

**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 2022**

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 INTERESTS AND TEACHING INTEREST**

Global Political Economy; Labor and Social Movements; Border Studies; Comparative-Historical Sociology; Contentious Politics; Supply Chains; Urban and Regional Studies; World-Systems Analysis; Non-State Spaces; Theories from the Global South; Anarchism and Anarchist Theory.

**DISSERTATION**

“A Multi-Scalar Conjunctural Analysis of Border Region Logistics: Supply Chains, Cities, and Labor in the age of E-Commerce.”

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

**PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:**

- Potiker, Spencer Louis. *In Press*. “Exit-With-Autonomy or Autonomy-Without-Exit? Divergent Political Trajectories in Rojava and the Kurdish Regional Government.” *Critical Sociology*.
- 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

- 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/>).
- 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*.

#### 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*.

#### WORK UNDER REVIEW & IN PROGRESS:

- Potiker, Spencer Louis, Dana M. Williams, and Jake Alimahomed-Wilson. *Under Review*. “Anti-State Movements in World-Systems Perspective: A Qualitative Comparative Analysis of Non-State Spaces.” Special Issue *Journal of World-Systems Research* forthcoming 2022.
- Smith, David A., Spencer Louis Potiker, Paul Ciccantell, and Elizabeth Alexis Sowers. *In Progress* “Amazon: Epitome of 21<sup>st</sup> Century World Capitalism? A Global Commodity Chains Approach.”
- Potiker, Spencer Louis. *In Progress*. “The Political Thought of Abdullah Öcalan: Beyond Western Perspectives on Political Economy.”
- 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, 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:

- Smith, David A., Spencer Louis Potiker, Paul Ciccantell, and Elizabeth Alexis Sowers. “Amazon: Epitome of 21<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS**

- “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.

#### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

- 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.

- 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.

**SERVICE:**

- 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**

- *Settler Colonial Studies* – 2019
- *Journal of Labor and Society* – 2017

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

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