

Amy Zhou

Barnard College, Columbia University
Department of Sociology
332 Milbank Hall
3009 Broadway Ave.
New York, NY 10027

Email: azhou@barnard.edu
Phone: (212) 854-3663

Academic Positions

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Barnard College, Columbia University 2019-present
Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute for Practical Ethics, University of California-San Diego 2018-2019

Education

University of California-Los Angeles, PhD in Sociology 2018
University of California-Los Angeles, MA in Sociology 2011
University of California-Los Angeles, BA in Sociology, minors in Public Health and Women's Studies 2008

Research fields

Medical sociology, global and transnational sociology, race/ethnicity, science & technology, qualitative methods

Publications

Book:

Zhou, A. (Forthcoming, 2026). *Unequal Worlds of Care: The Politics of Global Health in Malawi*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Peer-reviewed journal articles:

Zhou, A. (2021). Limits of neoliberalism: HIV, COVID-19, and the importance of healthcare systems in Malawi. *Global Public Health*, 16(8-9: Politics and Pandemics): 1346-1363.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/17441692.2021.1940237>

Zhou, A., Sabatello, M., Eyal, G., Lee, S., Rowe, J., Stiles, D., Swanson, A., Appelbaum, P. (2021). Is precision medicine relevant in the age of COVID-19? *Genetics in Medicine*, 23: 999-1000.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41436-020-01088-4>

Zhou, A. (2019). Therapeutic citizens and clients: Diverging practices in Malawi's healthcare facilities. *Sociology of Health & Illness*, 41(4): 625-642. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-9566.12841>

Zhou, A. (2016). The uncertainty of treatment: Women's use of HIV treatment as prevention in Malawi. *Social Science & Medicine*, 158: 52-60.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2016.04.013>

Zhou, A. (2016). Serving some and serving all: How providers navigate the challenges of racially targeted health services. *Ethnicity & Health*, 22(5): 443-457.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13557858.2016.1244627>

Kim, M.H., Zhou, A., Mazenga, A. et al. (2016). Why did I stop? Barriers and facilitators to uptake and adherence to ART in Option B+ HIV care in Lilongwe, Malawi. *PloS One* 11(2):e0149527.
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0149527>

Book chapters:

Van de Ruit, C. & Zhou, A. (2022). The problem of insecure community health workers in the Global South. In Muschert, G.W. et al (Eds) *Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) volume Global Agenda for Social Justice: Solutions 2022*, Bristol, UK: Policy Press.

Other Publications

Farber, R., Harris, J., Singh, R.; Bell, S.E., Friedman, S.R., Jalali, R., Shaffer, J., van de Ruit, C., Vijayakumar, G., Walkover, L., Yamin, A., Zhou, A. (2025). "Reimagine Aid: Don't Destroy It." Brief Communication. *Studies in Comparative International Development*.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12116-025-09475-1>

Zhou, A. Book Review: Commodities of Care: The Business of HIV Testing in China by Elsa L. Fan. *Gender & Society*, 36(6), 972- 974. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08912432221115731>

Zhou, A. (2016). Should I live a life of medicines?: Women's decisions for taking HIV treatment in Malawi. *UCLA Center for the Study of Women*.

Works in Progress

Zhou, A. (In progress). "Geneticization of nature: Different expectations of the capabilities and risks of gene drive technology." Article in preparation for *Science, Technology, and Human Values*.

Academic and Professional Honors

| | |
|---|------|
| Graduate student paper award – UCLA "Going Global" conference | 2017 |
| Elizabeth Blackwell, MD Graduate Award – UCLA Center for the Study of Women | 2016 |
| Excellence in Teaching Award – UCLA Department of Sociology | 2011 |

Grants and Fellowships

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Columbia University Center for Political Economy Faculty Grant | 2024-present |
| Barnard College Presidential Research Award | 2024-present |
| Barnard College Special Assistant Professor Leave Supplement | 2023-2024 |
| UCLA Graduate Division Dissertation Year Fellowship | 2014-2016 |
| National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant | 2014 |
| UCLA International Institute Fieldwork Fellowship (declined for NSF) | 2012-2013 |

| | |
|--|------|
| UCLA Graduate Research Mentorship | 2012 |
| UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship | 2010 |

