

# Kasey Zapatka

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## Academic Positions

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**University of California, Berkeley**, Postdoctoral Scholar 2023-present  
Department of Sociology and Institute of Governmental Studies

## Education

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**City University of New York, The Graduate Center**, 2023

PhD in Sociology

Dissertation: *The Rent is Too Damn High: The Spatial and Longitudinal Dimensions of Housing Affordability*

- Committee: *Van Tran (chair), John Mollenkopf, Mary Clare Lennon, Leslie McCall*

**Fordham University**, 2014

Master of Arts in Sociology

**Point Loma Nazarene University**, 2010

Bachelor of Arts, Spanish Literature and Language

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

[Google Scholar](#)

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**Zapatka, Kasey** and Van Tran. 2023. "New Frontiers of Integration: Immigrant Assimilation and Suburban Inequality in Metropolitan New York." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of Social Sciences*. <https://doi.org/10.7758/RSF.2023.9.1.03>

**Zapatka, Kasey** and Juliana De Castro Galvao. 2022. "Affordable Regulation: Rent Stabilization as Housing Affordability Policy." *City & Community*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15356841221123762>

**Zapatka, Kasey**, John Mollenkopf, and Steven Romalewski. 2021. "Occupation and Race in the Global City: The Dual Reordering of Metropolitan New York" in *Urban Socio-Economic Segregation and Income Inequality: A Global Perspective*, Edited by van Ham, M., Tammaru, T., Ubarevičienė, R., Janssen, H. Springer International Publishing: The Urban Book Series. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-64569-4\\_21](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-64569-4_21)

**Zapatka, Kasey** and Brenden Beck. 2020. "Does Demand Lead Supply? Gentrifiers and Developers in the Sequence of Gentrification." *Urban Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0042098020940596>

**Zapatka, Kasey.** 2017. “Review of Planetary Gentrification by Loretta Lees, Hyun Bang Shin, and Ernesto López-Morales.” *City & Community* 16(2):228–30.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/cico.12237>

## Manuscripts In Progress or Under Review

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**Kasey Zapatka.** “Spatial Contagion: Assessing Gentrification’s Spillover Effects on Neighborhood Housing Affordability.” *Under Review at American Sociology Review.*

**Kasey Zapatka.** “Direct Displacement: Gentrification’s Impact on Household Affordability.”

**Kasey Zapatka.** “Trajectories of Affordability: Household Affordability Across the Life Course.”

**Kasey Zapatka.** “Millennials and Boomers: A Comparison of Household Affordability Trajectories Across Generations and the Life Course.”

Tim Thomas and **Kasey Zapatka.** “Neighborhood Rent Gap: Using the Neighborhood Rent Gap to Predict Future Neighborhood Housing Affordability.”

**Zapatka, Kasey** and Paul Attewell. “The Value of College for Non-Completers: Race, Sex, and Location Effects.”

Kimble, Cameron, Leanne Fan, Kevin Morris, and **Kasey Zapatka.** “Black Lives Matter Protests and Voter Turnout.”

## Selected Honors and Scholarships

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**Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Fellow, \$7,500, 2021-2022**  
Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy

**Altman Dissertation Fellowship, \$25,000, 2021-2022**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

**Latino Data Project, Fellow, \$5,500, Fall 2019**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

**Stone Center Junior Scholar, \$5,000, Fall 2019**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

**Graduate Center Urban Studies Core Summer Dissertation Fellow, \$10,000, Summer 2019**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

**Connect New York Fellowship, \$4,000, Summer 2019**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

**Altfest Graduate Intern-Summer Fellow, \$4,000, Summer 2019**  
New York City Department of Housing Preservation & Development

**Summer Institute in Computational Social Sciences, Hunter College, Summer 2019**  
City University of New York, Hunter College

**ARC Research Praxis Student Fellowship, Advanced Research Collaborative, \$4,000, 2019**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

**Doctoral Student Research Grant, Sociology Department, \$1,500, 2018**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

**2018 Dr. Louise Lennihan Arts & Sciences Grantee, The Futures Initiative, \$500 2018**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

**Graduate Center Digital Research Institute Fellow, GC Digital Research Initiatives, 2018**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

**Digital Publics Fellow, Center for Humanities, \$54,000, 2017 - 2019**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

**Graduate Center Tuition Fellowship, 2016 - 2021**  
City University of New York, The Graduate Center

## **Selected Presentations**

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“Gentrification’s Ripple Effect: Assessing Gentrification’s Spillover Effects on Neighborhood Housing Affordability,” Quantifying Gentrification and Displacement: Big Data and Other Data Boston University’s Conference on Gentrification and Displacement. Boston, MA. Presenter.

