

Alec Cali
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Education

2023	Stony Brook University Ph.D. in Sociology
2018	Stony Brook University M.A. in Sociology
2016	City University of New York, Baccalaureate Program for Unique and Individualized Study B.A. in Health & Society

Professional Experience

2025-Present	Heidelberg Institute for Global Health, Heidelberg University <i>Research Group Leader of Disability & Inclusive Health- PI: Prof. Dr. Dr. Till Bärnighausen</i> <i>Experimental Survey Design & Analysis</i> <i>Interview Design, Implementation & Analysis</i> <i>Media Analysis</i> <i>Project Management</i> <i>Competitive Grant Writing</i>
2023-2025	Law for Health and Life, University of Amsterdam <i>Postdoctoral Researcher – Co-PIs: Anniek de Ruijter & Katrina Perehudoff</i> <i>Experimental Survey Design & Analysis</i> <i>Interview Design, Implementation & Analysis</i> <i>Systematic Analysis</i> <i>Project Management</i>
2024	Department of Management & Production, Polytechnic University of Turin <i>Visiting Researcher (4 weeks)</i> <i>Experimental Survey Design Training</i>
2024-2025	Amsterdam Center for European Studies <i>Research Fellow</i>
2024-2025	Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development <i>Research Fellow</i>
2023-2025	Center for Social Science and Global Health, University of Amsterdam <i>Member, Board of Directors</i> <i>Cross-Institutional Outreach & Collaboration</i> <i>Government Outreach</i>
2016-2024	Sociology Department, Stony Brook University

PhD Researcher
Interview Design, Implementation & Analysis
Media Analysis
Systematic Review
Project Management
Lecturer & Curriculum Designer

2015-2016 Hunter College, City University of New York
Research Assistant

2015-2016 Weil Cornell Medicine, Cornell University
Research Assistant

2014-2015 Mount Sinai Hospital
Research Assistant

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Cali, A., Schmallenbach, L., Lerchenmüller, M. Bärnighausen, T. Walking The Tightrope: International Budget Cuts, Sub-Saharan African Medical Research, and Next Steps. In Preparation to **JAMA**. **2026**.

Cali, A., Nicoli, F., Burgoon, B., Fonseca, E. M., Perehudoff, K., de Ruijter, A. Trust or Bust: Twin Survey Experiments on Vaccines and Institutional Trust in Front of Global Pandemics. Accepted to Special Issue of **Policy & Society**. **2026**. Preprint available on *ResearchGate*: https://bit.ly/Researchgate_Trust_or_Bust_preprint; Hypotheses preregistered on OSF: <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/8W6PC>

Nicoli, F., Cali, A., Fonseca, E. M., Abubakar, I., Bärnighausen, T., Musa, S., Hamada, Y. Burgoon, B., Perehudoff, K., de Ruijter, A. Public preferences for pandemic preparedness: a cross-continental conjoint experiment. Submitted to **The Lancet Global Health**. **2025**. Preprint available at: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=5770494; Hypotheses preregistered on OSF: <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/FPSGN>

Cali, A. A Focus Group Study Examining the Role of Political Economy, The Opioid Crisis, and COVID Response on Vaccine Hesitancy Among American Residents. Submitted to **Sociology of Health & Illness**. **2025**. Working Paper on *SocArXiv*. https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/m83rc_v2.

Cali, A. Specters of Wellness: A Material Critique of Discursive Analysis in Alternative Health Movements. Submitted to **Rethinking Marxism**. **2025**. Working Paper on *SocArXiv*. https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/8ney5_v1.

Nicoli, F., Cali, A., Burgoon, B., Fonseca, E. M., Perehudoff, K., de Ruijter, A. Cross-National Comparative Survey on Public Support for International Cooperation in Pandemic Preparedness and Response Under Geopolitical Tension. In preparation for Submission to **Nature Health**. **2026**. Status: Hypotheses preregistered on OSF. <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/4PZ3K>

Nicoli, F., Cali, A., Burgoon, B., Fonseca, E. M., Perehudoff, K., de Ruijter, A. Twin Survey Experiments on Vaccines and Geopolitics in Front of Global Pandemics. In preparation for Submission to **American Political Science Review**. **2025**. Preprint available on ResearchGate: https://bit.ly/Researchgate_Friend_or_Foe_Preprint; Hypotheses preregistered on OSF: <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/8W6PC>

Cali, A. Take Healing into Our Own Hands: A Content Analysis of Alternative Medicine and Wellness Programs on Netflix. *Humanity & Society*, 47(4). **2023**
<https://doi.org/10.1177/01605976231184882>

