

# Harleen Kaur

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kaurharleen.com

## EDUCATION

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- 2017-2022  
(expected) Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles  
*Dissertation:* Crossroads of Belonging, Safety, and Sovereignty: Sikh Punjabi Negotiations of Statecraft and Racecraft from Colonial Punjab to Imperial United States  
*Committee:* Karida Brown, Marcus Anthony Hunter, Cecilia Menjívar, Thu-Huong Nguyen-Vo, and Rupa Marya  
*Exams:* Race & Ethnicity, Ethnographic Methodology
- 2019 M.A., Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles  
*Thesis:* Erasures of Identity Formation: How U.S. Sikhs Use Whiteness for Visibility
- 2015 B.A., English, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Kaur, Harleen. 2020. "Making Citizenship, Becoming Citizens: How Sikh Punjabis Shaped the Exclusionary Politics of Belonging." *Amerasia Journal* 46(1): 107-122.

Kaur, Harleen and prabhdeep singh kehal (equal authorship). 2020. "Sikhs as Implicated Subjects in the United States: A Reflective Essay (ਵਿਚਾਰ) on Gurmat-Based Interventions in the Movement for Black Lives." *Sikh Research Journal* 5(2):68-86.

### Book Chapters

Kaur, Harleen. Forthcoming. "Radical Narrative Traditions: Communal Storytelling as a Praxis for Liberation." In *Small Axe Fall Big Tree: The Pedagogy of Action*, edited by Nesha Z. Haniff. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Kaur, Harleen and Simran Jeet Singh. 2016. "Guru Nanak and the Foundation of Sikhi." In *Great Events in Religion: An Encyclopedia of Pivotal Events in Religious History*, 3 Vols., edited by Florin Curta and Andrew Holt. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio.

Kaur, Harleen. 2014. "Moving On Forward." In *Her Name Is Kaur: Sikh American Women Write about Love, Courage, and Faith*, edited by Meeta Kaur and Nikky-Guninder Kaur Singh. Tempe, AZ: She Writes Press.

### Solicited Book Reviews & Short Essays

Kaur, Harleen. 2021. "Review of *Amritsar 1984: A City Remembers* by Radhika Chopra." *Journal of Sikh and Punjab Studies* 28(2):XX-XX.

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Curriculum Vitae

Kaur, Harleen. 2020. "The Potency of Sikh Memory: Time Travel and Memory Construction in the Wake of Disappearance," Book Colloquium for Faith, Gender, and Activism in the Punjab Conflict: The Wheat Fields Still Whisper by Mallika Kaur. *Sikh Research Journal* 5(2):96-99.

Kaur, Harleen. 2021. "Learning from Du Bois: Distinguishing activism and science amidst racialized modernity." *ASA-IPM Newsletter*.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

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### Manuscripts Under Review

Kaur, Harleen. Legacies of a Martial Race: Sikh Punjabi Investment and Implication in the Police State. (Revise & resubmit at *Memory Studies*)

Kaur, Harleen. The Im/material, the Intimate, and the Ethnographer: Considering Practices of Ethnography for Racialized Religious Communities. (Under review at *Ethnography*)

Kaur, Harleen and Victoria Tran. Extinguishing Asian Insurgency: The Limits of State-Asian Diaspora Relationality in Contemporary Sociology. (Under review at *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*)

### Manuscripts Under Preparation

Kaur, Harleen and prabdeep singh kehal. Intellectual Wounded Attachments: Discursive Repair or Colonial Persistence?

Kaur, Harleen and Katie Byrd, Nadia Davis, and Taylor Williams. Small Revolutions: Methodologies of Black Feminist Consciousness-Raising and the Politics of Ordinary Resistance.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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2021	<b>Barnard College, Department of Sociology</b> TA – Metropolitics of Race & Place (Angela Simms, Su'21) [online] <b>University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Sociology</b> TA – Sociology of Violence (Aliza Luft, Sp'21) [online]
2020	<b>Barnard College, Department of Sociology</b> TA – Race, Ethnicity, and Society (Angela Simms, F'20) [online]
2019	<b>University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Sociology</b> TA – Sociology of Violence (Aliza Luft, Sp'19) TA – Sociology of Race and Ethnicity: Considering the University (Karida Brown, W'19)
2018	TA – Death, Suicide, and Trauma (Stefan Timmermans, F'18)
2014-	<b>Camp Sikh Virsa, Education Director</b>
2013-2017	<b>University of Michigan, Pedagogy of Action</b> Teaching Assistant for Pedagogy of Empowerment: Activism in Race, Gender, & Health

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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2021            **York University, Department of Politics**

HARLEEN KAUR  
Curriculum Vitae

2014-2017 Research Assistant, Dr. Jakeet Singh, Assistant Professor  
**University of Michigan, Department of Afro-American and African Studies**  
Research Assistant and HIV Peer Educator, Dr. Nesha Z. Haniff, Senior Lecturer

