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Vita

Arland Thornton

Institute for Social Research
The University of Michigan
426 Thompson
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248

(734) 474-2986
arlandt@umich.edu

Department of Sociology
The University of Michigan
3012 LS&A Building
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1382

(734) 474-2986

Education

M.A. Sociology, The University of Michigan, 1973
Ph.D. Sociology, The University of Michigan, 1975

Professional Positions

1975-present Assistant Research Scientist to Research Professor, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan (Director, Family and Demography Program, 1985-present)

1977-present Lecturer to Professor, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (Associate Chair, 1986-1987)

1983-present Research Affiliate to Research Professor, Population Studies Center, The University of Michigan (Associate Director, 1995-1997; Acting Director, 1997-1998; Director, 2003-2008)

2017-present Faculty Associate to Professor, Native American Studies, The University of Michigan

2005-present Faculty Associate, Center for Chinese Studies, The University of Michigan

2005-present Research Associate, Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, The University of Michigan

2008-present Faculty Associate, Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies, The University of Michigan

2009-present Faculty Associate, Center for South Asian Studies, The University of Michigan

Special Awards or Honorary Positions

National Science Foundation Fellowship, 1971-1975.

Council Member, Population Section, American Sociological Association, 1982-1986.

Social Sciences and Population Study Section, Division of Research Grants, National Institutes of Health, 1987-1991.

Board of Directors, Population Association of America, 1991-1994.

Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter Editor, Population Section, American Sociological Association, 1991-1994.

Council Member, Family Section, American Sociological Association, 1991-1994.

Member, Family and Child Well-Being Research Network, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, 1993-1999.

Council Member, Sociology of Children Section, American Sociological Association, 1995-1998.

Otis Dudley Duncan Book Award for Social Change and the Family in Taiwan, given by the Population Section of the American Sociological Association, 1995.

Goode Distinguished Book Award for Social Change and the Family in Taiwan, given by the Family Section of the American Sociological Association, 1995.

Excellence in Research Award, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. University of Michigan, 1995.

Population Research Subcommittee, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, 1996-2000.

Distinguished Career Award, Family Section, American Sociological Association, 2000.

President, Population Association of America, 2001.

MERIT Award, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, 2001-2013.

Goode Distinguished Book Award for Reading History Sideways, given by the Family Section of the American Sociological Association, 2007.

Outstanding Publication Award for Marriage and Cohabitation, given by the Section on Aging and the Life Course of the American Sociological Association, 2008.

Irene B. Taeuber Award, Population Association of America, 2011.

De Jong Lecture in Social Demography, Pennsylvania State University, 2015

Honoree of the Population Association of America, 2016

Books and Special Issues

Thornton, A. and Lin, H. S. Social Change and the Family in Taiwan. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1994.

Waite, L., Bachrach, C., Hindin, M., Thomson, E., and Thornton, A. (eds.) Ties That Bind: Perspectives on Marriage and Cohabitation. Hawthorne: Aldine de Gruyter, 2000.

Thornton, A. (ed.) The Well-Being of Children and Families: Research and Data Needs. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2001.

Thornton, A. Reading History Sideways: The Fallacy and Enduring Impact of the Developmental Paradigm on Family Life. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005.

Thornton, A., Axinn, W. G., and Xie, Y. Marriage and Cohabitation. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007.

Jayakody, R., Thornton, A., and Axinn, W. G. (eds.) International Family Change: Ideational Perspectives. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2008.

Thornton, A., and Xie, Y. "Special Issue: Developmental Idealism". Chinese Journal of Sociology, Vol 2, Number 4, 2016.

Allendorf, K., and Thornton, A. "Special Issue: New Research on Developmental Idealism". Sociology of Development, Vol. 5, Number 3, 2019.

Articles and Chapters

Iams, H. M. and Thornton, A. "Decomposition of Differences: A Cautionary Note," Sociological Methods and Research, Vol. 3, No. 3, 1975.

Thornton, A. Fertility Change After the Baby Boom: The Role of Economic Stress, Female Employment and Education. Final Report to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, 1976.

Thornton, A. "Decomposing the Re-marriage Process." Population Studies, Vol. 31, No. 2, 1977, 383-392.

Thornton, A. "The First Generation Family and Second Generation Fertility," In G. J. Duncan and J. N. Morgan (eds.) Five Thousand American Families, Vol. V. Ann Arbor: Institute for Social Research, 1977.

