

**RACHEL ALLISON**  
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Mississippi State University  
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Pronouns: she/her

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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2020-present Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Mississippi State University  
2014-2020 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Mississippi State University  
2014-present Affiliate, Gender Studies, Mississippi State University

## EDUCATION

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2014 Ph.D., Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago  
2009 M.A., Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago  
2007 B.A., Sociology/French, Grinnell College

## BOOKS

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**Allison, Rachel.** 2018. *Kicking Center: Gender and the Selling of Women's Professional Soccer*.  
New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

Reviewed in *Choice*; *Gender & Society*; *International Review for the Sociology of Sport*; *Nordic Sport Science Forum* ([idrottsforum.org](http://idrottsforum.org)); *Soccer America*

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

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**Allison, Rachel,** and Raymond Barranco. Forthcoming. ““A Rich White Kid Sport?” Hometown Socioeconomic, Racial, and Geographic Composition Among U.S. Women’s Professional Soccer Players.” *Soccer & Society*.

**Allison, Rachel.** 2020. “Privileging Difference: Negotiating Gender Essentialism in U.S. Women’s Professional Soccer.” *Sociology of Sport Journal*  
<https://doi.org/10.1123/ssj.2020-0016>.

**Allison, Rachel.** 2020. “Learning to Lead? Race and Perceived Effects of College on Life Skill Development among Sportswomen.” *Sociology of Sport Journal* 37 (1): 57-67.

- Allison, Rachel**, Ann Pegoraro, Evan Frederick, and Ashleigh-Jane Thompson. 2020. "When Women Athletes Transgress: An Exploratory Study of Image Repair and Social Media Response." *Sport in Society: Cultures, Commerce, Media, Politics* 23 (6): 1023-1041.
- Allison, Rachel**. 2019. "Asking Out and Sliding In: Gendered Relationship Pathways in College Hookup Culture." *Qualitative Sociology* 42 (3): 361-383.
- Allison, Rachel**, and Margaret Ralston. 2018. "Opportune Romance: How College Campuses Shape Students' Hookups, Dates, and Relationships." *The Sociological Quarterly* 59(3): 495-518.
- Allison, Rachel**, and Margaret Ralston. 2018. "Gender, Anticipated Family Formation, and Graduate School Expectations among Undergraduates." *Sociological Forum* 33(1): 95-117.
- Allison, Rachel**, Adriene Davis, and Raymond Barranco. 2018. "A Comparison of Hometown Socioeconomics and Demographics for Black and White Elite Football Players in the U.S." *International Review for the Sociology of Sport* 53(5): 615-629.
- Allison, Rachel**, and Barbara J. Risman. 2017. "Marriage Delay, Time to Play? Marital Horizons and Hooking Up in College." *Sociological Inquiry* 87(3): 472-500.
- Allison, Rachel**. 2017. "From Oversight to Autonomy: Gendered Organizational Change in Women's Soccer." *Social Currents* 4(1): 71-86.
- Allison, Rachel**. 2016. "Family Influences on Hooking Up and Dating Among Emerging Adults." *Sexuality & Culture* 20(3): 446-463.
- Allison, Rachel**. 2016. "Gendered Jocks or Equal Players? Athletic Affiliation and Hooking Up Among College Students." *Sociological Spectrum* 36(4): 255-270.
- Allison, Rachel**. 2016. "Business or Cause? Gendered Institutional Logics in Women's Professional Soccer." *Journal of Sport & Social Issues* 40(3): 237-262.
- Allison, Rachel**, and Pallavi Banerjee. 2014. "Intersectionality and Social Location in Organization Studies, 1990-2009." *Race, Gender & Class* 21(3/4): 67-87.
- Allison, Rachel**, and Barbara J. Risman. 2014. "'It Goes Hand in Hand with the Parties': Race, Class and Residence in College Student Negotiations of Hooking Up." *Sociological Perspectives* 57(1): 102-123.
- Allison, Rachel**, and Barbara J. Risman. 2013. "A Double Standard for 'Hooking Up': How Far Have we Come Toward Gender Equality?" *Social Science Research* 42(5): 1191-1206.
- Davis, Georgiann, and **Rachel Allison**. 2013. "White Coats, Black Specialists? Racial Divides in the Medical Profession." *Sociological Spectrum* 33(6): 510-533.

