

HANNAH PULLEN-BLASNIK

Department of Sociology | Columbia University | New York, NY

hpullenblasnik@gmail.com | [Website](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

EDUCATION

- 2025 **Columbia University**, Ph.D., Sociology (expected)
“Places, Technologies, & Transitions: Contested Regulation in Urban Development & the Criminal Legal System”
Committee: Bruce Western, Gil Eyal, Joshua Whitford
- 2023 **Columbia University**, M.Phil., Sociology
- 2021 **Columbia University**, M.A., Sociology
- 2016 **Brown University**, Sc.B., Social Analysis and Research *magna cum laude, departmental honors*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Criminal Legal System – Urban Space and Place – Algorithms and Surveillance – Political Economy – Housing and Development – Social Movements – Computational Social Science

PUBLICATIONS ^{*equal authorship}

Peer Reviewed Publications:

- 2024 **Pullen-Blasnik, Hannah**, Gil Eyal and Amy Weissenbach. “Is Your Accuser Me, or is it the Software?": Ambiguity and Contested Expertise in Probabilistic DNA Profiling.” *Social Studies of Science*. [\[link\]](#)
→ Finalist, Hacker-Mullins Graduate Student Paper Award, ASA Science, Knowledge, & Technology section
- 2021 **Pullen-Blasnik, Hannah**, Jessica T. Simes and Bruce Western. “The Population Prevalence of Solitary Confinement.” *Science Advances*. [\[link\]](#) [\[code\]](#)
→ Featured in [New Scientist](#), [Daily Mail](#), & [The Appeal](#), supreme court case *Hope v. Harris* (2022). 25 academic citations in first 2 years

Under Review:

Pullen-Blasnik, Hannah. “To Protect and Serve Capital: Policing, Real Estate Development, and the Regulation of Wealthy Spaces in New York City.”

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

→ Winner, Mayer N. Zald Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Student Paper Award, ASA Collective Behavior & Social Movements section

Work in Progress:

“Expertise and Legal Contestation in Carceral Technologies: Comparisons in Probabilistic DNA Profiling and Facial Recognition Technology.”

“Development Permitting, Regulation, and Landlord Power in NYC.”

“Access vs. Use: Urban Spatial Inequality in Financial Institutions.” With Taylor Alarcon and Mario Small.

“Predictive Accuracy or Causal Impact? Carceral Risk Score Assignment and Impacts on Reentry.”

Reports & Preprints:

- forth.* Carceral AI Workshop Participants (including **Hannah Pullen-Blasnik***). “Prediction and Punishment: Carceral AI Special Report.” *Berkman Klein Center*.
- forth.* Astoria Public Safety Working Group (including **Hannah Pullen-Blasnik***). “Small Businesses and Relationships to Policing and Public Safety.” *Offices of Assemblymember Zohran Mamdani and Councilmember Tiffany Cabán*.
- 2019 Hall, Rahsaan and Nasser Eledroos. “Facts Over Fear: The benefits of declining to prosecute misdemeanor and low-level felony offenses.” *ACLU of Massachusetts*. [[link](#)] (Data Peer Review: **Hannah Pullen-Blasnik**).
- 2016 **Pullen-Blasnik, Hannah**. “Policing Gentrification: An Exploratory Analysis of Stop-and-Frisk and Income Disparity in Brooklyn, NYC.” *Brown Digital Repository*, Brown University. [[link](#)] → Winner, Alumni Award for Outstanding Sociology Undergraduate Thesis, Brown University

GRANTS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2021-26 National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellowship Program (\$159k)
- 2019-24 Columbia Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Paul F. Lazarsfeld Fellow (\$425k)
- 2023 American Sociological Association Collective Behavior and Social Movements section, Mayer N. Zald Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Student Paper Award
- 2020-22 Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, Workshop Grant, Sociology of Algorithms (\$20k)
- 2020-21 Columbia Justice Lab, Graduate Research Fellow (\$25k)
- 2020 Columbia Sociology Department, Research Support Grant (\$1.5k)
- 2016 Brown University, Alumni Award for Outstanding Sociology Undergraduate Thesis (\$300)
- 2016 Brown University, Sociological Methods Award (\$250)
- 2014 Brown University, Peter G. and Paul G. Hanoian Memorial LINK Award for Work in Labor Relations and Social Justice Organizations (\$3k)
- 2012 City of Boston, John William Ward Public Service Fellowship (\$3k)

TALKS, CONFERENCES, & PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks:

- 2024 “A Convergence of Crises: Sudden Employment Loss and Black Lives Matter Protest Attendance During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” With Katy Habr. *American Sociological Association Collective Behavior and Social Movements*. Remote.
- 2023 “What Data ‘Sees’: Public Data, Bias, and Surveillance in New York City.” *Columbia University, CS3 & The Trust Collaboratory*. New York, NY.

