

Marcus M. Martin

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Marcus M. Martin is a second-year Ph. D. student in the Rossier School of Education at the University of Southern California. His research focus is at the intersection of postsecondary education, social justice, networks, race, and ethnicity. He relentlessly strives to amplify counter-narratives and develop equity-minded solutions to inform effective policy and achieve a more equitable education system, ultimately leading to a more just world. He has over a decade of professional experience in postsecondary education admissions, government relations, and research roles. As a civically engaged scholar, Marcus has published opinion editorials, provided public comment in opposition to anti-DEI legislation, organized community efforts to oppose anti-DEI legislation, presented his cutting-edge research at the Association for the Study of Higher Education Annual Conference, and devoted over four hundred hours to volunteering and service research efforts in his local communities. In collaboration with the National Assessment of Collegiate Campus Climate team at the USC Race & Equity Center, Marcus's latest publication, "Under Siege: Campus Racial Climates in Texas Higher Education Amid Anti-DEI Legislation," examines the potentially far-reaching implications of Senate Bill 17. Marcus serves as a Research Associate at the USC Race and Equity Center and a Research Assistant at the Pullias Center for Higher Education while receiving guidance from his primary advisor, Dr. Royel M. Johnson, and secondary advisor, Dr. Shaun Harper.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.), Education

Cognate: Racialized Networks in Higher Education

Los Angeles, CA
Expected May 2028

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Master of Education (M. Ed.) Higher Education Leadership

Specialization: Postsecondary Education Leadership & Access Practicum:
Government Relations Liaison, Teaching Assistant

Ogden, UT

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Science (B. S.), Criminal Justice, Minor, Health Promotion

Distinguished Awards: Departmental Honors, Magna Cum Laude, Excellence in Community Engagement

Ogden, UT

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Associate of Science in General Studies

Distinguished Awards: Academic Honors, J. W. Marriott Scholarship

Ogden, UT

CURRENT ROLES

University of Southern California

Ph. D. Student, Rossier School of Education
Research Associate, USC Race & Equity Center
Research Assistant, Pullias Center *for* Higher Education

Los Angeles, CA

(2024-Present)
(2024-Present)
(2024-Present)

PAST PROFESSIONAL ROLES AND EXPERIENCES

Weber State University,

Government Relations Liaison, Office of the President
Research Assistant, Moyes College of Education
Sr. Admission Counselor, Office of Admissions
Admissions Ambassador, Office of Admissions
Research Assistant, Center for Community Engaged Learning

Ogden, UT

(2023)
(2022-2023)
(2019-2022)
(2012-2016)
(2016)

Crossroads Academy Residential Treatment Center

Residential Staff

Ogden, UT

(2018-2019)

State of Utah – Archway Youth Services Center

Juvenile Justice Technician

Ogden, UT

(2018-2019)

AWARDS AND HONORS

Select Awards & Recognitions

2016 Criminal Justice Departmental Honors
2016 Ogden City Police Department Exceptional Volunteer Award & Challenge Coin Recipient
2016 Excellence in Community Engagement
2015 Weber State Man of the Year Nominee
2006 Hope of America Award

Select Fellowships & Scholarships

2022 Richards J&M Scholarship
2016 Criminal Justice Department Scholarship
2016 J.W. Marriott Scholarship
2012 Admissions Ambassador Scholarship Program

SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH

Chapters in Books

Johnson, R. M., Martin, M. M., Oduro, A., & Haynes, M. (forthcoming, 2025). *Texas' SB 17: Equity under siege and the implications for student success*. In R. T. Palmer, A. M. Flowers III, A. French, T. L. McMickens, & R. Banda (Eds.), *A nation at risk: Examining the consequences of the removal of diversity, equity, and inclusion in higher education* (pp. xx–xx). Routledge.

Refereed Journal Articles

Johnson, R.M., Oduro, A., & **Duran, G.P.** (Under Review). “Nothing will change”: Counternarratives of Black staff on anti-Blackness, DEI, and campus racial climate. *Journal of Higher Education*. (Impact Factor 2.6)

National Reports/Briefs

Johnson, R.M., Nuñez, R.A., Kwon, J., & **Duran, G.P.** (2024). Under siege: Campus racial climates in Texas amid anti-DEI legislation. Los Angeles, CA: University of Southern California, USC Race and Equity Center.

Opinion Editorials

Duran, G. P. (2024). *Opinion: DEI is the Utah way*. The Salt Lake Tribune. <https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/commentary/2024/01/04/opinion-utah-should-increase/>

Duran, G. P. (2022). *Gary P. Duran: Access to college for Latinx students begins with access to information*. The Salt Lake Tribune. Retrieved June 9, 2022, from <https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/commentary/2022/04/29/gary-p-duran-access/>

Refereed Conference Presentations & Symposia

Duran, G.P. & Grote, D.M. (2023, November). *Oppression perpetrated by the most rejective U.S. postsecondary institutions*. Scholarly paper session presented at the Association for the Study of Higher Education Annual Conference. Minneapolis, MN.

Duran, G.P. (2016). *Restrictions on Symbolic Sex Offender Laws in Nebraska*. Poster presentation at the annual Office of Undergraduate Research Symposium. Ogden, UT.

Master's Thesis

Duran, G. P. (2023). *Oppression Perpetrated by the Most Rejective U.S. Postsecondary Institutions*. Stewart Library, Weber State University.
<https://digital.weber.edu/ark:/87278/s6t1t2wr>

Public Legislative Testimony

Duran, G. P. (2024, February) Public comment during the State of Utah Senate Education Committee Hearing on anti-DEI legislation.

Invited Keynotes, Workshops, Panels, & Guest Lectures

Duran, G. P. (2023, April) Politics, policies, and practices in higher education. Guest lecture shared with Master of Education Course 6040 at Weber State University.

Duran, G. P. (2023, February) Politics, policies, and practices in higher education. Guest lecture shared with Master of Education Course 6040 at Weber State University.

Duran, G. P. (2022, November) Finding gratitude in my youth. Keynote lecture presented at the Annual Holladay City Interfaith Service.

Duran, G. P. (2021, June). Messages from silence, new peaks, new challenges. Presentation at the annual meeting of the Utah Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers. Ogden, UT.

Duran, G.P. (2016). Impacts and influences of student leadership in undergraduate education. Presentation at the NODA Regional Conference Breakout Session. Ogden, UT.

Duran, G.P. (2016). Public opinion of Ogden City Police Department. Presentation of survey findings to community partners Ogden City Chief of Police and the Assistant Chiefs of Police at the Ogden City Police Department. Ogden, UT.

Selected Mentions

“USC reviewing ‘DEI-related’ programs for federal compliance” in Daily Trojan:
<https://dailytrojan.com/2025/02/28/usc-reviewing-dei-related-programs-for-federalcompliance/>

TEACHING AND ADVISING

University of Southern California

Teaching Assistant

EDUC-681: Research, Policy and Practice in Urban Education, Fall 2025

Weber State University

Teaching Assistant

MED 6100: Leadership and Organizational Theory, Summer 2022

SERVICE

Professional Organizations and Conferences

Utah Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (UACRAO) Chair,
Recruitment Track, 2019-2021

University, College, Department, and Program

Weber State University

Chair, Recruitment Division, Transfer Committee Task Force, 2020-2022

Ambassador, University Wellness, 2019-2022

Volunteer 400+ Hours, Center for Community Engaged Learning, 2012-2019