

# KATY HABR

Ph.D. Candidate. Sociology, Columbia University  
Curriculum Vitae

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## Education

- 2025 **Columbia University**, Ph.D. Sociology (Expected)  
“The Political Economy of the Post-COVID Workplace”  
Committee: Adam Reich, Suresh Naidu, Josh Whitford, Bruce Western
- 2023 **Columbia University**, M.Phil. Sociology  
“A Platform for Change: Deskilling, Reclassification, and the  
Reorganization of California's Grocery Industry”  
Advisors: Adam Reich, Suresh Naidu, Bruce Western
- 2021 **Columbia University**, M.A. Sociology
- 2018 **Cornell University**, B.S. Industrial and Labor Relations, GPA: 3.9  
*Honors in Industrial and Labor Relations, Minor in Near Eastern Studies*  
“Solidarity Not Charity: The University Anti-Sweatshop Movement in the  
Age of Neoliberal Protest”  
Advisors: Kate Bronfenbrenner, Eli Friedman

## Research Interests

Labor, Precarious Work, Political Economy, Gig Work/ Platform Economy, Labor  
Movement, Sociology of Work, Mixed Methods

## Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

- 2024 **Labor and Labor Movements Distinguished Student Paper Award**,  
ASA Section on Labor and Labor Movements.
- 2024–2025 **Center for Political Economy Graduate Student Grant**, Columbia  
University.
- 2023 **Mayer N. Zald Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Student  
Paper Award**, ASA Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements.
- 2023 **Daniel Bell Award for Publicly Minded Sociology**, Columbia  
University.
- 2021 **Sociology Research Support Grant**, Columbia University.

- 2021 **Sociology Research Support Grant**, Columbia University.
- 2019–2024 **Paul F. Lazarsfeld Fellowship**, Columbia University.
- 2014–2018 **Hunter R. Rawlings III Cornell Presidential Research Scholar**, Cornell University.
- 2018 **Seidman Prize for Research in Collective Bargaining, Labor History, Law, Union Administration and Arbitration**, Cornell University.
- 2017 **Chaim and Ida Miller Grant for Labor**, Cornell University.
- 2015 **Gertrude Spencer Portfolio Award for Writing**, Cornell University.

## **Publications Under Review**

\* Equal authorship

Habr, Katy. “A Platform for Change: Deskilling, Reclassification, and the Reorganization of California's Grocery Industry.”

- 2024 Labor and Labor Movements Distinguished Student Paper Award

Habr, Katy\* and Hannah Pullen-Blasnik\*. “A Convergence of Crises: Sudden Employment Loss and Black Lives Matter Protest Attendance During the COVID-19 Pandemic.”

- [2023](#) Mayer N. Zald Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Student Paper Award

## **Publications In Progress**

Bronfenbrenner, Kate, Katy Habr, Suresh Naidu, and Victor Yengle. “The Changing Climate for Union Organizing: 2022 Update.” (Working Paper)

Habr, Katy. “Underworked and Understaffed: Scheduling, Turnover, and Power in the Post COVID Economy.” (Analysis in Progress)

Habr, Katy. “Labor Markets and the Limits of Solidarity: The Impact of Starbucks Unionization on Local Coffee Shop Wages.” (Analysis in Progress)

## **Other Publications**

Habr, Katy. 2018. “Solidarity Not Charity: The University Anti-Sweatshop Movement in the Age of Neoliberal Protest.” Undergraduate Honors Theses. Cornell Digital Repository, Cornell University Library

- [2018](#) Seidman Prize for Research in Collective Bargaining, Labor History, Law, Union Administration and Arbitration