Thornton, A. "Children and Marital Stability." Journal of Marriage and the Family, Vol. 39, No. 3, 1977, 531-540.

- Thornton, A. "Marital Instability Differentials and Interactions: Insights from Multivariate Contingency Table Analysis." Sociology and Social Research, Vol. 62, No. 4, 1978, 572-595.
- Thornton, A. "The Relationship Between Fertility and Income, Relative Income, and Subjective Well-Being." Research in Population Economics, Vol. 1, 1978, 261-290.
- Hoffman, L. W., Thornton, A., and Manis, J. D. "The Value of Children to Parents in the United States." Journal of Population: Behavioral, Social, and Environmental Issues, Vol. 1, No. 2, 1978, 91-131.
- Thornton, A. "Marital Dissolution, Remarriage, and Childbearing." Demography, Vol. 15, No. 3, 1978, 361-380.
- Freedman, D. S. and Thornton, A. "The Long-Term Impact of Pregnancy at Marriage on the Family's Economic Circumstances." Family Planning Perspectives, Vol. 11, No. 1, 1979, 6-20.
- Thornton, A. "Religion and Fertility: The Case of Mormonism." Journal of Marriage and the Family, Vol. 41, No. 1, 1979, 131-142.
- Thornton, A. "Fertility and Income, Consumption Aspirations, and Child Quality Standards." Demography, Vol. 16, No. 1, 1979, 157-175.
- Freedman, D. S., Thornton, A., and Camburn, D. "Maintaining Response Rates in Longitudinal Studies: The Care and Nurture of Respondents." Asian and Pacific Census Forum, Vol. 5, No. 4, 1979, 1-8.
- Thornton, A. and Camburn, D. "Fertility, Sex Role Attitudes, and Labor Force Participation." Psychology of Women Quarterly, Vol. 4, No. 1, 1979, 61-80.
- Thornton, A. and Freedman, D. S. "Changes in the Sex Role Attitudes of Women, 1962-1977: Evidence from a Panel Study." American Sociological Review, Vol. 44, No. 5, 1979, 831-842.
- Thornton, A. "The Influence of First Generation Fertility and Economic Status on Second Generation Fertility: Insights from Longitudinal Data." Population and Environment: Behavioral and Social Issues, Vol. 3, No. 1, 1980, 51-72.
- Thornton, A. and Kim, J. "Perceived Impact of Financial Considerations on Childbearing in the United States." Research in Population Economics, Vol. 2, 1980, 351-363.
- Freedman, D. S., Thornton, A., and Camburn, D. "Maintaining Response Rates in Longitudinal Studies." Sociological Methods and Research, Vol. 9, No. 1, 1980, 87-98.
- Freedman, R., Freedman, D. S., and Thornton, A. "Changes in Fertility Expectations and Preferences Between 1962 and 1977: Their Relation to Final Parity." Demography, Vol. 17, No. 4, 1980, 365-378.
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- Freedman, D. S. and Thornton, A. "Income and Fertility: The Elusive Relationship." Demography, Vol. 19, No. 1, 1982, 65-78.
- Thornton, A., Freedman, D. S., and Camburn, D. "Obtaining Respondent Cooperation in Family Panel Studies." Sociological Methods and Research, Vol. 11, No. 1, 1982. Reprinted in D. H. Olson and B. C. Miller (eds.), Family Studies Review Yearbook, Vol. 2, Beverly Hills: Sage, 1984, 33-51.
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- Thornton, A. and Rodgers, W. L. Changing Patterns of Marriage and Divorce in the United States. Final Report to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, 1983.
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- Thornton, A., Chang, M. C., and Sun, T. H. "Social and Economic Change, Intergenerational Relationships, and Family Formation in Taiwan." Demography, Vol. 21, No. 4, 1984, 475-499. Reprinted in F. Andrews (ed.), Research on the Quality of Life, Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, 1986.
- Alwin, D. F. and Thornton, A. "Family Origins and the Schooling Process: Early versus Late Influence of Parental Characteristics." American Sociological Review, Vol. 49, No. 6, 1984, 784-802.
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- Thornton, A. "Reciprocal Influences of Family and Religion in a Changing World." Journal of Marriage and the Family, Vol. 47, No. 2, 1985, 381-394. Reprinted in D. L. Thomas (ed.), The Religion and Family Connection: Social Science Perspectives. Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Press, 1988, 27-50.