“New Frontiers of Integration: Immigrant Assimilation and Suburban Inequality in Metropolitan New York,” The Russell Sage Foundation Special Issue on Suburban Inequality in the United States. The Russell Sage Foundation. New York City, NY. Presenter.

“Affordable Regulation: Rent Stabilization as Housing Affordability Policy”. Rental Markets and Housing Mobility Session. American Sociological Association. Virtual. Presenter.

“Demand Lead Supply? Gentrifiers and Developers in the Sequence of Gentrification,” Kunz Research Summit: Quantitative Approaches to Studying Gentrification in the United States. University of Cincinnati, Kunz Center for Social Research. Cincinnati, OH. Participant.

“The Housing Crisis Generalized: Housing Affordability for the Middle Class,” CUSS 2019 Preconference on Inequalities and Social Justice in the 21st Century City. New York University. New York, NY. Participant.

“Housing Literacy: Understanding Your Lease, the Rent Law Fight, and Your Rent History,” Center for the Humanities invited Talk. The Graduate Center, NY. Panel Organizer and discussant.

“The Chicken or the Egg: Using Granger Causality to Arbitrate between Supply-side and Demand-side Explanations of Gentrification,” Society for the Study of Social Problems. Philadelphia, PA. Co-presenter.

“A Cultural Fortification: La Casa Azul Bookstore and its Role in El Barrio’s Gentrification,”

Graduate Student Conference, Fordham University. New York, NY. Presenter.

## Research Experience

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**Postdoctoral Researcher**, UC Berkeley, Institute of Governmental Studies

*July 2023-present*

- Clean and process big data in R and Python to build Longitudinal Eviction dataset
- Grant writing
- Conduct analyses using causal inference and machine learning techniques
- Develop, write, and publish peer-reviewed academic papers

**City Research Scientist**, NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development

*September 2022-May 2023*

- Design, manage, and execute research project in consultation with other HPD research staff and partners primarily relying on US Census and NYC Housing and Vacancy Survey (NYCHVS) data
- Create Stata documentation of previous analyses to promote replication
- Develop internal (i.e., Neighborhood Typologies) and public-facing (i.e., 421-a report, NYCHVS) reports, data products, and research documentation
- Present and field questions on research findings to internal and external audiences
- Clean, process, and deliver data products to the US Census for developing the 2023 NYCHVS sample frame
- Update NYCHVS survey methodology documentation and develop post-stratification weights

**Research Associate**, Van Tran, The Graduate Center, CUNY

*Spring 2021-Fall 2022*

- Build US Census dataset to study ethno-racial neighborhood integration in metro New York
- Fit multinomial logistic regression models and interpreted marginal effects plots in R for analyses
- Write methodological section, create descriptive plots in R, and manage project development on [GitHub](#)

**Lead Researcher**, Superdiversity in Metropolitan New York, Max Planck Institute

*Spring 2020-Fall 2021*

- Build 6 nation-wide, cross-sectional, longitudinal databases and write technical report
- Collaborate with colleagues and design firm to develop website visualizing New York metro diversification
- Identify trends, distill key findings, and shape narrative of findings for website copy

**Research Assistant**, Paul Attewell, The Graduate Center

*October 2018-Present*

- Assist in the development of various research projects that study the divergence of benefits for groups with different educational attainment
- Present findings in weekly meetings and give feedback on other member's projects
- Manage large national, longitudinal, and cross-sectional dataset
- Use data mining, HLM, OLS, and logistic regression techniques for data analysis

