

MARIA AKCHURIN
Center for Inter-American Policy & Research
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Inter-American Policy & Research, Tulane University 2017–
Postdoctoral Fellow, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University 2015–2017

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL 2015
Dissertation: *The Politics of Water: Privatizing Water and Sanitation Utilities in Argentina and Chile*
Committee: Elisabeth Clemens (Chair, Chicago), Andrew Abbott (Chicago), Cheol-Sung Lee (Chicago), Tianna Paschel (UC Berkeley)
Special Fields: Political Sociology (with honors), Qualitative Methods
Visiting Scholar, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago de Chile (2012)
Visiting Scholar, Instituto de Altos Estudios Sociales (IDAES), Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina (2013)

M.A. Sociology, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL 2009

B.A. International Studies (with honors), Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 2004
Specialization in Latin American Studies

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political sociology, social movements, environment and development, economic sociology, organizational sociology, comparative historical and qualitative methods

PUBLICATIONS

Articles:

Akchurin, Maria. 2015. "Constructing the Rights of Nature: Constitutional Reform, Mobilization, and Environmental Protection in Ecuador." *Law & Social Inquiry* 40(4): 937-968.

Akchurin, Maria and Cheol-Sung Lee. 2013. "Pathways to Empowerment: Repertoires of Women's Activism and Gender Earnings Equality." *American Sociological Review* 78: 679-701.

Other writing:

Akchurin, Maria. Forthcoming. Book review of Gonzalo Delamaza's (2015) *Enhancing Democracy Public Policies and Citizen Participation in Chile*. For the *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*.

Akchurin, Maria. Forthcoming. Book review of Erica Simmons's (2016) *Meaningful Resistance: Market Reforms and the Roots of Social Protest in Latin America*. For the *American Journal of Sociology*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, Environment, Politics, and Society, Northwestern University Course for the Department of Sociology and Program in Environmental Policy and Culture, covering themes including environmentalism, environment and development, and environment and inequality in comparative perspective	Spring 2016 and 2017
Lecturer, Law, Mobilization, and Social Change, University of Chicago Course for the Human Rights Program, using theories from sociolegal studies and social movement scholarship to analyze how social movements engage in legal mobilization and disruptive politics, including mobilization around civil rights, women's rights, workers' rights, environmental justice, immigrant rights, and LGBT rights in the Americas	Spring 2014
Teaching Assistant, Food Security and Urban Agriculture, University of Chicago Course is part of an interdisciplinary sequence centered on the Calumet region of Illinois and Indiana, organized by the Program on the Global Environment	Spring 2012
Teaching Assistant, Problems of Policy Implementation, University of Chicago Policy implementation course focusing on literature in organizational sociology	Spring 2011
Lecturer, Power/Identity/Resistance Core Course, University of Chicago "Economic Liberalism and Its Critics": PIR is an undergraduate social sciences core course; the fall quarter is based on classic works on economy and society (Smith, Marx, Durkheim, Mauss)	Fall 2010
Intern, Power/Identity/Resistance Core Course, University of Chicago "Political Liberalism and Its Critics": the winter quarter is based on classic works in political philosophy (Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Kant, Burke, Hegel, Marx, Mill, Du Bois)	Winter 2010
Intern, Power/Identity/Resistance Core Course, University of Chicago "Economic Liberalism and Its Critics"	Autumn 2009
Lector, Academic and Professional Writing, University of Chicago Writing Program Discussion seminar and writing workshop for advanced social sciences undergraduates	Winter 2009

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Presenter, "Environmental Conflicts and Public Participation in Environmental Decision-Making in Post-Authoritarian Chile." Development in the Face of Global Inequalities Conference. Barcelona, Spain. May 2017.