Davis, Georgiann, and **Rachel Allison**. 2013. "Increasing Representation, Maintaining Hierarchy: An Assessment of Gender and Medical Specialization." *Social Thought and Research* 32(1): 17-45.

**Allison, Rachel**. 2011. "Race, Gender and Attitudes Toward War in Chicago: An Intersectional Analysis." *Sociological Forum* 26(3): 668-691.

## MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

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**Allison, Rachel**, and Chris Knoester. "Gender, Sexual, and Sports Fan Identities."

Knoester, Chris, and **Rachel Allison**. "Sexuality, Sports-Related Mistreatment, and U.S. Adults' Sports Involvement."

**Allison, Rachel**, Chris Knoester, and B. David Ridpath. "Public Opinions About Paying College Athletes and Athletes Protesting During the National Anthem: A Focus on Race/Ethnicity and Political Identities."

Chris Knoester, B. David Ridpath, and **Rachel Allison**. "Should Athletes be Allowed to Protest During the National Anthem? An Analysis of Public Opinions Among U.S. Adults."

**Allison, Rachel**, and Adam Love. "'We All Play Pretty Much the Same, Except...': Gender-Integrated Quidditch and the Persistence of Essentialist Ideology."

## BOOK CHAPTERS/OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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**Allison, Rachel**. 2019. Review of *An Ethnography of Football and Masculinities in Jamaica: Letting the Football Talk*. *Gender & Society* DOI 10.1177/0891243219892906.

**Allison, Rachel**, and Ann Pegoraro. 2018. "Abby Wambach: G.O.A.T. (Greatest of All Time) or Just a Goat?" Pp. 210-226 in *Reputational Challenges in Sport: Theory and Application*, edited by Andrew C. Billings, W. Timothy Coombs, and Kenon A. Brown. New York, NY: Routledge.

Kuperberg, Arielle, and **Rachel Allison**. 2018. "Gender and Hooking Up." Pp. 315-327 in *Handbook of the Sociology of Gender*, edited by Barbara J. Risman, Carissa Froyum, and William Scarborough. Springer Press.

**Allison, Rachel**. 2018. "Women's Soccer in the United States: Introduction." *Sport in Society: Cultures, Commerce, Media, Politics* 21(7): 993-995.

**Allison, Rachel**. 2018. Review of *Transformed Bodies and Gender: Experiences of Women Pro*

*Wrestlers in Japan. Gender & Society* 32: 287-289.

**Allison, Rachel.** 2015. Review of *Playing to Win: Raising Kids in a Competitive Culture*. *Sociology of Sport Journal* 32: 349-352.

**Allison, Rachel.** 2013. Review of *The Urban Geography of Boxing: Race, Class and Gender in the Ring*. *Race, Gender & Class* 20(1-2): 361-363.

## GRANTS

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PI, \$49,716, “First Comes Marriage: Educational and Workforce Trajectories of the Early Married in Mississippi,” Russell Sage Foundation Presidential Grant. Funding January 2020-January 2022.

PI, \$15,000, “Women’s World Cup Fandom: Identities, Expressions, and Communities,” FIFA Research Scholarship, International Centre for Sports Studies. Funding January 2019-January 2020.

PI, \$5,590, “First Comes Marriage: Gender, Class, and Family in the American South,” Mississippi State University College of Arts and Sciences Strategic Research Initiative. Funding January-December 2018.

Co-PI, \$2,000, “STEM Faculty Climate Survey toward Preparing MSU for NSF *ADVANCE* Proposal Submission,” Mississippi State University Cross-College Research Grant. Funding November 2016-October 2017.

PI, \$2,470, “Inequality Regimes in Women’s Professional Soccer: Changes and Challenges,” Diversity in Sport and Physical Activity Grant from the Laboratory for Diversity in Sport, Texas A&M University. Funding October 2015-May 2016.