**Research Assistant**, New York City Department of Housing Preservation & Development  
*Summer 2019*

- Clean and process data in Stata
- Participate in Research and Evaluation department wide trainings
- Manage confidential data
- Research affordable housing in New York City

**GC Digital Publics Fellow**, Center for the Humanities, The Graduate Center  
*January 2017-Spring 2019*

- Research New York City rent regulations
- Develop useful resources for housing advocates in their endeavor to better educate New York City tenants about their rights and responsibilities
- Create a website that centralizes all the resources around New York City rent regulation in one place
- Develop Housing Literacy Website: <https://housingliteracynyc.org>
- Review and comment on Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), Furman Center, Rent Guidelines Board (RGB), and Department of Housing and Community Renewal (HDCR) decisions and reports
- Use GitHub, Python, QGIS, and Stata for website development, spatial analysis, and statistical analysis

**Research Associate**, Center for Urban Research, The Graduate Center  
*September 2016-January 2019*

- Interpret labor market information data using online data analysis software
- Utilize quantitative data analysis methods to analyze the growth in various job market sectors, industries, and skill-sets
- Compute statistical analysis of Labor Market data using SPSS, Stata, and Excel
- Organize, plan, and execute focus group research exercises
- Collaborate with other staff in designing and managing surveys
- Conceptualize research questions
- Summarize research findings
- Draft client memos and conduct policy analysis

**Research Assistant**, Professor Elena Vesselinov, Queens College  
*January 2017-June 2017*

- Write literature review
- Conduct statistical analysis using Stata
- Harmonize census block changes using Longitudinal Tract Database
- Use Stata and ArcGIS to manage database
- Filed FOIL requests and secured data from governmental agencies using FTP

## Courses Taught

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**University of California, Berkeley**  
*Postdoctoral scholar*

December 2023

- Computational Social Science (year-long sequence)  
I am co-teaching a year-long graduate course in Computational Social Science with Professor David Harding to doctoral students across the social sciences. We cover machine learning, causal inference, and natural language processing. Students learn about the principles of reproducible social science and develop programming skills in R, Python, and GitHub. The course repository is publicly available on [GitHub](#).
- Data visualization (Spring 2025)  
I am currently developing a publicly available graduate course in data visualization for the Masters of Computational Social Science program. Students will learn the theoretical foundations of data visualization, how to create static and interactive maps, and how to deploy visualizations online using dashboards. Instruction will be in R and Python, making it appealing to students who plan to pursue academic careers or enter industry.

## **CUNY, The Graduate Center**

*Graduate Student Instructor*

- Sociological Statistics 1, Sociological Statistics 2:  
Graduate Student Instructor for year-long graduate course for Quantitative Methods in Social Science Master's Program focusing on introduction to machine learning, causal inference, and regression analysis.

## **Hunter College, City University of New York**

*Adjunct Professor*

- Sociological Statistics  
Undergraduate course in introductory statistics: Sociological Statistics.

## **External Service**

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### **Graduate Student Editor**

City & Community, 2020-2022

### **Peer Reviewer**

Urban Affairs Review

### **Graduate Student Editor**

Accounts: Economic Sociology Newsletter, 2016-2017

## **Departmental Service**

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### **Dissertation Proposal Support Representative, Sociology Student Association (SSA)**

*Fall 2019-Fall 2021*

### **Faculty Membership Committee, Sociology Student Association (SSA)**

*Fall 2019-Spring 2020*

**Executive Committee**, Sociology Student Association (SSA), Website Maintenance  
*September 2017-present*

**Graduate Student Co-Editor**, Accounts, Quarterly newsletter for Economic Sociology of ASA  
*Fall 2016-Summer 2017*

## Methodological Training

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### Software

- Advanced in R, Stata, GitHub, and Latex. Proficient in Python, JMP Pro, and SPSS. Familiar with Linux OS.

### Quantitative methods

- General linear regression techniques, spatial econometrics, casual inference, and machine learning.

### Qualitative methods

- Ethnography, Focus Groups, Interviewing

## Languages

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**Spanish**, fluent in reading, writing, and speaking