Invited Presentations

| | |
|---|------|
| European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST) and the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Conference. Amsterdam, Netherlands. "Against 'Recovery': A Feminist/Intersectional Science and Technology Studies (FISTS) Take on Social Justice, Embodiment, Health, and Dis-ease." | 2024 |
| American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. "Sociology of Medicine and Global Epidemics" Special Session (organizer), | 2023 |
| Precision Medicine & Society Virtual Seminar. Columbia University. New York, NY. "Is Precision Medicine Relevant in the Age of COVID-19?" | 2020 |
| Precision Medicine & Society Annual Conference. Columbia University. New York, NY. "Reflections on Precision Medicine and Society from an International Perspective" | 2020 |
| UCSD Ethics and Social Implications of Gene Drives Conference. San Diego, CA. "Perceptions of Risk Among Gene Drive Stakeholders" | 2019 |
| University of New Mexico, Department of Sociology. Albuquerque, NM. "Fragmented care: the impact of global health projects on health practices" | 2019 |
| African Studies Association, Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. "HIV policy innovation and the unexpected challenges of taking treatment" | 2017 |

Conference Presentations

| | |
|--|------|
| Sociology of Development, Conference. "Politics of legibility: HIV and healthcare systems in Malawi." | 2024 |
| American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting. "Geneticization of nature: Different expectations of the capabilities and risks of gene drive technology." | 2022 |
| American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting. "Limits of neoliberalism: HIV, COVID-19, and healthcare systems in Malawi" | 2021 |
| Society for the Study of Social Problems, Annual Meeting. "Limits of neoliberalism: HIV, COVID-19, and healthcare systems in Malawi" | 2021 |
| American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting. "Precarious opportunities: Career trajectories of Malawi's healthcare workers" | 2020 |
| Society for the Study of Social Problems, Annual Meeting. | 2020 |

| | | |
|---|------|--|
| "Precarious opportunities: Career trajectories of Malawi's healthcare workers" | | |
| Eastern Sociological Society, Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. | 2020 | |
| "Changing Nature?: Perceptions of Risk Among Gene Drive Stakeholders" | | |
| Development in Dialogue, Sociology of Development. South Bend, IN. | 2019 | |
| "Precarious opportunities: Career trajectories of Malawi's healthcare workers" | | |
| American Sociological Association, Global Health and HIV. New York, NY. | 2019 | |
| "Policy innovation from the Global South: Malawi's Development of Option B+" | | |
| The Crisis of History and the History of Crisis. Comparative & Historical Section, American Sociological Association. Philadelphia, PA. | 2018 | |
| "For the mothers and children of our country: HIV policy innovation from the Global South." | | |
| American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting. Montreal, Canada. | 2017 | |
| "Therapeutic citizens & clients: Diverging practices in Malawi's healthcare facilities" | | |
| Society for the Study of Social Problems, Annual Meeting. Montreal, Canada. | 2017 | |
| "Therapeutic citizens & clients: Diverging practices in Malawi's healthcare facilities" | | |
| Disparities in Development: Global, Regional, and Local. Sociology of Development, American Sociological Association. Detroit, MI. | 2017 | |
| "Un-developing institutions: HIV policies and therapeutic triage of prenatal care" | | |
| Thinking Gender: UCLA Center for the Study of Women. Los Angeles, CA. | 2017 | |
| "Un-developing institutions: HIV policies and therapeutic triage of prenatal care" | | |
| Going Global: UCLA International Institute Conference. Los Angeles, CA. | 2016 | |
| "The uncertainty of treatment: Women's use of HIV treatment as prevention" | | |
| International AIDS Society Conference. Vancouver, Canada. | 2015 | |
| "Why Did I Stop? Barriers and Facilitators to Uptake and Adherence to ART" | | |
| 7 th International Workshop on HIV Pediatrics. Vancouver, Canada. | 2015 | |
| "Why Did I Stop? Barriers and Facilitators to Uptake and Adherence to ART" | | |
| American Studies Association, Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. | 2013 | |
| "Competing responsibilities: the dilemmas of racially targeted health services" | | |
| American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting. Denver, CO. | 2012 | |
| "Competing responsibilities: the dilemmas of racially targeted health services" | | |
| UCLA Strategic Decision-Making in Labor and Social Movements. Los Angeles, CA. | 2010 | |
| "Multicultural Health: Racialization and New Forms of Inclusion." | | |
| American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA | 2009 | |
| "Sex, drugs, and cultural taboo: HIV/AIDS and its impact on the Asian American/ | | |

Pacific Islander Community."

