Chris F. Biga

August 2026

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2006 Ph.D. Washington State University, Sociology
1999 M.A. University of New Orleans, Sociology
1996 B.A. University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Sociology & Psychology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

8/2026 – present	Adjunct/Lecturer, Texas State University
10/2024 – present	Teaching Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham
8/2013 – 7/2025	Director of Undergraduate Sociology Program, UAB
9/2024 – 5/2025	Search Advisor, College of Arts and Sciences, UAB
1/2021 – 9/2024	Equity Advisor, College of Arts and Sciences, UAB
10/2016 – 9/2024	Associate Teaching Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham
8/2013 – 9/2016	Assistant Teaching Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham
8/2012 – 7/2013	Visiting Teaching Assistant Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham
8/2011 – 5/2012	Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of North Texas Director of Undergraduate Sociology Program (Spring 2012)
8/2007 – 5/2011	Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, North Dakota State University
10/2006 – 8/2007	Post-Doctoral Researcher, Office of Applied Gerontology in the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare, UW-Milwaukee
9/2006 – 8/2007	Lecturer, Department of Sociology, UW-Milwaukee
6/2006 – 12/2007	Part-Time Instructor, Waukesha County Technical College
1/2005 – 9/2006	Associate Researcher, Office of Applied Gerontology in the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare, UW-Milwaukee
8/2004 – 5/2006	Associate Lecturer, Department of Sociology, UW-Milwaukee

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Texas State University

SOC 1310: Introduction to Sociology

University of Alabama at Birmingham

SOC 100: Introduction to Sociology
SOC 120: Introduction to Social Psychology
SOC 222: Sociology in the City (Birmingham)
SOC 235: Sociology of Religion
SOC 245: Social Problems
SOC 210/310: Sociological Literacy
SOC 315: Sociology of Terrorism
SOC 316: Popular Culture
SOC 317: Sociology of Social Media
SOC 323: Social Structure and Personality
SOC 336: Sports and Society
SOC 405: Mind, Self and Society
SOC 410: Social Statistics
SOC 431: Environmental Sociology
SOC 484: Quantitative Research Methods
SOC 489: The Research Experience (capstone)
SOC 498/499: Sociology Honors Seminar/Honors Thesis
SOC 713: Introduction to Applied Social Research Methods (online MA)
SOC 715: Program Evaluation

Classes taught (not at UAB)

Sociology of Aging, Graduate Research Methods (MA), and Social Statistics for Social Work (MA)

GRANTS, CONTRACTS, and AWARDS

2023 **Blazer Core Fellow –** funds provided for professional development - $4,000
2022 **Red Mountain Project (sustainability) -** funds provided for professional development - $1,000
2019 **Affordable Instructional Materials Grant –** funds provided for professional development and reducing costs for student instructional material - $1,000
2009 **Environment and Conservation Science Grant** – pilot project support for collaborative research on wind energy in North Dakota. Co-PI (w/ Dr. Erin Gilliam) -$7,000
2009 **Alzheimer's Association Network of Wisconsin –** *Contract Evaluation/Community Service*, "Quality Assurance and the Dementia Specialist Program" – PI $8,000.
2007 **Alzheimer's Association Network of Wisconsin** – *Contract Evaluation/Community Service*, "Evaluating Dementia Specialist Program" – PI $11,000.
2007 **UW Medical School Community-Academic Partnership Fund** – *The Wisconsin Partnership Fund for a Healthy Future* – "Improving Access to Quality Dementia Services in Underserved Rural Wisconsin Communities, Proposal 2005I-035, Wisconsin Chapters of the Alzheimer's Association." Co-PI $960,000.
2006 **Administration on Aging –** *Non-Competitive Grant Awards* – "Development of the Training Research Institute." Research Scientist/Project Director. $293,731.

Submitted (not funded):

2021 **Evaluating the effectiveness of an Inclusive, Integrative Education Implementation in STEM and non-STEM CAS classrooms on increasing student sense of belonging and STEM literacy**.- Internal UAB CAS Interdisciplinary Grant proposal - $30,000. Co-PI (Biga, P.- Lead PI, Jones, P., Keitt, A., and Raut, S.)

2021 **STEAM-con: Developing convergent STEAM curricula to prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century.** - NSF - $1,307,762 Co-PI (Biga, P. -Lead PI, Jones, P., Keitt, A. and Raut, S.)

