

---

# MANISSA M. MAHARAWAL

---

Assistant Professor  
Department of Anthropology, American University  
4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016  
manissam@american.edu  
718-869-0294

---

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

---

2017– Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology  
American University, Washington DC  
Faculty Affiliate, Antiracist Research and Policy Center

---

## EDUCATION

---

2017 Ph.D. Anthropology  
Certificate in American Studies  
The Graduate Center, City University of New York  
2015 M.Phil. Anthropology  
The Graduate Center, City University of New York  
2009 Certificate in Oral History  
Oral History Summer Program, Columbia University  
2005 B.A. Anthropology  
Sarah Lawrence College

---

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### Books

---

In progress The Activist's City: Social Movements, Structures of Feeling, and the Politics of Place. (Manuscript in preparation).

2021 Counterpoints: A San Francisco Bay Area Atlas of Displacement and Resistance. (Co-editor and collective member) 2020. Oakland: PM Press.

---

### Refereed Articles

---

2022 "Tech-Colonialism: Gentrification, Resistance and Belonging in San Francisco's Colonial Present" *Anthropological Quarterly*. 95(4): 785-814.

- 2021 "Infrastructural Activism: Google Bus Blockades, Affective Politics and Environmental Gentrification in San Francisco" *Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/anti.12744>
- 2021 M. Maharawal & E. McElroy with City Life/Vida Urbana. "Reflections on Doing the Work: City Life/Vida Urban and the Anti-Eviction Mapping Project" *Radical Housing Journal*. 3(1): 267-276.
- 2018 M. Maharawal & E. McElroy. "The Anti-Eviction Mapping Project: Counter Cartography and Oral History towards Housing Justice in the Bay Area," *Annals of the American Association of Geographers* 108(2): 380- 389.
- 2017 "Black Lives Matter, Gentrification and the Security State in the San Francisco Bay Area," *Anthropological Theory* 17(3): 338-364.
- 2017 M. Maharawal & E. McElroy, "In the Time of Trump: Housing, Whiteness, and Abolition," *Abolition* (online journal), February 4.
- 2013 "Occupy Wall Street and a Radical Politics of Inclusion." *Sociological Quarterly* 54(2): 177-181.

#### Book Chapters

---

- 2020 M. Maharawal and E. McElroy, (eds) "Speculation and Speculative Futures" in *Counterpoints: A San Francisco Bay Area Atlas of Displacement and Resistance*. Edited by The Anti-Eviction Mapping Project. PM Press.
- 2020 M. Maharawal, E. McElroy, Shi M. "Introduction: Counterpoints - This is Not a Point" in *Counterpoints: A San Francisco Bay Area Atlas of Displacement and Resistance*. Edited by The Anti-Eviction Mapping Project. PM Press.
- 2018 M. Maharawal & Z. Glück, "Occupy Wall Street: Finance Capital and its Discontents," in *Revolt in New York*. Edited by Neil Smith & Don Mitchell, University of Georgia Press. Pgs. 286-300.
- 2018 M. Maharawal & E. McElroy, "In the Time of Trump: Housing, Whiteness, and Abolition," Reprinted in *Contested Property Claims*. Edited by M. Hojer et al. New York: Routledge Press. Pgs. 109-126.
- 2017 "San Francisco's Tech-led Gentrification: Public Space Protest and the Urban Commons," in *City Unsilenced: Urban Resistance and Public Space in the Age of Shrinking Democracy*. Edited by Jeff Hou and Sabine Knierbein. New York: Routledge. Pgs. 30-43.
- 2016 "Occupy Movements," in *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Gender and Sexuality Studies*.
- 2012 "Reflections on the People of Color Caucus at Occupy Wall Street," in *We are Many: Reflections on Movement Strategy from Occupation to Liberation*, Edited by K. Khatib, M. Killjoy & M. McGuire, AK Press, Oakland. Pgs. 177-183.

