

RYAN DECARSKY

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EDUCATION

- Expected 2026* **Ph.D.** University of Washington, *Sociology*.
PhD Dissertation: "Queering the Toolkit: Culturally Grounded HIV Prevention in the Era of the PrEP Paradox"
Committee: Sara Curran (co-chair), Jelani Ince (co-chair), Sasha Johfre, Steven M. Goodreau, Oliver Rollins (MIT)
- 2024 **M.A.** University of Washington, *Sociology*.
MA Thesis: "Too queer for the Deaf and Too deaf (and disabled) for the Queers"
Committee: Judith Howard (co-chair), Heather D. Evans (co-chair), Julie Brines, and Tristan Bridges (UCSB).
- 2019 **B.A.** University of California, Santa Barbara, High Honors
Sociology, Distinction in Major
Thesis: "Trials of Brotherhood: New Pledge Education"

American Indian & Indigenous Studies Individual Major, Distinction in Major
Thesis: "Unpacking Allyship: Reflections of Native American Education"
Minors: *Religious Studies, History*

RESEARCH

Areas of Interest and Specialization

Queer Theory, Genders and Sexualities, LGBTQ+ Studies, Disability, Intersectionality, Culture, Masculinities, Race and Class, Queer of Color Critique, Qualitative Methods, & Decolonial Methodologies

Methods

Interviewing, Ethnography, Archival Research, Content Analysis, Surveying, Statistical Analysis

PUBLICATIONS

I. Peer-Reviewed Articles

Ryan DeCarsky, Hannah Kaufman, Heather Evans, Kurt Johnson, Mark Harniss. "[Trust, respect, and training: Principles of care for service professionals supporting adults with intellectual disabilities in community residential programs.](#)" *Journal of Intellectual Disabilities*. August 2024.

Ryan DeCarsky, Penny Harvey, Sally Johnston. "[Deaf Identity Saliency: Tracing Daphne's Deaf Identity Saliency through Switched at Birth](#)" *Culture and Psychology*. July, 2022.

In progress..

Ryan DeCarsky, Breon Haskett, Jessica Beyer, Aditi Ekbote, Isabel Wilson, Victoria Chung, Katie Gosner, Sara Curran. "#StayatHome: Health Behavior Communication By Public Health Officials in Louisiana and Washington State" *American Journal of Public Health*. Expected 2025.

II. Book Reviews

Ryan DeCarsky. Reviewing: *Boystown: Sex and Community in Chicago* by Jason Orne, "[To Stay Gay, Boystown Becomes Less Queer](#)" *Contexts*, May 2021.

Ryan DeCarsky. [Reviewing *The Mating Game: How Gender Still Shapes How We Date*](#) by Ellen Lamont, *Men and Masculinities*, August 2020.

III. Reports

Heather D. Evans, **Ryan DeCarsky**, Hannah Kaufman, Mark Harniss. 2023. "[Client Interview Report](#)" *In Contracted Community Residential Services Rate Study*. Report by Ben Mori, Gwyn Volk, Mac Xu, Phil Vucins, and Dalal Al Battati. Milliman & WA State Department of Social and Health Services Development Disabilities Administration. Washington, USA. Other

IV. Other

Ryan DeCarsky. 2024. "Deaf-Queer Identity Research" SAGE Research Video Series on Disability Studies. SAGE Publications. California.

Ryan DeCarsky, Elizabeth Nova. 2023. "[Department of Sociology: Graduate Student Guidebook](#)" University of Washington. Department of Sociology.

Academic papers - research in progress.

Ryan DeCarsky. "Queering Deafhood: Forming a Deaf-LGBTQ+ Collective Identity Through Deaf-Queer Organizations" FOR *GLQ*.

Ryan DeCarsky. "Theorizing Heteronormative Organizations: A Case Study of College Greek Life"

Ryan DeCarsky. "Justifications of Brotherhood: Hazing in Men-Only Social Fraternities". FOR *Gender and Society*.

