

Alisson Rowland

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[Website](#)

EDUCATION

- Ph. D University of California, Irvine, Political Science expected 2025
Fields: International Relations, Political Theory
Emphases: Critical Theory, Race and Justice
- M.A. University of California, Irvine, Political Science 2022
- B.A. University of California, Irvine, Political Science 2019
summa cum laude with Honors

RESEARCH INTERESTS

sexwork, global labor governance, human rights, social movements, informal labor, gender and sexuality, interpretive and qualitative methods

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed

- Rowland, A.** Care as a Process of Transformation: How Sex Workers Redefine Care. *Critical Sociology*. *Under Review*.
- Rowland, A.** “Indecent” Mobilization: Sex Worker Claims for a Just Future. *Under Review*.
- Rowland, A.** Informality as Deviancy: The Problem of Difference in the Decent Work Agenda. *Under Review*.
- Fuentes, K., Levitt, L., Soriano, K. **Rowland, A.**, and Wit, N. SESTA/FOSTA as de Facto Hate Policy: Combatting Carceral Investments and Uplifting Community-Based Solutions. *Revise and Resubmit with Sexuality Research and Social Policy*.

Book Chapters

- Rowland, A.** (2024). Sex Workers, Work! Anticarceral Approaches to Decriminalization. *Routledge International Handbook of Critical Policing Studies*.
- Rowland, A.** Fuentes, K. (Forthcoming 2025). Sex Workers Rights Movement. *SAGE Encyclopedia of Politics and Gender*.
- Fuentes, K., & **Rowland, A.** (Forthcoming 2025). Sex Work. *SAGE Encyclopedia of Politics and Gender*.
- Cantwell, D., & **Rowland, A.** (2022). Hidden Expenses in Graduate School: Navigating Financial Precarity and Elitism. APSA Preprints. doi:10.33774/apsa-2022-frjqb
- Novak-Hertzog, M., **Rowland, A.**, Saks McManaway, K., & Bonilla, T. (2022). Gender and the Political Science Graduate Experience: When Leaning In Isn't Enough. APSA Preprints.

doi:10.33774/apsa-2022-ttcd4

Macaulay, C., McThomas, M., & Rowland, A. (2022). Selecting an Advisor: Professional and Personal Considerations. APSA Preprints. doi:10.33774/apsa-2022-9c1fq

Hyder, M., El Kurd, D., Gray, F., Cantwell-Chavez, D., & Rowland, A. (2022). Things that Can Go “Wrong”: Finding Our Own Way in Graduate School. APSA Preprints.

doi:10.33774/apsa-2022-m1g8c

Other Publications

Rowland, A. (2023, June 15th). What the 48th International Sex Worker Activist Day Says About the Status of Human Rights. *Australian Outlook*.

<https://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/australianoutlook/what-the-48th-international-celebration-of-sex-worker-activism-says-about-status-of-human-rights/>

RESEARCH

Ongoing

Dissertation Fieldwork, virtual

- conducting interviews with sex workers in the United States, United Kingdom, and Australia

Post-Secondary Research Lab, Graduate Student Researcher

- member of a multidisciplinary and collaborative team of researchers across UCI

Supervised by Di Xu, for Community College Professor Professionalization Program

- Conduct observations of Canvas course shells pre and post instructor participation in professional development training
- Facilitate interviews with instructors to assess the impacts of professionalization on increasing student success and retention

Hustle & Health, Graduate Student Researcher

- Interdisciplinary project with PI from St. Louis University focused on assessing the relationship between policy outcomes and sex worker health outcomes
- Tailored qualitative data analysis tools
- Conducted interviews with sex workers on health and other policy impacts on work, safety, and autonomy

2023

Co-Principal Investigator for Summer Bridge Study Groups Project

- Implemented study group treatment for 2023 summer bridge cohort (n=140 students), a group of first generation, income eligible incoming freshmen from all majors
- Facilitated a team of five researchers from project conceptualization to manuscript submission

Dissertation Fieldwork during Summer 2023 in London, England

- conducted interviews with current or former sex workers

- engaged in participant observation at sex worker led events
- 2020** Supervised by Professor Etel Solingen, for book project *Geopolitics, Supply Chains, and International Relations in East Asia* (Cambridge University Press, 2021), 2020
- Retrieve and organize research on gender and supply chains
 - Conduct literature review for book project
- 2019** UCI Honors Thesis
- Qualitative study conducted over the course of three semesters to fulfill the requirements for the Political Science Honors Program
- 2018** Supervised by Professor Heidi Hardt, for book project *Nato's Lessons in Crisis* (Oxford University Press, 2018)
- Code qualitative data on NATO protocols for statistical analysis via Excel
 - Cross-reference coding of primary sources with other researchers

FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024** Haynes Lindley Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (\$28,600)
- Competitive fellowship to support the completion of dissertation research on a topic of importance to the Los Angeles region
- Public Impact Fellow (\$1,000)
- Nominated by the Political Science department to compete in a university-wide competition for those conducting research with the potential to significantly impact the lives of Californians and global communities
 - Recipient of one of ten competitive fellowships
- 2023** Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (\$2,000)
- In support of dissertation research
- Associate Dean's Fellowship (\$7,000)
- Awarded to a promising PhD student to relieve them from teaching duties to focus on research and publications
- CHC Senior Graduate Fellow, UCI (\$8,000)
- Inaugural senior position collaborating with UC Irvine's campus wide
 - undergraduate honors program
 - Managed 3 other graduate students in advising undergraduate research endeavors, as well as facilitated events and resources to improve research
 - activity
- UCI Womxn's Center Graduate Student In-Residency
- Conferred to a graduate student whose research and service aligns with the Center's mission and values to work on a quarter long project
- 2022** DTEI Pedagogical Fellowship (\$2,500)
- Selected for a highly regarded "preparing future faculty"

program; selection is competitive, based on a record of excellent teaching, promising scholarship, and service

- Program provides advanced pedagogical and professional development in an interdisciplinary community that emphasizes professional and personal support

2021 Campuswide Honors Collegium Graduate Fellow (\$12,000)

- Inaugural position collaborating with UC Irvine's campus wide undergraduate honors program

DTEI Summer Graduate Fellow (\$5,000)

- Selected to work with a UCI faculty member to increase inclusivity of undergraduate course design

Global Political Economy Project-Qualitative Fellow, Georgetown University

- Selected to participate in a nation-wide program with distinguished faculty in the field of Political Economy
- Presented a working paper to an audience of faculty and graduate students

2020

Don Lavoie Fellowship, George Mason University (\$700)

- Awarded a competitive fellowship awarded to students interested in studying key ideas in political economy
- Participated in a semester long program engaging in current research with students from across the nation

UC Irvine Diversity Recruitment Fellowship (\$5,000)

- Selected to receive this fellowship as a part of doctoral financial offer for students who have experienced significant educational challenges

UC Irvine Graduate Dean's Recruitment Fellowship (\$10,000)

- Selected to receive this fellowship due to receiving competitive financial offers from equivalent institutions

2019

UC Irvine Graduate Opportunity Fellowship

- Awarded to first year doctoral students to release from teaching obligations for one year to facilitate academic career development

AWARDS

2024

DECADE Professionalization Award (\$1000)

2023

Graduate Student Paper Award for "'Indecent' Mobilizations: Sex Worker Claims for a Just Future" (\$500)

- Awarded by the Feminist Theory and Gender Studies section of the International Studies Association for best graduate student paper presented at ISA 2023 in Montreal

Graduate Order of Merit Outstanding Service Award, School of Social Sciences

(\$500)

- Prestigious selection of one student in the School of Social Sciences who embodies outstanding service to their department, school, and community
Outstanding Student Representative Award, Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience (DECADE) (\$1,000)

- Awarded to a DECADE representative who has demonstrated a commitment above and beyond their responsibilities to improving the graduate school experience

Grant-Seeking Award, UCI (\$250)

- Awarded to Political Science students who are actively seeking opportunities to support their research

Most Promising Future Faculty Award, honorable mention

- Recognizes graduate students who show great promise through their effectiveness as instructors, their scholarly activity, and their service

2022 David Easton Award for Best Research Paper, for “Informality as Deviancy: the Problem of Difference in the Decent Work Agenda” (\$300)

- Recognizes the best qualifying paper written during the preceding year by a political science graduate student

DECADE Professionalization Award (\$350)

2021 Emerging Scholar Award, Global Studies Organization

- Awarded to outstanding early-career scholars or graduate students

GRANTS

2024 Center for Organizational Research Grant (\$1,000)

Social Sciences Conference Grant (\$400)

Center for Peace and Conflict Studies Grant (\$2,000)

