

SPENCER LOUIS POTIKER
DOCTORAL CANDIDATE
DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

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EDUCATION: PhD in Global and International Studies, Expected Spring 2023

University of California, Irvine

Master of Arts in Sociology, Winter 2019

University of California, Irvine

Bachelor of Arts in Economics & Sociology, Fall 2016

California State University, Long Beach

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Global Political Economy; Labor and Social Movements; Immigration; Racialization; Border Studies; Urban and Regional Studies; World-Systems Analysis; Global Inequality and Social Change; Supply Chains; Comparative-Historical Sociology; Non-State Spaces; Comparative Contentious Politics; Community Engaged Research; Theory from the Global South; Anarchist Theory.

DISSERTATION

“Cross Border Supply Chains and Mobility Regimes: Migration, Labor, and Urban Development in the San Diego-Tijuana Transfrontier Metropolis.”

Committee: Yousuf Al-Bulushi (Chair – Global and International Studies); Eve Darian-Smith (Global and International Studies); David A. Smith (Sociology); Charmaine Chua (UCSB Global and International Studies); Christopher Harris (Global and International Studies)

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Potiker, Spencer Louis, Dana M. Williams, and Jake Alimahomed-Wilson. 2022. “Anarchist and Anarchistic Anti-Systemic Movements in World-Systems Perspective: A Qualitative Comparative Analysis of Non-State Spaces.” *Journal of World-Systems Research* 28(2): 188-218.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis. 2021. “Exit-With-Autonomy or Autonomy-Without-Exit? Divergent Political Trajectories in Rojava and the Kurdish Regional Government.” *Critical Sociology*. (<https://doi.org/10.1177/08969205211048547>).
- Potiker, Spencer Louis. 2019. “Obstacles to Insurrection: Militarised Border Crossings Hindering the Rojava Liberation Struggle.” *Anarchist Studies* 27(2): 77-102.

- Alimahomed-Wilson, Jake & Spencer Louis Potiker. 2018. “Decolonizing Logistics: Palestinian Truckers on the Occupied Supply Chain.” Pp. 110-126 in *Choke Points: Logistics Workers and Solidarity Movements Disrupting the Global Capitalist Supply Chain*, edited by Ness, Immanuel & Jake Alimahomed-Wilson. London: Pluto Press.
- Alimahomed-Wilson, Jake & Spencer Louis Potiker. 2017. “The Logistics of Occupation: Israel’s Colonial Suppression of Palestine’s Goods Movement Infrastructure.” *Journal of Labor and Society* 20(4): 427-447.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

- Potiker, Spencer Louis. 2022. “Introduction – Anti-State and Anti-Systemic: Exilic Spaces and Societies in Movement in the World-System.” Introduction to Special Issue in the *Journal of World-Systems Research* 28(2): 181-187.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis. 2021. “Organizing the Cincinnati Metro Area/Northern Kentucky’s Logistics Sector: Labor/Community Organizing in and Around Amazon’s Air Hub at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG).” *Commissioned by Amazonians United*.
- Chua, Charmaine, Jake Alimahomed-Wilson, and Spencer Louis Potiker. 2021. “Amazon’s Investment in Israel Reveal Complicity in Settlements and Military Operations.” *The Nation*, June 21, (<https://www.thenation.com/article/economy/amazon-prime-day-israel/>).

BOOK REVIEWS

- Potiker, Spencer Louis. 2020 [Review of the book *Sinews of War and Trade: Shipping and Capitalism in the Arabian Peninsula*, by Laleh Khalili]. *Antipode*.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis. 2019. [Review of the book *Black Flags and Social Movements: A Sociological Analysis of Movement Anarchism*, by Dana M. Williams]. *Social Movement Studies*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Instructor of Record University of California, Irvine Spring 2023.
 - International Human Rights
- Instructor of Record University of California, San Diego Fall 2022 – Winter 2023.
 - Globalization and Social Development; Work and Inequality

- Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine Fall 2017 – Present.
 - Introduction to Sociology; Sociological Theory; Cultural Anthropology; Biological Anthropology; Introduction to Global Studies; Global Forum; Business Decisions; U.S. War on Terror.
- Teaching Assistant, California State University, Long Beach, Fall 2016.
 - Introduction to Sociology
- Conscious Classrooms Facilitator, California Conference for Equality and Justice (on site at Long Beach Jordan High School), October 2016-June 2017.

