

Alex V. Barnard
Department of Sociology
New York University
383 Lafayette St., 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10012
avbarnard@nyu.edu
928-606-3586

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor **New York University** (2019 – Present)
Sociology

EDUCATION

Ph.D. **University of California**, Berkeley, CA (2019)
Sociology *Dissertation*: “Ordering the Disordered: State Classifications of Mental Illness in France and the United States”

M.Phil **University of Oxford**, Oxford, UK (2011)
International *Graduate with distinction*
Development *Graduate Thesis*: “‘We Are the Lungs of the World’: Popular Environmentalism and the Local Politics of Climate Mitigation in the Ecuadorian Amazon”

A.B. **Princeton University**, Princeton, NJ (2009)
Sociology *Summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
Senior Thesis: “Pulling Sustainability from the Dumpster: Radical Community, Activist Identity, and Human Possibilities in the Freegan Movement”

BOOKS

Conservatorship: Inside California’s System of Coercion and Care for Mental Illness. Columbia University Press, 2023.

Reviewed in: *City Journal*; *Southern California Psychiatrist*.

Freegans: Diving into the Wealth of Food Wasted in America. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2016.

Reviewed in: *Environmental Politics*; *Food, Culture and Society*; *Environmental Values*, *Agriculture and Human Values*, *The British Journal of Sociology*, *Mobilization*, *The European Journal of Sociology*, *Digest*.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

(with Nick Rekenhaller) “Suffering, Addicted, and Resistant? Target Ecologies and the Medicalization of Homelessness in California.” *Social Problems* (Forthcoming).

“‘A Discipline Like No Other’: Marginalized Autonomy and Institutional Anchors in the French Psychiatric Field, 1960-2016.” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* (Forthcoming).

“From the ‘Magna Carta’ to ‘Dying in the Streets’: Media Framings of Involuntary Psychiatric Care in California.” *Society and Mental Health* 12 (2), 2022: 155–173.

“Bureaucratically Split Personalities: (Re)ordering the Mentally Disordered in the French State.”
Theory and Society 48 (5), 2019: 753-784.

(with Tonya Tartour) “État de santé et état des droits: la construction collective des figures inconciliables de malade et justiciable dans le contrôle judiciaire des soins psychiatriques forcés à New York.” *Participations* 23 (2), 2018: 83-107.

“Making the City ‘Second Nature’: Freegan ‘Dumpster Divers’ and Materiality of Morality in Urban Life.” *American Journal of Sociology* 121 (4), January 2016: 1017-1050.

“Waving the Banana at Capitalism: Political Theatre and Social Movement Strategy Among New York’s ‘Freegan’ Dumpster Divers.” *Ethnography* 12 (4), December 2011: 419-444.
Reprinted in *Contemporary Approaches to Ethnographic Research*. SAGE Press.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION OR UNDER REVIEW

Mental States: Ordering Psychiatric Disorder in France. Under Contract with Columbia University Press.

“Compliance and Consent: Serviceable Subjects in Involuntary Psychiatric Commitment Hearings in Paris and New York City.” *Under review*.

“Bounding and Scaling: Allocating Psychiatric Care in France and the United States” *Working Paper*.

“Cataloguing Constraint: Statewide Legislation Around Involuntary Psychiatric Treatment, 2011-2022.” *In Preparation*.

“Conservatorship: Coercion without Care or Control.” Pitch accepted by *Contexts*.

CHAPTERS, SHORT PAPERS, AND INVITED PUBLICATIONS

(with Stephen Wiener, Matt Hirschtritt, and Berneen Bal). “Insights from California on Involuntary Commitment for Substance Use.” Forthcoming in *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law*.

(with Tonya Tartour). “Une justice adversariale : qu’a-t-on à apprendre du contrôle judiciaire des soins sans consentement en psychiatrie à New-York ?” Forthcoming in *Délibéré*.

(with Marion Fourcade) “Ordinalization and Its Discontents.” *Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie* 76, 2021: 113-34.

(with Isabel Perera) “Myths of Mental Health: Lessons from France for the United States.” *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine* 63(1), 2021: 103-118.

(with Marie Mourad) “From Dumpster Dives to Disco Vibes: The Shifting Shape of Food Waste Activism.” Pp. 381-399 in *The Food Waste Handbook*, edited by C. Reynolds, T. Soma, C. Spring, and J. Lazell. London, UK: Routledge, 2019.

