

# Sarah J Halford

[sjhalford@brandeis.edu](mailto:sjhalford@brandeis.edu)

## EDUCATION

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<b>PhD (candidate) in Sociology</b> Brandeis University	<b>Expected May 2024</b>
<b>Dissertation:</b> <i>Mobilizing Distrust: Pathways of Micro-Mobilization in the Anti-5G Conspiracy Movement</i>	
<b>Methodology:</b> Hybrid ethnography: interviews; online and offline participant observation; document analysis.	
<b>Research Interests:</b> social movements, media sociology, sociology of culture, media effects conspiracy movements, dis/misinformation, social trust and distrust, right-wing movements, personal influence, digital ethnography, sociology of knowledge	
<b>MA in Sociology</b> Brandeis University	<b>May 2020</b>
<b>MA in Individualized Study</b> New York University, Gallatin School of Individualized Study	<b>May 2017</b>
<b>BA in Liberal Arts</b> New School University, Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts	<b>May 2014</b>

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Sarah J Halford.** (2023). "Conspiracy Movements: A Definitional Introduction and Theoretical Exploration of Organized Challenges to Epistemic Authority." *The Sociological Quarterly*, 64(2): 187-204. DOI: 10.1080/00380253.2022.2060147.
- Gowri Vijayakumar, Subadra Panchanadeswaran, Shubha Chacko, **Sarah J Halford**, & Sanjitha Subramaniam. "Between Pandemics: Sex Worker, Sexual Minority, and Transgender Activism From HIV to Covid-19." *Global Public Health*. (Published online 20 October 2022) DOI: 10.1080/17441692.2022.2124531.
- Stephen Duncombe, George Perlov, Steve Lambert, **Sarah J Halford.** (2018). "Assessing the Impact of Artistic Activism." New York: Center for Artistic Activism. <https://c4aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Assessing-the-Impact-of-Artistic-Activism.pdf>

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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<b>Adjunct Faculty Positions</b>	
<b>Instructor</b> , Soc-47B: Conspiracy Culture Brandeis University, Department of Sociology	<b>Spring 2023</b>
<b>Instructor</b> , Soc-155B: Protest, Politics, and Change: Social Movements Brandeis University, Department of Sociology	<b>Spring 2022</b>
<b>Instructor</b> , Soc-1A: Order and Change in Society (online, asynchronous) Brandeis University, Department of Sociology	<b>Summer 2019</b>

***Teaching Assistantships*****Teaching Assistant**, Brandeis University, Department of Sociology **2018-2022**

- Self and Society: Who Am I Really?, Caitlin Slodden (Fall 2022)
- Sociology of Celebrity, Prof. Michael Strand (Fall 2021)
- Order and Change in Society, Prof. Michael Strand (Spring 2021)
- Sociology of Body and Health, Prof. Sara Shostak (Fall 2020)
- Sociology of Celebrity, Prof. Michael Strand (Spring 2020)
- Order and Change in Society, Prof. Wendy Cadge (Fall 2019)
- Sociology of Birth and Death, Caitlin Slodden (Spring 2019)
- Sociology of Body and Health, Prof. Sara Shostak (Fall 2018)
- Order and Change in Society, Prof. Carmen Sirianni (Spring 2018)

**Teaching Assistant**, Tufts University, Department of Sociology **2017-2018**

- Media and Society, Prof. Michelle Holliday-Stocking (Spring 2018)
- Globalization and Social Change, Prof. Michelle Holliday-Stocking (Fall 2017)

***Advising and Mentorship Positions*****Writing Consultant**, Brandeis University, Writing Center **2018-2022****Graduate Student Mentor**, Senior Thesis Improvement, Brandeis University **2021-2022****RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS****Qualitative Researcher**, Children and Family Research Center, University of Illinois **2022-Present**

- Project: Evaluating Children's Mental Health Systems of Care (SOC) for the Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation
- Conduct semi-structured in-depth interviews and focus groups with program directors, mental healthcare providers, and patient's parents from four sites.
- Collaborate with the qualitative research team to code and analyze interview and focus group data using a priori codes in Atlas.ti.
- Evaluate the successes and issues experienced by partners during the SOC implementation process.
- Write an evaluation report in collaboration with the qualitative research team.

**Research Assistant**, Department of Sociology, Brandeis University **2021-2022**

- Project: "Between Pandemics: Sex Worker, Sexual Minority, and Transgender Activism From HIV to Covid-19" (published in *Global Public Health*)
- Composed a literature review of scholarship on social movement abeyance and mutual aid.
- Trained an undergraduate student in how to research and compose literature reviews.

**Research Assistant**, Women's Studies Research Center, Brandeis University **2020-2021**

- Project: Cascading: Gender, Race, and Downward Mobilities, Dr. Karen Hansen (2021), Dr. Debi Osnowitz (2020-2021).
- Created literature reviews for projects related to gender, work, and downward mobility.

**Graduate Representative** Covid-19 Task Force, Brandeis University **Summer 2020**

- Conducted focus groups and one-on-one interviews with students and faculty across Brandeis to gather feedback on necessary improvements to hybrid teaching.
- Presented feedback to administrators, in which I shared notable issues and successes that students and faculty experienced in hybrid learning environments.