- Presenter, “How Water Became Political: Water Resources, Environmental Conflict, and Mobilization in Chile.” Panel on Health, Natural Resources, & Environmental Politics. Social Science History Association Conference. Chicago, IL. November 2016.
- Presenter, “Water Services, Private Companies, and International Organizations: Constructing and Contesting Privatization as a Global Model of Water Provision.” Section on Economic Sociology, Market Processes and Economic Lives in the Era of Neoliberalism. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA. August 2016.
- Presenter, “Water and Development: Water Supply and Sanitation Projects in International Development Organizations, 1980s to the Present.” Panel on Social Welfare Beyond the Welfare State. Social Science History Association Conference. Chicago, IL. November 2015.
- Presenter, “Revisiting New Social Movement Theory: Toward a Comparative Framework.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA. August 2014.
- Presenter, “The Politics of Water: How States, Market Actors, and Civil Society Groups Shape Water and Sanitation Services in Buenos Aires and Santiago, 1980s to the present.” Panel on States, Markets, and Economic Movement in Latin America. Social Science History Association Conference. Chicago, IL. November 2013.
- Presenter, “Water as Social Policy: Market Models, State-Society Relations, and Water Privatization in Post-Authoritarian Chile.” Panel on the Politics of State-Industry Relations. Capitalism, the Politics of Inequality, and Historical Change Mini-Conference. Columbia University, New York, NY. August 2013.
- Presenter, “An Elusive Commodity: Expert Knowledge and the Commodification of Water in Chile, 1981-2010.” Roundtable on Making Markets. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY. August 2013.
- Presenter, “Water Privatization and Social Protest in Latin America.” Water, Environment, and Health: Addressing Knowledge, Capacity, and Governance Challenges. Workshop on International Organization Studies. Academic Council on the United Nations System, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Canada. July 2012.
- Presenter, “Granting Legal Rights to Nature: Environmentalism, Development, and Legal Mobilization in Ecuador.” American Sociological Association and Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meetings, Las Vegas, NV. August 2011.
- Presenter, “Pathways to Empowerment: Repertoires of Women’s Activism and Gender Earnings Equality in Comparative Perspective.” With Cheol-Sung Lee. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV. August 2011.
- Discussant, Parties and Political Articulation Mini-Conference. University of Chicago and Northwestern University, Chicago, IL. April 2010.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

University of Chicago's Department of Sociology Photography Prize	2014
Markovitz Dissertation Fellowship (Economy and Society), University of Chicago	2013
Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation	2013
Research Grant, Human Rights Program, University of Chicago	2012
Marvin E. Olsen Best Student Paper Award, Environment and Technology Section, ASA	2011
American Sociological Association Student Forum Travel Award	2011
Center for Latin American Studies Tinker Field Research Grant, University of Chicago	2010
Francis X. Kinahan Award for Excellence in Teaching Undergraduate Writing, University of Chicago	2009
Phi Beta Kappa, Johns Hopkins University	2004

OTHER RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Department of Sociology, University of Chicago Research, coordination, and translation for NSF-funded comparative-historical project on labor politics in Argentina, Brazil, S. Korea, and Taiwan (Argentina component)	1/2014–6/2015 Chicago, IL
Research Assistant, Center on Law and Globalization, American Bar Foundation Research for projects on political liberalism and global norms related to human rights, security/landmines, and public health (Prof. Terence Halliday)	2/2009–7/2009 Chicago, IL
Research Assistant, Center on International Development and Governance, Urban Institute Research and project management for projects on democracy/governance, local government reform, and participatory budgeting (Russia, Moldova, Georgia, Honduras)	8/2006–8/2007 Washington, DC
Program Associate, International Health and Development, CAMRIS International Research and project management for projects on public health and monitoring/evaluation (tuberculosis control program in Central Asia and health sector reform in Honduras)	7/2004–8/2006 Rockville, MD
Researcher, Pan American Health Organization, World Health Organization Data collection and analysis of road traffic fatalities and injuries in Latin America and the Caribbean for World Health Day 2004	4/2004–6/2004 Washington, DC
Research Assistant, Mexico Institute, W. Wilson International Center for Scholars Document collection and analysis on democracy in Mexico (Dr. Silva-Herzog Márquez)	1/2004–3/2004 Washington, DC
Research Intern, Arms Division, Human Rights Watch Research and editorial work for <i>Landmine Monitor 2002</i> , an initiative monitoring States Parties' compliance with the Mine Ban Treaty	6/2002–8/2002 Washington, DC

DEPARTMENT AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Associate Editor, *American Journal of Sociology*, September 2011–August 2012
Coordinator, Social Theory and Evidence Workshop, September 2010–June 2011
Member, *American Journal of Sociology* Student Manuscript Board, September 2009–August 2010
Reviewer, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *Mobilization*, *Persona y Sociedad*, *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association
Latin American Studies Association
Social Science History Association

LANGUAGES

English, Russian, Spanish