2023 Associated Graduate Student Conference Grant (\$250)

Publication Accelerator Grant, Institute for Humane Studies (\$5,000)

Summer Research Grant, UCI (\$2,100)

Research Grant, Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies (CGPACS) (\$3,400)

Travel Grant, Institute for Humane Studies (\$750)

Conference Grant, Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation (DTEI) (\$1,000)

Conference Grant, Associated Graduate Student (AGS) (\$250)

International Studies Association (ISA) Pay it Forward (\$100)

2022 CGPACS Research Grant (\$3,000)

AGS Conference Grant (\$250)

ISA International Political Economy-Review of Political Economy (IPE-RIPE) Workshop Grant (\$750)

ISA 2022 Travel Grant (\$700)

2021 School of Social Sciences Dean’s Workshops Grants (\$3,500)

AGS Conference Grant (\$250)

Summer Research Grant, UCI (\$900)
ISA Travel Grant (\$400)
Conference Travel Grant, UCI (\$250)

2020 Summer Research Grant, UCI (\$1,000)
Conference Travel Grant, UCI (\$250)
Scholarship Recognition Grant, UCI (\$250)

2019 Air Force Aid Society Arnold Grant (\$500)
Wounded Warrior Scholarship (\$1,200)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- “Care in Times of Crisis: Sex Worker Responses to Regulatory Environments”, National Women’s Studies Association, Detroit, MI, 2024
- “Care in Times of Crises: How Sex Workers Redefine Care”, Care Studies Working Group, Texas A&M, virtual, 2024
- “Who Has the Power to Change the World? Activism and Global Governance”, panel, American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, 2024
- Sex Workers are Researchers/Organizers! Insights for Engaging SWers in Research*, panel, International Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, 2024
- “Sex Worker Activism and the Regulatory Liminality of Rights,” International Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, 2024
- Cultivating Relationalities Through/in Ethnographic Research in International Organizations*, International Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, 2024
- Critically-Focused Pedagogical Praxes: Articulating Practices in Educating for Justice and Liberation*, Roundtable, International Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, 2024
- Expanding Methodologies, Accounting for Complexity*, Roundtable, International Studies Association-West, Pasadena, CA, 2023
- “Sex Workers, Work! Anticarceral Practices as World Building,” International Studies Association-West, Pasadena, CA, 2023
- “Sex Workers, Work! Anticarceral Practices as World Building,” American Political Science Association, Los Angeles, CA, 2023 (*withdrawn in support of striking workers*)
- “‘Indecent’ Mobilization: Sex Worker Claims for a Just Future,” International Studies Association, Montreal, CA, 2023
- “Moral Framing and Postcoloniality: Regulating Sex Work in the Philippines,” International Studies Association-West, Pasadena, CA, 2022
- “Informality as Deviancy: the Problem of Difference in the Decent Work Agenda,” International Studies Association (ISA) IPE/RIPE Pre-conference Workshop for Emerging and Underrepresented Scholars, Nashville, TN, 2022
- “Rethorizing Gendered and Racialized Production,” ISA-West, Pasadena, CA, 2021
- “The Decent Work Agenda,” UCI Political Science Graduate Student Conference, Irvine, CA, 2021
- “White Supranational Governance,” Global Political Economy Project, Mortara Center,

Georgetown, virtual, 2021

“North South Feedback Loop: Developed Countries Effects on Developing Countries Economic Prospects,” International Studies Association Annual Convention, virtual, 2021

“Price of Womanhood: Gender Roles, Violence, and Market Feminization in North Korea,” Western Political Science Association, virtual, 2021

“Gender and Global Value Chains,” Midwestern Political Science Association, virtual, 2021

“Gender and Informality,” UCI Center for Global Peace and Conflict Research, Irvine, CA, 2020

INVITED TALKS

Care as a Process of Transformation: How Sex Workers Redefine Care

- Invited speaker at Duke University for NEH project Value of Care

Policing of Los Angeles and Connections to Palestine

- Guest speaker at Southern California Library for SWOPLA sponsored event discussing the relationship between surveillance and carceralism in LA and Gaza

Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation: Neurodiversity and Learning in Higher Education

- Panelist at a UCI DTEI event for the campus community on teaching practices to support neurodiverse students

Sex Work Speaker Series: “Sex Worker Activism and the Regulatory Liminality of Rights”