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- Thornton, A. "The Family in the Information Society." Women and Natural Resources. Vol. 8, No. 4, 1987, 40-42.
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- Thornton, A., Lin, H. S., and Lee, M. L. "Social Change, the Family, and Well Being." In Conference on Economic Development and Social Welfare in Taiwan. Taipei, Taiwan: The Institute of Economics, Academia Sinica 1987, 417-452.
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- Thornton, A. "Cohabitation and Marriage in the 1980s." Demography, Vol. 25, No. 4, 1988, 497-508.
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Thornton, A. and Axinn, W. G. "Changing Patterns of Marital Formation and Dissolution in the United States: Demographic Implications." In Proceedings of the General Conference of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, 1989.

Freedman, D. S. and Thornton, A. "The Consumption Aspirations of Adolescents: Determinants and Implications." Youth and Society, Vol. 21, No. 3, 1990, 259-281.

Thornton, A. "Measuring Union Formation and Dissolution in National Surveys." In National Survey of Family Growth—Mission for the 1990s Conference Proceedings, U.S. Dept. Health and Human Services, PHS, Centers for Disease Control, NCHS, Hyattsville, MD, 1990.

Thornton, A. "The Courtship Process and Adolescent Sexuality." Journal of Family Issues, Vol. 11, No. 3, 1990, 239-273.

Thornton, A. Review of "Disturbing the Nest: Family Change and Decline in Modern Societies" by David Popenoe. Contemporary Sociology, Vol. 19, No. 4, 1990, 602-604.

Fricke, T. E., Thornton, A. and Dahal, D. R. "Family Organization and the Wage Labor Transition in a Tamang Community of Nepal." Human Ecology, Vol. 18, No. 3, 1990, 283-313.

Thornton, A. "Influence of the Marital History of Parents on the Marital and Cohabitational Experiences of Children." American Journal of Sociology, Vol. 96, No. 4, 1991, 868-894.

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- Axinn, W. G., and Thornton, A. "The Influence of Parental Resources on the Timing of the Transition to Marriage." Social Science Research, Vol. 21, 1992, 261-285.
- Thornton, A., Axinn, W. G., and Hill, D. H. "Reciprocal Effects of Religiosity, Cohabitation, and Marriage." American Journal of Sociology, Vol. 98, No. 3, 1992, 628-651.
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- Axinn, W. G. and Thornton, A. "Mothers, Children, and Cohabitation: The Intergenerational Effects of Attitudes and Behavior." American Sociological Review, Vol. 58, No. 2, 1993, 233-246.
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- Thornton, A. "Contemporary Attitudes and Studies of Human Sexuality and Family Life." In R. E. Smith (ed.), Communicating the Catholic Vision of Life, Chapter 2. Braintree, Mass: The Pope John Center, 1993, 11-26.
- Thornton, A. Review of America's Children: Resources from Family, Government, and the Economy by D. J. Hernandez, New York: Russell Sage, 1993 in Population Research and Policy Review, Vol. 12, No. 3, 1993, 317-318.
- Axinn, W. G., Clarkberg, M. E., and Thornton, A. "Family Influences on Family Size Preferences." Demography, Vol. 31, No. 1, 1994, 65-79.
- Thornton, A. and Freedman, D. "Intergenerational Panel Study of Parents and Children: 1962-1985." In J. J. Card and Associates, The American Family, New York: Garland Publishing, 1994, pp 25-I to 25-11.
- Thornton, A. "Comparative and Historical Perspectives on Marriage, Divorce, and Family Life." Utah Law Review, 1994(2): 587-604.

Thornton, A., Orbuch, T. L., and Axinn, W. G. "Parent-Child Relationships During the Transition to Adulthood." Journal of Family Issues, Vol. 16, No. 5, 1995, 538-564.

Thornton, A., Axinn, W. G., and Teachman, J. "The Influence of School Enrollment and Accumulation on Cohabitation and Marriage in Early Adulthood." American Sociological Review, Vol. 60, No. 5, 1995, 762-774.

Thornton, A. "Perspectives on Changing Marriage, Sexuality, and Family Life." Bulletin of the Center for Regional Studies, Ryukoku University, Japan, (in Japanese), No. 5, 1995, 26-35.

