

Mariia Chetverikova

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PhD candidate in Sociology specializing in the Sociology of Knowledge, Global and Transnational Sociology, Organizational Sociology, and the Sociology of Migration. Dissertation examines how geopolitical shocks reshape academic knowledge production. Extensive experience in community-engaged research, qualitative and archival methods, and undergraduate teaching across diverse sociology courses. Former researcher at International Memorial (Nobel Peace Prize, 2022), contributing to a digital archival database documenting over 100,000 individuals persecuted during Stalin's repressions.

EDUCATION

PhD in Sociology (expected 2027)

University of Illinois Chicago • Chicago, USA • 2023–Present

Dissertation: Examining how academic fields respond to geopolitical crises by tracing the reconfiguration of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (SEES) in U.S. academia following Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

M.A. in Sociology

University of Illinois Chicago • Chicago, USA • 2023–2025

M.A. in Sociology

HSE University (Higher School of Economics) • Moscow, Russia • 2020–2022

B.A. in Cultural Studies

HSE University (Higher School of Economics) • Moscow, Russia • 2016–2020

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Researcher, UIC Community Research Collective

Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy, University of Illinois Chicago • 2023

- Conducted community-based participatory research on Chicagoans' experiences with mental health services and crisis response, in partnership with the Collaborative for Community Wellness.
- Led in-depth interviews exploring individuals' agency as they interact with first responders during mental health crises.
- Co-authored a research report examining institutional responses and proposing policy recommendations to decriminalize mental illness.

Researcher & Archive Worker, International Memorial

Int'l Historical, Educational, Charitable & Human Rights Society (Nobel Peace Prize, 2022) • Moscow & Prague • 2016–2023

- Contributed to the creation and curation of a digital archival database documenting over 100,000 individuals persecuted during Stalin's political repressions in the Soviet Union.
- Conducted archival research on manifestations of agency in the investigation files of Gulag prisoners, exploring how oppressed individuals navigated institutional constraints.
- Processed, cataloged, and digitized historical documents for long-term preservation and research accessibility.

Researcher, "Institutions and Networks in Soviet Literature" Project

HSE University (Higher School of Economics) • Moscow, Russia • 2020–2022

- Co-authored two articles in New Literary Observer analyzing social cooperation, circumvention of formal rules, and "backstage" communication in late-Soviet cultural production.
- Examined the institutional ethnography of late socialism, exploring how informal networks shaped literary publishing in the USSR.
- Presented findings at national and international conferences on Soviet cultural history and institutional structures.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Instructor (Instructor of Record)

University of Illinois Chicago • Chicago, USA • Summer 2024–Present

Courses: SOC 105 Social Problems (Summer 2024, Spring 2025, Summer 2025); SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology (Summer 2026)

- Independently designed and taught undergraduate courses with full instructional responsibility for 30+ students per section — syllabus, lectures, assessments, and grading.
- Built inclusive, discussion-driven classrooms using active-learning strategies across in-person and online formats, connecting sociological concepts to students' lived experiences.

Teaching Assistant & Discussion Section Leader

University of Illinois Chicago • Chicago, USA • Spring 2023–Present

Courses: Introduction to Sociology (SOC 100); Sociological Methods (SOC 201); Race and Ethnic Relations (SOC 224); Sociology of Youth and Childhood (SOC 240); Major Orientation and Success (SOC 290)

- Led weekly discussion sections of 25–30 students across multiple undergraduate courses, using activities and exercises to deepen comprehension of theory and methods.
- Provided individualized support in office hours and graded assignments, exams, and papers for 90+ students per semester with detailed feedback.

Teaching Assistant

HSE University (Higher School of Economics) • Moscow, Russia • 2017–2021

Courses: Contemporary Methods of Cultural Research; Contemporary Culture: Theories and Practices; Creative Writing; Museumification of Culture

- Supported instruction for undergraduate cultural studies courses — logistics, materials, grading, and student consultations across qualitative-methods and cultural-theory courses.

PUBLICATIONS

Research Reports

The UIC Community Research Collective. (2024). *We Gotta Stop Criminalizin' Mental Illness: Experiences with Mental Health Crisis Response in Chicago*. Research report for the Collaborative for Community Wellness.

