

## Anna K.M. Skarpelis

- appointments**
- 2023– Inaugural Richard Lachmann Chair of Sociology (Assistant Professor), City University of New York, Queens College.
  - 2021–23 Digitalization Postdoctoral Fellow, Social Science Center Berlin (WZB).
  - 2021–22 NOMIS fellow, eikones – Center for the Theory and the History of the Image, University of Basel.
  - 2019–21 Cluster for Comparative Inequality and Inclusion Affiliate, Weatherhead Center For International Affairs, Harvard University.
  - 2019–20 Weatherhead Scholar, Harvard University.
  - 2018–19 Digital Postdoctoral Fellow, Reischauer Institute, Harvard University.
  - 2013–14 Japan Foundation Fellow, Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo.
  - 2006–10 Researcher, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies.
- education**
- 2018 Ph.D, Sociology, New York University.
  - 2014 M.A., Sociology, New York University.
  - 2006 M.Sc., International Labor Relations and HRM, London School of Economics.
  - 2005 First Year of the Maîtrise, Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po).
  - 2004 B.A., Japanese and Management, School of Oriental and African Studies and Birkbeck College (University of London).
- book**
- Skarpelis, A.K.M. "Racial Vision: Failed Projects of Human Difference." Manuscript in progress.
- peer reviewed**
- Skarpelis, A.K.M. Forthcoming. "*Horror Vacui*: Knowledge Formation, Symbolic Power and State Expansion through the Lens of Hyper-Racialized Photography." *American Journal of Sociology*.
  - Skarpelis, A.K.M. 2020. "[Life on File: Archival Epistemology and Theory](#)." *Qualitative Sociology*. 43:385–405. Translated into Portuguese as "[Vida em Ficheiro: Epistemologia e teoria arquivística](#)." in *Re-Auto-Meta Arquivo: Formas e Transformações do Arquivo* (2022) Portela, M. and D. Côrtes Madura, eds.
- revise & resubmit**
- Skarpelis, A.K.M. "When Whiteness Fails: Mixed-Race Germans and the Multiple Ontologies of Race in Nazi Germany (1933-1945)." (Previous title: Beyond Aryans). R&R at *American Sociological Review*.
    - \* Winner, Candace Rogers Award for The Most Outstanding Paper, Eastern Sociological Society, 2018.
    - \* Honorable Mention, Reinhard Bendix Paper Award, ASA Section on Comparative Historical Sociology, 2018.
- under review**
- Skarpelis, A.K.M. "Race in Parentheses: Historical Legacies in the Production of Racial Absence"

Skarpelis, A.K.M. "What Is It Like to Be a Nazi? Racial Vision and Scientific Selves in German Portrait Photographic Practice"

Skarpelis, A.K.M. and Greenland, Fiona. "Popular Culture in Comparative Historical Sociology." Invited chapter for the Oxford Handbook of Comparative Historical Sociology, edited by Rebecca Jean Emigh and David McCourt.

working  
papers

Skarpelis, A.K.M. "Race's Many Metamorphoses: Racial Vision from Skin Tone Studies to Artificial Intelligence"

Skarpelis, A.K.M. "Beyond Physiognomic AI: The Long 20th century of Racial Relativism"

Skarpelis, A.K.M. "Rethinking the Japanese Welfare State"

\* Winner, 2015 Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Graduate Student Paper Award

\* Winner, 2015 Best Paper Award, Fondation France-Japon de l'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales

Skarpelis, A.K.M. "Exceptional Germans: Ancestry, Ethnicity, and Indigeneity in a Jus Sanguinis Regime"

Skarpelis, A.K.M. "Erasing Hitler: Meaning, Latent Space, and Ways of Reading an Image"

Skarpelis, A.K.M. "Hounded by Nuance, or, Freeing the Bitch from the Iron Cage: Towards a Sociology of Translation"

Skarpelis, A.K.M. "Archives Lost: Re/writing the First Book during COVID." Invited essay for a special issue of *Sociology Compass* on research disruptions caused by COVID.

book  
chapters

Skarpelis, A.K.M. 2020. "Dresden Will Never Be Hiroshima: Morality, the Bomb and Far-Right Empathy for the Refugee." In *Far-Right Revisionism and the End of History. Alt/Histories*. Edited by Louie Dean Valencia-García. New York: Routledge. 199-219.