WORK UNDER REVIEW & IN PROGRESS

- Potiker, Spencer Louis. *In Progress*. “The Political Thought of Abdullah Öcalan: Beyond Western Perspectives of Political Economy.”
- Ciccantell, Paul, Spencer Louis Potiker, David A. Smith, Elizabeth Alexis Sowers, and Luc McKenzie. *In Progress*. “Amazon’s Hybrid Model of Capitalism and Labor Organizing.”
- Ciccantell, Paul, Spencer Louis Potiker, David A. Smith, Elizabeth Alexis Sowers, and Luc McKenzie. *In Progress*. “From Africa to Amazon.com: Creating Peripheries Using Racialized Labor From the 16th Century Through the 21st Century.”
- Smith, David A., Spencer Louis Potiker, Paul Ciccantell, and Elizabeth Alexis Sowers. *In Progress*. “Amazon: Epitome of 21st Century World Capitalism? A Global Commodity Chains Approach.”
- Nasir, Sabrina and Spencer Louis Potiker. *In Progress*. “Recreating the Border Outside of the Territory: International Waters, Flags of Convenience, and Racial Capitalism.”

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- University of California, San Diego—Predoctoral Fellowship, Center for US-Mexico Studies. 2022-2023.
- University of California, Irvine—Kugelman Peace Building Fellowship. 2021-2022. “Contrasting Kurdish Independence Movements: An Historical Comparative Analysis of Syrian and Iraqi Kurdistan.”
- Amazonians United—Research Fellowship, Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG) Study. 2021.
- University of California, Irvine—Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation Pedagogical Fellowship. 2020.

- American Sociological Association Political Economy of the World System Section—Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award. 2020. Potiker, Spencer Louis. 2019. “Obstacles to Insurrection: Militarized Border Crossings Hindering the Rojava Liberation Struggle.” *Anarchist Studies* 27(2): 77-102.
- California State University, Long Beach—Distinguished Sociology Bachelors Graduate. 2017. Recognizes one graduating Senior for truly distinguished academic achievement in the discipline of Sociology.
- California State University, Long Beach—President’s Honor List. Spring 2016 & Fall 2016.
- California Conference for Equality and Justice—Certificate for commitment to advocating for social justice, demonstrating leadership skills, and outstanding service. 2016. Awarded at the Building Bridges Leadership Academy.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Ciccantell, Paul, Spencer Louis Potiker, David A. Smith, and Elizabeth Sowers. “Supply Chain Crises: Harbingers of Deglobalization?” After Globalization: The Future of World Society at the World Society Foundation – Continuities and Disruptions Panel, August 2022.
- Ciccantell, Paul, Spencer Louis Potiker, David A. Smith, Elizabeth Alexis Sowers, and Luc McKenzie. “From Africa to Amazon.com: Creating Peripheries Using Racialized Labor From the 16th Century Through the 21st Century.” Immanuel Wallerstein Memorial Conference – The Development of Immanuel Wallerstein’s Thought and Method Panel, August 2022.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis. “The Border as Place or Concept? Supply Chains, Migration, and Labor in San Diego and Tijuana.” American Sociological Association – Work and Labor Roundtable, August 2022.
- Ciccantell, Paul, Spencer Louis Potiker, David A. Smith, Elizabeth Alexis Sowers, and Luc McKenzie. “Amazon’s Hybrid Model of Capitalism and Labor Organizing.” Labor in Crisis Mini Conference at the American Sociological Association – Labor Control Panel, August 2022.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis. “The San Diego-Tijuana Cross Border Supply Chain: Analyzing the Border Mobility Regimes Impact on Migration, Labor, and Urban Development.” Pacific Sociological Association – Labor on the Supply Chain Panel (Session Organizer), April 2022.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis and Dana M. Williams. “Anarchist and Anarchistic Anti-Systemic Movements: Comparing Non-State Spaces Over the Longue Durée of the World-System.” California Sociological Association – Global Social Change Panel, November 2021.

- Smith, David A., Spencer Louis Potiker, Paul Ciccantell, and Elizabeth Alexis Sowers. “Amazon: Epitome of 21st World Capitalism? A Global Commodity Chains Approach.” American Sociological Association – Ecology, Pandemics, and Space in Historical Capitalism Paper Session, August 2021.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis and David A. Smith. “Amazon: The Face of 21st Century Capitalism and Impact on Global Labor.” Society for the Study of Social Problems – Critical Dialogue: Labor and the Global Economy, August 2021.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis and Dana M. Williams. “A World-Systems Analysis of Anarchist Movements and Revolution.” Pacific Sociological Association – Anarchism, Exilic Spaces, and Delinking in the World-System Panel (Session Organizer), March 2021.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis. “Divergent Politics in Kurdistan: An Historical Comparative Analysis of Rojava and the Kurdish Regional Government.” American Sociological Association – Political Economy of the World-System Section Core/Periphery Relations Roundtable, August 2020.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis. “Toward a Transmodern World-System: Alter-Epistemic Resistance in Rojava.” North American Anarchist Studies Network: Emergent Horizons – Learning from Translocal Struggles Panel, May 2019.
- Potiker, Spencer Louis. “Obstacles to Insurrection: Militarized Border Crossings Hindering the Rojava Liberation Struggle.” Pacific Sociological Association – Critical Global Labor Panel, March 2018.
- Alimahomed-Wilson, Jake & Spencer Louis Potiker. “The Logistics of Occupation: Israel’s Colonial Suppression of Palestine’s Goods Movement Infrastructure.” California Sociological Association – Transnational Political Economy Panel (Session Organizer), November 2017.
- Potiker, Spencer. “Colorblind Racism of Teachers and Covert White Nationalism Within Their Curriculum.” Pacific Sociological Association – Undergraduate Roundtable, April 2017.