Peer-Reviewed Reviews

Cali, A. Podcast Review: The Civilizations Series by The Anti-Empire Project with Justin Podur. *Teaching Sociology*, 52(2). 179-181. **2024**. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0092055X241233896>

Cali, Alec. "Insurgent Empire: Anticolonial Resistance and British Dissent." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 7, no 2 (2021): 284-85. **2021**. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2332649221993261>

Cali, Alec. "The Problem with Feeding Cities: The Social Transformation of Infrastructure, Abundance, and Inequality in America." *Sociological Forum* 36, no. 3. **2021**: 838–41. <https://doi.org/10.1111/socf.12732>.

Book Chapters

Cali, Alec. "Trust and Health Practitioner Regulation." In *Routledge International Handbook on Health Practitioner Regulation*, edited by Mike Saks. London, UK: Routledge. **Spring 2027**

Cali, Alec. "Disorganized Pessimism and Practical Hope in Health Policy." In *The Globalisation of Hope: Theories and Practices*, edited by Paul Ward and Adrian Scribano. London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan. **Spring 2027**

Cali, Alec. "Post Western Wellness: Reconciling the Wellness Perspective of Biomedical and Traditional Chinese Medicine." In *East-West South-North Dialogue for Global Health and Well-being: Navigating Planetary Health, Co-existence, and Social Capital*, edited by Miwako Hosoda, Surichai Wungaeo, Emma Porio, and Darryl Macer. Leiden, NL: Brill Publishers. **Fall 2026**

Rothman, Barbara Katz, and Cali, Alec. "Vaccines: The Light at the End of the Tunnel?" in Ch. 9 of *In The Biomedical Empire: Lessons Learned from the Covid-19 Pandemic*. Stanford, California: Stanford Briefs. **2021**

Cali, Alec. "Gender and Consumption." In *Pregnancy and Birth: A Reference Handbook*, edited by Keisha L. Goode and Barbara Katz Rothman. Contemporary World Issues. Santa Barbara, California: ABC-CLIO. **2021**

Awards and Grants

2023 Stony Brook University, The Graduate School: *The President's Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student (\$1000)*

2023 Stony Brook University, Graduate School: *Professional Development Award (\$1000)*

2021	Stony Brook University, Sociology Department: <i>Summer Graduate Student Research Grant (\$3000)</i>
2020	Stony Brook University, Graduate Student Union: <i>Emerging Leadership Award</i>
2020	Stony Brook University, Graduate School: <i>Professional Development Award (\$1000)</i>
2016-2023	Stony Brook University, Graduate School: PhD Research Scholarship (\$300,000)

Leadership And Professional Service

2025-present	Member, Executive Committee, Heidelberg Postdoctoral Network
2024	Peer-Reviewer, European Journal of Public Health
2023-2024	Organizing Committee, Conference on Reproductive Rights, Law Center for Health and Life, University of Amsterdam
2020-2023	Undergraduate Research Mentor, Sociology Department, Stony Brook University
2020-2021	Member, Board of Appeals, Graduate Student Union, Stony Brook University
2020-2021	Director, Board of Elections, Graduate Student Union, Stony Brook University
2020	Member, Presidential Transition Committee, Stony Brook University
2019-2020	Senator, Graduate Student Union, Stony Brook University
2017	Co-Organizer, Graduate Student Conference, Sociology Department, Stony Brook University

Oral Conference Presentations

“A Global Conjoint Study on Disease Attributes and Support for Pandemic Policy.” Presenting at the *84th Annual Meeting of The Japanese Association of Public Health. 2025*

“Large Language Models, Automation, and Disability Inequality.” Presenting at *Historical Materialism. 2025*

“Addressing The Role of Bureaucracy in Analyses of Modern Social Problems: A Methodological and Analytic Problematic.” Presenting at *Historical Materialism. 2025*

“Just Talk: The Limits of Discourse Analysis and its Alternatives in the Health Sciences.” Presenting at the *2nd Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute Conference: This is Crisis: Critical Political Economy, in flux? 2025*

“Viral Politics: A Cross-National Conjoint Experiment Exploring How Disease Characteristics Affect Support for Pandemic Response Policies.” Presenting at the *British Sociological Association Medical Sociology Annual Conference. 2025*

“Constructing a Popular Health: Situating Theory of Common Sense Within Neoliberal Scholarship.” Poster at the *Inaugural European Conference on Social Medicine*. **2025**