## AWARDS

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| 2019 | Human Kinetics <i>Sociology of Sport Journal</i> Early Career Researcher Award, North American Society for the Sociology of Sport |
| 2018 | College of Arts & Sciences Research Award, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Mississippi State University                           |
| 2018 | Sociologists for Women in Society-South Early Career Gender Scholar Award   |
| 2015 | David P. Street Dissertation Award in Engaged Sociology, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago               |

- 2014 1<sup>st</sup> place, Society for the Study of Social Problems Student Paper Competition, Section on Sport, Leisure, and the Body
- 2013 Alice J. Dan Award, Center for Research on Women and Gender, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2013 SAGE Teaching Innovations & Professional Development Award
- 2013 University of Illinois President's Research in Diversity Travel Award
- 2012-2013 Dean's Scholar Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2012 Midwest Sociological Society Endowment Committee Research Grant

## MEDIA

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### Blog Posts/Essays

- 2019 "The Sexism Behind the 'Controversy' Over the U.S. Women's Soccer Team's 13 Goals." PostEverything, *Washington Post*, June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- 2019 "It's Time to Invest in Women's Soccer." *Engaging Sports*, The Society Pages.
- 2018 "Engendering Fandom: Audience Building in Women's Professional Soccer." *Engaging Sports*, The Society Pages.
- 2018 "Assessing the Patterns: Race, Social Class, and Opportunities in American Football." *Engaging Sports*, The Society Pages.
- 2017 "Success at Last? The National Women's Soccer League Kicks Off Fifth Season." *Engaging Sports*, The Society Pages.
- 2016 "Raising the Ceiling and the Floor: the Fight for Fair Pay in Women's Soccer." *The Allrounder*, April 14<sup>th</sup>. Cross-posted on the *Gender & Society* blog, April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- 2015 "What Sells Women's Soccer?" *Contexts* blog.
- 2015 "One Nation Under (Women's) Soccer?" *Gender & Society* blog.
- 2014 "Hooking Up as a College Culture." *Gender & Society* blog. Reprinted in *Families as They Really Are*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, edited by Barbara J. Risman and Virginia Rutter. New York, NY: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc.

**Research Covered/Interviews**

- 2019 “The Future of Football is Feminine,” But Euphoria is Still Far Away.” *Newsweek Belgium*, December 19<sup>th</sup>.
- 2019 Mixxed Zone women’s soccer podcast, December 5<sup>th</sup>.  
<https://www.bgn.fm/the-mixxed-zone/>.
- 2019 “The Sports Bra Seen Round the World Has New Meaning 20 Years Later.” *New York Times*, July 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 2019 Knowledge@Wharton, Wharton Business Radio, June 11<sup>th</sup>; July 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 2019 CBC Radio Canada: The Current, June 7<sup>th</sup>.  
<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/despite-growing-audience-women-s-soccer-still-fighting-for-respect-says-journalist-1.5166142>
- 2019 Football Scholars Forum Discussion on *Kicking Center*, March 26<sup>th</sup>.  
<https://www.footballscholars.org>
- 2019 “The U.S. National Women’s Soccer Team Makes a Really Good Case for Equal Pay.” *The Atlantic*, March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- 2018 *Burn It All Down* podcast, episode 81  
(<https://soundcloud.com/burnitalldown/episode-81-burn-it-all-down>). November 21<sup>st</sup>.
- 2018 “A Sociological View on Selling Women’s Soccer: A Conversation with Dr. Rachel Allison.” *Backline Soccer*, October 16<sup>th</sup>.
- 2018 “iRunFar’s Trail Running and Safety Survey Results.” iRunFar.com, May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 2018 “‘She is Not Normal’: The Unlevel Playing Field of Women’s Football.” *Elle UK*, March 9<sup>th</sup>.
- 2017 “Hierarchy of Medical Professions.” TheNest.com, September 24<sup>th</sup>.
- 2017 “Why are Female Doctors Introduced by First Name While Men are Called ‘Doctor’?” *Washington Post*, June 25<sup>th</sup>.
- 2017 “How Argentine Girls’ Soccer Team La Nuestra Empowers Girls.” *Teen Vogue*, May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- 2017 “U.S. Women’s Pro Soccer Might be Too Big to Fail.” *Toronto Star*, January 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 2016 “The Number of Sexual Partners People Want Their Lovers to Have.” Broadly,

