

# STEPHANIE PEÑA-ALVES

Davison Hall  
26 Nichol Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
Phone: 718.570.7548  
[salves@sociology.rutgers.edu](mailto:salves@sociology.rutgers.edu)

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## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Sociology, Rutgers University, Anticipated 2021  
Dissertation: In and Out: Rules of Access that Transcend the Body, the Home, and the State  
Committee: Eviatar Zerubavel (Chair), Zaire Dinzey-Flores, Mary Chayko, Deborah Carr (Boston University)
- M.A. Sociology, Rutgers University, 2016
- B.A. Psychology, Hunter College, The City University of New York, 2011
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## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Culture and Cognition – Space and Place – Deviance – Access  
Semiotics – Symbolic Interaction – Theory

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## PUBLICATIONS

- Mandal, Soumik, Shah, Chirag, **Peña-Alves, Stephanie**, Hecht, Michael L, Glenn, Shannon D, Ray, Anne Elizabeth, and Greene, Kathryn. Forthcoming. “Understanding the Spread of Prevention and Cessation Messages on Social Media for Substance Use in Youth.” *Aslib Journal of Information Management*.
- Peña-Alves, Stephanie. 2020. Review of Adam B. Seligman and Robert P. Weller’s “How Things Count as the Same: Memory, Mimesis, and Metaphor.” *Contemporary Sociology* 49(5):465–466.
- Peña-Alves, Stephanie. 2019. “Outspoken Objects and Unspoken Myths: The Semiotics of Object-Mediated Communication.” *Symbolic Interaction* 43(3):385–404.
- Winner: The Herbert Blumer Graduate Student Paper Award, *Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction*

Peña-Alves, Stephanie. 2019. "Getting a Foot in the Door: Symbolism, Door Metaphors, and the Cognitive Sociology of Access." Pp. 543–563 in *The Oxford Handbook of Cognitive Sociology* edited by W. H. Brekhus and G. Ignatow. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Peña-Alves, Stephanie, Kathryn Greene, Anne E. Ray, Shannon D. Glenn, Michael L. Hecht, and Smita C. Banerjee. 2019. "Choose Today, Live Tomorrow": A Content Analysis of Anti-Substance Use Messages Produced by Adolescents." *Journal of Health Communication* 24(6):592–602.

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## WORKS IN PROGRESS

Peña-Alves, Stephanie. "The Social Logic of Invasion: A Comparative Translevel Study of Deviant Access."

Peña-Alves, Stephanie. "Liminal Privilege and Liminal Precarity: Power Struggles in the Space Between."

Peña-Alves, Stephanie. "Mnemonic Trajectories: An Architectural Phenomenology of Collective Memory at Memorials."

Peña-Alves, Stephanie. "Marked Passages: A Formal Analysis of Boundary Crossing at the Thresholds of the Body, the Home, and the State."

Peña-Alves, Stephanie. "Follow the Form: Generic Theorizing across Levels of Analysis"

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## AWARDS, GRANTS, & FELLOWSHIPS

### *International, National, and Regional*

2018            The Herbert Blumer Graduate Student Paper Award, Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction (SSSI)

2018-2019      *National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Institute for Drug Abuse (NIDA)*. Interactive Technology for Media Literacy Drug Prevention in Community Groups - Phase 2, \$873,000, 2017-2019. Principal investigators: Kathryn Greene and Michael Hecht. Role: Graduate Research Fellow.

### *University and Department Level*

2020-2021      University and Louis Bevier Dissertation Fellowship, School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University (alternate)

- 2019 Harry C. Bredemeier Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University
- 2018-2019 Graduate Fellowship, NIH/NIDA-funded project, School of Communication and Information, Rutgers University (\$25,000)
- 2015-2020\* Undergraduate Teaching Honor Roll, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University \*Awarded eight times across eight semesters
- 2018 Graduate Student Travel Award, School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University (\$250)
- 2017 Matilda White Riley Award for Best Qualifying Paper, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University (\$100)
- 2017 Graduate Student Travel Award, School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University (\$250)
- 2016 Graduate Student Small Grants Award, School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University (\$800)
- 2015-2018 Teaching Assistantship, School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University
- 2013-2015 Trustee's Fellowship, School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University (\$50,000)
- 2013 Rackham Merit Fellowship, Sociology, University of Michigan (declined)

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## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 Peña-Alves, Stephanie. "The Social Logic of Invasion: A Comparative Translevel Study of Deviant Access." Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA, USA. (canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- 2019 Peña-Alves, Stephanie. "Marked Passages: A Formal Analysis of Boundary Crossing at the Thresholds of the Body, the Home, and the State." Qualitative Analysis Conference. New Brunswick, Canada.
- 2019 Greene, Kathryn L., Hye Jeong Choi, Anne E. Ray, Michael L. Hecht, Shannon Glenn, Brandon L. Kramer, **Stephanie Peña-Alves**, Rachel Lyons, Michelle Miller-Day, Smita C. Banerjee. "Short-term effects of the REAL media curriculum in a sample of 4-H youth." Presentation at the International Communication Association, Washington, D.C.