Ryan DeCarsky, Breon Haskett, Jessica Beyer, Aditi Ekbote*, Isabel Wilson*, Katie Sophie Gonser, Victoria Chung*, Sara Curran. "Public Health in 280 characters or less: Communication Strategies during COVID-19" FOR *Health Communication*

Ryan DeCarsky, Katie Sophie Gonser, Breon Haskett, Sarah Jacob, Victoria Chung*, Jessica Beyer, Sara Curran. "(Seeking) Legitimacy and Relevance: Protestant Megachurches and Twitter Use Amidst COVID-19" FOR *Social Forces*

Ryan DeCarsky. "Queering Relationships: Nonbinary Approaches to Non-monogamous Relationships" FOR *Contexts*

**next to a name denotes undergraduate co-author*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2023-24 **Instructor of Record, University of Washington**

DIS ST. 535 (graduate level)

Special Topic: Queering the Crip and Crippling the Queer (6 students).

DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 435

Special Topic: Queering the Crip and Crippling the Queer (14 students).

DIST ST. 332A

Disability & Society: Media & Pop Culture (42 students).

- 2024 **Program Director - Study Abroad Programs, University of Washington**
 LSJ 495: Comparative Urban Social Control of Amsterdam vs. Seattle (18 students)
 Location: Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2020-2024 **Teaching Assistant, University of Washington**
 DIST ST 230: Intro to Disability Studies, Dr. Ronnie Thibault, Fall 2024 (45 students)
 SOC 374: Sociology of Law and Society, Dr. Ann Frost, Fall 2022 (33 students)
 SOC 352B: Sociology of the Family, Dr. Julie Brines, Spring 2022 (84 students)
 SOC 250: Media and Society, Dr. Ann Frost, Winter 2022 (98 students)
 DIST ST 230: Intro to Disability Studies, Dr. Heather D. Evans, Fall 2021 (75 students)
 LSJ 476: Miscarriages of Justice, Dr. Ann Frost, Summer 2021 (20 students)
 SOC/LSJ 372: Crime, Politics, and Justice, Dr. Ann Frost, Spring 2021 (80 students)
 SOC 352B: Sociology of the Family, Dr. Julie Brines, Winter 2021, (93 students)
 SOC 374: Sociology of Law and Society, Dr. Ann Frost, Fall 2020, (47 students)
- 2018-19 **Course Grader, University of California, Santa Barbara**
 SOC 155: Sociology of Gender, UC Santa Barbara (30 students)
 RGST 193/ENVS. 189: Religion & Ecology, Dr. Inés Talamantez, Winter 2019 (90 students)
 RGST 193/ENVS. 189: Religion & Ecology, Dr. Inés Talamantez, Winter 2018 (90 students)

INVITED LECTURES

- 2023 U-COR 1600: Sex, Love, Marriage: Sociology of Sexuality, Seattle University, Oct. 2023.
 Lecture: "Doing Queer Research as a Queer Scholar: Praxis and Experience."
- 2023 Issues in Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies: Margins of Queerness, Northern Illinois
 University. Nov. 2023. Lecture: "Queer and Disability Studies: Parallel Journeys"
- 2022 ENGL. 010: Foundations of Literary Studies, University of California, Merced, Nov. 2022.
 Lecture: "Theories of Disability Studies and Applications to Close Reading"
- 2022 SOC 250: Media and Society, University of Washington, February 2022.
 Lecture: "Gender and Media"
- 2019 PYSCH 125: Psychology of Human Sexuality, Santa Barbara City College, October 2019.
 Panel: Human Sexualities
- 2019 RGST 114: Rites of Passage, University of California, Santa Barbara, February 2019.
 Lecture: "Understanding Cosmologies Other Than Your Own"
- 2019 RGST 193: Religion and Ecology, University of California, Santa Barbara, February 2019.
 Lecture: "What Does Religion and Ecology Mean (To You)?"
- 2018 RGST 14: Native American Religious Traditions, University of California, Santa Barbara
 Lecture: "Community Learning: A Model For The Future"
- 2018 RGST 190AR: Aztec Religion, University of California, Santa Barbara
 Lecture: "Christianity Meets Multiplicity: Teotl or god?"