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Thornton, A. "Comparative and Historical Perspectives on Marriage, Divorce, and Family Life." In D. Popenoe, J.B. Elshtain and D. Blankenhorn (eds.) Promises to Keep, Chapter 4. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield, 1996, 69-87.

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Fricke, T., Thornton, A., and Dahal, D. R. "Netting in Nepal: Social Change, the Life Course, and Brideservice in Sangila." Human Ecology, Vol. 26, 1998, 213-237.

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Thornton, A. "Creating Questions and Protocols for an International Study of Ideas about Development, Demographic Behavior, and Family Life." Paper presented at the meetings of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, Marrakech, Morocco, Sept/Oct 2009.

Thornton, A. "Developmental Idealism and Worldwide Family Change: Looking at Africa." Paper presented at the African Development and Human Security Workshop, University of Michigan, November 2, 2009.

Thornton, A. "International Fertility Change: Insights from the Developmental Idealism Framework." Paper presented at the Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, December 7, 2009.

Williams, N., Ghimire, D., Moaddel, M., Thornton, A. and Young-DeMarco, L. "Nepali Migrants to the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries: Values, Behaviors, and Plans." Migrant Labor in the Gulf Meeting, Georgetown University--Qatar, Doha, Qatar, January 10, 2010.

Thornton, A. "Developmental Idealism and Worldwide Family and Demographic Change." Paper presented at Social and Economic Survey Research Institute, University of Qatar, Doha, Qatar, January 13, 2010.

Thornton, A. Series of Four Seminars: "Perspectives on Development, Social Structure, and Family Change"; "Ideational Influences on Family Change: Developmental Idealism and the Second Demographic Transition"; "New Research Program on Developmental Idealism"; "Family Change in Spain—any Relevance of Developmental Idealism?" Presented at Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, February 23-25, 2010.

Thornton, A. "The Intersections of Societal Development and Morality: Complements or Contradictions." Paper presented in Department of Sociology, University of Michigan, April 1, 2010.

Thornton, A., Binstock, G., Yount, K., Abbasi-Shavazi, M.J., Ghimire, D. and Xie, Y. International Fertility Change: New Data and Insights from the Developmental Idealism Framework." Paper presented at the Population Association of America meetings (Dallas, April 15 – 17, 2010), at the Demographic Research Institute (Budapest, August 2010), at the European Population Conference (Vienna, September 1 – 4, 2010), and at the Asian Population Association Conference (New Delhi, November 16 – 20, 2010).

Thornton, A. and Xie, Y. "Knowledge and Beliefs Concerning Development and Income Inequality in China and the United States." Paper presented at the Population Association of America meetings, Dallas, April 15-17, 2010.

Thornton, A., Moaddel, M., Yount, K., Young-DeMarco, L., and Daugherty, J. "The Intersections of Societal Development and Morality: Complements or Contradictions." Paper presented at the Workshop on the Theoretical and Methodological Issues in the Study of Values in Islamic Countries, Cairo, Egypt, May 16-18, 2010. Paper also presented at the Symposium on the Globalization of Modernization Theory: Clashes of Modernities and Moralities, University of Michigan, June 9-10, 2010.

Thornton, A., Binstock, G., Abbasi-Shavazi, M.J., Ghimire, D., Gjonça, A., Melegh, A., Mitchell, C., Moaddel, M., Xie, Y., Yang, L.S., Young-DeMarco, L., and Yount, K. "Knowledge and Beliefs of Ordinary People about Developmental Hierarchies." Paper presented at the Symposium on the Globalization of Modernization Theory: Clashes of Modernities and Moralities, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (June 9-10, 2010), at the Asian Population Association Conference, New Delhi, India (November 16 – 20, 2010), and the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, Nevada (August 20-23, 2011).

Yount, K., Thornton, A., Mehanna, S., Patel, S., and Moaddel, M. "Lay Accounts of 'Modern' and 'Traditional' Family in Greater Cairo: A Test of Developmental Models of Family Life." Paper presented at the Workshop on the Theoretical and Methodological Issues in the Study of Values in Islamic Countries, Cairo, Egypt, May 16-18, 2010. Paper also presented at the Symposium on the Globalization of Modernization Theory: Clashes of Modernities and Moralities, University of Michigan, June 9-10, 2010.

Thornton, A. "The Life Course Approach as Paradigm Shift: An Essay in Honor of Glen Elder." Presented at "A Celebration of Life Course Studies: Honoring Glen Elder's Contributions to Sociology," August 13, 2010, Atlanta, Georgia.

