

# Ksenia Gracheva

## Curriculum Vitae

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Sociology 2014-2020 (expected)  
University of California, Irvine

J.D. Candidate 2016-2019 (expected)  
University of California, Irvine School of Law

B.A., Sociology, Cum Laude 2007-2012  
City University of New York, Brooklyn College

### RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine 2014-present

- Fall 2014: Social Problems (Sociology)
- Winter 2015: Sociology of Gender & Sexuality (Sociology)
- Spring 2015: Ethnic & Immigrant America (Sociology; Chicano & Latino Studies)
  - Teach one hundred undergraduate students per term in discussion sections that encourage conversation around difficult topics, critical thinking, and analysis of social and institutional structure.
  - Support faculty with lecture and classroom instruction, curriculum planning and development, assignments and exams, and all grading.
  - Create weekly lesson plans and presentations, collaborate with other instructors and teaching assistants, plan learning activities, and regularly meet with students.
  - Mentor students and nurture a collegial classroom environment in which students feel comfortable sharing their opinions and participating in productive discussion.

Founder & Supervisor of Sociology and Writing Tutoring Program, A+ Tutoring 2009-2012

- In collaboration with the Learning Center at Brooklyn College, introduced a new tutoring service geared toward sociology students.
- Helped develop a curriculum that was accessible to students struggling with difficult subject matter; tutored students in undergraduate sociology courses, with special emphasis on research methods and writing.
- Collaborated with instructors to provide course-appropriate individual and group sessions. Created an instructional environment that fosters learning and growth, while implementing a convenient resource for working students from various cultural backgrounds and educational experiences.

Peer Mentoring Program Coordinator & Mentor, Brooklyn College 2009-2010

- Worked in close cooperation with faculty and staff to successfully increase retention rates by ensuring a smooth transition to college for incoming freshmen and transfer students.
- Familiarized students with campus resources, organization and time management

techniques, and student-faculty communication. Taught students how to feel comfortable and motivated with a high workload, met with students individually to discuss academic progress, and monitored student activity via email and weekly class meetings and discussions.

- Oversaw Peer Mentoring Program in 2010, including managing volunteers, budgeting and funds, scheduling and program curriculum development, and interdepartmental communication.

Project Associate, National Park Service 2009

- To help encourage ethnic diversity in public spaces, assisted with a community outreach project at local New York City parks, designed to address the gap between available park resources and the low utilization of parks by the West Indian population in New York.
- In collaboration with CUNY faculty, students, and park staff, collected data using interviews and visual sociology logs to compose a journal article and video documentary.
- Video-recorded interviews and other findings were submitted to PBS and used to compile a Channel Thirteen documentary released in 2009, titled "Hear Every Voice."
- Findings quoted in German sociology journal: *"Diversity and Urban Living: Ethnic Crossroads - Visualizing Urban Narratives," Orte der Diversität: Formate, Arrangements und Inszenierungen. Edited by Cristina Allemann-Ghionda / Wolf-Dietrich Bukow, Weissbaden, Germany: VS Verlag, 2010: 93-112.*

Women for Women Chapter Co-founder and VP, Brooklyn College 2008-2009

- Planned events and organized fundraising and communication to spread awareness about women's mental and physical issues and to reduce stigma associated with health issues on campus, such as eating disorders and student pregnancy.
- Worked with the Women's Center at Brooklyn College to arrange presentations and forums with guest speakers, volunteer and community events, and to encourage student and faculty participation in WFW Chapter activities and support.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Independent Research (Egalitarianism & Contraception) 2014-present

Advisors: Catherine Bolzendahl & Judy Treas, UC Irvine

- Conducting research on whether changing perceptions of contraceptive responsibility and increasing egalitarianism in romantic relationships support the new development of birth control for men, using mixed methods. Current data collection is in New York City.
- This research explores the complexities of culture and gender influence by considering the relationships between level of egalitarianism in relationships, cultural context, and perceptions of contraceptive responsibility and male birth control.

Research Assistant (Mental Health, PTSD & Veteran Support) 2013

Brooklyn College

- Assisted with the development of an online resource center for veterans and active military service members. The site focuses on suicide prevention while offering necessary resources to address mental health issues such as PTSD and depression, poverty, violence, and substance abuse.
- Collected nationwide data on non-VA mental health services and VFW and American Legion Chapters, legal aid, and military support groups via individual and group interviews, content analysis, and quantitative analysis of large datasets.

Independent Research (Reproductive Rights & Social Policy) 2012  
Advisor: Carolina Bank Munoz, CUNY  
- Conducted an original research project on the relationship between perceptions of contraceptive responsibility and social policy. The study assesses the transitory conditions of the birth control market and relates them to broader social change in gender relations, in order to fill a gap in understanding of the way changing perceptions of contraceptive responsibility in relationships influence the gendered politics of birth control production and relevant social policy.  
- Research incorporates both qualitative and quantitative methods, employing in-depth interviews and content analysis.

Research Assistant (Clinical Neuropsychology & Ethnic Bias) 2010  
Brooklyn College  
- Assisted in conducting research for a neuropsychology study on the assessment of ethnic minorities through computerized testing by clinical neuropsychologists.  
- Created surveys and interviews, collected and analyzed data, and helped with organization and methodological approach, while offering a sociological take on the importance of cultural and linguistic understanding for practicing neuropsychologists.

#### **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

Merit Scholarship, UC Irvine School of Law 2015  
Full scholarship awarded for three years of study at the law school.

Graduate Leading Edge Advancement with Distinction (LEAD) Fellowship (\$25,000) 2014  
Granted to the top 1% of incoming doctoral students across all disciplines, in recognition of potential for outstanding leadership in the field.

Graduate Dean's Recruitment Fellowship, UC Irvine (\$10,000) 2014  
Granted to admitted doctoral students who show exceptional promise.

Charles Lawrence Memorial Award 2013  
Granted for best research paper and outstanding achievement in sociology.

Brooklyn College Undergraduate Research Competition 2012  
Awarded first place for best research paper in sociology.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

Population Association of America Annual Conference 2015  
Presented original research, *Who Swallows the Bigger Pill? Egalitarianism and Perceptions of Contraceptive Responsibility in the United States.*

Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference 2013  
Presented original research, *Pregnant With Change: Contraceptive Responsibility in Contemporary America.*

Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference 2012  
Presented original research, *Pregnant With Change: Contraceptive Responsibility in Contemporary America.*

**ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONS**

Member of: Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society  
American Sociological Association  
Eastern Sociological Society  
Sociologists for Women in Society  
Golden Key International Honor Society  
Phi Beta Kappa Academic Honor Society

**LANGUAGE**

Native fluency in English and Russian. Intermediate proficiency in Arabic and Spanish.