
Alexandra Eleazar

aeleazar@ucsb.edu

Pronouns: they/she

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/alexandraeleazar/>

Education

University of California, Santa Barbara

Doctoral Student in Sociology

Santa Barbara, CA

Ph.D. expected 2025

Smith College

B.A. in Sociology & minor in Women and Gender Studies, *high honors*

Northampton, MA

2020

School for International Training

Geopolitics, International Relations, and the Future of the Middle East

Amman, Jordan

Study abroad, January 2019 - May 2019

Research Interests

Immigration ◦ Queer Studies ◦ Race and Ethnicity ◦ Gender & Sexuality ◦ Stratification and Inequality
Latinx Studies ◦ Cultural Sociology ◦ Political Economy ◦ Incarceration ◦ Central America

Research Experience

University of California, Santa Barbara

Graduate Student Independent Researcher

September 2020 - Current

Directing research on transnational identity formation of LGBTQ migrants. Conducting qualitative research through collecting semi-structured interviews, examining transcripts, and interpreting major analytical themes.

Smith College, Northampton, MA

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship and Honors Thesis

May 2018 - May 2020

Developed a two-year independent research project on the historical and cultural relationships between prisons and immigration detention facilities. Used extensive theoretical and historical analysis. Funded by a fellowship received from the Mellon Mays Foundation.

School for International Training, Amman, Jordan

Independent Researcher

January 2019 - May 2019

Initiated independent research on the legal and social inclusion of migrant women in Jordan, centering on domestic workers. Interviews were conducted in Arabic and English, transcribed, and coded for themes. The project highlighted the conditions of vulnerable migrant women and the need for intersectional research in Jordan.

Fellowships, Awards, & Grants

- 2021 Graduate Fellow, Los Angeles Unified Scholars Strategy Network
- 2021 Graduate Seed Research Grant, Department of Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2020 UCSB Doctoral Scholar Award, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2020 Public Humanities Graduate Fellow, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2020 Karel Fierman Wahrsager for Scholarship in Sociology, Smith College Department of Sociology
- 2019 Valerie Dean Burgess Stevens Prize for excellent work in the study of women and gender, Smith College Department of Study of Women and Gender
- 2018 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Smith College
- 2018 Social Justice Student Leadership Award, Smith College

- 2016 Leadership Award for LGBTQ Youth Advocacy, GLSEN Upstate New York
 2016 LGBTQ Youth Award of Recognition and Accomplishment, Pride Center of the Capital Region

Conference & Professional Presentations

- August 2021 “POC and the Ph.D.: Academia by and for Graduate Students of Color.” Presented at the annual American Sociological Association Conference; virtual meeting (with Yvonne Chen, Lisa Covington, Ashley Crooks-Allen, Christian Lewis, Celine Ayala, J’Mauri Jackson, Makeiva Jenkins, & Katherine Zaslavsky).
- March 2020 “Investigating Carceral Logic: Prisons and Immigration Detention in the United States.” Presented at the annual Eastern Sociological Society Conference; Philadelphia, PA.
- October 2019 “Carceral States: Prisons & Detention Centers in the U.S.” Presented at the annual Mellon Mays Northeast Regional Conference; New Haven, CT.
- May 2019 “Invisible Strings: Effects of Identity on Migrant Women Workers in Jordan.” Presented at the annual School for International Training Student Research Panel; Amman, Jordan.

Teaching & Mentorship Experience

- Fall 2021 **Teaching Assistant, UC Santa Barbara**
Soc 1, Introduction to Sociology
- Fall 2021 **Graduate Student Assistant, Resource Center for Gender & Sexual Diversity**
Oversaw support systems for LGBTQ graduate students through social, professional, and educational programming.
- Spring 2021 **Workshop Facilitator, Students Rising Above Summer Leadership Program**
Developed networking opportunities for low-income and first-generation college students. Supervised creation of community guidelines, daily activities, and mentorship systems.
- 2019-2020 **Student Leader & Mentor, Bridge Pre-Orientation Program**
Presented workshops on college readiness, financial management, and LGBTQ acceptance and terminology. Supervised year-long mentorship meetings with nine students.
- 2016-2020 **Peer Mentor, First Gen Out Loud**
Mentored first-year students to achieve academic goals, personal landmarks, and outsource resources within the college system.
- 2014-2016 **Youth Advocate & Peer Educator, Pride Center of the Capital Region**
Led individualized workshops to high school students and teachers on LGBTQ issues across upstate New York.

Community Presentations & Panels

- August 2021 “Thriving, Not Surviving: Navigating Higher Education as a First-Generation College Student.” Graduate Student Invited Discussion Leader. Presented online.
- September 2020 “POC and First Gen: Transitioning to Graduate School.” Smith College Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Guest Speaker. Presented online.

Service & Professional Associations

Service: Sociology Graduate Student Association, Student Representative (UC Santa Barbara)
Sociology Department, Student Liaison (Smith College)
Study of Women and Gender Department, Student Liaison (Smith College)

Associations: American Sociological Association
Pacific Sociological Association

Key Skills & Certificates

Languages: English (fluent), Spanish (intermediate), and Arabic (elementary)

Certificates: Domestic Violence Advocate Training, Human Research Subjects Training

Software: Stata, SPSS, Google Suite, Microsoft Suite, Canva, NVivo, Otter.ai

References available upon request.