“Viral Politics: A Cross-National Conjoint Experiment Exploring How Disease Characteristics Affect Support for Pandemic Response Policies.” Presenting at the *5th International Sociological Association Forum of Sociology*. **2025**

“Healing with Friends? Twin Survey Experiments on Supranational Identity and Global Vaccine Solidarity During Pandemics.” Presenting at the *19th Biennial European Union Studies Association Conference*. **2025**

“Trust or Bust: Twin Survey Experiments on Vaccines and Institutional Trust in Front of Global Pandemics.” Presenting at the *Wicked Problems, Public Opinion and Socio-Political Outcomes Workshop*. **2024**

“A Focus Group Study Examining the Impact of Political Economy on Vaccine Hesitancy Post-COVID-19 Among Americans.” Presenting at the *Sixteenth Annual European Sociological Association Conference*. **2024**

“Re-examining Authoritarian Populism: Neoliberalism and Fascism in the Early 21st Century.” Presenting at the *Where to now? Emerging themes and directions in Critical Political Economy Conference*. **2024**

“A Content Analysis of Alternative Medicine and Wellness Programs on Netflix: The Construction of Medicine Under Neoliberalism.” Presenting at the *Twentieth International Sociological Association’s World Congress of Sociology*. **2023**

“Common Sense Empire: A Content Analysis of Neoliberal and Pro-War Narratives in the Marvel Cinematic Universe.” Presenting at the *Twentieth International Sociological Association’s World Congress of Sociology*. **2023**

“Knowledge and Empire: Open Access Resources and the Re-Enactment of Hegemony.” Presenting at the *Fourth International Conference on Cultural Political Economy*. **2020**

“Re-examining Liberation: New Methods for LGBTQ Equality.” Presenting at the *Preaching to the Choir Conference*. **2018**

“Current Limitations of Explanations of Maternal Mortality in the United States.” Presenting at the *American Sociological Association Conference*. **2018**

“The Current State of the American Birth Movement.” Presented at the *Stony Brook University, Sociology Department Graduate Student Conference*. **2017**

Invited Oral Presentations

“Incorporating Everyday Needs into Disease Prevention Strategies: A Complex Risk Factor Approach.” German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ). **2025**

“Connecting Communities: Loneliness, Embeddedness, and Fostering Belonging.” Tackling Loneliness Among Young People in Africa Symposium. **2025**

“Loneliness in the Policy Landscape: A Social Justice Health Agenda.” Tackling Loneliness Among Young People in Africa Symposium. **2025**

“Accessing Healthcare in Immigrant Communities.” Center for Civic Justice, Stony Brook University. **2022**

“Increasing Diversity in the Clinic.” Department of Psychology, Stony Brook University. **2020**

“Sterilization and American Healthcare.” Sociology Department, Stony Brook University. **2019**

“Media Representations of America on the World Stage.” Sociology Department, Stony Brook University. **2017**

“Media Representation of Public Heroes.” Sociology Department, Stony Brook University. 2017

“LGBTQ+ Representation in Popular American Media.” Sociology Department, Stony Brook University. **2017**

“Social Impacts and Socio-Economic Barriers to Overcoming Cancer.” Biology Department, Hunter College, CUNY. **2013**

Teaching And Mentoring Experience

2024-2025 Thesis Advisor, University of Amsterdam
Master's Thesis, Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research

2020-2023 Thesis Advisor, Stony Brook University
Bachelor's Thesis, Sociology Department

2019-2023 Lecturer & curriculum designer, Sociology Department, Stony Brook University
Research Methods
Sociology of Medicine
Sociology of Technology
Social Deviance
Sociology of Human Reproduction
Gender & Work
Health, Social Justice, and Public Policy

2016-Present Teaching Assistant, Sociology Department, Stony Brook University
Medicine and Society
Intimate Relationships
Social Problems in a Global Perspective
American Society
Media and Society
Sociology of Human Reproduction
Environmental Sociology
Sociology of Latin America
Social Psychology

Membership in Professional Associations

American Sociological Association
Association for Humanist Sociology
European Sociological Association
International Sociological Association
European Union Studies Association
Japanese Public Health Association

Languages

English; native
Farsi; beginner
German; beginner

Hard Skills

Dedoose
Google Suite
Microsoft Office
NVivo
Atlas.ti
R
Qualtrics
Python
SPSS
STATA

Soft Skills

Adaptability
Communication
Critical Thinking
Leadership
Problem Solving
Project Management
Public Speaking
Teamwork
Time Management