(with Marie Mourad) “Don’t Waste the Waste: Dumpster Dinners among Garbage Gourmands.” Pp. 220-232 in *The Practice of the Meal*, edited by B. Cappellini, D. Marshall, and E. Parsons. London, UK: Routledge, 2016. Reprinted in *Discover Society Magazine*.

“Demanding the Land at a Public University? Space, Place, and Occupation at the University of California, Berkeley.” Pp. 307-308 in *Grabbing Back*. AK Press, 2014.

“From Haymarket to Sacco and Vanzetti: Anarchism and Policing in the United States in Comparative Perspective, 1880s-1920s.” *Columbia Undergraduate Journal of History*, Spring 2009.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Urban Brain: Mental Health in the Vital City by Nicolas Rose and Des Fitzgerald. *Contemporary Sociology* 52 (4), 2023: 372-374.

A Mass Conspiracy to Feed People: Food Not Bombs and the World-Class Waste of Global Cities by David Giles. *Mobilization* 28 (1), 2023: 136-137.

Military Waste: The Unexpected Consequences of Permanent War Readiness by Josh Reno. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 210, 2023: 234-235.

Common Enemies: Disease Campaigns in America by Rachel Best. *International Sociology Reviews*. 35(5), 2020: 563-566.

Garbage: The Saga of a Boss Scavenger in San Francisco by Leonard Dominic Stefanelli. *California History* 90 (1). Spring 2020: 72-74.

“Rewriting the History of Insanity? Review of Andrew Scull’s *Madness in Civilization*.” *European Journal of Sociology* 56 (3). December 2015: 555-560.

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

“California’s Conservatorships: Why Britney Spears and Not the Most Vulnerable.” *Columbia University Press Blog*. January 1, 2024. < <https://cupblog.org/2024/01/02/californias-conservatorshipswhy-britney-spears-and-not-the-most-vulnerablealex-v-barnard/> >

“California Needs New Rules as It Forces More Mentally Ill People Into Treatment.” *Los Angeles Times*. September 22, 2023. < <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2023-09-22/sb-43-california-conservatorship-mental-illness-substance-abuse-homelessness> >

“Round and Round We Go: Or the Way Services Work for People Who Are Homeless.” *Generations*. May 18, 2022. < <https://generations.asaging.org/way-services-work-people-who-are-homeless> >

(with Neil Gong) “Forcing Homeless People into Treatment Can Backfire. What About a Firm Nudge?” *The Washington Post*. May 11, 2022. < washingtonpost.com/outlook/2022/05/11/care-courts-california-homeless-coercion/ >

“An Alternative to Forced Treatment.” *San Francisco Chronicle*. December 18, 2021. < <https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/openforum/article/Before-forcing-more-mentally-ill-into-treatment-16711371.php> >

“Free Britney, But Also Reform California’s Conservatorship Laws.” *Sacramento Bee*. July 3, 2021. < <https://www.sacbee.com/opinion/op-ed/article252449848.html> >

(with Neil Gong) “Reform with Care: Expanding Mental Health Conservatorships in California.” *Scholars Strategy Network Brief*. February 19, 2020. < <https://scholars.org/contribution/reform-care-expanding-mental-health-conservatorships-california> >

(with Neil Gong) “Save San Francisco’s board-and-care homes—and then fix them.” *The San Francisco Chronicle*. September 17, 2019. < <https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/openforum/article/Open-Forum-Save-San-Francisco-s-board-and-care-14444806.php> >

“CA Threatens to Turn Back the Clock on Mental Health Care.” *Street Sheet*. February 1, 2019. < <http://www.streetsheet.org/?p=4867> >

“Keep it Contentious.” *Berkeley Journal of Sociology*. August 18, 2015.
<<http://berkeleyjournal.org/2015/08/keep-it-contentious/>>

“What’s Contentious About Free Food?” *Mobilizing Ideas*. August 5, 2015. <<https://mobilizingideas.wordpress.com/2015/08/05/whats-contentious-about-free-food/>>

“In Support of the Occupiers.” *Princeton Alumni Weekly*. March 7, 2012.
<<https://paw.princeton.edu/issues/2012/03/07/perspective/>>