- 2022 “By the Numbers: Who’s In Solitary?” *Unfinished Business: Covering Solitary Confinement’s New Developments, Policies, Practices and Human Impacts*. John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY.
- 2022 “To Protect and Serve Capital: Policing, Real Estate Development, and the Regulation of Wealthy Spaces in New York City.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Geographies of Legal Displacement Thematic Session*. Los Angeles, CA.
- 2021 “Data Weapons and Data Resistance: D4BL on Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination Techniques.” With Paul Watkins. *Barnard College, American Studies Junior Colloquium*. New York, NY.

Conference Presentations:

- 2024 “To Protect and Serve Capital: Policing, Real Estate Development, and the Regulation of Wealthy Spaces in New York City.” *American Sociological Association Community and Urban Sociology Section Mini Conference*. Remote.
- 2024 “Carceral Algorithms and Contested Expertise: Comparisons in Probabilistic DNA Profiling and Facial Recognition Technology.” *Prediction and Punishment: A Cross-Disciplinary Workshop on Carceral AI*. Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2024 “A Convergence of Crises: Sudden Employment Loss and Black Lives Matter Protest Attendance During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” With Katy Habr. *Crises, Contingencies, Possibilities: Futures of Sociology in an Uncertain Present*. The New School, New York, NY.
- 2021 ““Is Your Accuser Me, or Is It the Software?”: Ambiguity and Contested Expertise in Probabilistic DNA Profiling.” With Amy Weissenbach and Gil Eyal. *Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Annual Conference*. Toronto, ON.
- 2021 “Trends and Disparities in Order Maintenance Calls During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” With Jessica T. Simes and Jacqueline L. Jahn. *Columbia University, Justice Lab*. New York, NY.
- 2021 “The Cumulative Risk of Solitary Confinement.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Cultures, Practices and Populations in Penal Institutions Thematic Panel*. Chicago, IL (presented by coauthor).
- 2020 *Predicting, Policing, Prescribing Criminality*. Presenters Sarah Brayne, Angèle Christin, Andrew Ferguson, and Kristian Lum. *Columbia University, Sociology of Algorithms Workshop*. New York, NY. (Discussant).
- 2019 “Implementing Preferencing Models with Association Rule Mining.” *Digitas, National Data Science Meeting*. Boston, MA.
- 2018 “Word2Vec Applications for Non-Text Sequences.” With Neehar Mukne. *Digitas, National Data Science Meeting*. Boston, MA.
- 2016 “Policing Gentrification: An Exploratory Analysis of Stop-and-Frisk and Income Disparity in Brooklyn, NYC.” *Innovation, Inequalities and Identity: Politics and Social Change in the University, in the City*. Brown University, Providence, RI.

EMPLOYMENT

Full-Time Industry:

- 2019 **Senior Data Scientist**, Digitas.
→ Managed and led data science project teams for clients, research and development, and pro bono partners. Supervised junior team members. Developed long-term team goals with senior leadership.
- 2016-19 **Data Scientist**, Digitas.
→ Delivered 10 long-term projects for Fortune 500 clients, dozens of ad-hoc requests and new business pitches. Employed statistical and machine learning techniques, data ingestion/transformation pipelines, and interactive visualizations in R, Python, SQL, and Spark (PySpark). Managed big data projects in distributed cloud computing environments including AWS and GCP. Initiated and maintained team Agile documentation hub. Advanced R&D on NLP and prediction bias and fairness. Led pro-bono projects for non-profit partners.
- 2015-16 **Analyst**, Digitas.
→ Managed data projects in Excel and Tableau, presented insights and visualizations. Increased efficiency within first 4 months by building data pipeline in Python for monthly report.