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 Accepted: "Influence, Authority, and Trust: Protestant Megachurches on Twitter during Covid-19". Culture and Computational Methods **roundtable** at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2024, Montreal, Québec, Canada.
- 2024 Accepted: "Too queer for the Deaf and Too deaf (and disabled) for the Queers? Context Matters." In Sexualities section **roundtable** at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2024, Montreal, Québec, Canada.
- 2024 "Queering Fraternity Life: A Case Study of the Leading 'Gay' Fraternity" in the **paper session** Sexuality in College at Pacific Sociological Association, San Diego, CA, March 2024.
- 2024 "Queering the Toolkit: Culturally Grounded Healthcare for LGBTQ+ Folk in the United States". Healthcare **roundtable** at SWS, Winter Meeting, January 2024, New Mexico.
- 2023 "The Justification of Brotherhood: Hazing in Men-only Social Fraternities" in the **paper session**: Minimizing and Managing Gendered Violence in Institutions at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2023 Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023 "Queering Relationships: Nonbinary Approaches to Non-monogamous Relationships" in Sexualities **roundtable** at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2023 Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023 "*Public Health Communication Strategies on Twitter: Health Behaviors and Public Engagement*" in the **paper session**: Communication in (a) Crisis: Covid-19 and Public Health Information on Twitter at Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting, March 2023, Bellevue, WA.
- 2023 "Queering Deafhood: Identity Formation and Community Building by Deaf-LGBTQ+ folk in the **paper session**: United States in Gender and Social Vulnerability, sponsored by the Committee on the Status of Women at Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting, March 2023, Bellevue, WA.
- 2022 "Queering the Toolkit: Learning from LGBTQ+ Healthcare Experiences in the United States" in Medical Sociology **roundtable**: Healthcare Providers at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2022 Los Angeles, CA.
- 2022 "Queering Deafhood: Identity Formation and Community Building by Deaf-LGBTQ+ folk in the United States in **roundtable** session at SWS, Winter Meeting, Jan. 2022, New Mexico.
- 2021 "Decolonizing Translation: Quetzalcoatl and the Multiplicity of Teotl" in **paper session** *Confronting Legacies of Colonialism* at Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting, March 2021, Online.
- 2021 "Justifying Brotherhood: A Case Study of Gendered Discourse" in formal **paper session** - *Masculinities and Men* at Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting, March 2021, Online.
- 2020 "'Doing Gay' in the Mainstream: A Qualitative Look at Gay Men Born 1995-2001" in *Ideas for Future Research* **Roundtable** on Content Analysis and identity Work at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Online.
- 2019 "The Dakota Access Pipeline: Water. Is Life, Money is Powerful, & Consequences are Real", Co-presented with Bhavya Ja, in formal **paper session**- *Scorched Earth: Climate Change, Energy, and the Sociology of Development* at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, NYC, NY.

- 2019 “Limiting Brotherhood: Gay Men and Fraternity Culture” in Student Forum **roundtables** at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY.
- 2019 “Voices of Ancestors: Weaving together Linda Tuhiwai Smith’s Decolonizing Methodologies” with the Mexico-USA Borderlands in *NAISA roundtable* at Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Annual Meeting, Hamilton, Aotearoa/New Zealand.
- 2019 “Trials of Brotherhood: New Pledge Education” in *Undergraduate Student roundtable session* at Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Oakland, CA.
- 2019 “The Problematic Nature of ‘god’ in Colonial Narrative” in **paper session** on Decolonizing the Language of the Academy at American Indian and Indigenous Studies Symposium, UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA.
- 2018 “Remembering Teotl: Exploring Quetzalcoatl and Spiritual Duality” in **paper session** *Transformative Memory: The Interface of Religion and Healing* at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver, CO
- 2018 “Developing an American Indian and Indigenous Studies Major” in **panel** – *American Indian & Indigenous Higher Ed.* at American Indian & Indigenous Studies Symposium, Santa Barbara, CA.