2013 **Alzheimer's and Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin -** *Contract Evaluation/Community Service,* "Evaluation of the Dementia Specialist Training Program" - $12,000
2009 **Department of Defense: Legacy Resource Management Program**. -*A cooperative conservation approach to recovery of a federally listed species, the Mohave tui chub (Siphateles bicolor mohavensis). Co-PI (*Stockwell, C., CF Biga, M. Clark, R. Hearne, B. Saini-Eidukat.) ($164,723)
2008 **Department of Defense: Legacy Resource Management Program**. -*A cooperative conservation approach to recovery of a federally listed species, the Mohave tui chub (Siphateles bicolor mohavensis). Co-PI (*Stockwell, C., CF Biga, M. Clark, R. Hearne, B. Saini-Eidukat.) ($187,263)
2007 **ND EPSCoR RII program** -*Global Change the effects of climate change will have on Upper Great Plains to the ND. Co-PI* (M Otte, W Lin, P Oduor, L Cihacek, D Hopkins, CF Biga and B Rundquist).

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles:

Stets, JE. and CF Biga. 2003. "Bringing Identity Theory into Environmental Sociology." *Sociological Theory*. 21(4): 398-423.

Reports:

Biga, CF. 2007. "Evaluation of the Dementia Specialist Program: Offered by the Wisconsin Chapters of the Alzheimer's Association". *Report to the Wisconsin Chapters of the Alzheimer's Association*. Consultant for the Center on Age and Community, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Biga, CF. 2011. "Evaluation of the Dementia Specialist Program II: Offered by the Alzheimer's and Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin." *Report to the Wisconsin Chapters of the Alzheimer's Association*.

Encyclopedia Articles:

Coward, RT, CW Peek, and CF Biga. 2008. "Elders." Pp. 309-312 in *Encyclopedia of Rural America: The Land and People*. Grey House Publishing: Millerton, NY.

Instructional Literature:

Biga, CF and JJ Schlichtman. 2012. "Urban and Environmental Sociology." in *Introduction to Sociology: A Collaborative Approach*, *Third Edition* edited by B. Roncace. Ashbury Publishing. San Francisco, CA.

Biga, CF and M Shelly. 2010. "Urban and Environmental Sociology." in *Introduction to Sociology: A Collaborative Approach*, *Second Edition* edited by B. Roncace. Ashbury Publishing. San Francisco, CA

Biga, CF. 2010. *PowerPoint Presentation for Social Research Methods: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches, 7/E*. New York: Pearson Education, Inc.

Biga, CF and M Shelly. 2009. "Urban and Environmental Sociology." Pp. 361-391 in *Introduction to Sociology: A Collaborative Approach*, edited by B. Roncace. Ashbury Publishing. San Francisco, CA

Biga, CF. 2008. *PowerPoint Presentation for Basics of Social Research: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches, 2/E*. New York: Pearson Education, Inc.

Biga, CF. 2008. *PowerPoint Presentation for Social Research Methods: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches, 6/E*. New York: Pearson Education, Inc.

Biga, CF and WL Neuman. 2006. *Instructor's Manual and Test Bank for Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*, 6/E. New York: Pearson Education, Inc.

Biga, CF and WL Neuman. 2006. *TestGen EQ: Computerized Test Bank for Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*, 6/E. New York: Pearson Education, Inc.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Biga, CF. 2014. "Explaining Environmentally Significant Individual Behavior: Shared Meanings of Multiple Identities." Identity Conference, University of California, Riverside.

Biga, CF. 2009. "Explaining Environmentally Significant Individual Behavior: Shared Meanings of Multiple Identities." *Midwest Sociological Society*. Des Moines, IA (canceled presentation due to blizzard).

Taylor, C and CF Biga. 2009. "Community Perceptions of the Kinnickinnic River." *Rural Sociological Society*, Madison, WI.

Biga, CF. 2007. "Measuring Caregiver Identity and its Association with Caregiver Burden." *Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting*, San Franscico, CA.

Rowe, JM, CF Biga, and MY Savundranayagam. 2006. "Linking Research and Practice: The League of Experienced Family Caregivers and the Training Research Institute at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee." National Association of Social Workers, Wisconsin Chapter 32nd Annual State Conference, Wisconsin Dells, WI.

Biga, CF. 2002. "Environment and Gender Identities." *Social Science Association*: New Orleans, LA. Biga, CF and JE Stets. 2002. "Bringing Identity Theory into Environmental Sociology." *Pacific Sociological Association*: Vancouver, BC.

Biga, CF. 2000. "Attitudes towards Authority on Environmental Attitudes." *Pacific Sociological Association*: San Diego, CA.