Skarpelis, Anna. 2009. "Aging of Political Party and Trade Union Membership in Germany" (Alterung der Mitgliedschaft von Parteien und Gewerkschaften in Deutschland) in *Altern: Familie, Zivilgesellschaft und Politik.*, 323-336.

public  
policy  
publications

Skarpelis, Anna. 2010. "Proceedings of the French, German and Japanese Ministerial Tripartite Long-Term Care Symposium in Tokyo February 2009," Report for the German Ministry of Health.

Kocka, J., Kohli, M., Streeck, W., **Skarpelis, A.** and Brauer, K. 2009. "Aging: Family, Civil Society and Politics" (*Altern: Familie, Zivilgesellschaft und Politik*), Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina.

Skarpelis, Anna and Brown, W. 2008. "How Far Can a Minimum Wage Compensate for the Decline in Collective Bargaining? The Challenges Facing Germany and Britain." In: *Challenges in European Employment Relations*, Bulletin of Comparative Labour Relations, 181-199.

essays &  
reviews

- Skarpelis, A.K.M. forthcoming. "Means and Masculinity: On the Postcolonial Afterlives of Ivoiriens under Racial Capitalism." *Contexts*.
- Skarpelis, A.K.M. 2022. "Facing the Truth: New Follies in Artificial Intelligence." *WZB Mitteilungen*.
- Skarpelis, A.K.M. 2019. "On the Brink of Failure." Public Books.
- Skarpelis, A.K.M. 2019. "Life on File." *Trajectories* (30) 2-3, 23-29.
- Skarpelis, A.K.M. and Childress, C.. 2016. "The 2016 Junior Theorists' Symposium." *Perspectives* (38)2, 16-18.
- Skarpelis, A.K.M. 2014. "Review: War and Health Insurance Policy in Japan and the United States: World War II to Postwar Reconstruction." *Social Science Japan Journal* 17(1):141-44.
- Skarpelis, A.K. 2009. "Review: Low-wage work in Germany, edited by Gerhard Bosch and Claudia Weinkopf." *British Journal of Industrial Relations* 47(3):605-06.
- Skarpelis, Anna. 2008. "Review: The Political Economy of Japan's Low Fertility, edited by Frances McCall Rosenbluth." *Czech Sociological Review* 44(6):1215-20.

research &  
teaching  
interests

Comparative Historical Sociology, Political Sociology, Cultural Sociology, Sociology of Knowledge, Artificial Intelligence, Race and Ethnicity, Qualitative & Computational Methods, Science and Technology Studies.

skills

*Computational:* R, Python, MAXQDA, Digital Methods certification (University of Amsterdam). Applied research focus on Computer Vision.

*Languages:* German, French, English (fluent). Japanese (advanced). Greek (heritage speaker). Spanish, Italian (basic).

virtual  
reality

*Consider the Scallop (Scallop Gallop)*. Virtual Reality installation. MIT Museum Studio, December 2020 - April 2021.

external  
grants,  
awards &  
fellowships

- 2023 Dahrendorf Fellowship, European Studies Centre, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford (\$26,000; declined to begin the professorship)
- 2022 Leibniz Fellowship, annually awarded to 25 scientists across the arts and sciences
- 2021 NOMIS Fellowship (\$90,000)
- 2020 COVID-19 Crisis Grant, Culture Section of the American Sociological Association
- 2020 Finalist, Sugarman Practitioner in Residence, Kahneman-Treisman Center for Behavioral Science and Public Policy, Princeton University (position canceled at this stage due to COVID-19)
- 2019 Harvard College Fellow, Department of Sociology, Harvard University (declined)
- 2018 Princeton Society of Fellows, Finalist
- 2018 Reinhard Bendix Paper Award, Hon. Mention, Comparative Historical Sociology Section, American Sociological Association
- 2018 Candace Rogers Award for The Most Outstanding Paper, Eastern Sociological Society
- 2016 Honjo Scholarship, Japanese-American Association of New York
- 2015 Best Paper Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics

2015 Best Paper Award, Fondation France-Japon de l'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales  
 2015 Einstein Foundation, Einstein Circle Large-Scale Organization Grant  
 2015 Travel Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics  
 2015 Travel Award, Association for Asian Studies  
 2013 Japan Foundation Fellowship (12 months)  
 2013 German Institute for Japanese Studies, Tokyo, Visiting Doctoral Scholarship  
 2008 Toshiba International Foundation Scholarship  
 2008 Visiting Researcher, Okuma School of Public Management, Waseda University  
 2008 German Institute for Japanese Studies, Tokyo, Visiting Scholarship

internal  
grants,  
awards &  
fellowships

2016 Global Research Initiative Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Washington, DC.  
 2015 Provost's Global Research Initiative Grant, NYU  
 2014 The Dean's Travel Grant, NYU. Also received in 2011.  
 2013 Pre-Doctoral Summer Fellowship, NYU  
 2011 Fellow, Institute for Public Knowledge (2011-2013)  
 2011 Graduate Summer Research Award with Prof. Eric Klinenberg  
 2010 MacCracken Fellowship, NYU (2010-2015)  
 2008 Max Planck International Research School Fellowship, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies (2008-2010)

teaching &  
advising  
experience

*Doctoral Advisees:* Ashley Mantha-Hollands (WZB), >2022  
*Outstanding Teaching Award*, NYU, 2017  
*Teaching Certificate*, NYU Graduate School of Arts and Science, 2016  
*Instructor*, New York University, NY. Responsibilities included designing syllabus, lecturing, leading discussion sections, designing and grading all assignments, and advising students individually  
 \* Sociological Theory (2017). Summer session, 6 students  
 \* Introduction to Sociology (2015), Summer session, 14 students  
*Teaching Assistant*, New York University, NY. Designed and led discussions sessions, held office hours, and graded all assignments  
 \* Introduction to Sociology (2012 and 2016), 60 students in two sections each year  
*Undergraduate Advisor*, New York University, 2016  
 \* Advised students on course and project choices

selected in-  
vited talks

"Horror Vacui." The Sociology and Social Anthropology Seminar Series, Lunds Universitet, May 17, 2023.  
 "Comparison and Method in Historical Sociological Scholarship." Historical Sociology Circle, German Sociological Association, November 30, 2022.  
 "Horror Vacui: Racial Misalignment, Symbolic Repair and Imperial Legitimation in German National Socialist Portrait Photography." STS Lab, Université de Lausanne, November 22, 2022.  
 "The Legacy of Richard Lachmann: A Joint Panel by the Sections on Political Sociology and Comparative-Historical Sociology." ASA, Los Angeles, August 2022.  
 "Un/Wanted: Race, Sovereignty, and the Governance of Expendable Populations."  
 \* Harvard University, HCS Workshop, March 4, 2021.