- 2018 Peña-Alves, Stephanie. “Should I Knock?: Door Politics and the Sociology of Access.” Invited Presentation. Qualitative Analysis Conference. New Brunswick, Canada.
- 2017 Peña-Alves, Stephanie. “Walking through Memory: An Architectural Phenomenology of Collective Memory at Memorials.” Paper Session. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Montreal, QB, Canada.
- 2016 Peña-Alves, Stephanie. “Say it with Doors: Object-Mediated Speech Acts in Everyday Life.” Roundtable Presentation. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA, USA.
- 2015 Peña-Alves, Stephanie. “Confronting the Backdoor: Virtual Navigation and the Symbolic Construction of Continuity and Discontinuity on the Internet.” Invited Presentation. Culture and Cognition Mini-Conference. Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. New York, NY, USA.
- 2014 Peña-Alves, Stephanie. “Proceeding Without Caution: The Attentional Norms of Trust” The New School for Social Research Annual Graduate Student Conference. New York, NY, USA.
- 2014 Peña-Alves, Stephanie. “Doors to the Social World: A Semiotic Exploration of the Door as a Cultural Symbol.” Culture Workshop. Department of Sociology. Rutgers University.

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## **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

- 2018 Peña-Alves, Stephanie. “Surviving and Thriving in Graduate School.” Invited Presentation. Department of Sociology Proseminar. Rutgers University.
- 2017 Peña-Alves, Stephanie. “Teaching How to Think and Feel through Social Life: Toward an Engaged and Validating Classroom.” Invited Presentation. Teaching Against the Grain Graduate Teaching Fellow Conference. Rutgers University.

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## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2018-2019 Graduate Research Fellow on National Institutes of Health’s National Institute for Drug Abuse (NIDA)- funded project, “Interactive Technology for Media Literacy Drug Prevention in Community Groups” (Principal Investigators: Kathryn Greene, School of Communication and Information, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and Michael Hecht, Real Prevention, LLC)

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2015-2020 Instructor and Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University
- 2016-2018 Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Hunter College, The City University of New York

### *Courses Taught as Instructor*

Contemporary Sociological Theory, Rutgers University  
Sociology of Deviant Behavior, Rutgers University  
Race Relations, Rutgers University  
Current Social Theory, Hunter College, CUNY  
Interpersonal Behavior (Microsociology), Hunter College, CUNY

### *Courses Taught as Teaching Assistant*

Normality and Abnormality, Rutgers University  
Contemporary Sociological Theory, Rutgers University

### *Guest Lectures*

- 2020 “In and Out: The Formal Spatial Dynamics of Access and Restriction,” Cognitive Sociology (12-student graduate seminar taught by Dr. Eviatar Zerubavel), Rutgers University
- 2018 “Race as a Social Fact,” Normality and Abnormality (270-student lecture taught by Dr. Joanna Kempner), Rutgers University
- 2018 “Spatial Silences and Absences: Marked and Unmarked Passage Across Thresholds,” Silence and Absence (8-student Honors Seminar taught by Dr. Eviatar Zerubavel), Rutgers University
- 2012 “Beyond Medicalization: Diagnosis as a Rite of Passage,” Interpersonal Behavior (40-student lecture taught by Dr. Thomas DeGroma), Hunter College, The City University of New York

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**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- 2020-2025      Treasurer, Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction (SSSI)
- 2020      Roundtable Organizer, Culture Section, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
- 2018      Featured Panel Organizer, Presider, and Discussant. The Roots and Branches of Interpretive Sociology Conference. Co-Sponsored by the Yale University's Center for Cultural Sociology, Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, and The Psychosocial Scholars Group.  
Panelists: Wayne Brekhus, Gary Alan Fine, Ann Mische, Isaac Ariail Reed
- 2018      Mentor, Multi-Generational Mentoring (MGM) Program, Rutgers University
- 2015      Thematic Session Organizer (with Eviatar Zerubavel), American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
- 2015      Annual Meeting Planning Committee, Eastern Sociological Society
- 2014-2015      Colloquium Committee, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University

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**MANUSCRIPT REVIEW**

*Prevention Science*

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**MENTORING**

- 2020      Mentor to Tanya Batra (Dissertation Research Assistant), Rutgers University

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**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Sociological Association (ASA)  
Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction (SSSI)  
Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)  
Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS)  
American Association of University Women (AAUW)

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