GUEST LECTURES, INVITED TALKS, AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

- “Supply Chains and Mobility Regimes in the San Diego-Tijuana Metropolitan Area.” Global and International Studies Grad Day. Keynote Address. University of California, Irvine. June 2022.
- “The Transborder Supply Chain: Migration, Urban Development, and Labor in the Tijuana-San Diego Metropolitan Region.” Global Forum. Invited Talk. University of California, Irvine. May 2022.

- “The Cross Border Supply Chain: Migration, Labor, and Urban Development in the San Diego-Tijuana Transfrontier Metropolis.” Global Studies Professional Seminar. Invited Talk. University of California, Irvine. February 2022.
- “The Supply Chain Crisis: A Crisis for Consumers or Capitalists?” Democracy Café. Invited Talk. Minot State University, November 2021.
- “A Multi-Scalar Conjunctural Analysis of Border Region Logistics: Supply Chains, Cities and Labor in the Age of E-Commerce.” Geographies of Labour in the Global Logistics Industry. Invited Talk. University of Sheffield Center for Decent Work. International Logistics Labour Research Network, October 2021.
- “Global Studies T.A. Training.” Panel Discussion. University of California, Irvine, September 2021.
- “What do you do with a B.A. in Sociology?” Panel Discussion. California State University, Long Beach, October 2018.
- “Using Comparison in Sociological Research.” Guest Lecture. California State University, Long Beach, July 2018.

GRADUATE COURSE WORK

- **Graduate Course Clusters:** (1) Global Inequality and Social Change; (2) Race and Ethnicity
- **Theory Courses:** Classical Social Theory (Sociology); Contemporary Social Theory (Sociology); Critical Race Theory (Sociology); Globalizing Theory (Global and International Studies/Anthropology); Theories of Globalization (Global and International Studies); Theories from the Global South (Global and International Studies).
- **Methods Courses:** Statistics (Sociology - 3 Seminar Sequence); Research Design (Sociology); Interview Methods (Sociology); Comparative-Historical Methods (Sociology - Independent Study).
- **Topical Courses:** Globalization and World-Systems (Sociology); Global Urbanization (Sociology/Urban Planning and Public Policy); Comparative Contentious Politics (Sociology); Race and Ethnicity (Sociology); Proseminar (Sociology – 2 Seminar Sequence); Labor Movements and Strikes (Sociology – Independent Study); Kurdish Social Movements (Sociology – Independent Study); What is Global Studies? (Global and International Studies); Critical Logistics and Supply Chain Studies (Global and International Studies – Independent Study); Capital and Empire (Anthropology); The Black Radical Tradition (Political Science/Culture and Theory).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Research Assistant, Dr. Judith Stepan-Norris at the University of California, Irvine Summer 2018 – Spring 2019.

SERVICE

- Session Organizer, Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, “Labor on the Supply Chain.” April 2022.
- Special Issue Editor, *Journal of World-Systems Research* Special Issue, “Anti-State and Anti-Systemic: Exilic Spaces and Societies in Movement in the World-System.” *Forthcoming* 2022.
- Session Organizer, Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, “Anarchism, Exilic Spaces, and Delinking in the World-System.” March 2021.
- Social Events Committee, University of California, Irvine, Sociology Graduate Student Association, 2017-2018.
- Session Organizer, California Sociological Association Annual Conference, “Transnational Political Economy.” November 2017.
- Radical Reading Collective, Graduate Student Representative and Founder, University of California, Irvine, 2017-present.

JOURNAL REVIEWER

- *International Journal of Comparative Sociology* – 2022
- *Settler Colonial Studies* – 2019
- *Journal of Labor and Society* – 2017

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Sociological Association
- International Studies Association
- Pacific Sociological Association
- California Sociological Association
- American Association of Geographers
- North American Anarchist Studies Network
- International Logistics Labour Research Network