## Short Articles

---

- 2022 M. Maharawal, E. McElroy and M. Shi. "Counterpoints: A Response." *Society and Space: Forums*. November 1. <https://www.societyandspace.org/book-review-forums/counterpoints-a-response>
- 2020 "A Future Called Home." *American Ethnologist*, In "Post-Covid Fantasies," C. Besteman, H. Cabot, and B. Kalir, eds, *American Ethnologist* website, 19 October 2020
- 2018 "Of Riots and Ruins: The Built Environment and the J20 Trials," *City and Society*. Vol. 30 (3), Online Forum. December 3.
- 2018 M. Maharawal and E. McElroy "Mapping Dispossession and Mapping Affect: Silicon Valley and its Uneven Urban Impacts," *Anthropology News*.
- 2015 "Shut It Down: Notes on the #blacklivesmatter Protests in Oakland, California" *Focaal Blog* February 23.
- 2014 "Protest of Gentrification and Eviction Technologies in San Francisco," *Progressive Planning* 199: 20-24.
- 2014 S. Low, M. Maharawal and D. Dalakoglou, "Why Public Space Now: A Space for Democratic Practices," *Oculus*. Pgs. 24-25.
- 2014 M. Maharawal, Z. Glück, I. Natasia and C. Tomas-Reed, "Organizing Against Empire: Struggles Over the Militarization of CUNY," *The Berkeley Journal of Sociology* 58: 51-58.
- 2012 "What can we do in Public: Occupy and Challenges in Public Space," *Progressive Planning* 191: 20-24.
- 2012 "Fieldnotes on Union Square, Anti-Oppression, and Occupy," *Cultural Anthropology*, Hotspots online feature Edited by Maple Razsa & Jeffrey Juris. February 14.
- 2012 "Occupy Ethnography: Reflections on Studying the Movement," *Possible Futures: Dispatches*, Social Science Research Council. March 14.
- 2012 "PUKAR and the Human Right to Research," *American Anthropologist* 114 (682-683).

## Public Scholarship

---

- 2018 "Eviction Lab Misses the Mark" by D. Aiello, L. Bates, T. Graziani, C. Herring, E. McElroy, M. Maharawal, P. Phan, and Gr. Purser. *Shelterforce*. August 22.
- 2015 "Introduction: Strategies Towards Housing Justice" by C. Tomas-Reed and M. Maharawal, *Viewpoint Magazine*. October.

- 2014 “Making Space to Talk About Race” Crossing Borders, Bridging Generations Oral History Project, Brooklyn Historical Society.
- 2013 “Hidden in Plain Sight: The Education Movement” by M. Maharawal, Z. Glück, I. Nastasia & C. Tomas-Reed, Tidal Magazine: Occupy Theory. February.
- 2012 Occupy Wall Street panel: has May Day made a difference?” With Tom Hayen, M. Maharawal, Billy Talen, Rinku Sen, Janter Byrne, Hannah Appel, The Guardian UK, May 2.
- 2012 “Why Race Matters After Hurricane Sandy” by M. Maharawal & I. Nastasia, Waging NonViolence. December 11.
- 2011 “What Makes Occupy Different: Inclusion,” The Guardian UK, November 15.
- 2011 “A Day in the Movement” by M. Maharawal & Z. Glück, N+1 Magazine, (online) November 16.

#### Edited Volumes

---

- 2014 C. Herring and M. Maharawal (Editors). “Struggles for the Public University” special issue of The Berkeley Journal of Sociology, Volume 58.
- 2015 M. Maharawal, A. Sheppard-Matsuo and C. Tomas-Reed (Editors). “You Can’t Evict a Movement: Strategies Towards Housing Justice” special issue in Viewpoint Magazine. October 2015.

#### GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

---

##### Major Professional Awards

---

- 2016 Susan Garfinkel Prize in Digital Humanities, (M. Maharawal, Project Co- Founder and Director) for Narratives of Displacement and Resistance, awarded by the American Studies Association
- 2016 Alternative Geography Award, (M. Maharawal, co-recipient) for The Anti- Eviction Mapping Project, awarded by Urban Studies Working Group, American Association of Geographers

##### External Awards

---

- 2019 American Association of University Women, (Alternate) Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
- 2015 American Council of Learned Societies, Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellow
- 2015 The Blue Mountain Center, Writing Fellow
- 2014 New York Council for the Humanities, Public Humanities Fellow
- 2013 The Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, Dissertation Research Grant
- 2012 The Antipode Foundation, Regional Workshop Award, (co-recipient with the Space Time Research Collaborative, Cindi Katz and Caitlin Cahill)

2010 Oral History Summer Institute, Fellow, Columbia University

#### Internal Awards

---

2020 Antiracist Research and Policy Center, Faculty Affiliate, American University  
2017 - 2019 Mellon Faculty Research Award, College of Arts and Sciences, American University  
2016 Digital Humanities Innovation Grant, The Graduate Center, City University of New York  
2015 Dissertation Fellow, Center for Place, Culture and Politics, The Graduate Center, City University of New York  
2014 Digital Innovation Fellow, The Graduate Center, City University of New York  
2009 Urban Sociology Summer Exchange Fellow, Humboldt University, Berlin  
2009 - 2012 PhD Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, The Graduate Center, City University of New York

#### TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

---

##### Invited Talks and Presentations

---

2021 "Conquistador Transportation and Fighting Displacement and Eviction in San Francisco" Invited Talk. Northeastern University April 1.  
2021 "Conquistador Transportation and Fighting Displacement and Eviction in San Francisco" Invited Talk. George Mason University, January 27.  
2021 "Conquistador Transportation and Fighting Displacement and Eviction in San Francisco" Invited Talk. Oregon State University, January 22.  
2018 "Fifty years later: The Struggle for Housing Justice in the United States," Conference on Race and Housing Fifty Years Later: The Legacy of the Fair Housing Act, Invited Panelist, Princeton University, April 28th.  
2018 "Conquistador Transportation and the Urban Commons: Fighting Displacement and Eviction in San Francisco" Keynote Lecture, 5th Annual Anthropology Symposium, George Washington University, March 30.  
2018 "The J20 Cases: Struggling Against the Criminalization of Dissent in a Time that Demands Resistance" Invited Panelist, Georgetown University, March 22.  
2018 "The Anti-Eviction Mapping Project" Radical Mapping, Invited Panelist, Franklin Humanities Institute, Duke University, March 21st.  
2016 "Oral History and Counter Mapping as Methods Towards Anti-Gentrification and Anti- Displacement" Invited Lecture, The Center for Place Culture and Politics, April 13.  
2015 "The Anti-Eviction Mapping Project: Radical Mapping and Displacement in San Francisco" Invited Lecture, Oral History Program, Columbia University, October 1.  
2014 "Oral History and Mapping Displacement in San Francisco" Invited Lecture, Sarah Lawrence College, March 12.  
2014 "Oral Histories of Displacement" Invited Lecture & Workshop, Stanford University, January 22.  
2014 "Politics Post-Occupy," Keynote Speaker, Southwest Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice, Peace Day Talk, Sarasota FL, January 25.  
2013 "Reclaiming Land, Building the Urban Commons," Invited Panelist, Columbia University, October 29.

- 2012 “Occupy Wall Street Visions and Reflections: Decolonization,” Invited Panelist, Hampshire College, October 24.
- 2012 “Race, Gender and Inclusion: Fieldnotes From Occupy” Invited Panelist, University of Connecticut Stamford, April 16.

