

MALEAH FEKETE

Division of Social Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
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EMPLOYMENT

2026– Assistant Professor, Division of Social Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
2024–2026 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Irsay Institute, Indiana University

EDUCATION

2024 Ph.D., Sociology
Harvard University
2021 Secondary Field, Computational Science and Engineering
Harvard University
2020 M.A., Sociology
Harvard University
2017 B.A., Interdisciplinary Studies, Minor in German
High Distinction in General Scholarship
Highest Honors in Interdisciplinary Studies
University of California, Berkeley

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Mental Health, Culture, Biosocial Science, Gender, Social Networks

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Fekete, Maleah, Colter Mitchell, James K. Gibb, and Brea L. Perry. Forthcoming. “Substance Use and Epigenetic Age Acceleration: Associations with Alcohol, Nicotine, Illicit Drugs, and SUD Severity.” *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*.

Serota, Michael, Alexander Sarch, **Maleah Fekete**, and Daniel McCarthy. Forthcoming. “Criminal Minds and Community Views.” *UC Davis Law Review*.

Fekete, Maleah, Tianyao Qu, Brea L. Perry, Siyun Peng, and Adam R. Roth. 2026. “Later life social interactions in community spaces.” *Social Forces*.

- Fekete, Maleah.** 2026. “Beyond “Deaths of Despair”: Narratives of Distress and Risk-Taking Behaviors Among Rural Working-Class Men.” *Rural Sociology*.
- Ciciurkaite, Gabriele, Byungkyu Lee, Siyun Peng, **Maleah Fekete**, Colter Mitchell, and Brea L. Perry. 2026 “Psychosocial stressors, accelerated biological aging, and multiple morbidities: Evidence from an age-diverse sample.” *Plos one*.
- Roth, Adam R., Jafnun Nudrat Jarin, Ashley F. Railey, Siyun Peng, **Maleah Fekete**, and Tianyao Qu. 2026. “Enrollment and Compliance in an Ecological Momentary Assessment Study of Later Life.” *Field Methods*.
- Finkelstein-Fox, Lucy, Isabelle L. Miranda, Lorraine C. Drapek, Annika Toivonen, Sharon L. Bober, Areej R. El-Jawahri, Christina Psaros, Maria Lopez, Jenna Flaherty, **Maleah Fekete**, and Elyse R. Park. 2026. “Initial Development of a Brief Mind-Body Sexual Well-Being Program for Female Colorectal and Anal Cancer Survivors: A Two-Phase Study of Survivor Needs and Treatment Preferences.” *Global Advances in Integrative Medicine and Health*.
- Fekete, Maleah** and Gabriele Ciciurkaite. 2025. “The Role of Stress Proliferation in Linking Adverse Childhood Experiences to Accelerated Biological Aging.” *Social Science & Medicine*.
- Small, Mario, Kristina Brant, and **Maleah Fekete**. 2024. “The Avoidance of Strong Ties.” *American Sociological Review*.
- Fekete, Maleah.** 2024. “Updating A Social Cognitive Model of PTSD: Implications for Cross-Group PTSD Research.” *Current Psychology*.
- Fekete, Maleah.** 2022. “Confluent Love and the Evolution of Ideal Intimacy: Romance Reading in 1980 and 2016.” *Journal of Popular Romance Studies*.

UNDER REVIEW

- Qu, Tianyao, **Maleah Fekete**, Siyun Peng, and Adam R. Roth. “Same Old, Same Old: Daily Sequence and Well-Being in Later Life Using Ecological Momentary Data.” *Conditional Acceptance*.
- Fekete, Maleah.** “Class Inequalities in Resilience to Stress.” *Under Review*.
- Fekete, Maleah.** “Gendered Vulnerability to Family Loss: Cumulative Bereavement and Accelerated Biological Aging.” *Under Review*.
- Qu, Tianyao, **Maleah Fekete**, Siyun Peng, Brea L. Perry, and Adam R. Roth. “Hidden Gendered Costs: Cognitive Effort in Real-Time Interactions.” *Under Review*.

EDITED VOLUMES

- Rosenfield, Sarah, Dawne Mouzon, and **Maleah Fekete**. 2025. “Gender and Mental Health.” *The Sociological Study of Mental Health: Theories, Contexts and Systems* (4th ed.).
- Marsden, Peter V., **Maleah Fekete**, and Derek S. Baum. 2021. “Contributions of the General Social Survey to Egocentric Network Research.” in *Personal Networks: Classic Readings and New Directions*.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Small, Mario and **Maleah Fekete**. 2019. “Social Networks.” In “State of the Union: The Poverty and Inequality Report,” ed. Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality, special issue, *Pathways Magazine*.
- Fekete, Maleah**. 2016. “Social Differences in Taste: Investigating Romance Reading.” *2016 SURF Conference Proceedings Journal*.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

