

# ELIZABETH HOLZER

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## EMPLOYMENT

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Associate Professor of Sociology and Human Rights, University of Connecticut 2016 – present

Assistant Professor of Sociology and Human Rights. University of Connecticut 2010 – 2016

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. in Sociology. University of Wisconsin–Madison 2010

M.S. in Sociology. University of Wisconsin–Madison 2002

B.A. in Sociology. Wellesley College 2000

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Political Sociology, Refugees and Humanitarianism, Human Rights, Law and Society, Social Theory, STS

## BOOK

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Elizabeth Holzer. 2015. *The Concerned Women of Buduburam: Refugee Activists and Humanitarian Dilemmas*. Cornell University Press. <http://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/book/?GCOI=80140100951210>

\*Co-Winner, 2016 **Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award** from the American Sociological Association Political Sociology Section

\*Winner, 2016 **Outstanding Book Award** from the American Sociological Association Peace, War and Social Conflict Section

\*Winner, 2016 **Gordon Hirabayashi Human Rights Book Award** from the American Sociological Association Human Rights Section

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES (\*signifies student coauthor)

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Selam Esayas Negatu, Elizabeth Holzer, Ezana Amdework Atsbeha, and Kristen Kirksey.\* Forthcoming. “Technology Transfer and Everyday Life Among Smallholder Farmers.” *Perspectives on Global Development and Technology*.

Stergios Emmanouil\*, Jason Philhower\*, Sophie Macdonald\*, Fahad Khan Khadim\*, Meijian Yang\*, Ezana Atsbeha\*, Himaja Nagireddy\*, Natalie Roach\*, Elizabeth Holzer, Emmanouil N. Anagnostou. 2021. “A Comprehensive Approach to the Design of a Renewable Energy Microgrid for Rural Ethiopia: The Technical and Social Perspectives.” *Sustainability*. 13(7).

Sarah Alexander\*, Ezana Atsbeha\*, Selam Negatu\*, Kristen Kirksey\*, Dominique Brossard, Elizabeth Holzer, Paul Block. 2020. “Development of an interdisciplinary, multi-method approach to seasonal climate forecast communication at the local scale” *Climatic Change*. Sep:1-22.

Barret Katuna\* and Elizabeth Holzer. 2016. “Unobtrusively Stretching Law: Legal Education, Activism, and Reclaiming Title IX.” *Social Movement Studies*. 15(1):80-96.

Catherine Buerger\* and Elizabeth Holzer. 2015. “How Does Community Participation Work? Human Rights and the Hidden Labour of Interstitial Elites in Ghana.” *Journal of Human Rights Practice*. 7(1):72-87.

Elizabeth Holzer and Kamryn Warren\*. 2015 “Humanitarian Spectacles from Below: A Study of Social Connections in Unsettled Contexts.” *Ethnography*. 16(4):482-502.

Elizabeth Holzer. 2014. “Humanitarian Crisis as Everyday Life.” *Sociological Forum*. 29(4):851-872.

Elizabeth Holzer. 2013. “What Happens to Law in a Refugee Camp?” *Law & Society Review*. 47: 837-872.

\*Winner of the 2014 **Outstanding Published Paper Award** from the American Sociological Association Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section.

Elizabeth Holzer. 2012. “A Case Study of Political Failure in a Refugee Camp.” *Journal of Refugee Studies*. 25:257-281.

Elizabeth Holzer. 2008. “Borrowing from the Women’s Movement ‘for Reasons of Public Security’: A Study of Social Movement Outcomes and Judicial Activism in the European Union.” *Mobilization*. 13(1):195-214.

### **Articles in Progress**

Ezana Amdework Atsbeha, Elizabeth Holzer, Selam Esayas Negatu, Sarah Alexander, Kristen Kirksey, Paul Block, Emmanouil N. Anagnostou. “Probability games, workshops and the social world of international science communication.” *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, R&R.

Genevieve Rigler\*, Zoi Dokou, Fahad Khan Khadim\*, Berhanu G. Sinshaw,\* Daniel G. Eshete,\* Muludel Aseres,\* Wondale Amara,\* Wangchi Zhou, Xingyu Wang,\* Teshome L Yami, Mamaru Moges, Muluken Azage, Yang Hong, Baikun Li, Elizabeth Holzer, Seifu Tilahun, Amvrossios Bagtzoglou, Emmanouil Anagnostou “Hydrologic-Focused Citizen Science and the Sustainable Development Goals in the Blue Nile Basin, Ethiopia.” In progress.

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

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Co-PI, Supplemental Award, NSF Partnerships for International Research and Education (with Manos Anagnostou, PI), (\$165,738), 2021-2022.