SERVICE

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE)

Area IV: History and Social Science Academic Subcommittee of the Alabama Articulation and General Studies Committee (2019 – present): As a member of this statewide committee, I represent UAB (of the 14 state universities), reviewing/recommending courses to be included in the General Education Requirement (Area IV: History and Social Sciences).

University Service

Faculty Senate (2018 – 2022): As one of the College of Arts and Sciences' representatives, my responsibility is to speak/vote on behalf of CAS faculty; my particular focus is to also represent teaching faculty.

Faculty Senate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (2021- 2022): As a member of the Senate DEI committee, our responsibilities to lead, direct, and guide issues pertaining to diversity, equity, and inclusion at the faculty, staff, and student levels.

Curriculum Committee of the Faculty Senate (2018-2020): As member of the Curriculum Committee of the Faculty Senate, our responsibilities are to shepherd, direct, and manage undergraduate curriculum concerns.

Faculty Policy and Procedures Committee (2020): As a member of the FPPC our responsibility is to manage, update, and critique the faculty handbook (policies and procedures).

Election Committee of the Faculty Senate (ad hoc Spring 2019 and Spring 2020): As a member of the Election Committee, we managed the 2019 Faculty Senate elections for the 2019-2020 academic year.

College of Arts and Sciences Caucus of the Faculty Senate (2018 – 2022; Chair 2019-20): As a member of the CAS Caucus, we meet to discuss College concerns that need to be brought to the attention of the Faculty Senate.

Faculty Development Grant Program (co-Chair 2019-20, Director 2020-21): As the Director of the FDGP, I help facilitate and implement the Faculty Development Grant Program. Specifically, we manage the distribution of grant funds provided by the provost (and matched by colleges) for assistant professors.

Admissions Appeals Committee (2019 – present): As a member of the Appeals Committee, we review/vote on prospective student's appeals for admissions into UAB.

Honors College Application Review Committee (2022 – present): As a member of the HC Review committee, we review/vote on prospective students appeals to admissions into the HC at UAB.

Blazer Beginnings (2016 – present): during the summer months I given talks to the parents on incoming first year students on the "Professor Perspectives", discussing professor expectation of incoming first year students.

Associate Vice Provost of Assessment, Accreditation, and Academic Planning Search Committee (2019): As a member of this search committee we reviewed and recommended hire for the VP of AAAP.

Gay/Straight Student Alliance (GSSA, 2012-2014): Faculty sponsor for the UAB GSSA. This is a student run organization meeting the needs of the LGBTQ student community. Specifically, I serve as a resource for

the students of GSSA and mediate any concerns/issues that may arise in the group.

LGBT Issues Working Group (2012-2013): Working with the Provost, faculty, staff, and students on identifying and addressing issues and concerns of the LGBTQ community at UAB.

Sustainability Major Workgroup (2013): Working with other faculty and staff to develop (and feasibility of) an undergraduate program in sustainability.

College of Arts and Sciences

Search/Equity Advisory, College of Arts and Sciences (2021 – present): As an equity advisor for CAS, I have served as Ex Officio on more than 30 search committees, guiding committees though CAS's mission of inclusion and belonging. I helped create the protocols for faculty (and chair) searches.

Academic Integrity Board/Academic Hearing Panel (2023 – present): As a member of the Integrity Board for CAS, I serve on as member of the Hearing Panel and am responsible for presiding over academic integrity hearings.

DEIB Working Group, Chair (2022): served on as chair of the undergraduate subcommittee for the DEIB working group, focusing on short- and long-term recommendations for moving forward on structural and cultural changes to increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging amongst the undergraduate stakeholders.

NTE Working Group (2022): The NTE Working Group provided the CAS Dean's office with short and long-term recommendations for institutional changes to increase inclusivity and belonging amongst the NTE faculty and the tenure earing faculty.

College of Arts and Sciences' Scholarship Committees (2013 – present): I have served on various scholarship committees for the College of Arts and Sciences. Specifically, I read scholarship applications, meet with applicants, rank candidates, and provide input to create an inclusive/diverse scholarship distribution.

Pre-Health Advisory Committee (2017 – present): The College of Arts and Sciences writes every CAS student applying for professional training in a health-related field a cumulative letter of support. The Pre-Health Advisory Committee guides this letter. Specifically, we read all the cumulative letters of support. My focus on this committee is to critically assess the diversity and inclusivity of these letters.