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| 2026 | Genomics for Social Scientists - Genomics Workshop, Travel Grant |
| 2025 | Genomics for Social Scientists - Epigenomics Workshop, Travel Grant |
| 2021 | Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Graduate Student Affiliate Dissertation Research Grant |
| 2021 | GSAS Emergency Support Initiative, Academic Progress Award |
| 2020 | Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Travel Grant |
| 2019 | Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Research Grant |
| 2019 | Graduate Student Travel Funding, Department of Sociology, Harvard University |
| 2017 | Institute of International Studies Junior Scholarship, University of California, Berkeley |
| 2016-2017 | Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley |

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 American Sociological Association, Living with Intersecting Inequalities: Accessing Health, Services, Education, and Housing in Rural USA - Regular Session
- 2025 American Sociological Association, New Applications of Social Network Analysis - Regular Session
- 2024 Culture and Social Analysis Workshop at Harvard University, Research Presentation
- 2023 American Sociological Association, Health and Well-Being - Regular Session
- 2021 27th International Conference of Europeanists, Culture and Health Policy Paper Panel
- 2021 Harvard Institute for Applied Computational Science, CSE Secondary Field Presentation
- 2020 Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Friday Lunch Seminar
- 2019 American Sociological Association, Gender and Sexuality Roundtable
- 2019 Personal Networks: Frontiers of Ego-Network Analysis Conference at Northwestern University
- 2019 Culture and Social Analysis Workshop at Harvard University
- 2016 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Conference at University of California, Berkeley

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Indiana University, Irsay Institute, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, (August 2024 – Present)

- NIA projects on social networks, stress, and biological aging.

Loyola Marymount University, Criminal Justice Reform Lab, Research Fellow, (September 2023 – July 2025)

- National survey on public attitudes toward mens rea.

Massachusetts General Hospital, Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatric Oncology, Research Intern, (Summer 2023 – July 2024)

- Natural language processing-based study of sexual health discussions in oncology care.

Harvard University, Research Assistant, (Summer 2017 – Summer 2022)

- Research assistant to Gary King, Michele Lamont, Peter Marsden, and Mario Small. Performed social network, survey data, and computational analysis.

Facebook Inc., Social Science Researcher, (Summer 2021)

- Longitudinal survey of user survivorship and sentiment. Received return offer.

University of California, Berkeley, Research Assistant, (Fall 2015 – Spring 2016)

- Research assistant to Niklaus Lagier and Winnie Wong.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND ADVISING

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Division of Social Science, Undergraduate Lead Instructor

2026 Adversity and Biological Social Science

Harvard University

Department of Sociology, Senior Thesis Advisor

2023–24 Devine Bauman, *Race and Meaning-Making in Plus-Sized Women's Understanding of Their Body Image Development*

2022–23 Margaret Comentale, *Pandora's Pill Box: Gendered ADHD Patienthood, Past and Present*

Harvard College Writing Program, Preceptor in Expository Writing

2022 EXPOS 20: The Social Construction of Gender

Department of Sociology, Teaching Fellow

2021 SOC 1127: Media and Society

2020 SOC 1067: Sociology of Law

2020 SOC 1025: Introduction to the Sociology of Organizations

2019 SOC 1046: Death by Design: Health Inequalities from a Global Perspective

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND INTERNSHIPS

2023 Lee Kum Sheung Center for Health and Happiness Summer Internship, Massachusetts General Hospital Dept. of Psychiatric Oncology, *Research Intern*

2021 Pennsylvania State University, *Visiting Scholar*

2021 Facebook, Inc., *Research Scientist Intern (return offer)*

2020-2021 Council for European Studies, *Member*

2019-2020 American Sociological Association Section on Comparative-Historical Sociology, *Member*

2018-2024 Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University, *Graduate Student Affiliate*

2018-2024 Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, *Graduate Student Affiliate*

2017-Present American Sociological Association, *Member*

UNIVERSITY SERVICES

2023-2024	Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Student Center, <i>Public Service Fellow</i>
2023	Harvard Sociology Department, <i>Senior Faculty Search Committee Student Representative</i>
2018, 2023	National Collegiate Research Conference, <i>Judge</i>
2022-2023	Harvard LGBTQ@Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, <i>Volunteer</i>
2020-2021	Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Student Center, <i>Athletics Fellow</i>
2017-2020	Culture and Social Analysis Workshop, Harvard University, <i>Co-Coordinator</i>

REFERENCES

Peter Marsden, peter_marsden@harvard.edu
Brea Perry, blperry@iu.edu
Mario Small, mario.small@columbia.edu

SKILLS

Advanced survey data analysis using R, STATA.
Advanced computational data analysis using PYTHON.
Advanced epigenetic data analysis.
Proficient in German.