Co-PI, *Taming Water in Ethiopia*, NSF Partnerships for International Research and Education (with Manos Anagnostou, PI; Paul Block, Yang Hong, Liangzhi You, co-PIs), (\$4.3M), 2016-2022.

Co-Winner, Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award from the American Sociological Association Political Sociology Section, 2016

Winner, Outstanding Book Award from the American Sociological Association Peace, War and Social Conflict Section, 2016

Winner, Gordon Hirabayashi Human Rights Book Award from the American Sociological Association Human Rights Section, 2016

Winner, Outstanding Published Paper Award from the American Sociological Association Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section, 2014

Organizer, *Legal Mobilization during Humanitarian Crises*, Law & Society International Research Collaborative, (conference travel grants for scholars from low-income countries), 2010–12

Fellow, Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (\$24,000), 2009–10

Fellow, Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (declined), 2009–10

Co-PI, NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, (with Myra Marx Ferree–PI) (\$8527), 2007–8

### **University of Connecticut**

Faculty Mentoring Award, Department of Sociology, 2015

Grant, Scholarship Facilitation Fund, Office of the Vice President for Research (\$1350), 2015

Fellow, Human Rights Institute, (one semester research leave), 2014

Grant, Human Rights Institute, (\$2500), 2014

Grant, University of Connecticut Faculty Large Grant Competition (\$30,703), 2011

### **University of Wisconsin**

Fellow, University Graduate Fellow (tuition remission/benefits), 2009–10

Grant, Graduate Student Collaborative Vilas Conference Travel Grant (\$600), 2009

Grant, Sociology Department Conference Travel Grant (\$500), 2009

Grant, Sociology Department Small Research Grant (\$250), 2009

Fellow, Institute for Legal Studies Fellowship (office space and database resources), 2005–6

Fellow, Center for German and European Studies Fellowship (tuition/stipend), 2002

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND REFEREED WORKSHOPS**

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“Legal Mobilization during Humanitarian Crises.” Workshop on *Strengthening Sociolegal Research: Approaches that Involve Undergraduates*. Arlington, VA, July 21 – 22, 2014.

“Mundane Factionalism at the Buduburam Refugee Camp.” Kofi Annan Institute for Peace, University of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia, June 25, 2014

Co-Lead Participant, “Refugee Negotiation and Construction of Status in the Margins.” Workshop on *Refugee Protection Outside of the International Legal Framework*, Evanston, IL, May 27-28, 2014

“What Happens to Law in a Refugee Camp?” Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, February 25, 2013

“Familial Politics, Cosmopolitanism and Deliberative Democracy” (with Hallie Liberto, UConn). Workshop on ‘Cosmopolitanism and Deliberative Democracy: Norms and Justifications,’ Bucharest, Romania, 2012

“Developing Refugees.” Mary Washington University, Fredericksburg, VA, October 9, 2012.

“Compassionate Authoritarianism in a Refugee Camp.” Thematic Session—Gender & Human Security at the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV, August 20 – 23, 2011

“Political Fear and Political Hope in the Shadow of Humanitarian Care.” Young Scholars in Social Movements Mini-Conference. University of Notre Dame, April 29, 2011.

“Governmentality and Blame Games.” American Sociological Association Junior Theorists’ Symposium, Atlanta, GA, August 13, 2010.

Participant, Law & Society Association Graduate Student Workshop, Baltimore, MD, July 5, 2006.

### **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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“Taxing Refugees? Rethinking the Relevance of a Scorned Institution.” Biennial Conference of the

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International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM), Bogota, Colombia, July 15-18, 2014.

Chair, *Sanctuary without Refugee Camps*” IASFM, Bogota, Colombia, July 15-18, 2014.

“Unpacking the Motivations of Repressive Actors,” (sponsored by CRN21 Law and Social Movements).  
Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association (LSA), Minneapolis, MN, May 31, 2014

Session Co-organizer, *Refugees and Humanitarianism* (with Galya Ruffer), LSA, Minneapolis, MN, May 20, 2014

“Humanitarian Crisis as Everyday Life,” Eastern Sociological Society Meeting, February 21, 2014

Session Organizer, *Sanctuary without Refugee Camps*, 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of the Human Rights Institute, Storrs, CT, September 19-21, 2013.

Session Co-Organizer, Human Rights Section roundtables, 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), New York, NY, August 10 – 13, 2013.

Reader, “Author Meets Reader - Out in Africa: LGBT Organizing in Namibia and South Africa, by Ashley Currier (sponsored by CRN21 Law and Social Movements and CRN 13 African Law and Society). LSA, Boston, MA, May 30 – June 2, 2013.

“Transnational Authority and Political Legitimacy in a Refugee Camp” 107<sup>th</sup> ASA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, August 17 – 20, 2012.