Articles

Kukulin, I., Maiofis, M., & Chetverikova, M. (2022). Backstage Improvisations: Social Cooperation, Circumvention of the Rules and Processes of Cultural Production in the Late USSR. Article One. *New Literary Observer*, 2(174).

Kukulin, I., Maiofis, M., & Chetverikova, M. (2022). Backstage Improvisations: Social Cooperation, Circumvention of the Rules and Processes of Cultural Production in the Late USSR. Article Two. *New Literary Observer*, 3(175).

Zavertkina, A., Knysheva, M., Prus, I., Chetverikova, M., Shchetvina, A., & Yavorskaya, M. (2017). "Breaching Experiment" at the University: Experiment over Experiment. *ESForum*, 3(54), 7–14.

Conference Proceedings

Chetverikova, M. (2019). Contemporary Fascination with Family Genealogy: Causes, Progress, and Results. In *Collection of Abstracts of the VIII Conference of Young Scientists of the Department of Anthropology* (pp. 77–81). European University at St. Petersburg.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Knowledge Production under Geopolitical Disruption: Reconfiguring the Field of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies after 2022. *Paper to be presented at the 121st Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY, August 7–11, 2026.*

Rethinking the Concept of Agency: A Case Study on Chicagoans Who Faced Mental Health Crisis Response Institutions. *Paper presented at the 25th Chicago Annual Ethnography Conference "Worlds of Culture," Northwestern University, March 30, 2024.*

The Late Soviet Literary Publishing Process and the Role of Backstage Communications in Its Institutional Structure. *Workshop "Towards an Institutional Ethnography of Late Socialism," HSE University, St. Petersburg, Russia, December 16–18, 2021.*

"It Now Needs to Be Explained, but Back Then It Was Not Necessary": The Origins of the Idea of the Exhaustive Social Competence of Participants in the Late Soviet Literary Process. *Conference "Common Place: Rhetoric, Politics, Cultural Memory," Institute of Social Sciences, Moscow, Russia, September 30–October 2, 2021.*

Contemporary Family Genealogy as a Sociocultural Construct. *IX Conference "Anthropology. Folklore. Sociolinguistics," European University at St. Petersburg, October 30–31, 2020.*

Tutor or Mentor? Building Privacy Boundaries as a Conscious Strategy. *X Conference "Boundaries in Contemporary Culture and Society," HSE University, Moscow, Russia, May 15–16, 2020.*

The Construction of Personal History through Family History: Socio-Cultural Features of the Contemporary Genealogical Boom. *III Conference "The Social Science Alliance – 2019," HSE University, Moscow, Russia, April 23–24, 2019.*

Contemporary Fascination with Family Genealogy: Causes, Progress, and Results. *VIII Conference "Anthropology. Folklore. Sociolinguistics," European University at St. Petersburg, March 29–30, 2019.*

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2026	Travel Grant, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
2025	Research & Travel Award, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois Chicago
2025	Application Scholarship, University of Illinois Chicago
2023	Policy and Social Engagement Fellowship, Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy, UIC
2022	Hans Koschnick Scholarship for Researchers at Risk, Research Centre for East European Studies, University of Bremen, Germany
2022	"Memory Work" International Exchange Scholarship, Research Centre for East European Studies, University of Bremen, Germany

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CERTIFICATIONS

Colloquium on College Teaching of Sociology (SOC 593) — University of Illinois Chicago.

- Graduate-level pedagogy training in student-centered, evidence-based teaching strategies, inclusive pedagogy, and classroom management.

CITI Program: Social & Behavioral Research Investigators — human-subjects research protection, research ethics, and IRB compliance.

SKILLS & EXPERTISE

Research Areas: Sociology of Knowledge; Global and Transnational Sociology; Organizational Sociology; Sociology of Migration; Postcolonial Sociology; Memory Studies; Sociology of Intellectuals; Public Sociology; Institutions and Social Networks; Agency in Constrained Contexts

Research Methods: Qualitative methods (in-depth interviews, ethnographic observation); archival research; community-based participatory research; digital archival curation

Software & Tools: Microsoft Office Suite; basic R; digital database management

Languages: Russian (native); English (fluent); French & German (basic reading proficiency)

Teaching Platforms: Blackboard; Canvas; Zoom; Google Classroom