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Research Catalyst Prize (2022) (\$15,000)
- Harvard Society of Fellows Finalist (2018)
- John L. Simpson Memorial Fellowship (2018-2019)
- Berkeley Empirical Legal Studies Fellow (2018-2019)
- Medical Sociology Section Louise Johnson Scholar (2017)
- Lowenthal Fellowship (2016-2017)
- George Lurcy Fellowship (2015-2016)
- Chateaubriand Fellowship (2015-2016)
- Best Graduate Student Instructor (2015), Department of Sociology
- Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor (2015)
- Institute for European Studies Pre-Dissertation Grant (2015)
- Institute for International Studies Pre-Dissertation Grant (2015)
- Berkeley University Fellowship (2011)
- Isidore Brown Prize (2009)
Highest Academic Achievement in Sociology Department
- Moses Taylor Pyne Honor Award (2009)
Princeton’s Highest Undergraduate General Distinction
- Daniel M. Sachs ’60 Fellowship (2008)
Full funding for two years of study at the University of Oxford for one Princeton senior.
- Rhodes and Marshall Fellowship Finalist (2008)
- Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence (2007, 2006)
Top 5% of Undergraduate Sophomore/Freshmen Class

TEACHING/ADVISING EXPERIENCE

Dissertation Committee Chair (Jenny Leigh, Aurélien Eberhardt [Université de Poitiers, France]).

Dissertation Committee Member (Lili Dao, Michelle Cera, Nick Rekenhaller, Golda Kaplan, Ivan Rubenstein-Gills [New School], Michael Long [UC Irvine]).

Master’s Thesis Advisor (Sophia George [Experimental Humanities], Trevor Beatty [Experimental Humanities], Zitian Sun [Politics]).

Undergraduate Thesis Advisor (Angela Ma, Sofia Famalett, Jeremiah Bonnet, Lexus Bolshakov, Echo Sun).

Instructor of Record, “Social Policy in Modern Society” (2023), “Research and Writing” (2023), “Graduate Research Methods” (2023, 2022, 2021), “Medical Sociology” (2024, 2022, 2020, 2018), “Senior Research Capstone” (2021), “Social Theory” (2021), “From Madness to Mental Health” (2019).

Graduate Student Instructor, “Classical and Contemporary Social Theory” (2 semesters). Fall 2017-Spring 2018. Instructor: Michael Burawoy (Berkeley); Graduate Student Instructor, “Summer Practicum in Social Policy” Summer 2017/2018. Instructor: Dan Lewis (Northwestern); Graduate Student Instructor, “Classical and Contemporary Social Theory” (2 semesters). Fall 2014-Spring 2015. Instructor: Marion Fourcade (Berkeley).

INVITED TALKS

“Conservatorship: Inside California’s System of Coercion and Care for Mental Illness.” University of New Mexico, University of California—Berkeley/Riverside/Los Angeles/San Diego, University of Wisconsin—Madison (March 2024); University of Nevada—Las Vegas (February 2024); British Sociological Association Working Group on Mental Health (November 2023).

“Gravely Disabled: Decision-Making in California’s Conservatorship System.” UCLA Harbor Grand Rounds (November 2023); UCLA Semel Grand Rounds (September 13, 2022); UCLA Sociology Medical Sociology Working Group (March 2022).

“Bounding and Scaling: Allocating Psychiatric Care in France and the United States.” NYU Institute of French Studies (February 2024); UCLA Social Medicine Grand Rounds (October 2022); UC Santa Barbara Cultural Sociology Workshop (May 2021).

“Courting Compliance and Consent: ‘Serviceable Subjects’ in Involuntary Commitment Hearings in New York and Paris.” Janian Medical Grand Rounds (October 2023); New York University (October 2018); Northwestern University (November 2018).

(with Marie Mourad). “Des poubelles au militantisme institutionnel : l’évolution de la lutte contre le gaspillage alimentaire.” Seminar “Lutte contre les surproductions et les surconsommations.” Université Libre de Bruxelles (February 2021).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Suffering, Addicted, and Resistant? Target Ecologies and the Medicalization of Homelessness in California.” American Political Science Association (August 31, 2023).

“Bounding and Scaling: Allocating Psychiatric Care in France and the United States.” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting (February 27, 2020), American Sociological Association Session on “Social Control and the Delivery of Care” (July 31, 2020), Council for European Studies (March 2018)

“From the ‘Magna Carta’ to ‘Dying in the Streets’: Media Framings of Involuntary Psychiatric Care in California.” American Sociological Society Annual Meeting (August 7, 2021).

“National Repertoires of Classification.” Junior Theorists Symposium (August 6, 2020).