Thornton, A., Moaddel, M., Yount, K., Young-DeMarco, L., and Daugherty, J. "Lay Views of the Development-Morality Nexus in the U.S. and Middle East: Adherence to Modernization, World-System, and Clash-of-Civilization Perspectives." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Atlanta, August 14-17, 2010.

Thornton, A. "The International Fight for Progress and Against Barbarism: the View Backwards and Forwards from the Crossroads." Paper presented at conference on "Reflections on Family as a Virtue with Respect to Religion, Tradition and Modernity" sponsored by the Journalists and Writers Foundation, Antalya, Turkey, November 26-27, 2010. Paper also presented at Conference on Marriage at a Crossroads at Columbia University, February 25, 2011.

Thornton, A. Chair of session on "Population, Conflict, and Religion" at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington, March 31- April 2, 2011.

Williams, N. E., Thornton, A., Ghimire, D.J., Young-DeMarco, L.C., and Moaddel, M. "Nepali Migrants to the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries: Values, Behaviors, and Plans." Paper

presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington, March 31- April 2, 2011.

Thornton, A. "Developmental Idealism and Worldwide Family Change." Paper presented at Third European Congress on World and Global History, London, April 14-17, 2011.

Thornton, A. "Modernization, World System and Clash-of-Civilization Perspectives in Lay Views of the Development-Morality Nexus in the U.S. and Middle East." Paper presented at the Global Studies Association conference, The Global Crisis: Through the Lens of Class, Race and Gender, Loyola University, Chicago, IL, May 20-22, 2011.

Thornton, A., Binstock, G., Abbasi-Shavazi, M.J., Ghimire, D., Gjonça, A., Attila, M., Mitchell, C., Moaddel, M., Xie, Y., Yang, L., Young-DeMarco, L. and Yount, K. "Knowledge and Beliefs about National Development and Developmental Hierarchies: the Viewpoints of Ordinary People in Thirteen Countries." Presented at Rethinking Development Conference at Cornell University, November 10-12, 2011.

Kavas, S. and Thornton, A. "Adjustment and Hybridity in Turkish Family Change: Perspectives from Developmental Idealism." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, San Francisco, May 3-5, 2012.

Thornton, A., Pierotti, R., Young-DeMarco, L., and Watkins, S. "Developmental Idealism and Family Life in Malawi." Paper presented at the UAPS (Union for African Population Studies) Meeting in Burkina Faso, Africa, December 2011. Also presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, San Francisco, May 3-5, 2012.

Abbasi-Shavazi, M.J., Askari-Nodoushan, A., and Thornton, A. "Family Life and Developmental Idealism in Yazd, Iran". Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, San Francisco, May 3-5, 2012. Also presented at the meeting of the European Association of Population Studies, Stockholm, June 13-16, 2012.

Thornton, A., Binstock, G., Young-DeMarco, L., Mitchell, C., Yount, K.M. and Xie, Y. "Evaluating the Measurement Reliabilities of Developmental Idealism Issues and Survey Instruments." Presented at Session 906, "Measurement Issues and Survey Instruments," European Population Conference (EAPS), 2012 annual meeting, Stockholm, Sweden. Also presented at the 2012 meeting of the Asian Population Association, Bangkok, Thailand.

Thornton, A. "The Globalization of Developmental Idealism and its Influence on Family and Demographic Behavior". Presentation at 2012 meeting of the Association for Latin America Population, Montevideo, Uruguay.

Ghimire, D., Williams, N.E, Thornton, A., Young-DeMarco, L., and Bhandari, P. "Innovation in the Study of International Migrants." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the

Population Association of America, New Orleans, April 11-13, 2013.

Thornton, A., Ghimire, D., Young-DeMarco, L. "The Reliability and Stability of Measures about People's Values and Beliefs concerning Family Life and Social Change." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, New Orleans, April 11-13, 2013.

Thornton, A. "Developmental Idealism and Worldwide Family Change Since the 18th Century", Paper presented at Workshop on Historical Analysis of Demographic Discourses: Global, Regional and Local Perspectives, Central European Institute for Advanced Study, Budapest, Hungary, May 17, 2013.