- Featured speaker at UCI event co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology, Criminal Law and Society, Women Gender and Sexuality Studies, English, and Film and Media Studies

Feminist Research Methodologies: “Field work and Participant Observation”

- Guest lecture for an upper division Political Science course at California Polytechnic State University, Pomona

Introduction to International Relations: “Sex work versus Human Trafficking”

- Guest lecture on the distinctions between sex as a form of employment and sexual trafficking as a global humanitarian issue for a lower division Political Science course at the University of California, Irvine

Campuswide Honors Collegium: “Getting Started on Graduate School Applications”

- Moderated and presented to UCI honors students on strategies for applying to graduate schools for a university-wide honors program at the University of California, Irvine

Campuswide Honors Student Council: “GRE and Graduate School”

- Invited as a panelist to discuss graduate school and how to prepare for applications

DECADE: “Abolition Now. Bridging Practitioner Divides”

- Moderated and presented in a virtual forum to students, faculty, and the public on the various approaches to and methods of achieving abolitionist visions

Introduction to International Relations: “Global Populism”

- Guest lecture on the rise of racist and fascist dog whistling around the world

International Political Economy of Asia: “South Korean Economic Growth”

- Guest lecture for an upper division Political Science course on the modernization processes in Korea during the 1980s

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023** Abortion Access Peer Navigator, Sex Workers Outreach Project Los Angeles
- Participated in a series of workshops designed to promote equitable health care provision
 - Provide assistance to current and former sex workers in receiving adequate reproductive care
- Teaching Assistant Professional Development Program Facilitator
- Created a series of workshops amounting to a 2 day training program for incoming Teaching Assistants at UC Irvine
 - Facilitated a training program to prepare incoming Teaching Assistants
- 2021-23** Graduate Research Consultant, UCI Campuswide Honors Collegium
- Assisted over 300 undergraduate students in beginning the research process
 - Created a series of workshops and resources to support student success in completing an undergraduate thesis project

RESEARCH WORKSHOPS

- 2023** Human Rights and Democratic Backsliding Workshop, Arizona State University
Review of International Political Economy Journal Early Career Workshop Participant
- 2022** ISA International Political Economy-RIPE Workshop Participant
- 2021** [ISA-Northeastern Methodology Workshop Participant](#)

TEACHING

Lecturer

Introduction to Political Theory, California Polytechnic University, Pomona
Problems of Political Economy, California State University, Northridge

Instructor of Record

University Studies 83/84: Bridges to Success (2024)
University Studies 84: Summer Bridge (2023)
University Studies 83/84: Bridges to Success (2022)

Teaching Assistant, Upper Division

Global Environmental Politics (Natasha Miric)
International Urban Politics (2x, Kamal Sadiq)
Nuclear Environments (John Smith)
International Political Economy of East Asia (Bob Uriu)

Teaching Assistant, Lower Division

Social Problems (Rocio Rosales)
Introduction to Race and Ethnicity (Michael Tesler)
Social Problems (Francesca Polletta)

Computational Research in the Social Sciences (Christine Tomlinson)
Introduction to International Relations (2x) (Erin Lockwood, Etel Solingen)

CERTIFICATIONS

Certificate in Summer Teaching, DTEI
[Certificate in Teaching Excellence](#), DTEI
[Inclusive Excellence Certificate](#), Office of Inclusive Excellence
Pedagogical Liaisons Program, DTEI
[Mentoring Excellence Certificate](#), Graduate Division
Certificate in Inclusive Hybrid Pedagogy, DTEI
Certificate in Course Design, DTEI
Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning Certificate, DTEI
Teaching Assistant Professional Development Program, DTEI

SERVICE

Professional Service

2024-Current *ISA Feminist Theory and Gender Studies Executive Committee Member*

- Facilitate the Global Voices Seminar Series
- Coordinate virtual lectures on topics related to gender, state violence, and human rights

2022-2023 *ISA-West Panel Chair*

- Officiated several conference panels at ISA-West to ensure timely completion of scholarly conversation

Summer 2022 *Journal Reviewer, Third World Quarterly*

- Served as a reviewer for the journal Third World Quarterly to promote scholarly rigor

Fall 2022 *Moderator, Panel with Congresswoman Katie Porter Sponsored by DECADE and the Womxn's Center*

- Facilitated a panel discussion with Congresswoman Katie Porter open to all graduate students at UC Irvine