College of Arts and Sciences' Curriculum and Policies Committee (2015-2021; Committee Chair 2017-2020): As one of the Social Science Representatives, my primary responsibility is to review, critique, and advise departments on submitting degree programs to the college, university, and Board of Trustees.

Department of Sociology

Director of the Undergraduate Program (2012-2025): As director of the undergraduate sociology program, my primary responsibility is to direct, develop and manage the undergraduate sociology program. Specifically, I assist the department chair in producing reports for the college on the dynamics and growth of the undergraduate program. I schedule all undergraduate classes, develop/manage the undergraduate programs, promote the undergraduate program at university function (Honor's Day, etc), and meet and advise sociology majors/minor. I work with the director of the online MA program on our accelerated bachelor's/master's program.

Job Search Chair/Committees (ad hoc 2013 – present): I have served of faculty searches (Sociology and African American Studies), as well as search chair, focusing on making sure the interests of the undergraduate program are voiced. In addition, I have chaired visiting teaching faculty searches.

Online MA committee (2017 – present): I have served on this committee since its inception. We meet as

needed to discuss the online MA curriculum, admissions processes, etc.

Chair, Undergraduate Scholarship and Award Committee (2012 – 2025): As chair, I oversaw the selection of two departmental awards and two endowed scholarships/awards.

Medical Sociology Club (2021 – 2024): Faculty sponsor for the Department of Sociology's Undergraduate Medical Sociology Club. This is a student run organization meeting the needs of medical sociology majors/ minors. I serve as a resource for students of the club and mediate any concerns/issues that arise in the group.

University of North Texas

Director of the Undergraduate Program (2012): As director of the undergraduate program, my primary responsibility was to direct, develop and manage the undergraduate sociology program. Specifically, I assisted the department chair in producing reports for the college on the dynamics and growth of the undergraduate program. I schedule all undergraduate classes, promote the undergraduate program at university function (Honor's Day, etc.), and meet and advise sociology majors/minor.

North Dakota State University

Environmental and Conservation Science Steering Committee (2008 – 2011): I represent the social sciences that have a stake in the ECS program, review graduate applicants, champion social dimensions of environmental problems, and encourage monies to support social science students in the ECS program.

National Teach-In (2008 – 2011): National Teach-In is a nationwide yearly event, held in February to increase awareness of global warming as a social problem and discussion of possible solutions from many disciplines. I cosponsored the National Teach-In at NDSU with Dr. Wei Lin during the 2008 and 2009 Teach-in. For the 2010 event, I was lead faculty sponsor, organizing 12 speakers from NDSU, MSUM and public professionals.

First-Year Experience (2008 – 2009): is a faculty-mentoring program for freshmen living in on-campus housing. I mentored a freshman floor (Johnson Hall 3rd Floor) for 18 months (Jan 08-Aug 09).

NDSU Cycling Club (2009 – 2011): Faculty sponsor of the NDSU cycling club. This is a student-run organization, and we provide advice and direction to increasing membership and sponsorship.

Sustainability Task Force (2008, 2010 -2011): University committee delegated with the responsibility of advancing sustainability at NDSU.

AWARDS

2023 **Blazer Core Curriculum Fellow,** Class of 2023

2021 **NACADA Certificate of Merit, Outstanding Advising Award – Faculty Academic Advising**, NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising.

2021 **UAB Outstanding Faculty Advising Award,** University of Alabama at Birmingham, Council of Academic Advisors, Outstanding Advisor Award Selection Committee.

2018 **Outstanding Senate Committee Member Award,** University of Alabama at Birmingham, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee, Faculty Senate.

2017 **Humble Hero Award,** City of Birmingham Mayor's Office Division of Youth Services. Mayor William Bell. Executive Director, Cedric Sparks.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

Teaching Workshops

2018 Global Awareness: International Retreat (2-day)
2019 Teaching Effectiveness: Reacting to the Past in Action
2019 Teaching Effectiveness: Reacting to the Past Roundtable
2021 Career Influencer Network: UAB Career Center Services and Resources
2021 Teaching Effectiveness: First Day of Class
2021 Global Awareness CTL: Engaging in Teaching that Reaches All Students
2021 Teaching Foundations: Seven Habits of the Most Successful Teachers
2021 Independent Applying the Quality Matters (QM) Rubric workshop (2-day)
2022 Blazer Core Training: The Student's Perspective by Blazer Core SCOUTs
2022 Teaching Effectiveness: Understanding IDEA
2022 Faculty Well-Being: Mindfulness
2023 Disability Support Services (DSS) Faculty Training Course
2023 Academic Integrity: Turnitin Similarity Checker
2024 Global Awareness: Helping International Students Avoid Plagiarism
2024 Global Awareness: Please Talk! Promoting Class Participation
2024 Accessibility: Understanding your Role
2024 Global Awareness: Establishing Expectations for the Academic Environment
2024 Teaching Effectiveness: Teaching Today's Students
2024 Teaching Effectiveness: Facilitating Challenging Discussions in the Classroom