Thornton, A. "Developmental Idealism, Demographic Change, and Migration". Plenary presentation at International Conference on Demographic Change, Migratory and Labour Market Processes in South East Europe. Hungarian Statistical Office, Budapest, Hungary, May 22, 2013.

Thornton, A. "New Research on Developmental Idealism and its Relationship to Worldwide Changes in Family, Fertility, Freedom, and Human Rights", Presentation at the Vienna Institute of Demography, Vienna, Austria, May 24, 2013.

Thornton, A. "Development as Cultural Script with Powerful Global Reach". Plenary presentation at the 2013 Annual Sociology of Development Conference: The Future of Development, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 24-25, 2013.

Thornton, A. "Clashes of Culture, Social Systems, and Family Behavior in Asia", Keynote address at the Discrepancies Between Behavior and Attitudes Toward Marriage and Fertility in Asia Conference. Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, Singapore, February 13-14, 2014.

Thornton, A. "Developmental Idealism: the Cultural Foundations of Worldwide Development Programs". Kennedy International Center, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, March 4, 2015.

Thornton, A. "Developmental Idealism and Worldwide Cultural Clashes and Social Change: a Program of Data Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination". Pew Research Center, Washington, D.C., March 13, 2015.

Thornton, A. "Developmental Idealism: Its Global Dissemination and Social and Demographic Effects", Paper presented as DeJong Lecture, Pennsylvania State University, November 13, 2015.

Thornton, A., Williams, N., Bhandari, P., Young-DeMarco, L., Sun, C., Swindle, J., Hughes, C.

- “Influences of Material Aspirations on Migration”, Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America, Washington, D.C., March 31 – April 2, 2016.
- Williams, N., Hughes, C., Bhandari, P., Thornton, A., Young-DeMarco, L., Sun, C., Swindle, J., “A Migration Systems Approach to Understanding Migrant Social Capital”, Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America, Washington, D.C., March 31 – April 2, 2016.
- Thornton, A. and Young-DeMarco, L. “What Can We Learn about the Colville Reservation Indians from the United States Censuses?”, Paper presented at the 2017 Northwest Anthropology Conference, Spokane, Washington, April 12-15, 2017
- Thornton, A., Bhandari, P., Swindle, J., Williams, N., Young-DeMarco, L., Sun, C., Hughes, C. “Fatalism, Self-Determination, and Migration”, Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America, Chicago, April 26-29, 2017.
- Thornton, A. “Policy Influences on Historical Fertility Change”, Organizer and chair of session at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America, Chicago, April 26-29, 2017.
- Thornton, A. “Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Changing Contraception and Fertility”. Organizer and chair of session at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America, Chicago, Illinois, April 26-29, 2017.
- Thornton, A. “Some Thoughts on Conceptualizing and Studying Ideational and Material Influences on Family and Demographic Behavior”, Paper presented at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, August 12-15, 2017.
- Thornton, A., Bhandari, P., Swindle, J., Williams, N., Young-DeMarco, L., Sun, C., Hughes, C. “Fatalism, Self-Determination, and Migration”, Paper presented at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, August 12-15, 2017.
- Gjonça, A., and Thornton, A. “Can Development Idealism help in understanding Mortality and Epidemiological Transitions?”, Paper presented at the Fifth European Congress on World and Global History "Ruptures, Empires, Revolutions", Budapest, August 31 to September 3, 2017.
- Hughes, C., Bhandari, P., Young-DeMarco, L., Swindle, J., Thornton, A. and Williams, N. “Family Obligations, Gender, and Migration in Nepal”, Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America, Austin, April 10-13, 2019.
- Thornton, A. “The Developmental Paradigm, Reading History Sideways, and Family Change: A Report on Work on the Topics of my Presidential Address since 2001”, Paper presented at

Special Panel - PAA Past Presidential Address Topics, Population Association of America, December 8, 2020.

Thornton, A., and Young-DeMarco, L. "[Literacy Among American Indians: Levels and Trends from 1900 to 1930 and Across Birth Cohorts from 1830 to 1920.](#)" Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Social Science History Association, Philadelphia, November 11-14, 2021.

Allendorf, K., and Young-DeMarco, L. and Thornton, A. "Developmental Idealism and a Half Century of Family Attitude Trends in the United States". Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America, Atlanta, April 6-9, 2022.