2021-2023 *ISA-West Executive Board Member, Graduate Student Representative*

- Coordinated volunteers for ISA-West two years in a row
- Developed a supplementary mentoring program to encourage inclusion of underrepresented scholars

2021-2023 *Ole Holsti Award Committee Member*

- Served on the award committee for ISA-West sponsored award two years in a row, assisting in the selection of the award recipient

April 2020 *Conference Staff*; International Studies Association Conference

- Recruited and prepared undergraduate students for poster presentations

- Gathered information on local resources for conference program

UCI Service

2023 [DTEI Blog Contributor](#)

- Provided insight into the impact of Covid-19 on racial equity in higher education

2021-2023 [DECADE Social Sciences Council Co-Chair](#)

- Collaborated with campus organizations to provide social science graduate students with events and resources to demystify the hidden curriculum
- Facilitate communication between faculty and students to improve inclusivity and access

2022 *Underground Scholars Initiative, Recruitment Chair*

- Participated in weekly meetings with system-impacted students across campus and identified ways to support student integration and success

2022 *DTEI Anti-colonial Theory Working Group Facilitator*

- Facilitated a campuswide working group to discuss power hierarchies, imperialism, and the ongoing fight for global liberation

2021 [Grad Interconnect Blog Contributor](#)

- Provided advice for incoming and current students in social sciences on issues of time management and work/life balance

2020-2021 [GradInterconnect Peer Mentor](#)

- Served as a liaison and mentor for incoming international students from all departments as they transitioned to life at UC Irvine

2020-2021 [UCI End Racism Initiative Co-Facilitator, Curricular Cultures and Pedagogical Structures](#)

- Collaborated with faculty, students, and staff across the university on how to improve inclusivity and reduce the harms of racist and sexist pedagogy
- Develop student-centered curriculum and promote student-led endeavors

September 2023 *Teaching Assistant Professional Development Program*; University of California Irvine, Division of Teaching Excellence, and Inclusivity

- Went through over 100 hours of professional training on pedagogical development
- Created an annual 8-hour training for new teaching assistants
- Supported students in working through their different concerns around teaching and helping supply them with tools and resources to support their success

2020-2021 *UCI Contact Tracing*

- Proactively assisted in campus-wide contact tracing efforts to mitigate spread of Covid-19

- Distribute information about quarantine, self-isolation, and campus resources to affected students, faculty, and staff

Departmental Service

2021- Current *International Relations Working Group Co-Leader*; University of California Irvine

- Created schedule to expand knowledge and skill sets among UCI graduate students around topics within contemporary political theory
- Facilitated reading groups, professionalization workshops, and paper workshops
- Fostered a multi-dimensional, interdisciplinary community among UCI graduate students, faculty and other UC communities

2021-2023 *DECADE Campuswide Representative*

- Represented the needs of students in Political Science at faculty events and at campuswide town halls

2020- 2021 *Faculty-Graduate Student Liaison*

- Communicated and advocated for graduate students
- Regularly attended faculty meetings
- Facilitated a departmental townhall for students and faculty

2020 *Remote Learning Guidelines Committee Member*

- Developed a series of recommendations for faculty to improve pedagogy to be more effective and student-centered during the pivot to online learning at the onset of Covid-19

2020 *Womxn's Caucus Support Group Facilitator*

- Created a welcoming online space to build community with womxn and non-binary graduate students

Public Service

2023- Current *Peer Navigator, Sex Worker Abortion Services*

- Developed inaugural SWOPLA program to provide abortion services to current and former sex workers
- Participated in a peer navigator training to assist clients in receiving reproductive care

2023-Current *Hustle and Health Board Member*

- Advise a research team working on sex worker public health issues

2022- Current *Member, Sex Workers Outreach Project Los Angeles*

- Create research, resources, and events for sex workers that promotes safety and wellness

2021-2022 *Outside Organizer, Initiate Justice*

- Selected to participate in a six-week long training program to activate the political power of system-impacted citizens
- Engaged in workshops to increase knowledge of California's legislative process

IN THE NEWS

IWD Health Fair Sex Workers' Health: From Surviving to Thriving, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA, June 2023 ([click here](#))

Rowland earns UCI soc sci's Outstanding Service Award, UCI Social Sciences News, June 2023 ([click here](#))

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

International Studies Association

American Political Science Association

Western Political Science Association

Political Science Womxn's Caucus

Womxn in Conflict Studies Association