Public Sociology

Panelist on women's birth control options at The Wing, a network of work and community spaces designed for women.

2019

Grant Activity

Active Grants:

Title: Special Assistant Professor Leave Supplement

Funder: Barnard College

Term: 1/1/2023 – present

Amount: \$12,000

Title: Presidential Research Award

Funder: Barnard College

Term: 8/1/2024 - present

Amount: \$48,615

Title: Center for Political Economy Faculty Grant

Funder: Columbia University Center for Political Economy

Term: 8/1/2024 - present

Amount: \$33,950

Teaching Experience

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Methods for Social Research – Barnard College | 2019-present |
| Medical Sociology – Barnard College | 2019-present |
| How Race Gets Under Our Skin – Barnard College | 2019-present |
| Global Health, Politics, and Society – Barnard College | 2019-present |
| Senior Thesis – Barnard College | 2019-present |
| Community and Corporate Internships in Sociology – UCLA | 2016 |

Graduate Student Advising

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Elizabeth Adetiba – Columbia University, Sociology, PhD Committee | 2022-2025 |
| Max Calleo – Columbia University, Sociology, MA Committee | 2021-2022 |
| Larry Au – Columbia University, Sociology, PhD Committee | 2021-2022 |
| Hawi Teizazu – Columbia University, Sociomedical Sciences, PhD Committee | 2019-2023 |

Undergraduate Student Advising

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Sophie Bury – Barnard College, Sociology (Thesis advisor) | 2024-2025 |
| Eve Spear – Barnard College, Sociology (Thesis advisor) | 2023-2024 |
| Anda Gravlin – Barnard College, Sociology (Thesis advisor) | 2023-2024 |
| Jana Abu Ayash – Barnard College, Athena Fellows Program (Faculty advisor) | 2021-2022 |
| Yunzhe Hu – Barnard College, Sociology (Thesis advisor) | 2021-2022 |
| Estefannia Palacio – Barnard College, Sociology (Thesis advisor) | 2021-2022 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Naina Lavakare – Barnard College, Sociology (Thesis advisor) | 2021-2022 |
| Marina Chiaramonte – Barnard College, Sociology (Thesis advisor) | 2020-2021 |
| Halle Jacobs – Barnard College, Sociology (Thesis advisor) | 2020-2021 |
| Hannah Staples – Barnard College, Sociology (Thesis advisor) | 2019-2020 |

Academic Service

Barnard College:

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Representative to Columbia University Senate | 2024- <i>present</i> |
| Faculty advisor for Athena Fellows Program | 2021-2022 |
| Panelist for Barnard Bold: Embedding Antiracism in the Classroom | 2021 |
| Co-director of Science and Public Policy Program (SCPP) | 2020- <i>present</i> |
| Advisory Board for Barnard College Center for Research on Women | 2019- <i>present</i> |

Columbia University:

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Commission on the Status of Women | 2024- <i>present</i> |
| Coordinating committee for Precision Medicine Initiative | 2021-2024 |
| Steering committee for Precision Medicine & Society program | 2019-2024 |
| Faculty affiliate for Columbia Population Research Center | 2019- <i>present</i> |
| Mentor for Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Summer Research Program | 2019 |

Service to the Profession

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Editorial Board of <i>Journal of Health and Social Behavior</i> | 2025- <i>present</i> |
| Nominations Committee, Medical Sociology, ASA | 2023-2024 |
| Book Award Committee, Global and Transnational Sociology, ASA | 2022-2023 |
| Reviewer for <i>American Journal of Sociology, Social Science & Medicine, Sociology of Development, Sociological Forum, African Journal of AIDS Research, Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers</i> | 2017- <i>present</i> |

Professional Affiliations

American Sociological Association, Eastern Sociological Society, Society for the Study of Social Problems, Sociologists for Women in Society