- “Archival Work -- A Discussion.” • Comparative Historical Analysis and Theory (CHAT). Panel discussion featuring A.K.M. Skarpelis, Sunmin Kim, Nicholas Hoover Wilson. June 25, 2021. Zoom.
- “Race in Parentheses: States of Exception, the Welfare State and Comparison.”  
 \* University of British Columbia, Sociology Research Forum, February 18, 2021.  
 \* Columbia University, Department of History, International History Workshop, February 5, 2020.
- “Making the Master Race: Racial Vision and the Limits of Inclusion in Nazi Germany.”  
 \* Princeton University, Sociology Colloquium, November 17, 2020.
- “Traacherous Translation: Translatory Practice Across Sociological Subfields”  
 \* Harvard University, WCFIA Comparative Inequality and Inclusion Cluster, December 2, 2020.
- “When Whiteness Fails”  
 \* UCLA, Department of Sociology, “237” Seminar for Comparative Social Analysis, October 15, 2020.  
 \* The University of Chicago, Department of Sociology, Power, History and Society Workshop, November 21, 2019.
- “Rethinking Race in Germany.” Virtual participation at SSHA, Chicago, November 18, 2022.
- “Digital Image Archives and Racialized Facial Recognition: Ontology, History and Phenomenology.” Virtual participation at SSHA, Chicago, November 17, 2022.
- “Race in Parentheses: Historical Legacies in the production of Racial Absence.” Comparative Historical Sociology Section, ASA pre-conference, Los Angeles, August 5, 2022.
- “Race’s Many Metamorphoses: Racial Vision from Skin Tone Studies to Artificial Intelligence.” IC2S2, Chicago, July 2022.
- “Archives Lost: Researching in Pandemic Times.” Eastern Sociological Society, USA. March 11, 2022. Zoom.
- “Horror Vacui.” Race, Inequality, and Visual Culture: New Questions, New Voices Symposium. Harvard University, December 3, 2021.
- “Racial Ontologies, Bias, and Surveillance in Machine Learning for Facial Recognition.” European Society for the History of Science, 2nd Early Career Scholars Conference: “Science and its Enemies: Exploring Conflicts and Alliances in the History of Science.” September 20-22, 2021. Zoom. Also at Beyond Fair CV Virtual Conference, June 25, 2021. (Paper withdrawn because of scheduling conflict.)
- “Hounded by Nuance: Or, Freeing the B\*tch from the Iron Cage.” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Globalizing Social Theory Session, August 10, 2020.
- “Exceptional Germans: Ancestry, Ethnicity, and Indigeneity in a Jus Sanguinis Regime.” Harvard University, “What We Owe To Each Other: Rethinking Boundaries, Borders and Citizenship” Conference, March 4, 2021.
- “Citizenship in Motion.” ASA, New York, August 12, 2019.
- “States of Exception: The Welfare State, Race Concepts and Comparison.” Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, New York, June 28, 2019.

selected  
 conference  
 presenta-  
 tions

- “Dresden Will Never Be Hiroshima.” Council for European Studies, Madrid, Spain, June 22, 2019.
- “Beyond Aryans: Making Germans in the Nazi Empire.” Comparative Historical Section pre-conference, ASA, Philadelphia, 2018.
- “Dresden will never be Hiroshima: Facts and the memorialization of historical tragedy.” American Historical Association, Washington, D.C., 2018.
- “Beyond Aryans: Germanification, Racial Classification and Stratified Citizenship in Nazi-Occupied Eastern Europe.” ASA, Montréal, 2017.
- “Colonial Soldiers in the Japanese Imperial Army.” SSHA, Chicago, 2016.
- “Insidious Racialization: The ‘Korean Problem’ and Japanese Welfare State Development.” SSHA; ESS; and the 24th Columbia University Graduate Conference on East Asia, 2015.
- “Brutality in Stone? Nazi Germany, the Japanese Colonial Empire and Racialized Welfare States.” Junior Theorists Symposium, ASA pre-conference, 2015.
- “Pacts of War? Authoritarianism, War, and the Origins of the Japanese Welfare State.” Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting; Association for Asian Studies, 2015.
- “Risk, Rumor, Radiation (2): Remote Event Analysis and the Politics of Digital Archiving.” World Conference of the ISA Annual Meeting, Yokohama, Japan, 2014.
- “Japanese-Korean Colonial Marriages: Gender and the Racial Politics of Assimilation.” Seoul Seminar on Mixed Race and Racism. Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea, 2014.
- “Risk, Rumor, Radiation (1): Japan’s Nuclear Catastrophe and the Politics of the Apolitical.” Association for Asian Studies; Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 2013.