## **Conference Presentations**

\* Presented by coauthor

- 2024 “A Convergence of Crises: Sudden Employment Loss and Black Lives Matter Protest Attendance During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” New School for Social Research Sociology Graduate Conference: “Crises, Contingencies, Possibilities: Futures of Sociology in an Uncertain Present,” New York, NY.
- 2022 “The Changing Climate for Union Organizing: 2022 Update.” Washington Center for Equitable Growth Conference, Washington, DC. \*
- 2022 “The Changing Climate for Union Organizing: 2022 Update.” Worker Empowerment Research Network (WERN) Conference, Cambridge, MA. \*
- 2022 “Going the Last Mile: Examining Productivity, Technology, and Precarious Employment in California’s Grocery and Retail Sector.” American Sociological Association Meeting, Regular Session on Labor/ Labor Movements, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2021 “Going the Last Mile: Examining Productivity, Technology, and Precarious Employment in California’s Grocery and Retail Sector.” New Models for the Worker Voice: Lessons from the Retail Sector, New Social Compact Convening at Georgetown University Kalmanovitz Institute for Labor and the Working Poor, (Online).

### **Additional Panels and Invited Talks**

\* Presented by coauthor

- 2024 “The Overgrowth of Underemployment.” Columbia Labor Lab, INCITE.
- 2024 “A Convergence of Crises: Sudden Employment Loss and Black Lives Matter Protest Attendance During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” ASA Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements Paper Award Winners Panel.
- 2024 “The Current State and Future of Unions.” Espresso with the Experts Podcast. Columbia University.
- 2023 “Unionizing on University Campuses.” Cornell ILR School Union Days.
- 2022 “The Changing Climate for Union Organizing: 2022 Update.” U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor. \*
- 2022 “What Do Faculty and Grad Student Unions Do?” American Sociological Association. Graduate Student Virtual Pro-Seminar.
- 2018 “Careers in Labor.” Cornell ILR School Career Services Center.
- 2016 “Cultural Challenges and Global Learning.” Cornell University Internationalization of Curriculum Symposium.
- 2016 “Student Experiences in Human rights and Capacity Building.” The Cornell Commitment.

## **Research Experience**

- 2021–Pres **Worker Empowerment Research Network (WERN)**, Cornell University & MIT.  
*Graduate Research Assistant*
- 2021–Pres **Labor Lab**, INCITE, Columbia University.  
*Graduate Research Assistant*
- 2020 **Sociology Department**, Columbia University.  
*Graduate Research Assistant*
- 2017–2018 **The Worker Institute**, Cornell University.  
*Research Assistant*
- 2016–2017 **The Office for Labor Research Education**, Cornell University.  
*Research Assistant*

## **Teaching Experience**

- Fall 2020 **Social World**, Sociology Department, Columbia University.  
*Teaching Assistant (Including discussion section)*
- Spring 2021 **Work and Gender**, Sociology Department, Columbia University.  
*Teaching Assistant*
- Fall 2022 **Methods for Social Research**, Sociology Department, Columbia University.  
*Teaching Assistant (Including discussion section)*

## **Professional Experience**

- 2018–2019 **United Steelworkers Union**, Strategic Campaigns Department and Organizing Department. Pittsburgh, PA.  
*Research Intern*
- 2017 **American Federation of Teachers**, Research and Strategic Initiatives Department. Washington, DC.  
*Research Intern*
- 2016 **Solidarity Center**, Trade Union Strengthening Department. Washington, DC.  
*Research Intern*

## **Service**

- 2024 Mayer N. Zald Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Student Paper Award Committee. ASA Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements.

- 2022–Pres Student Workers of Columbia (SWC-UAW 2710), Vice Chair.
- 2021–Pres Women and Society Seminar, Seminar Rapporteur. University Seminars. Columbia University.
- 2020–2021 Student Representative for the Sociology Department. Columbia University.
- 2020–2021 Women in Academia, Co-coordinator. Department of Sociology. Columbia University.
- 2020–2021 Graduate Student Mentor. Department of Sociology. Columbia University,
- 2017 The New Conversations Project on Sustainable Labor Practices in Global Supply Chains, Student Representative. Cornell University.
- 2016–2018 ILR Labor Roundtable, Planning Committee. Cornell University.
- 2016–2018 ILR Union Days, Planning Committee. Cornell University.

### **Languages and Skills**

Languages: English, Arabic

Skills: R, SPSS, AWS, Excel

### **Professional Development**

- 2021 **The Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR)**, Maxwell Institute, Syracuse University.

### **Professional Memberships**

American Sociological Association

- Labor and Labor Movements Section