## GRANTS

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2021-2022 International Institute Dissertation Fieldwork Fellowship, UCLA (\$1,550)  
2020-2021 Sanctuary Spaces Sawyer Seminar Writing Group, UCLA Luskin Institute on Inequality and Democracy (\$1,500)  
2020 Graduate Council Diversity Summer Fellowship, UCLA (\$8,000)  
2020 Institute of American Cultures Research Grant, Asian American Studies Center, UCLA (\$6,250)  
2019-2020 Graduate Research Mentorship Program, Graduate Division, UCLA (\$25,000)  
2019 Summer Funding, Sociology Department, UCLA (\$2,000)  
2019 Research Travel Grant, Canadian Studies, UCLA (\$1,000)  
2018 Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program, Graduate Division, UCLA (\$6,000)

## HONORS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS

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2019 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Department of Sociology, UCLA  
2017-2022 Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, Graduate Division, UCLA (\$25,000)  
2015-2016 Bonderman Fellowship, Center for Global and Intercultural Study, University of Michigan (\$20,000)

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

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“Intellectual Wounded Attachments: Discursive Repair or Colonial Civilizing?” with prabhdeep singh kehal. American Association of Religion Annual Conference, November 2021. [virtual]

“Statecraft and Borderwork: Emerging Frontiers of Political and Social Representation in Colonial Punjab.” New Directions in Law and Society: A Graduate Student and Junior Scholar Workshop; Center for Justice, Law, and Societies; University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, October 2021. [virtual]

“Intellectual Wounded Attachments: Discursive Repair or Colonial Persistence?” with prabhdeep singh kehal. Thinking at the border: Post- and decolonial theory and epistemic injustice, Department of Education, University of Oxford, September 2021. [virtual]

“Committing to Abolition: A Decolonial, Anti-Imperial Framework for Asian Diaspora Studies” with Victoria Tran, American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August 2021. [virtual]

“Shifting Embodiments of Whiteness: How Sikh Punjabis Solidified the Color Line.” Junior Scholars Symposium on Race & Ethnicity in Global Perspectives, Boston University, Boston, MA, April 2020. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)

“The Specter of Khalistan: Hauntings of Nation-State Belonging.” Mnemonics Summer School: Memory and Activism, Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands, September 2019.

HARLEEN KAUR  
Curriculum Vitae

“Erasures of Identity Formation: How US Sikhs Use Whiteness for Visibility.” Critical Perspectives on Race and Human Rights: Transnational Re-Imagings, Junior Scholars Workshop, UCLA Law School, Los Angeles, CA, March 2019.

“Sikh Values are American Values’— How Identity-Based Violence Shapes the Sikh Diaspora.” Sikholars Conference, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, February 2018.

“Stigma and Status: Challenging the Notion of Empowerment through POA.” Celebrating 15 Years of the Pedagogy of Action in South Africa, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa, June 2015.

## INVITED LECTURES & PANELS

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“Social Change Ecosystem,” with Deepa Iyer, Bay Area Solidarity Summer, August 2021. [virtual]

“ਦਸਤਾਰ ਬੰਨ੍ਹਣ ਲਈ ਬਲੂਪ੍ਰਿੰਟ (blueprints for tying a dastar),” Vancouver Art Gallery Art Connects Series, with Simranpreet Anand and Gabrielle Moser, August 2021. [virtual]

“ਨਾ ਭੁੱਲੇ ਹਾਂ, ਨਾ ਭੁੱਲਾਂਗੇ (We Haven’t Forgotten and We Won’t Forget),” Jakara Movement, July 2021. [virtual]

“Meet Me at the Gurdwara’: Reorienting Sikh Collective Organizing through Historical Ethics of Responsibility,” Sikh Coalition Social Justice Summit, December 2020. [virtual]

“Gurbani as a Guide for Sikhs in the Movement for Black Lives,” Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF) 2020 Racial Justice Series, October 2020. [virtual]

“Sikh Reflection on Black Lives Matter Movement”, UNITED SIKHS Webinar, July 2020. [virtual]

“Identities in Flux: Identity Politics for Sikh Immigrants through the Combahee River Collective and Settler Colonialism.” with prabhdeep singh kehal, Surat Initiative, January 2020.

“White Supremacy and Institutional Belonging.” Speaking of Sikhs Lecture Series, Sikhs of Princeton, Princeton University, November 2019.

## SERVICE & OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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2021-	<i>Sikh Research Journal</i> , Editorial Board Member
2021-	SAFAR Sikh Feminist Research Institute, Executive Board Member
2021-2022	UCLA Sociology, Graduate Admissions Committee Member
2018-2023	<i>Kaur Life</i> Magazine, Executive Board Member
2018-2019	Co-coordinator of Race & Ethnicity Working Group, UCLA Sociology

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

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Punjabi (heritage speaker), Spanish (intermediate fluency)