“Courting Compliance and Consent: The Judicial Management of Madness in New York and Paris.” American Sociological Association session on ‘Field Intersections’ (August 2018).

“Bureaucratic Split Personalities: ‘Handicap Psychique’ in the French State.” American Sociological Association session on ‘Health Policy’ (August 2017); Berkeley-SciencesPo Conference on Social Solidarity (October 2016).

(with Marie Mourad) “What’s So Contentious About Free Food? Repertoires and Activism in the United States and France.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Section Session on “Social Movements Across Institutions” (August 18, 2014).

“Prefiguring with Waste and Critiquing with Excess: The Changing Shape of Contemporary Anti-Capitalism.” American Sociological Association session on ‘New Directions in Political Sociology’ (August 2014); American Association of Geographers (April 2013).

“Mobilizing Support for Climate Mitigation: ‘Eco-Populism’ in the Ecuadorian Amazon” UC Santa Cruz Conference on Climate Change and Development (October 27, 2012).

“Back to Nature in New York City? Freegans and the Morality of Urban Life.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Section Session on the Sociology of Culture (August 19, 2012).

“We are the Lungs of the World.” Latin American Studies Association Conference, Regular Session Panel (May 2012); Berkeley Journal of Sociology Conference (March 2012); University of Sheffield International Development Conference (March 2011).

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Media Appearances

KTVU; Viva La Evolution; Christian Science Monitor; Orange County Register; Air Talk with Larry Mantle; Vox; KNX; KCRW Press Play; Heart Forward Podcast; KPFA Public Radio, The New York Times, The Trenton Times, The New Jersey Star Ledger, California Magazine, France 24, Wisconsin Public Radio, Timeline, GOOD Magazine, The New Food Economy, Tiny Spark, Minnesota Public Radio, Alternet, Jacobin, Grist; San Francisco Chronicle; The 19th; CalMatters; VICE; Los Angeles Times; Slate; LAist; inewssource; SF Standard; The Economist; Modern Farmer; No Jargon; Unapologetically Black Unicorns; Public; NBC-LA.

Public Presentations

Disability Rights California; Palos Verdes Democrats; Supervisor Raphael Mandelman ‘Zoomside Chats’; California Behavioral Health Planning Council; Los Angeles ‘Grave Disability’ Working Group; California Advocates; Coalition for Elder Justice of California; Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation; Tenderloin Outpatient Clinic; City of Berkeley Department of Mental Health; Maison départementale des personnes handicapées – Paris.

Service

Phi Beta Kappa Selection Committee (2024, 2022); Phi Beta Kappa Induction Keynote Speaker (2023); Faculty Hiring Committee (2023, 2021-2022); Graduate admissions committee (2023, 2020); Shils-Coleman Award Committee (2020); Department Equity and Diversity Committee (2020-21).

Reviewer

American Journal of Sociology; American Sociological Review; Journal of Contemporary Ethnography; Ethnography; International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology; Berkeley Journal of Sociology; Journal of Consumer Affairs; The Sociological Review; The British Journal of Sociology; Valuation Studies; Social Problems; Food and Foodways; Social Science and Medicine; Food, Culture, and Society; Actes de la recherche en sciences sociales; Nature and Culture; Sociological Spectrum; Law and Society Review; Social Forces; Society and Mental Health; Review of Social Economy; University of Alberta Press; Wiley Blackwell.

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Co-Investigator, **DemoWatch Project**, Berkeley Institute for Data Science / Goodly Labs,
Principal Investigator: Nick Adams, Fall 2017 – Present.

Research Assistant, **NSF Grant #0924778**, Kampala, Uganda, July 2009 – Aug 2009. Principal Investigator: Delia Baldassarri. Project Title: “Social and Spatial Networks, Social Capital, and Leadership Accountability in Rural Development: A Study of Uganda’s Agricultural Productivity Enhancement Project.”

Graduate Student Research Assistant, **Measure for Measure**, Department of Sociology, Principal Investigator: Professor Marion Fourcade, Spring 2018.

Graduate Student Coordinator, **Coercive to Conserve**, Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program. Spring 2018 – Spring 2019.

REFERENCES

Professor Marion Fourcade
Department of Sociology
University of California, Berkeley
fourcade@berkeley.edu

Professor Dan Lewis
Department of Education and Social Policy
Northwestern University
dlewis@northwestern.edu

Professor Michael Burawoy
Department of Sociology
University of California, Berkeley
burawoy@berkeley.edu