

**Alec Cali**  
[alecc61@gmail.com](mailto:alecc61@gmail.com)  
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8939-4904>

## Education

---

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

## Professional Experience

---

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 2025-Present | Heidelberg Institute for Global Health, Heidelberg University<br><i>Research Group Leader of Disability &amp; Inclusive Health- PI: Prof. Dr. Dr. Till Bärnighausen</i><br><i>Experimental Survey Design &amp; Analysis</i><br><i>Interview Design, Implementation &amp; Analysis</i><br><i>Media Analysis</i><br><i>Project Management</i><br><i>Competitive Grant Writing</i> |
| 2023-2025    | Law for Health and Life, University of Amsterdam<br><i>Postdoctoral Researcher – Co-PIs: Anniek de Ruijter &amp; Katrina Perehudoff</i><br><i>Experimental Survey Design &amp; Analysis</i><br><i>Interview Design, Implementation &amp; Analysis</i><br><i>Systematic Analysis</i><br><i>Project Management</i>  |
| 2024         | Department of Management & Production, Polytechnic University of Turin<br><i>Visiting Researcher (4 weeks)</i><br><i>Experimental Survey Design Training</i>  |
| 2024-2025    | Amsterdam Center for European Studies<br><i>Research Fellow</i>   |
| 2024-2025    | Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development<br><i>Research Fellow</i>   |
| 2023-2025    | Center for Social Science and Global Health, University of Amsterdam<br><i>Member, Board of Directors</i><br><i>Cross-Institutional Outreach &amp; Collaboration</i><br><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 <i>Research Assistant</i>
2015-2016	Weil Cornell Medicine, Cornell University <i>Research Assistant</i>
2014-2015	Mount Sinai Hospital <i>Research Assistant</i>

#### 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](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](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](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](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](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 Wungao, 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: <i>The President's Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student (\$1000)</i>
------	---

2023	Stony Brook University, Graduate School: <i>Professional Development Award (\$1000)</i>
------	---

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 <b>(\$300,000)</b>

### **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 84<sup>th</sup> *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 2<sup>nd</sup> *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 *5<sup>th</sup> 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 *19<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 <i>Master’s Thesis</i> , Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research
2020-2023	Thesis Advisor, Stony Brook University <i>Bachelor’s Thesis</i> , Sociology Department
2019-2023	Lecturer & curriculum designer, Sociology Department, Stony Brook University <i>Research Methods</i> <i>Sociology of Medicine</i> <i>Sociology of Technology</i> <i>Social Deviance</i> <i>Sociology of Human Reproduction</i> <i>Gender &amp; Work</i> <i>Health, Social Justice, and Public Policy</i>
2016-Present	Teaching Assistant, Sociology Department, Stony Brook University <i>Medicine and Society</i> <i>Intimate Relationships</i> <i>Social Problems in a Global Perspective</i> <i>American Society</i> <i>Media and Society</i> <i>Sociology of Human Reproduction</i> <i>Environmental Sociology</i> <i>Sociology of Latin America</i> <i>Social Psychology</i>

### **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