Research:

- 2023- **Criminal Legal Algorithms, Technology and Expertise (CLATE)**, Project Director & Supervisor, Trust Collaboratory.
- 2024- **Data and Racial Inequality Project (DRIP)**, Graduate Researcher, Incite.
- 2023- **Movements Against Mass Incarceration Lab**, Graduate Researcher, Incite.
- 2019-22 **Columbia Justice Lab**, Graduate Research Fellow.
- 2021-22 **Boston University**, Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Sociology.
- 2016 **Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (CSREA)**, Research Assistant.
- 2014-15 **TechTarget**, Editorial Assistant and Data Consultant.
- 2014 **Resilient Rhode Island Research Team**, Research Assistant.
- 2013-14 **Brown University**, Research Assistant, Department of Sociology.

TEACHING

- 2023 **Columbia University**. Teaching Fellow, Sociology Master's Thesis Seminar II. With Denise Milstein. (Graduate)
- 2022 **Columbia University**. Teaching Fellow, Sociology Master's Thesis Seminar I. With Denise Milstein. (Graduate)
- 2017-19 **Digitas**. Instructor, Introduction to Data Science, Onboarding. (Recurring Workshop)
- 2018 **Digitas**. Instructor, Introduction to SQL. (Recurring Workshop)

SERVICE

Academic:

- 2024 **Collective Behavior and Social Movements (CBSM)**, Award Committee Member, American Sociological Association.
- 2020-22 **Sociology of Algorithms Workshop**, Co-Coordinator. Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy (ISERP), Columbia University.

2020-21 **Racial Capitalism Working Group**, Coordinator. Center for the Study of Social Difference (CSSD), Columbia University.

Community & Public:

2020- **Astoria Public Safety Research Team**, Volunteer Researcher.

2017-22 **Data for Black Lives (D4BL)**, Volunteer Researcher.

2018-19 **American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Massachusetts**, Volunteer Data Scientist.

2014 **Boston Neighborhood Network Television**, Video Production Intern.

2012-15 **Brown Motion Pictures**, Executive Producer.

2008-12 **Farmers' Market**, SNAP and EBT Facilitator, Roslindale Village Main Streets.

JOURNALISM & MEDIA PUBLICATIONS

- 2014 “Who are the Top EHR Vendors in Your State?” *searchHealthIT*.
“BI Data Storytelling Pegged as Key to Driving Executive Action.” *searchBusinessAnalytics*.
“Linthicum: Cloud Analytics Apps Need Solid Data Architecture.” *searchBusinessAnalytics*.
“Don't Let Data Visualization Projects Get Lost in Complexity.” *searchBusinessAnalytics*.
“Self-Service BI Tools Can Aid CRM Efforts, with Some Effort.” *searchBusinessAnalytics*.
“Data Modeling Techniques Explained: How to Get the Most from Your Data.” *searchDataManagement*.
“Protests in Thailand.” With Surya Al-Eryani and Katrina Van Laan. *Brown Political Review*.
Infinitely Polar Bear. Dir. Maya Forbes. Paper Street Films, Bad Robot, KGB Media, Park Pictures. (Locations Intern).
- 2013 “Perspectives on Syria from Christian Syrians in Providence.” With Alif Ibrahim, Benjamin Sadkowski, and Shoshana Salzberg. *Brown Political Review*.
“Austerity Measures in Portugal.” With Alif Ibrahim. *Brown Political Review*.
“Obamacare and Healthcare.gov.” With Alif Ibrahim. *Brown Political Review*.
“International Spying and the NSA.” With Alif Ibrahim. *Brown Political Review*.
“New Jersey Legalizes Same Sex Marriage.” With Alif Ibrahim. *Brown Political Review*.
“U.S. Loses UNESCO Voting Rights.” With Alif Ibrahim. *Brown Political Review*.
“Colombian Village's Story Inspires Dreams of Sustainable Communities.” *GreeningRozzie*.
Hotel Fortuna. Dir. Henry Chaisson. The Loop Group. (2nd Unit Director).

SKILLS

Coding	R, RShiny, Python, Apache Spark (Pyspark), SQL, Stata, SPSS, Javascript (D3)
Platforms	Arc/QGIS, Excel, Tableau, AWS (S3, EC2), GCP, Linux, LaTeX, JIRA, Git
Language	Spanish (proficient)
Datasets	Census/ACS, NYC OpenData, SafeGraph, Advan, CrowdTangle, comScore, Acxiom