SHIU-TING LING, M.S.

Doctoral Student | Prevention Science
The University of Texas at Austin | Department of Kinesiology and Health Education
People, Health, and Place Lab | sl63476@my.utexas.edu | Austin, TX, USA
Updated: September 2026

EDUCATION

Aug. 2026 – Present
Doctor of Philosophy in Prevention Science
Department of Kinesiology and Health Education, College of Education
The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, USA
Faculty Advisor: Deborah Salvo, Ph.D.

Aug. 2024 – May 2026
Master of Science in Social Data Analytics and Research
School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences
The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX, USA
GPA: 3.95 / 4.00

Sep. 2020 – Jun. 2022
Master of Science in Health Behaviors and Community Sciences
National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan
GPA: 4.14 / 4.30 (U.S. Equivalent: 4.00 / 4.00, evaluated by ECE)
Thesis: "The Association Between the Weight Change Patterns from Adolescence to Young Adulthood and Delayed Romantic Relationship: Psychosocial Mechanisms"
Faculty Advisor: Duan-Rung Chen, Ph.D.

Sep. 2016 – Jun. 2020
Bachelor of Education in Health Promotion and Health Education
National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan
GPA: 3.89 / 4.30 (U.S. Equivalent: 3.93 / 4.00, evaluated by ECE)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests center on physical activity, built environments, and the social and environmental conditions that shape health behaviors. My interdisciplinary background spans health behavior, public health, social data analytics, and spatial analysis.

My previous research has addressed diverse public health topics, including health disparities, environmental health, health behaviors, and healthcare accessibility. Across these experiences, I have developed an interest in using interdisciplinary and data-driven approaches to study population health. Building on this background, I am particularly interested in applying these approaches to physical activity research and understanding how built, social, and place-based environments shape opportunities for healthy behavior across populations and communities.

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Aug. 2026 – Present
Doctoral Researcher (Directed Research)
People, Health, and Place Lab, Department of Kinesiology and Health Education
The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, USA
Faculty Advisor: Deborah Salvo, Ph.D.

- Contribute to the Active Middle School Communities (AMSC) project examining physical activity and place-based opportunities in school communities.
- Support field-based data collection and direct observation activities as part of ongoing physical activity research.

Sep. 2025 – May 2026
Research Analyst — North Texas Quality of Life Study
Institute for Urban Policy Research, The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX, USA

- Developed an R Shiny dashboard integrating survey data with secondary sources, including ACS and FBI UCR data, to visualize community quality-of-life indicators across North Texas counties.
- Implemented spatial interpolation and dual-layer geographic visualizations to examine patterns in quality-of-life perceptions.
- Created automated data-processing pipelines for survey data from Qualtrics and REDCap.

Sep. 2020 – Jul. 2022
Health Behavior & Community Research Project Assistant
Institute of Health Behaviors and Community Sciences, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

- Participated in research on eating disorders, weight stigma, older adult physical activity, dementia readiness, and advance directives.
- Conducted literature reviews, questionnaire design and administration, telephone interviews, health interventions, data management, and quantitative analysis.

Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2019 **Research Assistant — Adolescent Drug Prevention Project**
Department of Health Promotion and Health Education, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan
- Designed theory-based online materials and case manuals to strengthen awareness, critical thinking, and prevention skills among youth.

SELECTED RESEARCH AND DATA PROJECTS

Fall 2025 **Sexual Assault Medical Accessibility and Spatial Inequality Analysis in Taiwan**
- Developed a Python desktop application (PyQt5 and Folium) to examine spatial inequalities in access to designated sexual assault forensic examination services.
- Converted government PDF records into a geocoded dataset and conducted buffer and accessibility analyses to identify service gaps and candidate hospitals in underserved areas.
- Built an address-based facility search tool using geocoding and Haversine distance calculations.

Fall 2025 **Microplastics, Environmental Policy, and Human Health**
- Developed a reproducible R-based research workflow to examine environmental exposure and public health patterns surrounding the Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015.
- Integrated NOAA marine microplastic monitoring data with CDC health outcome data using API-based data collection, spatial processing, policy-period comparisons, and quantitative analysis.
- Collected and analyzed peer-reviewed literature and news media using computational text analysis to compare scientific and public framing of microplastic-related health risks.

