

**ZHANDARKA KURTI, PHD**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**

Department of Sociology  
College of Arts and Sciences  
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Phone: 865.974.1169  
Email: [zkurti@utk.edu](mailto:zkurti@utk.edu)

**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Assistant Professor 2019-present  
Department of Sociology  
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Postdoctoral Fellow 2018-2019  
Prison Education Program  
New York University

**EDUCATION**

Binghamton University (SUNY) May 2018  
Doctorate of Philosophy in Sociology  
Dissertation: *'The Making of 'Disconnected Youth': The Role of Criminal Courts, Probation and Non-Profit Organizations in the Criminalization and Management of Youth of Color in NYC.*

Binghamton University (SUNY) May 2008  
Master of Science in World-Historical Sociology

Binghamton University (SUNY) May 2005  
Bachelor of Arts in Comparative Literature and Latin American/Caribbean Studies, *magna cum laude*

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Carceral Studies; Political Economy of Punishment and Social Control; Mass Supervision; Race, Class, Gender, Crime and Justice; Ethnography; Youth Studies.

**PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

Forthcoming **Kurti, Z.** "Police Power After Black Lives Matter" *Social Justice: A Journal of Crime, Conflict, and World Order*. Special Issue: *Police Power and the Fabrication of Social Order: The Critique of Police in the Twenty-first Century*

- Forthcoming **Kurti, Z** and Jarrod Shanahan “The Historical Roots of Contemporary Carceral Non-Profits” *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies (Special Issue: The Geographies of State Containment)*
- 2018 **Kurti, Z** and Jarrod Shanahan “Rebranding Mass Incarceration: The Lippman Commission and ‘Carceral Devolution’ in New York City” *Social Justice: A Journal of Crime, Conflict and World Order* 45 (2/3) pp. 23-50.

### **BOOK REVIEWS**

- 2018 **Kurti, Z.** “Critical Reflection on George S. Rigakos “Security/Capital: A Theory of Pacification” *Abolition: A Journal of Insurgent Politics*.
- 2017 **Kurti, Z.** “Review of Zeynep Gonen’s “Politics of Crime in Turkey: Izmir Public Order Police and Criminalization of the Urban Poor” *Meltem: Journal of the Izmir Mediterranean Academy*

### **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

- “*Keeping Busy: Criminalization of Youth of Color and Contemporary Crime Control Strategies*” (Draft Available)
- ““Do No Harm’: Ideologies of Change and Transformation in New York City’s Department of Probation in the Era of Decarceration” (Draft Available)
- “Cops and Kids: A Social History of the NYC Police Athletic League” Book Proposal

### **PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY AND PEDAGOGY**

- 2019 “Managing Urban Disorder in the 1960s: The New York City Model” With Jarrod Shanahan Gotham Center for New York City History in <https://www.gothamcenter.org/blog/managingurbandisorder?fbclid=IwAR37rxC7nAlFxDyT-m5itBysIVTzHqPvLFmdgkV4v5Qy1vr136Abv-B9M>
- 2019 “Central Park Five Syllabus: A Supplementary Reading List.” With Odilka Santiago September *Abolition Journal* <https://abolitionjournal.org/central-park-five-syllabus/>
- 2019 “Meek Mill’s Case ‘is Not about One Judge, One Courtroom’” with Jarrod Shanahan *Jacobin* <https://www.jacobinmag.com/2019/08/meek-mill-probation-free-meek-docuseries-criminal-justice>
- 2018 “Building a Kinder Justice System: Youth Experiences with Incarceration” *Abolition Journal* <https://abolitionjournal.org/building-a-kinder-justice-system-youth-experiences-with-incarceration/>

- 2018 “Cuomo’s ‘Carceral Humanism’” with William G. Martin *Jacobin* November 16, 2018 <https://jacobinmag.com/author/zhandarka-kurti>
- 2017 “Probation and Second Chances in the Era of the Jobless Future” March *Brooklyn Rail* <https://brooklynrail.org/2018/03/field-notes/Second-Chances-in-the-Era-of-the-Jobless-Future>
- 2017 “‘Raise the Age’ bill Sharpens the Damaging Distinction Between People Convicted of ‘Nonviolent’ and ‘Violent’ Offenses” *TruthOut* May 2, 2017 <https://truthout.org/articles/raise-the-age-bill-sharpens-the-damaging-distinction-between-nonviolent-and-violent-offenders/>

### **RESEARCH GRANTS**

- 2020-2021 The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Professional and Scholarly Development Award (PSDA) \$4,300.

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- 2018-2019 New York University Prison Education Program (Postdoctoral Fellow)
- 2014-2015 Beyond the Bars Fellow, Columbia University (Declined)
- 2005-2009 Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Binghamton University (\$15,000) Joel Robinson Scholarship Fund for Social Activists, BU (\$1,000)

### **INVITED TALKS**

- 2018 “Criminal Justice Reforms in the Era of Mass Incarceration: A View From New York” Framingham State University, Sociology Department Lecture Series October 16,<sup>th</sup> 2018
- 2015 “What is Feminism” Roundtable on the History and Future of Feminism *Women’s Empowerment Group*, Fordham University March 25, 2015

