Ethnographic Research on HIV Risk among Heterosexuals Living in High Poverty Areas, Dallas Metropolitan Division

February-July 2013 ($9,000)

Texas Department of State Health Services and Texas A&M Public Policy Research Institute CDC Funded, Ethnographic Research on HIV Risk and Injection Drug Use, Dallas Metropolitan Division

March-July 2012 ($9,000)

**Internal Grants and Fellowships**

Southern Methodist University Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Spring 2015

Southern Methodist University Graduate Student Development Grant, 2010, 2011, and 2014

Southern Methodist University Anthropology Department Edward Fry Award for Summer Research, 2010 and 2011

Southern Methodist University Anthropology Department Steed Travel Award, 2010

Indiana University of Pennsylvania Graduate Student Research Grant, 2008

Indiana University of Pennsylvania Honors College Scholarship, 2002-2006

Indiana University of Pennsylvania Athletic Scholarship, 2002-2006

**Research Training**

UTEP BUILDing Scholars Summer Sabbatical at the University of New Mexico (NIH-funded), 2017

UTEP Liberal Arts Grant Proposal Enhancement Program, Spring 2017

UTEP BUILDing Scholars Supermentor Program (NIH-funded), Faculty Mentee, 2016-2017

NSF Cultural Anthropology Field School in the Bolivian Amazon, Summer 2011

**Research Awards**

Southern Methodist University Research Day first place prize for poster presentation “Burmese Refugees and Healthcare in Dallas” (with Shay Cannedy and Laura Jarvis), 2011

**TEACHING**

**Courses Taught**

Undergraduate Level

Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Health, Healing, and Ethics: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Sickness and Society

Health as a Human Right: Globalization, Health, and Cross-Cultural Ethics

Medical Sociology

Medical Anthropology

Global Health

Special Topics: Anthropology of Human Rights

General Sociological Theory

Graduate Level

Sociology of Gender

Sociology of Health

Graduate Special Topics: Advanced Topics in Global Health

Graduate Special Topics: Gender and Health

**Undergraduate Mentoring**

* Anamaria Solis, Undergraduate Research Assistant (grant funded), 2021-2022
* Kimberly Anaya, Undergraduate Research Assistant, BUILDing Scholars Summer Program, 2021
* Luis Torres, Undergraduate Research Assistant, 2020, NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates recipient, 2021-2022
* Cathy Román, Volunteer Undergraduate Research Assistant, 2019-2020, NSF-funded Research Assistant, 2020-2021 (now in PhD in Cultural Anthropology program at UCLA)
* Victoria de Anda, Undergraduate Research Assistant, Spring 2017 and 2018-2019, UTEP Campus Office of Undergraduate Research Initiatives MERITUS Program, 2019-2020
* Jesus Aleman, Volunteer Research Assistant, Spring 2019-present
* Daniella Mata, UTEP BUILDing Scholars Undergraduate Research Fellow, Spring 2019-present (Top 10 Senior, Liberal Arts Banner Bearer, now in PhD program at Michigan State University)
* Isabela Solis, UTEP Campus Office of Undergraduate Research Initiatives MERITUS Program, 2018-2019 (now in MA/MPH program at the University of South Florida)
* James Milam, UTEP BUILDing Scholars Undergraduate Research Fellow, 2018-2020
* Ana Fuentes, UTEP BUILDing Scholars Undergraduate Research Fellow, 2017
* Estefania Hernandez, UTEP Campus Office of Undergraduate Research Initiatives MERITUS Program, 2016, Department Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award (now PhD/MPH student at Case Western Reserve)
* Mehdi Hami, Southern Methodist University Engaged Learning Project, 2015

**Graduate Mentoring**

Thesis Committee Chair

Mariel Cano, UTEP, MA in Sociology, Department Outstanding Graduate Student Award, 2019

Noemi Dimuzio, UTEP, MA in Sociology, Liberal Arts Graduate Student Marshall, 2019

Viridiana Edwards, UTEP, MA in Sociology, 2019

Maralyn Doering, UTEP, MA in Sociology, 2019 (now PhD student at University of Cincinnati)

Carolina Martinez, UTEP, MA in Sociology, in progress

Cynthia Wesley, MA in Sociology, in progress

Thesis Committee Member

Anessa Anchondo, UTEP, MA in Sociology, 2016

Kathryn Guerra, UTEP, MA in History, 2018

Rudy Garza, UTEP, MA in Sociology, 2019

Juliana Cardoso, UTEP, MA in Health Psychology, 2019

Denise Delgado, UTEP, MA in Sociology, 2019

Veronica Martinez, UTEP, MA in Communication, 2019

Hannah Penklis, UTEP, MA in Sociology, 2020

Itzahi Rodela, UTEP, MPH, 2020

Vanessa Cuevas, UTEP, MA in Communication, 2020

Gabrielle Mendoza, UTEP, MA in Sociology, 2021

Tyler Beltran, UTEP, MA in Sociology, 2021

Sonia Ramos, UTEP, MA in Sociology, in progress

Brianna Trejo, UTEP, MA in Sociology, in progress

Dissertation Committee Member

Juliana Cardoso, UTEP, PhD in Psychology, 2020

Suresh Lohani, UTEP, PhD in Rhetoric and Composition, in progress

**Teaching Awards**

American Anthropological Association Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award, 2020

**Other Teaching/Mentoring Activities**

Society for Medical Anthropology Speed Mentoring Session

American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA

November 15, 2018

Society for Medical Anthropology Speed Mentoring Session

American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN

November 17, 2016

Academic Tutor for Sociology, Anthropology, Writing, and Spanish

Altshuler Learning Enhancement Center, Southern Methodist University

January-May 2013

Teaching Assistant

Department of Anthropology, Southern Methodist University

August 2009 – May 2012

ESL Instructor

Centro Venezolano Americano, Caracas, Venezuela

August 2006-January 2007

**SERVICE**

**Service to the University**

UTEP Liberal Arts Curriculum Committee, Fall 2018-present

UTEP Liberal Arts Research Council, Fall 2017-Fall 2019

UTEP Faculty Senate Representative, Fall 2017-Summer 2018

UTEP Student Organization Faculty Advisor, Amnesty International, January- May 2017

**Service to the Sociology and Anthropology Department**

Department Lecture Series Committee, Fall 2018-Present

Department Quality of Life Committee, Fall 2016

Department Infrastructure Committee, Fall 2015

**Service to the Community**

Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, El Paso Community Board Member, Jan. 2019-present

El Paso HIV Community Mobilization Group, Member, Sept. 2015-May 2018

El Paso HIV Community Mobilization, Subcommittee on Substance Abuse, May 2016-May 2018

Social Control Committee for HIV (Santa Cruz, Bolivia), Member, Dec. 2013-Aug. 2014

**Reviewer**

Journals

*American Anthropologist*

*American Ethnologist*

*American Journal of Public Health*

*Ethos*

*Ethnicities*

*Global Bioethics*

*Global Public Health*

*Journal of Homosexuality*

*Medical Anthropology*

*Medical Anthropology Quarterly*

*PLOS One*

*Public Integrity*

*Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare*

Textbooks

Routledge

Grants

National Science Foundation, Grant Review Panelist, 2020 and 2021

Trans-Atlantic Platform for Social Sciences and Humanities: Recovery, Renewal and Resilience in a Post-Pandemic World, Expert Reviewer, 2021

**Media Appearances**

Interviewed for El Paso KFOX/CBS4 segment on behavior during a pandemic, November 25, 2020