**Qualitative Research Fellow, Center for Artistic Activism, New York University** **2016-2019**

- Project: *Efficacy Project* – an exploration of the role of affect in the creation of effect through art for social change projects.
- Conducted approximately 18 semi-structured, in-depth interviews with artistic activists to investigate their understanding of the role of affect in their work.
- Collected artistic activists' practical assessments of successes and failures in their work.

**Lead Interviewer, British Research Council** **Summer 2017**

- Project: *Spotlight on Arts and Social Practice Fellows*
- Conducted semi-structured, in-depth interviews with three featured artistic activists from England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

**Research Fellow, Urban Democracy Lab, New York University** **2016**

- Project: *Gallatin Global Fellowship in Urban Practice*
- Traveled to Berlin, Germany to conduct seven (7) semi-structured interviews with artistic activists to explore the development of art for social change projects in urban centers.

## PRESENTATIONS

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*Conference Papers Presented*

- 2023 **“Capitalizing on 5G Conspiracy Theories: Big Wireless and the Corporate Weaponization of Anti-Conspiracy Discourse.”** International Conspiracy Theory Symposium, University of Miami.
- 2022 **“Studying Conspiracy Theorists: Lessons from the Field on the Benefits and Ethics of Ambivalence.”** Eastern Sociological Society.
- 2021 **“Propaganda, Disinformation, and Media Effects: A Comparison of Past and Present Scholarship.”** American Sociological Association.
- 2020 **“From Trustworthy to Dubious: Conspiracy Movements, Their Discursive Strategies, and the Process of Symbolic Recoding in the Anti-Vaccination Movement.”** Conspiracy Theories Conference, University of Miami: Developing Solutions for Conspiracy Beliefs, Fake News, and Misinformation, University of Miami. (Cancelled due to Covid-19).
- 2019 **“Mobilizing Birtherism: Applying a Social Movements Framework to the Analysis of Conspiracy Theories.”** Eastern Sociological Society.
- 2019 **“Artistic Activism: The Practitioner’s Guide to Art for Change.”** Brandeis University, ‘deis IMPACT Festival.

*Invited Talks and Lectures*

- 2021 **Guest Lecture on the Sociology of Conspiracy Theories**, Brandeis University, Department of Sociology. Class: Order and Change in Society
- 2020 **Panelist**, New York University, Gallatin School of Individualized Study  
Alumni Panel with Prof. Stephen Duncombe: Building Culture in the Midst of Political Chaos, a Global Pandemic, and Climate Collapse
- 2017 **Guest Lecture**, Tufts University, Department of Sociology.  
Class: Globalization and Social Change. (Guest Lecturer)
- 2016 **Panelist**, NYU Gallatin School of Individualized Study.
- 2014 **Facilitator**, Theatre of the Oppressed workshop. Peace Boat (INGO)
- 2013 **Panelist**, “Storytelling and Communications.” United Nations Headquarters.

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 FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS
 

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- 2023 **Stephen Berkowitz Award for Dissertation Research**, Brandeis University, Department of Sociology
- 2022 **Dissertation Research Award**, Brandeis University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- 2022 **Conference Travel Grant**, Brandeis University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- 2022 **Stephen Berkowitz Award for Dissertation Research**, Brandeis University, Department of Sociology
- 2022 **Summer Dissertation Writing Grant**, Brandeis University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- 2022 **Career Development Fellowship Program**, Brandeis University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- 2020 **Peter Conrad Award for Graduate Student Research**, Brandeis University, Department of Sociology
- 2020 **Exceptional Departmental Service Award, Remote Learning Transition**, Brandeis University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- 2020 **ConnectedPhD Grant**, Brandeis University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences  
ICPSR Summer Program for Quantitative Methods of Social Research
- 2020 **Conference Travel Grant**, Brandeis University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- 2017 **Teaching and Research Fellow**, Brandeis University, Department of Sociology (2017-2022).

- 2017 **Gallatin Graduate Scholarship**, Gallatin School for Individualized Study  
New York University
- 2014 **Eugene Lang Student Union Special Projects Award**, New School University
- 2012 **Undergraduate Merit Scholarship**, Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts  
New School University

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#### ADDITIONAL TRAINING IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING

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- 2020 **Mixed-Methods Workshop**, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), Summer Program
- 2019 **Foundations of Teaching and Designing Online Courses** Brandeis University, Rabb School of Continuing Studies
- 2018 **Digital Pedagogy Certification**, Brandeis University

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#### SERVICE

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##### *Professional*

Peer reviewer, *Mobilization: An International Quarterly*

##### *University*

- 2022 **Graduate Representative**, PhD program review, Brandeis University
- 2020 **Covid-19 Task Force**, Improvements to Hybrid Teaching, Brandeis University

##### *Department*

- 2022 **Graduate Representative, Faculty Search Committee**, Brandeis University, Department of Sociology
- 2019 **Graduate Representative**, Brandeis University, Department of Sociology (2019-2020)
- 2018 **Graduate Committee Representative**, Brandeis University, Department of Sociology

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#### SKILLS

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Ethnographic Research, Digital and Hybrid Ethnography, Semi-Structured Interviews, Qualitative Data Analysis, Atlas.ti, Mixed Methods Research Design, Microsoft Office, Google Drive, Zoom, Course Design and Instruction, Student Mentorship, Digital Pedagogy, Moodle Learning Platforms, Zotero