Vice.com, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- 2016 “How Working-Class Students Get CockBlocked from Hookup Culture.” Fusion.net, May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- 2016 WWL 870AM/103.5FM New Orleans, Sports Talk, April 20<sup>th</sup>.
- 2016 “Was 2015 Really the ‘Year of Women in Sports’?” *The Allrounder*, January 28<sup>th</sup>.
- 2015 “National Women's Soccer League Faces Post-World Cup Obstacles: Shy Sponsors, Hotel Bedbugs,” *International Business Times*, August 21<sup>st</sup>.
- 2015 “Why Don’t We Treat Women Athletes Better?” Refinery29, July 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 2015 “The Sexist \$33 Million World Cup Prize Gap,” The Cut, *New York Magazine*, July 7<sup>th</sup>.
- 2015 “After Team USA’s Women’s World Cup Win, National Women’s Soccer League Faces Uphill Battle,” *International Business Times*, July 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 2015 Panelist on “The Stream,” Al Jazeera English, episode on the Women’s World Cup, June 17<sup>th</sup>.
- 2015 “Women’s Sports is A Feminist Issue,” *The Atlantic*, June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- 2014 “Hooking Up and Marriage: Luxury Goods for Educated Millenials,” *Forbes*, June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- 2014 “Is Our Sexual Double Standard Going Away?” *Psychology Today*, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- 2014 “Coverage of Nonexistent Hookup Culture Makes Students Feel Left Out of Nonexistent Hookup Culture,” *Slate*, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## TALKS/CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- 2020 Gender, Sexual, and Sports Fan Identities. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Sociological Association. Virtual conference.
- 2019 First Comes Marriage: Studying Pathways Through Adulthood in Mississippi. Invited presentation to the Interdisciplinary Forum, Mississippi State University.

Invited talks on *Kicking Center: Gender and the Selling of Women’s Professional Soccer*. University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Mississippi University for Women; Mississippi State University.

A “Rich White Kid Sport?” Hometown Socioeconomic, Racial, and Geographic Composition Among U.S. Women’s Professional Soccer Players. Paper presented at the meeting of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Virginia Beach, VA.

Developing and Maintaining a Research Agenda: Examples from Studies of Early Marriage and Sorority Life. Invited presentation for the Department of Sociology Brown Bag Lecture Series, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS.

- 2018 Learning to Lead? Race, Gender, and Perceived Effects of College on Athletes’ Career Skill Development and Utility. Paper presented at the meeting of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Vancouver, Canada.

Asking Out and Sliding In: Symbolic Gendering and College Students’ Pathways into Relationships. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Gender, Anticipated Family Formation, and Graduate School Expectations among Undergraduates. Paper presented at the meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, LA.

- 2017 Lessons in Teaching Muggles. Invited presentation for the Department of Sociology Brown Bag Lecture Series, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS.

The Paradox of Professionalism: Elite Women Athletes Negotiate Gender Inequality in Sport. Paper presented at the meeting of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Windsor, Ontario, CA.

The View from Mississippi: Diversity in Research and Activism in the Social Sciences. Invited roundtable presentation at the meeting of Cheiron: International Society for the History of the Behavioral and Social Sciences, Starkville, MS.

Meeting and Matching: How College Campuses Shape Students’ Hookups, Dates, and Relationships. Paper presented at the meeting of the Alabama Mississippi Sociological Association, Jackson, MS.

- 2016 From Oversight to Autonomy: Gendered Organizational Change in Women’s Soccer. Paper presented at the meeting of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Tampa Bay, FL.

Marriage Delay, Time to Play? Marital Horizons and Hooking Up in College. Paper presented at the meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, Atlanta, GA.

- 2015 Fields of Play: Situating Women’s Soccer in American Sport Space. Invited presentation, Department of Kinesiology, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS.



Going for the Goal: Defining the Possible in Women's Professional Soccer. Paper presented at the meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, LA.

Gendered Jocks, Equal Orgasms: Athletic Affiliation and Hooking Up Among College Students. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.

Fields of Play: Women's Soccer in U.S. Sport Space. Paper presented at the meeting of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Santa Fe, NM.

2014 We're Taking Over! Constructing a Fan Base in Women's Professional Soccer. Paper presented at the meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Omaha, NE, and at the meeting of Society for the Study of Social Problems, San Francisco, CA.

Women's Professional Sport: What Can We Learn from the Case of Women's Soccer? Presented at the Mirror of our Culture: Sport and Society in America conference, St. Norbert College, De Pere, WI.

"It Might be Too Strong a Word:" Feminism and Empowerment in Women's Professional Soccer. Paper presented at the meeting of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Portland, OR.