Thornton, A., Hemenway, E., Young-DeMarco, L., Pitawanakwat, A., Smith, L.W. "Native Americans of the Upper Great Lakes: Sociological and Historical Perspectives on Land and Schooling Among the Anishinaabek." ISR Insight Speaker Series, April 7, 2022. (<https://ssai.isr.umich.edu/presentations-and-displays/>).

Research Grants

Fertility after the Baby Boom: The Role of Economic Stress, Female Employment, and Education. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1975-1976).

Longitudinal Study of Correlates of Fertility: 1962-1977. Co-principal investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1975-1980).

Value of Children in the United States. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1977).

Intergenerational Consequences of Fertility Behavior. Principal investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1979-1984).

Changing Patterns of Marriage and Divorce in the United States. Co-principal investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1980-1983).

The Changing Family Network and Fertility in Taiwan. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1981-1983).

Family and Institutional Factors in Adolescent Sexuality. Principal investigator. Office of Adolescent Pregnancy Programs (1983-1986).

Social Change, The Family, and Fertility in Taiwan. Principal investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation, and Republic of China Committee for Scientific Cooperation with the United States of America (1988-1992).

Economy, Family Change, and Fertility in Nepal. Co-principal investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and National Science Foundation (1987-1993).

The Causes of Divorce and Divorce Change in Nepal. Co-Investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1993-1997).

Influence of Parental Family on Well-Being of Children. Principal Investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1993-2000).

Changing Social Contexts and Family Formation. Co-Investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1994-1999).

Intergenerational Panel Study of Parents and Children. Principal Investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1984-2000).

Intergenerational Effects on Marriage and Cohabitation. Principal Investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (2000-2003).

Research and Training in Developing Countries. Principal Investigator. Fogarty International Center (2003-2005).

Population Studies Center Infrastructure Grant. Principal Investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (2003-2008).

Determinants of Marriage and Childbearing Attitudes. Principal Investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (2001-2013).

Ideational Perspectives on International Family Change. Principal Investigator. Mellon Foundation (2002-2005).

The Effect of College Major on Religiosity. Co-Investigator. John Templeton Foundation (2004-2005).

Measuring Developmental Idealism and Family Life. Principal Investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (2005-2008).

Ideational Influences on Marriage and Childbearing. Principal Investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (2008-2014).

Cross-National Variations and Trends in Islamic Fundamentalism. Co-Investigator. Office of Naval Research (2009-2014).

Migrants to the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries: Values, Behaviors, and Plans. Principal Investigator. Georgetown University (2009-2011).

Innovative Methods for Obtaining Survey Data from Migrants. Principal Investigator. Eunice Kennedy Schriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (2010-2012).

Television and International Family Change: A Randomized Experiment. Investigator. Eunice Kennedy Schriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (Subcontract from Pennsylvania State University) (2010-2015).

Ideational Influences on Migration: Values and Beliefs. Principal Investigator. Eunice Kennedy Schriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (2014-2020).

Social and Demographic Change Among American Indians. Principal Investigator. Population Studies Center of the University of Michigan (2017-2019).

Social Change Among American Indians. Principal Investigator, Department of Sociology, College of Literature Science and the Arts, and Office of Research of the University of Michigan (2019-2021).

Levels, Trends, and Differentials in Education among the Anishinaabe People. Principal Investigator, Department of Sociology, College of Literature Science and the Arts, and Office of Research of the University of Michigan (2021-2023).

Training Grants

Social Science Training in Population Studies. Principal Investigator. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1997-1999; 2003-2008).

Training in the Demography and Economics of Aging, Principal Investigator, National Institute on Aging (1997-1999).

Teaching Experience

American Family
Comparative Family Systems
Culture, Globalization, and Social Change
Culture, Social Change, and Population
Family and Kinship Research Seminar
Social Change
Sociology of Families and Kinship
Statistics
Social Science Research: Culture, Globalization, and Social Change

Professional Association Memberships

American Sociological Association
Asian Population Association
Population Association of America
Sociological Research Association
International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
American Society of Ethnohistory
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association

Occasional Journal Referee

Acta Sociologica
Advances in Lifecourse Research
American Anthropologist
American Journal of Sociology
American Sociological Review
Annual Review of Sociology
Chinese Journal of Sociology
Comparative Studies in Society and History
Demographic Research
Demography
Developmental Psychology
European Journal of Population
European Journal of Psychology of Education
Family Planning Perspectives
International Migration Review
International Sociology
Journal of American Statistical Association
Journal of Family Issues
Journal of Marriage and the Family
Marriage and Family Review
Population and Development Review
Population and Environment
Population Studies
Public Opinion Quarterly
Social Forces
Social Science Research
Sociological Focus
Sociological Inquiry
Sociological Methodology
Sociological Methods and Research
Sociological Perspectives
Sociology of Development
Sociology of Education
Sociology of Work and Occupations

Related Professional Activity

Member of Contract Review Committee, Center for Population Research, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Reviewer for the National Science Foundation.