“Discrediting Social Protest: An Analysis of Repression in a West African Refugee Camp” (with Samuel Agblorti). 2012 International Conference on Law and Society, Honolulu, HI, June 5 – 8, 2012.

“Rights Claims and the Repression of Social Protest in a West African Refugee Camp.” IASFM, Kampala, Uganda, July 4 – 6, 2011.

Session Organizer, “What Happens to Law in a Refugee Camp?” IASFM Conference, Kampala, Uganda, July 4 – 6, 2011.

Session Organizer, “Human Rights Writ Large,” 106<sup>th</sup> ASA Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, August 20 – 23, 2011

“Political Fear and Political Hope in the Shadow of Humanitarian Care.” 43rd Annual Conference of the Liberian Studies Association, Durham, NC, April 1 – 2, 2011.

“Bifurcated Governmentality.” 105th ASA Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, August 14 – 17, 2010.

“Empowerment and Repression.” (Sponsored by CRN 21 Law and Social Movements). LSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, May 17 – 20, 2010.

“Who is Accountable When the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Is Mother?” 104th ASA Annual

Meeting, San Francisco, CA, August 8 – 11, 2009 and LSA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, May 28 – 31, 2009.

“Why can’t refugees hold UNHCR accountable?” 12th IASFM Conference, Nicosia, Cyprus, June 28 – July 2, 2009.

“Advocating while Researching: Cautionary Tales.” Service panel. Midwest Law & Society Retreat, Madison, WI, September 19 – 20, 2008.

“Incidentally Untying Citizenship from Nation-State.” Conference on Gender, Genre, and Political Transformations, 1789-1989, Minneapolis, MN, November 10 – 12, 2006.

“Democracy in Displacement: Methodological Concerns for Studying Democracy in Refugee Camps.” 10<sup>th</sup> IASFM Conference, Toronto, Canada, June 18 – 22, 2006.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**Director of Graduate Studies**, Department of Sociology, 2016 – 2018, Spring 2022

**Faculty Mentoring Award**, Department of Sociology, 2015

### **Undergraduate Courses**

Social Theory  
Sociology of Global Human Rights  
Refugees and Humanitarianism  
Political Sociology  
Human Rights in the United States

### **Graduate Courses**

Contemporary Social Theory  
Contemporary Debates in Human Rights  
Sociology of Human Rights  
Proseminar  
Writing for the MA Thesis

### **Graduate Thesis Advising**

Kristen Kirksey (Advisor, Sociology, MA 2018, PhD expected 2022)

Hawolti Curry (Advisor, Sociology, MA 2020, PhD expected 2024)

Ordoitz Galilea (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD expected 2022)

Fahad Khadim (Associate Advisor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, PhD expected 2022)

Berihun Adugna (Associate Advisor, Agricultural and Resource Economics, PhD expected 2022)

Trisha Tiazmon (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD expected 2022)

Nabil Tueme (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD expected 2022)

### ***Completed Graduate Advising (3 PhDs, 5 MAs)***

Selam Negatu (Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2021)

Ezana Atsbeha (Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2021)

Kamryn Warren (Advisor, Sociology, MA 2013, PhD 2018)

Nabil Tueme (Advisor, Sociology, MA 2018)

Jordan Moses (Advisor, Sociology, MA 2017)

Margarita Saenz Soto (Advisor, Latin American Studies, MA 2012)

### ***Completed Graduate Committees (13 PhDs, 4 MAs)***

Caner Hazar (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2021)  
Sardorbek Musayev (Associate Advisor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, PhD 2021)  
Latisha Nielson (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2021)  
Jordan McMillan (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2021)  
Sarah Alexander (Associate Advisor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, PhD 2021)  
Erika Del Villar (Associate Advisor, Sociology, MA 2013, PhD 2018)  
Sheila Pierre (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2018)  
Nikki McGary (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2018)  
Catherine Buerger (Associate Advisor, Anthropology PhD 2016)  
Jennifer Willet (Associate Advisor, Social Work, PhD 2015)  
Roseanne Njiru (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2015)  
Miho Iwata (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2014)  
Dan Tagliarina (Associate Advisor, Political Science, PhD 2014)  
Genevieve Rigler (Associate Advisor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, MA 2021)  
Rhys Hall (Associate Advisor, Sociology, MA 2018)  
Asmita Aasaavari (Associate Advisor, Sociology, MA 2020)

### **Other Graduate Mentoring**

Area Exam Committees: Berihun Adugna (2021), Sarah Alexander (2020), Kristen Kirksey (Chair, 2019), Ezana Atsbeha (Chair, 2018), Selam Negatu (Chair, 2018), Ordoitz Galilea (2016), Kamryn Warren (Chair, 2015), Erika De Villar (2014), Farhan Yousaf (2014), Adane Gebyanesh (2013), Roseanne Njiru (2013), Barret Katuna (2013), Jennifer Willet (2012), Catherine Buerger (2011)

Discussant, MASSCON Symposium on Qualitative Sociology, Boston, MA, May 13, 2015.