#### Panels Organized

---

- 2021 “Authors Meet Critics: Counterpoints: A San Francisco Bay Area Atlas of Displacement and Resistance” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, April 7-11.
- 2018 “Urban Revanchism Revisited” double-panel organized with Christopher Herring, American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, New Orleans, April 10-14.
- 2018 “The Disrupters: Ethnographies of Techno-capitalism” panel organized with Erin McElory and Beth Gaglia. American Anthropological Association, San Jose, November 14-18.
- 2015 “Aftermaths” track organized with Nazia Kazia and Mark Porter Webb, Society for the Anthropology of North America, New York April 16-18.
- 2013 “The New Youth Movements, Political Subjectivity, Crisis and Resistance” panel organized with Zoltán Glück, American Anthropological Association, Chicago, Nov 21.
- 2011 “The Productive Value of the Trace” panel organized with Priya Chandraskaran, Rachel Daniell and Malav Kanuga, American Anthropological Association, Montreal, Nov 15.

#### Papers Presented at Conferences

---

- 2021 “Author Meets Critics: Thinking About History with A People’s Guide to the San Francisco Bay Area” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, April 7-11.
- 2021 “Author Meets Critics: Speculation and Speculative Futures in Counterpoints: A San Francisco Bay Area Atlas of Displacement and Resistance” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, April 7-11.
- 2018 “Tech-Colonialism and Displacement” American Anthropological Association, San Jose, November 14-18.
- 2018 “Urban Revanchism Revisited: Black Lives Matter and the Security State” American Association of Geographers. New Orleans, April 11.
- 2017 “Black Lives Matter, Gentrification and the Security State in Oakland” American Anthropological Association, Washington DC, December 1.
- 2017 “Mapping Towards Housing Justice” Public Anthropology Conference, American University, Washington D.C., November 3.
- 2016 “We Won’t Go: Producing Memory, Care and Collectivity in San Francisco’s Anti-Eviction Activism” American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, November 17.
- 2016 “Conquistador Transportation: Infrastructural Activism and the Fight Against Displacement in San Francisco” Society for the Anthropology of North America, Halifax, May 13.
- 2016 “Material Infrastructures and Infrastructural Activism: Displacement in San Francisco” American Association of Geographers, San Francisco, March 29.
- 2015 “Infrastructural Activism: Bus Blockades and the Fight Against Displacement in San Francisco” American Anthropological Association, Denver, November 19.

- 2015 "I thought Occupy would always be there": Depression, Hope, and Temporality in the Aftermath of Occupy," Society for the Anthropology of North America Meeting, New York, April 17.
- 2014 "Gentrification and Anti-Gentrification Organizing", Center for Place, Culture and Politics Annual Conference, CUNY Graduate Center, May 23.
- 2013 "From Safer Spaces to Affective Politics: The Case of the Free University" American Anthropological Association, Chicago, November 23.
- 2013 "The Crown Heights Assembly: Race, Space and Gentrification" (with Zoltán Glück) American Anthropological Association, Chicago, November 21.
- 2012 "Occupy Wall Street and the Politics of Inclusion: Ethnographic Reflections On Radical Democracy" (with Zoltán Glück) American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, November 17.
- 2011 "The Creation of the Peaceful City: Violence and Its Traces in Ahmadabad" American Anthropological Association, Montreal, November 15.
- 2010 "Zora Neale Hurston: Writing Alternative Ethnographies" American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, November 22.

#### MEDIA COVERAGE & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (SELECTED)

---

- 2014-present Project Founder and Co-Director, Narratives of Displacement and Resistance oral history project, at The Anti-Eviction Mapping Project, San Francisco, CA
- 2013-present Collective Member, The Anti-Eviction Mapping Project, San Francisco, CA
- 2015 Featured in book *When We Fight We Win: Twenty First Century Social Movements and the Activists that are Changing Our World*, The New Press.
- 2014 Featured in "Terkel's Torch Bearers: Meet the New Generation of Oral Historians" In *These Times*, October 29.
- 2012-2014 Lead Oral History Interviewer, "Crossing Borders, Bridging Generations" Oral History Project, Brooklyn Historical Society
- 2012 Featured in "Faultlines" Documentary on Occupy Wall Street Al Jazeera Media
- 2012 Featured in *The Express Tribune* (Pakistan), June 14.
- 2012 Invited panelist with Jeffery Sachs on Project Wisdom a NHK Japanese public television show, November 6 and November 26.
- 2011 Interviewed with Eliot Spitzer, for "The Coffee Summit" in *New York Magazine*.
- 2009-2011 Co-organizer "So-Called Marginalia" reading series, various venues in New York.

#### UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENTAL & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

---

##### Professional Service

---

- 2021 Faculty Mentor, American Ethnological Society.
- 2020 International Reviewer, Fonds National de la Recherche, Luxembourg.
- 2018 Book Prize Committee, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology.

##### Editorial

---

- 2016-2018 Consulting Editor, *Focaal: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology*

2013-2015 Co-Editor, "Findings" Column, Anthropology Now

#### Department and University Service

---

2022	Chair, Undergraduate Committee, Department of Anthropology, American University
2020- present	Undergraduate Committee, Department of Anthropology, American University
2018- present	Grievance Committee, Department of Anthropology, American University
2017- 2020	Graduate Committee, Department of Anthropology, American University
2017- 2020	Admissions Committee, Department of Anthropology, American University
2015-2016	Executive Committee, Department of Anthropology, The Graduate Center
2013	Admissions Committee, Department of Anthropology, The Graduate Center
2011-2013	Co-Chair, Women of Color Network, The Graduate Center
2011	Student Representative, Doctoral Student Council, The Graduate Center
2010-2012	Co-Organizer, Public Space Working Group, The Graduate Center

#### Peer-Reviewer

---

City and Society, Annals of the American Association of Geographers, GeoForum, Sociological Quarterly, Focaal: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology, Berkeley Journal of Sociology, Radical Housing Journal

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

##### American University, Department of Anthropology

- "Anthropological Research Methods" (Fall 2020)
- "Public Anthropology" (Fall 2022, Fall 2020)
- "Contemporary Ethnographies" (Spring 2019)
- "The Craft of Anthropology" (Fall 2018)
- "Capitalism and Urban Transformation" (Spring 2018)
- "Dissertation Writing Seminar" (Spring 2018)
- "Anthropology of Life in the United States" (Fall 2022, Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017)

##### Baruch College, CUNY, Department of Sociology and Anthropology

- "Advanced Research Methods" (Spring 2013)
- "Power and Conflict (Spring 2013)
- "Cultures and Peoples of South Asia" (Spring 2012)
- "Introduction to Cultural Anthropology" (Fall 2010 - Spring 2012)

##### Queens College, CUNY, Department of Urban Studies

- "Race and Ethnicity" (Spring 2009)
- "Urban Studies 101: Urban Poverty and Inequality" (Assistant, Fall 2008 - Spring 2010)

#### RELATED PROFESSIONAL SKILLS & LANGUAGES

---

##### Languages



Hindi (Speaking, Reading and Writing); French (Intermediate Speaking)

Other Skills

GIS Level 1

Trained Oral Historian

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

---

American Anthropological Association

American Association of Geographers

American Studies Association

REFERENCES

---

Setha Low

Distinguished Professor of Anthropology, Geography, and Environmental Psychology

The Graduate Center, City University of New York

365 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10016 USA

Tel. 212-817-7000

slow@gc.cuny.edu

David Harvey

Distinguished Professor Anthropology and Geography

The Graduate Center, City University of New York

365 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10016 USA

Tel. 212-817-7211

dharvey@gc.cuny.edu

Nicholas Mirzoeff

Professor of Media, Culture, and Communication

New York University

239 Greene Street, 8th Floor New York, NY 10003

212-998-5725

nm45@nyu.edu

Melissa Checker

Hagedorn Professor of Urban Studies

Queens College & The Graduate Center City University of New York

65-30 Kissena Blvd, Flushing, NY 11367

718- 997-5148

mchecker@qc.cuny.edu