Fall 2024 **Female Breast Cancer Epidemiological Data Visualization - Taiwan, 2010-2021**
- Analyzed temporal and geographic patterns in breast cancer epidemiological data across Taiwan.
- Developed interactive visualizations using R and ArcGIS Online Dashboards to examine geographic disparities in cancer-related outcomes.

Spring 2025 **Traditional Chinese Medicine Wellness Database and Interactive Query System**
- Developed a PostgreSQL-based relational database and interactive R Shiny application to organize and retrieve traditional Chinese medicine wellness information.
- Collected and structured information on symptoms, acupuncture points, dietary ingredients, and herbal prescriptions through web scraping, manual curation, and AI-assisted data processing.
- Designed eight interconnected tables with primary and foreign keys and implemented dynamic SQL queries for bilingual, real-time content retrieval.

Spring 2026 **Computational News Framing Analysis of ICE-Related Events**
- Developed an R-based computational text analysis pipeline to examine media framing of ICE-related events across articles collected from multiple academic news databases.
- Conducted corpus collection, deduplication, text cleaning, segmentation, and article screening, integrating large language model APIs for multi-label frame and sentiment classification.
- Applied multi-model and human validation, reliability assessment, statistical modeling, and data visualization to evaluate and interpret the classification results.

PUBLICATIONS

Manuscript Under Review

"Maternal immigrant status, self-esteem, and problematic eating behaviors among Taiwanese adolescents: A school-based cross-sectional study." *Journal of Eating Disorders*. Submitted July 2026. [Second Author]

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Aug. 2026 – Present **Graduate Teaching Assistant — HED 365: Social Determinants of Health and Health Disparities**
Department of Kinesiology and Health Education, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, USA
Instructor: Pablo Montero-Zamora, Ph.D.
- Support undergraduate instruction on social determinants of health, health disparities, and health equity.
- Evaluate student assignments and assessments, maintain course records, and provide student support through office hours.

Jan. 2023 – Jul. 2023 **Health Education Teacher**
Junior High Department, Private Nanshan Senior High School, New Taipei City, Taiwan
- Led health education sessions on physical, mental, and social health using participatory learning strategies to promote health literacy.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROMOTION EXPERIENCE

Jul. 2019 – Aug. 2019 **Public Health Intern**
Food & Nutrition Center, John Tung Foundation, Taipei, Taiwan
- Proposed an "Enhancing Food Literacy among Older Adults" program using community-based interventions to address aging and public health challenges.

Sep. 2018 – Jul. 2019 **Leader / Organizer — Community Health Week**
Department of Health Promotion and Health Education, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan
- Led a student team to organize a community health campaign on sugar-sweetened beverages with Taipei Zoo, applying health behavior theories.

CERTIFICATES AND ADDITIONAL TRAINING

2026 **Human Subjects Research Training — CITI Program**
The University of Texas at Austin

2026-2028 **Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED Certification**
American Red Cross

Feb. 2023 **Licensed Secondary School Teacher — Health Education**
Ministry of Education, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

RESEARCH METHODS AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

Research Methods	Quantitative and secondary data analysis; survey research and questionnaire development; longitudinal and multilevel data analysis; computational text analysis; health behavior and community-based research; open and secondary data integration.
Spatial Analysis & GIS	Spatial data processing and mapping; accessibility and service-area analysis; geocoding; spatial interpolation; spatial autocorrelation; ArcGIS Online, sf, GeoPandas, Folium, raster, and Leaflet.
Programming & Data Visualization	R (tidyverse, Shiny, ggplot2, quanteda); Python (pandas, GeoPandas, Folium); SQL (PostgreSQL, SQLite); JavaScript; HTML; interactive dashboards and reproducible data-processing workflows.
Statistical Software	SPSS; Stata; SAS.
Languages	Mandarin Chinese (Native); Taiwanese Hokkien (Fluent); English (Advanced).