

EDUCATION

Ph.D. **University of California, Berkeley**, Berkeley, CA (ABD; degree expected 2023)
Sociology Dissertation: “Mobility Ideologies: Precarity and Meaning-Making in the College-for-All Generation”; Chair: Michael Burawoy

Qualifying fields: Sociological Theory, Economic Sociology, Gender & Emotion

M.A. **University of California, Berkeley**, Berkeley, CA (2018)
Sociology

B.A. **Wellesley College**, Wellesley, MA (2005)
International Relations (hon.) *Magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
French

RESEARCH INTERESTS

inequality, social reproduction, race and ethnicity, culture, affect and emotion, economic sociology, education

SELECTED WRITING & PUBLICATIONS

“Equalization or Reproduction? ‘Some College’ and the Social Function of Higher Education.” (Conditional acceptance at *Sociology of Education*.)

“Mobility and Ideology.” (Working paper.)

“The Affect System.” (Working paper.)

Advocacy reports and white papers, lead author:

Sarah Payne, Elizabeth Ridlington, and Phineas Baxandall. “Georgia’s Transportation Crossroads: Why the Peach State Should Invest in Transit for the 21st Century.” Frontier Group and U.S. PIRG Education Fund. Spring 2010.

Sarah Payne and Michael Russo. “Cutting Red Tape in Health Care: How Streamlining Billing Can Reduce California’s Health Care Costs.” Frontier Group and CALPIRG Education Fund. July 2009.

Sarah Payne, Tony Dutzik, and Emily Figdor. “The High Cost of Fossil Fuels: Why Americans Can’t Afford to Depend on Dirty Energy.” Frontier Group and Environment America Research and Policy Center. June 2009.

Sarah Payne, Travis Madsen, Sandra Glaze, and Rob Thompson. “Going Smoke Free: Good for the Public Health and Safe for the Bottom Line.” Frontier Group and Georgia PIRG Education Fund. Summer 2008.

Sarah Payne, Tony Dutzik, and Bernadette Del Chiaro. “On the Rise: Solar Thermal Power and the Fight Against Global Warming.” Frontier Group and Environment California Research and Policy Center. Spring 2008.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL)

Instructor of Record, “Feeling Inequity: Emotion, Culture, and Power in Society,” Spring 2022. Senior capstone seminar (UC Berkeley).

Reader, “Embodying Inequality: Sociology of Stratification and the Body,” Fall 2019. Instructor: Lindsay Berkowitz (UC Berkeley).

Graduate Student Instructor, “Contemporary Social Theory,” Spring 2018. Instructor: Michael Burawoy (UC Berkeley).

Graduate Student Instructor, “Classical Social Theory,” Fall 2017. Instructor: Michael Burawoy (UC Berkeley).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Research Assistant, P.I.s Cristina Mora and Tianna Paschel, *California Colorlines* and associated projects (2019-2020)

Graduate Student Research Associate, P.I. Jerome Karabel, *Outlier Nation: The Roots of American Distinctiveness and How it Shapes Us Today* (2018-2020)

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- David P. Gardner Fellow, Center for Studies in Higher Education, UC Berkeley (2021)
- Dissertation Fellowship, Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, UC Berkeley (2021)
- Summer Research Grant, UC Berkeley Dept. of Sociology (2021)
- Lowenthal Fellowship, UC Berkeley Dept. of Sociology (2020)
- Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, UC Berkeley Dept. of Sociology (2019)
- Small Research Grant, UC Berkeley Dept. of Sociology (2018)
- Graduate Research Fellowship Program, National Science Foundation (2016)
- Berkeley Social Justice Fellowship, UC Berkeley Dept. of Sociology (2016)
- Rhodes Scholarship Finalist (2006)
- Beth K. Smith Public Service Award Grant, Wellesley College (2004)
- Lumpkin Family Stipend for the Environment, Wellesley College (2002)

PRESENTATIONS

“Mobility Ideologies: Precarity, the Hegemony of Self-Blame, and Strategic Action in New Orleans.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. August 2022.

“‘Some College’ and Financial Hardship: The Mediating Role of Educational Debt.” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. March 2022.

“Returns or Reproduction? College Non-Completion and the Social Function of Higher Education.” Sociology of Education Association Annual Meeting. February 2020 (remote).

“Returns or Reproduction? College Non-Completion and the Social Function of Higher Education.” California Sociological Association Annual Meeting. November 2020 (remote).

“Paying to Earn Less? The Financial Consequences of College Non-Completion.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. August 2020 (remote).

“Does It Pay to Try? Analyzing the Financial Consequences of College Dropout.” Society for the Advancement of Socioeconomics Annual Meeting. June 2018. Kyoto, Japan.

SERVICE

Leadership Team Fellow, Sociology Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity Grant, UC Berkeley Dept. of Sociology (2021-2022)

Member, Anti-Racism Working Group, Sociologists of Color and Allies, UC Berkeley Dept. of Sociology (2020-present)

Graduate Student Representative, Climate Equity and Environmental Justice Senior Faculty Search Hiring Committee, UC Berkeley (2020)

Mentor, Social Science Research Program, Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, UC Berkeley (2021-2022)

Mentor, NavCal Fellowship Program, Women of Color Research Group, UC Berkeley (2020)

Mentor, Honors Thesis Mentoring Program, UC Berkeley Dept. of Sociology (2019)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

College Beyond, Co-founder, Director of Strategy, and Strategic Advisor, *New Orleans, LA* (March 2015-present)

- Co-founded 501(c)3 organization to help Pell-eligible high school graduates from the greater New Orleans region enroll and persist in college (www.collegebeyond.org); wrote and secured grants for \$250k seed funding

As a non-traditional student, in the decade before graduate school I worked in K-12 public education and public interest organizing. I worked as a certified middle school science teacher, as the founding Director of College Counseling at a public high school, as a policy analyst and outreach campaign office director, and as an institutional change management consultant in the Superintendent's Delivery Unit at a state department of education.

SKILLS

Stata; MS Office Suite. Proficient in French.