2021-2023 Blazer Core Fellow
Platinum Workshops
How Students Learn
Using Video in Your Courses
Asking Questions
Implementing the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning
Writing Good Test Questions II

2023 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Conference: the purpose of attending this conference was to attend workshops and conference sessions focusing on building diverse, inclusive, and equitable academic departments.

Faculty Training

2013 Safe Zone Certified (ODEI)
2020 Preventing Discrimination and Harassment - Supervisors
2021 Navigating Conflict
2020, 2022 Search Committee Training (ODEI)
2023 Unconscious Bias (ODEI)
2023 Bystander Intervention (ODEI)
2024 Multigenerational Workforce (UAB)
2025 QPR Suicide Prevention (UAB)
2025 AMP: Accountability in Action (UAB)
2025 Psychological Safety (UAB)
2025 UAB Shared Values
Collaboration (UAB)
Act with Integrity (UAB)
Respect All (UAB)
Excel (UAB)
2025 Learning from Leaders Series (UAB)

2025 AI @ Work: Role of Play Giving Feedback (UAB)

MENTORSHIP

Undergraduate Honors Thesis:

Agasthya Vedre-Kyanam (2023): *Biomedical Paradigms of Depression and Anxiety*
Sharlese Gray (2019): *Content Analysis of Articles on Black Lives Matter Protests*
Nadia Hollings (2019): *School Shootings and Newspaper Coverage: Newspaper Coverage of Two Mass School Shootings*
Brendan Connelly (2018): *A Grounded Theory Approach to Understanding the Development of Conspiracy Theories in Anonymous Online Forums*
Christopher Gill (2018): *Investigating Military Transition and Generalized Transition Anxiety*
Mercedes Tarasovich (2017): *Substance Abuse Recovery Experience Study*
Calvin Colvin (2017): *Happiness and Social Connectedness to Queer/Transgender People of Color, Social Spaces among Queer/Transgender People*
Margaret Deason-Coughlin (2015): *The Influence of Gender Identity on Attitudes of Stigma of Persons with Mental Illness*
Harris Frank (2015): *Morality and Disease: 12 Step Treatment Facilities and Technologies of Moral Selfhood*
Erica Hale (2013): *Potential Efficacy of Holistic Therapies: Individual Perceptions and Insights into Well-being and Consciousness*

MS committee chair

Courtney Taylor (NRM - NDSU) *completed* her MS in the Spring 2009. Ms. Taylor's thesis investigated the community perceptions of two diverse communities surrounding the Kinnickinnic River in Milwaukee, WI. Five focus groups, conducted in 2005 by Chris Biga, were transcribed and analyzed.

Boubacar Hassane (NRM - NDSU) *completed* his MS in the Spring 2010. Mr. Hassane's thesis investigated the influence ecotourism has had on the community of Ely, MN from a community capital framework.

Carl Petersen (NRM - NDSU) *completed* his MS in the Fall 2010. Mr. Peterson thesis is investigating the Energy Efficiency Practices in North Dakota. Funded by the ND Department of Commerce, Mr. Peters evaluated the current building practices in ND. He will also be investigating the social dynamics of these practices, investigating perceived power and responsibilities of homeowners, real estate agents, builders and state agencies in the area of energy efficiency practices.

Lucas (Swanholm) Bicknell (ECS - NDSU) *completed* his MS Summer 2011. Mr. Bicknell's thesis is multidisciplinary, integrating the dimensions of ecology and sociology. Mr. Bicknell investigated the effects wind energy has on bat migration, as well as, how animal valuation influences perceptions of wind energy potential. I co-chair Mr. Bicknell's thesis committee with Dr. Erin Gillam of the Department of Biological Sciences.

MS committee member

Brian Fier (NRM - NDSU) – Spring 2010
Kendra Erickson (SOC - NDSU) – Fall 2010
Stephanie Paavola (NRM - NDSU) – Spring 2011

PhD committee member

Josh Forakis (Chemistry - UAB) – 2023
Sio-Wa Ho – (GERO - UWM) – 2009
Shelly Stowman (COMM - NDSU) – Fall 2010