research  
experience

- 2018 Research Assistant for Paul DiMaggio, NYU Sociology.
- 2015 Research Assistant for Tom Ertman, NYU Sociology.
- 2013 Research Assistant for Vasant Dhar and Arun Sundararajan, NYU Stern School.
- 2012 Research Assistant for Jeff Manza, NYU Sociology.
- 2011 Research Assistant for Eric Klinenberg, NYU Sociology.
- 2006 Researcher with Wolfgang Streeck, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies (2006-2008).

academic  
service  
(selected)

**Elected Positions**

- 2022 Chair of Communications, Comparative and Historical Sociology Section, American Sociological Association
- 2021 Council Member, Comparative and Historical Sociology Section, American Sociological Association

**American Sociological Association Committee Service**

- 2021 Mary Douglas Book Award, Culture Section
- 2020 Publications Committee, Comparative Historical Sociology Section
- 2020 Barrington Moore Book Award, Comparative Historical Sociology Section
- 2019 Charles Tilly Best Article Award, Comparative Historical Section
- 2019 Shils-Coleman Award, Theory Section

**Conference Organization**

- 2021 Conference Organizer, *Race, Inequality, and Visual Culture: New Questions, New Voices*. Harvard University. With Cary Aileen Garcia Yero



- 2021 Panel Organizer, “Culture and Computation in Theory and Practice,” Sociology of Culture Section Session, American Sociological Association
- 2021 Conference Organizer, *What We Owe to Each Other: Rethinking Boundaries, Borders and Citizenship*. Harvard University. With Talia Shiff
- 2020 Program Committee, Culture Section, American Sociological Association
- 2020 Panel Organizer, “Resurrecting the Macro in the Sociology of Culture” Sociology of Culture Section Session, American Sociological Association
- 2019+ Co-Organizer, Social Sciences and the Real World, Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics. With Gerhard Schnyder, Imran Chowdhury and Isabelle Ferreras (annual SASE event)
- 2019 Co-Organizer, “The Rise of Populism and Authoritarianism and its Impact on Freedom,” Social Sciences and the Real World, Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics
- 2017 Panel Organizer, Social Science History Association (also in 2015, 2016)
- 2016 Conference Co-Organizer, Junior Theorists Symposium, Theory Section, American Sociological Association. With Clayton Childress
- 2012 Conference Organizer, NYLON Conference, Berlin
- 2011 Conference Organizer, The Making and Unmaking of ‘Problematic’ Japanese Groups, EHESS Paris

### **Research Group Coordination & Representation**

- 2019 Professional Development Committee, Comparative Historical Analysis and Theory Network
- 2019 Coordinator, Weatherhead Cluster on Comparative Inequality, Harvard University. With Charlotte Lloyd and Talia Shiff
- 2011 Coordinator, NYLON workshop, New York University (2011-2013)
- 2011 Committee member, NYU Ph.D. Admissions Committee
- 2009 Ph.D. Representative, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies

### **Occasional Reviewer**

- American Sociological Review, Journal of Historical Sociology, Rural Sociology, World Politics, Current Sociology, Sociological Focus, American Journal of Sociology
- 2022 Book manuscript workshop for Maryam Alemzadeh (Sociology and Global Affairs), *Revolution as Praxis: The Rise of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps*, Princeton University
- 2019 Book manuscript workshop for Regina Rini (Philosophy), *The Ethics of Microaggression*, Boston University

**professional member-ships** *current:* American Sociological Association, Social Science History Association, International Conference on Computational Social Science.  
*past:* Society for the Social Studies of Science, Council for European Studies, Eastern Sociological Society, Association for Asian Studies.

**references** **Craig Calhoun**, Department of Sociology, Arizona State University. [craig.calhoun@asu.edu](mailto:craig.calhoun@asu.edu)  
**David Garland**. NYU School of Law, New York University. [david.garland@nyu.edu](mailto:david.garland@nyu.edu)  
**Jeff Manza**. Department of Sociology, New York University. [manza@nyu.edu](mailto:manza@nyu.edu)  
**Michèle Lamont**. Department of Sociology, Harvard University. [mlamont@wjh.harvard.edu](mailto:mlamont@wjh.harvard.edu)