Panelist, Securing External Funding for Graduate Students. Department of Sociology, 2021, 2020 2011-2014

Panelist, Academic Job Market Advice from Scholars Working in Human Rights. Human Rights Institute, April 12, 2013

Panelist, Graduate Student Professional Development Workshop. Graduate School, November 3, 2013

Discussant, 4th Annual Democracy and Governance Conference, Political Science Dept., March 2, 2012

Reviewer, Committee on Graduate External Funding. Department of Sociology, October 2010

Co-Chair, "Interdisciplinarity." Humanities Institute Graduate Student Round Table, 2010

### **Undergraduate Mentoring**

Honors Thesis Advisor, Himaja Nagireddy, 2020; Philip Menard, 2014 – 2015; Sharon Hwang, 2013

Undergraduate Research Advisor, Samantha Martinez, 2022; Natalie Roach, 2020; Himaja Nagireddy, 2020

Reviewer, IDEA grant, 2015 – present

Undergraduate research field supervisor, Leonardo Abreu, Lais DaSilva, Xinyu Lin, Sophie Macdonald, Gabriela Resto, Genevieve Rigler, Natalie Roach, Amanda Thompson, Zachary Lepore, Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, 2019

Faculty Advisor, Namaste (undergraduate journal of human rights), 2011 – 2015

Panelist, Truman Mock Interview Panel, Office of National Scholarship, March 9, 2015

Presenter, “Water and Human Security,” McNair Fellows, May 15, 2013, May 15, 2014, May 20, 2015

Presenter, “Mobilizing for Human Rights” (with Shareen Hertel, Kathy Libal), Universitas 21, July 9, 2013

Panelist, Options after College, sponsored by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, April 19, 2013

Rowe Scholars Advisor, Gian Grant, 2012

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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### **Professional Associations**

Chair, Distinguished Article Award Committee, ASA Human Rights Section	2021
Panelist, NSF Day, University of St. Joseph College	2017
Reviewer, Charlotte Newcombe Completion Fellowship	2017 – 2018
Reviewer, Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships	2017 – 2020
Awards Committee, ASA Political Sociology Section	2017
Awards Committee, ASA Peace, War and Social Conflict Section	2015
Awards Committee, ASA Human Rights Section	2014, 2017
Membership Committee, ASA Human Rights Section	2013, 2014
Nominations Committee, ASA Peace, War and Social Conflict Section	2013, 2014
Nominations Committee, ASA Human Rights Section	2012, 2013
Program Committee, ASA Human Rights Section	2010, 2012
Interim Executive Committee, New Scholars Network, Refugee Research Network	2009 – 10



Program Coordinator, 2007 Joint Annual Meeting on Law and Society in Berlin 2005 – 07

Occasional reviewer for *Mobilization*, *Sociological Inquiry*, *Sociological Forum*, *Law and Society Review*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *Journal of International Migration and Integration*, *Gender and Society*, *Journal of Refugee Studies*, *Refuge*, *PLOS ONE*, *British Journal of Sociology* and *NSF Law and Social Sciences Program*

### **University of Connecticut**

Gladstein Committee, Human Rights Institute	2010 –
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Human Rights Institute	2014 –
Graduate Program Committee, Department of Sociology	10-12, 16–18, 20 –
Research Advisory Committee, CLAS	2021 –
Executive Committee, The Graduate School	2018, 2020 – 21
Executive Committee, Department of Sociology	2011 – 13, 2020 –
Alternate, IRB	2020
Senator, Faculty Senate	2020
CLAS Certificate Coordinator, Human Rights Institute	2020
GEOC CA2 Subcommittee	2017 – 2018
APIR Subcommittee, Department of Sociology	2018
Graduate Research Grant Committee, Human Rights Institute	2017–18
Planning Committee, Department of Sociology	2016 – 2018
Awards Committee, Department of Sociology	2013 – 2016
History & Human Rights Search Committee, Human Rights Institute	2016
Sociology Headship Search Committee	2016
Faculty Fellowship Committee, Human Rights Institute	‘15, ‘16, ‘20
UNESCO Chair Human Rights Conference Committee	2015
Summer Dissertation Funding Committee, Human Rights Institute	2014

Workshop Funding Committee, Human Rights Institute	2010 – 11, 2013
Merit Committee, Department of Sociology	2012 – 13
Universitas 21 Summer School Planning Committee	2011 – 13
Seminar Series, Human Rights Institute	2012
Program Funding Committee, Human Rights Institute	2012