## TEACHING

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### Courses

Quidditch for Muggles (First Year Experience)

Introduction to Sociology

Introduction to Social Research

Social Theory (Graduate and undergraduate)

Sociology of Sports

Sociology of Gender and Sexuality

Qualitative Analysis (Graduate)

Complex Organizations (Graduate)

### Advising

#### M.S.

Chair

Micah King, Department of Sociology, 2018

Chloe Parker, Department of Sociology, 2020

Kellie Gill, Department of Sociology

Hannah Krapac, Department of Sociology

Committee Member

Caitlin Ostrowski, Department of Anthropology, 2018

Brianna Wright, Department of Sociology, 2019  
 McKayla Joaquim, Department of Sociology  
 Ashley Melcherts, Department of Sociology

Ph.D.

Chair

Aдриене Davis, Department of Sociology  
 Amanda Gochanour, Department of Sociology (Co-chair)

Committee Member

Baker Rogers, Department of Sociology, 2015

**SERVICE**

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**Disciplinary Service**

2020 Human Kinetics *Sociology of Sport Journal* Early Career Researcher Award  
 Committee, North American Society for the Sociology of Sport

2020-2022 Editorial Board, *Frontiers in Sports and Active Living* – Sport Management and  
 Marketing

2020-2022 Editorial Board, *Gender & Society*

2019-2021 Editorial Board, *Social Currents; Sociology of Sport Journal*

2018-2019 Regular Session Organizer, American Sociological Association 2019 Meeting

2017-present Editorial Board, *Engaging Sports*, The Society Pages

2017-2018 Outstanding *Sociology of Sport Journal* Article Award Committee, North  
 American Society for the Sociology of Sport

2016-2019 Committee on Gender and Sexuality, Southern Sociological Society  
 Committee Chair, 2018-2019

2015-2017 Member-at-Large, North American Society for the Sociology of Sport

2015-2016 Program Committee, Southern Sociological Society 2016 Meetings

2015 Barbara Brown Student Paper Award Committee, North American Society for the  
 Sociology of Sport

2015 Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, SSSP Sport, Leisure and the Body  
 Section

2013-2018 Newsletter Editor, SSSP Sport, Leisure and the Body Section

2011-present Ad hoc reviewer for Routledge, *Gender & Society*, *Journal of Sport Management*,  
*Social Science Research*, *Journal of Marriage & Family*, *Journal of Family  
 Studies*, *Social Currents*, *Women’s Studies in Communication*, *Journal of Women,  
 Politics, & Policy*, *American Politics Research*, *Journal of Health and Social  
 Behavior*, *Social Psychology Quarterly*, *Journal of Adolescent Health*, *The  
 Sociological Quarterly*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Social Problems*, *Sociological  
 Forum*, *Sport in Society*, *Youth & Society*, *Sociological Inquiry*, *American  
 Sociological Review*, *Sociology Compass*, *Teaching and Learning in Medicine*,  
*International Review for the Sociology of Sport, Culture, Health, & Sexuality*,  
 SAGE Publications, Rutgers University Press, W. W. Norton., *American Journal  
 of Sociology*, *Sociology of Sport Journal*, Temple University Press, *International*

*Journal of Sport Communication, Sport Management Review, Women in Sport & Physical Activity Journal, Gender Issues, Sociology, Journal of Lesbian Studies, Sociological Spectrum, Sexuality & Culture*

**College/University Service**

2020-2021 Arts & Sciences Faculty Mentorship Program  
2020-2023 Faculty Senate (Ancillary Affairs Committee)  
2019-2022 Faculty Representative, Athletic Council  
2018 Panelist, Safe Zone  
2016-2018 Advisor, Quidditch Club  
2015-2017 Arts & Sciences Faculty Senate  
2015 Masters Examination Committee, Department of Kinesiology-Sport Studies:  
Hunter Mitchem, Andy Lockard, Walker Eaton

**Departmental Service**

2019-2020 Graduate Recruiting Committee  
2018, 2020 Search Committee Chair  
2017-present Graduate Admissions and Support Committee (chair, 2020)  
2015-2020 Qualifying Examination Committee (chair 2017-present)  
2014-2020 Preliminary Examination Committee (chair 2018-2019)  
2016-2017 AKD Faculty Advisor  
2014-2015 Awards Committee

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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American Sociological Association  
North American Society for the Sociology of Sport  
Sociologists for Women in Society  
Southern Sociological Society

References available upon request.