Associate Editor, Journal of Family Issues, 1984-1998.

Consultant, Australian Institute of Family Studies, 1981.

Consultant, National Family and Household Survey, The University of Wisconsin, 1983-1985, 1997.

Consultant, Family Health and Demographic Surveys Project, Westinghouse Public Applied Systems, 1984-1989.

Nominations Committee, Family Section, American Sociological Association, 1983, 1985, 1987 (Chair).

Steering Committee, Workshop on Demographic Change and the Well-Being of Children and the Elderly, National Academy of Science, 1985.

William Goode Book Award Committee, Family Section, American Sociological Association, 1986-87.

Dorothy Thomas Award Committee, Population Association of America, 1990-1993.

American Family Research Council, Wingspread Commission on the Family in America, 1991-1999.

Advisory Panel, Sociometrics Family Archive, 1990-present.

Nominating Committee, Population Association of America, 1996-1997.

Consultant, Adolescent Health Survey, 2000. University of North Carolina, 1997, 1999.

Consultant, Colorado Adoption Project Young Adult Follow-Up: Nature and Nurture in Social Demography. University of Colorado, 1998-present.

Consultant, A Twin Family Study of Drug Use, Abuse, and Dependence. Virginia Medical College, 1998.

External Review Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Notre Dame, 1998.

Chair, External Review Committee, Department of Sociology, Duke University, 2007.

Occasional Reviewer, National Institutes of Health.

Editorial Board of Advances in Life Course Research, Elsevier Ltd.

Robert Lapham Award Committee, Population Association of America, 2009-2011 (chair 2011).

Irene B. Taeuber Award Committee, Population Association of America, 2012-2015..

Editorial Board of Demography, 2013-2016.

Panel of Expert Advisors, PEW Research Center, 2015.

Administration

Executive Committee, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan (1980-1982).

Budgets and Contingencies Committee, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan (1981-1982).

Executive Committee, Detroit Area Study, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (1980-1987).

Field Review Committee, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan (1983-1984).

Applied Masters Degree Committee, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (1983-1985).

Senior Staff Advisory Committee, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan (1983-1985; 1994-1997; 2000-2002).

Executive Committee, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (1985-1987; 1994-1995; 1997-1999; 2007-2008).

Chair, Graduate Committee on Educational Policy, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (1988-1992).

Population and Human Ecology Program and Preliminary Examination Committee, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (1988-1994; 1995-1999; Chair, 1995-1997).

Family and Kinship Program and Preliminary Examination Committee, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (1990-1999; Chair, 1990-1996, 1998-1999).

Social Demography Program and Preliminary Examination Committee, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (2004-2006, 2009-present; Chair, 2005-2006, 2010-2011).

Committee on Intellectual Exchange and Renewal, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan (1991-1992).

Committee on Statistics and Methods Course, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (1991-1993).

Chair, Recruitment Committee, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan (1991-1995).

Chair, Survey Methodology Search Committee, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan (1992-1995).

Personnel Committee, Department of Sociology (1993-1994; 2003-2004).

Institute for Social Research Director Search Committee, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan (1994).

Tenure Committee, The University of Michigan (1994-1997).

Ombudsman, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (1993-1995).

Internal Advisory Committee, Population Studies Center, The University of Michigan (1995-1997; 2000-2002; 2010-2012).

Chair, Training Committee, Population Studies Center, The University of Michigan (1995-1997).

Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (1995-1997; 2000-2002; 2011-2012).

Co-chair, Internal Review Committee, Department of Sociology, The University of Michigan (1996-1997).

Director, Population Studies Center, (2003-2008).

Space Usage Committee, Survey Research Center, (2010-2012).

Research Area Committee, Institute for Social Research, (2010-2012).

Executive Committee, Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies (2010-2012).

Policy Committee, Institute for Social Research (2014-2015).