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND PARTICIPATION**

- Nov. 2019 Author Meets Critic Panel “Pervasive Punishment: Making Sense of Mass Supervision” American Society of Criminology Annual Conference “Criminology in the New Era: Confronting Injustices and Inequality” San Francisco, CA November 13-16, 2019.
- May 2018 “The Turn to ‘Community’: Legitimizing the Role of NYC Probation for Latino Youth in the Era of Austerity” Latin American Studies Conference “Latin American Studies in a Globalized World” Barcelona, Spain May 23 – 26, 2018

- Feb. 2017 “The Judge Loves the Youth: Alternatives to Incarceration Programs, Ideology and the Making of “Productive” Citizens” Eastern Sociological Association Annual Meeting “The End of the World as We Know It” Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown February 23-26, 2017
- Nov. 2016 "The Turn to Community: Legitimizing the Role of Probation and the Criminal Court System in the Era of Austerity" Social Science History Association 41st Annual Meeting, “Beyond Social Science History: Knowledge in an Interdisciplinary World” Chicago, IL November 21-24, 2016
- Nov. 2015 “Challenging or Extending the Reach of the Carceral State: Juvenile Justice Reform in NYC” Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora [ASWAD] Annual Conference “African Diaspora Circularities: Forging Communities, Cultures, and Politics” November 4-7, 2015 Charleston, SC
- Nov. 2011 “Understanding Vagrancy, Moral Regulation and Positivism from a World-Historical Perspective” American Society of Criminology Annual Conference “Breaking the Mold: Innovations and Bold Ventures in Criminology” November 16-19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Washington D.C.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

(\*\* Designed Course)

### **The University of Tennessee, Knoxville**

Department of Sociology

*Assistant Professor*

SOC 456 Punishment and Society

SOC 449 Juvenile Delinquency

### **New York University**

Prison Education Program

*Instructor*

\*\*SOC 101 Sociology of New York City (Fall 2018, Wallkill Correctional Facility)

\*\*SCA-UA 200: Carceral Crisis: Race, Class and Punishment in America (Spring 2019 NYU

Department of Social and Cultural Analysis)

\*\*SCA-UA 280 Crime and Punishment in Popular Culture (Summer 2019 NYU Department of Social and Cultural Analysis)

### **Fordham University**

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

*Instructor*

\*\*SOCI 3606: The Global City (Summer 2014)

\*\*SOCI 2925: Media, Crime, Sex and Violence (Summer 2012)

SOCI 1100: Intro to Sociology (Fall 2012- present)

\*\*SOCI 2450: Gender, Race and Media (Designed Course Summer 2011) SOCI 3405: Gender, Race and Class (Fall 2010-Fall 2013)

SOCI 3713: Criminology (Spring 2011)  
SOCI 2701: Intro to Criminal Justice (Summer 2010, Fall 2009)  
SOCI 2703: Social Deviance Adjunct (Fall 2011, Spring 2010)

**Fordham University**

School of Professional and Continuing Studies

*Online Instructor*

SOCI 1100: Introduction to Sociology (Fall 2013-2018) SOCI 3021: Sociology of Medicine (Fall 2013-2017)

**Hostos Community College (CUNY)**

Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences

*Instructor*

SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology (2014-2015)

**Hunter College (CUNY)**

Department of Sociology

*Instructor*

SOC 257: Sex and Gender Roles (Summer 2012)

SOC 319: Criminology (Summer 2011)

\*\*SOC 301: Medical Sociology (Fall 2010 and Summer 2010)

**Borough of Manhattan Community College (CUNY) Center for Ethnic Studies**

*Instructor*

AFST 125: Comparative Ethnic Studies (Winter 2010-Spring 2012)

LAT 152/SOC 152: Puerto Rican Experience in Urban United States (Fall 2009)

**Rose M. Singer Center Riker Island Correctional Facility East Elmhurst, NY Prison Education Initiative**

*Instructor*

\*\*Creative Writing (September 2011-January 2012)

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

2014-2017 Ewald and Wasserman Research Consultants  
*Team Leader iMentor Survey Administration Team*

2011-2015 South Bronx Litter Pack Study  
*Research Manager*

**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

2019 Guest Editor: Special issue of *Journal of World Systems Research* (Capitalist World Economy in Crisis: Policing, Pacification and Legitimacy)

2019-present Peer-Reviewer, *Social Problems*

2019-present Faculty Reviewer *Pursuit: Journal of Research Review*

2019-present Graduate Committee Member (UTK Sociology Department)

- 2009-present Search Committee for the Joel Robinson Fund for Social Activists (Binghamton University)  
2011-2014 Fordham University's Women's Empowerment Organization Mentor  
2009-2013 Fordham University's Higher Educational Opportunity Program (HEOP) Mentor

### **MEDIA APPEARANCES**

- 2019 C-Span [“Beyond These Walls: Evening with Tony Platt”](#) NYU Prison Education Program  
2019 NYU Prison Education Program [“Faculty in Action”](#)  
2019 NYU News: [“Journalism Class Invites Author Alex Vitale to Discuss the Impacts of Mass Incarceration”](#)  
2019 NYU News: [“Sociology of NYC Mixtape”](#)  
2018 NYU News [“Three Men Behind Bars Graduate with their NYU Degrees”](#)

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

- 2016-Present American Sociological Association  
2014- Present American Society of Criminology  
2015- Present Eastern Sociological Society

### **LANGUAGES**

- Albanian (Fluent Reading, Speaking and Writing Competence)  
Spanish (Fluent Reading, Speaking and Writing Competence)