ACADEMIC AWARDS, HONORS & GRANTS

- 2022 Department of Sociology Graduate Research Grant, University of Washington. (\$2,000)
- 2021 Harlan Hahn Endowment Fund Awardee, MA Thesis Research Project Funding, University of Washington. (\$ 4,350)
- 2019 Best Undergraduate Paper in Sociology Award, University of California, Santa Barbara
Paper: “Gay Men and Fraternity Culture”
- 2019 Undergraduate Excellence Award, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2019 Distinction in Major, Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2019 Distinction in Major, Individual (AIIIS), University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2019 Student Forum Travel Grant, American Sociological Association
- 2019 Pacific Sociological Association Student Travel Grant (\$150)
- 2018 Robert S. Michaelson Memorial Award in Religious Std. University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2018 Faculty Research Assistant Program Grant. (\$750)
Supporting: *Sacred Objects and Chumash Basketry Project* by Dr. Talamantez
- 2018 UC Santa Barbara Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities. \$750)
Supporting: *Trials of Brotherhood: New Pledge Education*
- 2018 UC Santa Barbara Faculty Research Assistance Program. (\$750)
Supporting: *Unpacking Allyship: Reflections of Native American Education*

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EMPLOYMENT

- 2023 Graduate Advising Fellow, Sociology Department, University of Washington
- 2022-23 Research Assistant, Dr. Sara Curran, University of Washington

2022-23. Research Assistant, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, University of Washington

2021-2022 Research Assistant and Interviewer, Dr. Barbara Risman, University of Illinois at Chicago

2020 Freelance Research Consultant at Quandoo, GmbH in Berlin, Germany.

2019 Religious Studies Undergraduate Program Coordinator and Advisor, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.

2019 Writing Tutor, Santa Barbara City College, Santa Barbara, CA

2018-19 Sociology Peer Advisor, Sociology Dept. at University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.

2018-19 Academic Skills Tutor, Intake Assistant, Campus Learning Assistance Services, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.

2017-19 Research Assistant, Department of Religious Studies, Dr. Talamantez, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND CONSULTATION

2023-Present UW Director of Gender and Sexualities Research Cluster

2019-Present Script Consultant for Pop Culture Detective; Jonathan McIntosh.

2023-24 Sociology Department GSA President

2024 Sexualities Session Organizer American Sociological Association Annual Conference

2023 Session Organizer Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference

2022-23 Sociology Department GSA Co-president

2020-22 Sociology Department GSA Elected Member

2021-22 External Reviewer for *Men and Masculinities*

2018-19 Committee Member, American Indian and Indigenous Studies Symposium, UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

2019-Present American Sociological Association

2020-Present Sociologists for Women in Society

2019-Present Pacific Sociological Association

2019-2020 Native American and Indigenous Association

LANGUAGES

English – Native | American Sign Language – Advanced | German – Elementary

VOLUNTEER WORK

2023-25 Medical Team Volunteer for AIDS Life Cycle, California.

2019-20 Community Volunteer for *Pacific Pride Foundation*, Santa Barbara, CA

2017-19 Volunteer for *American Indian and Indigenous Student Association*, UC Santa Barbara

2018 Presenter / Assistant Instructor for *Adelante Skill Nahuatl Workshop*, UC Santa Barbara

2018 Judge for *Mock Trial Association - Mocktopia*, UC Santa Barbara

2018 Deputy Chief of Staff for *Internal Vice President, Associated Students*, UC Santa Barbara

2018 Fellowship Director for *Associated Students*, UC Santa Barbara

2015-18 Volunteer for *Global Glimpse*, Oakland, CA
2017 Volunteer for *American Sign Language / Deaf Studies*, UC Santa Barbara
2016-17 Volunteer for *Collegiate Mock Trial Association*, Santa Barbara, CA
2013-15 Volunteer for *Neighborhood Church ASL / Deaf Services*, Castro Valley, CA

REFERENCES

Dr. Sara Curran, Professor, Sociology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. scurran@uw.edu

Dr. Jelani Ince, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. jince@uw.edu

Dr. Heather Evans, Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation Medicine; Disability Studies; Law, Societies & Justice, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Email: hevans@uw.edu

Dr. Felicia Lopez, Assistant Professor, Chicanx Studies and English, University of California, Merced, Merced, CA. Email: flopez44@ucmerced.edu