

# Colin J. Beck

POMONA COLLEGE CROOKSHANK 208  
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POSITIONS 2023- . Professor of Sociology, Pomona College.  
Affiliated Faculty, International Relations Program

2015-2023. Associate Professor of Sociology, Pomona College.

2009-2015. Assistant Professor of Sociology, Pomona College.

2009. Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Stanford University.

EDUCATION 2009. Ph.D., Sociology, Stanford University.

2002. M.A., Sociology, Stanford University.

2000. B.A., *cum laude* with honors, Lewis & Clark College.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS 2021-2022. Faculty Fellow, The Humanities Studio, Pomona College.

2020-2021. American Council of Learned Societies Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellow at the Department of Sociology, University of California, Irvine.

2015. Winner, Outstanding Article Award. Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section, American Sociological Association.

2015. Honorable Mention, Best Article Award. Global and Transnational Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

2013. Visiting Fellow. Center for the Study of Democracy, University of California, Irvine.

2012. Co-winner, Best Article Award. Global and Transnational Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

2008-2009. Affiliated Fellow. Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University.

2008. Centennial Teaching Assistant Award. Stanford University.

2006-2007. Fellow. Stanford Center on International Conflict and Negotiation, Stanford University.

2005. Cilker Award for Teaching, Department of Sociology, Stanford University.

2004. LaPiere Award for Best Qualifying Paper. Department of Sociology, Stanford University.

PUBLICATIONS *Books:*

Beck, Colin J., Mlada Bukovansky, Erica Chenoweth, George Lawson, Sharon Erickson Nepstad, and Daniel P. Ritter. 2022. *On Revolutions: Unruly Politics in the Contemporary World*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Beck, Colin J. 2015. *Radicals, Revolutionaries, and Terrorists*. Cambridge: Polity.  
Reviewed in *Acta Sociologica*, *Journal for the Study of Radicalism*, *LSE Review of Books*, *Political Studies Review*, *Social Movement Studies*, *Sociology*

*Peer reviewed articles:*

Beck, Colin J. and Daniel P. Ritter. 2021. "Thinking Beyond Generations: On the Future of Revolution Theory." *Journal of Historical Sociology* 34(1): 134-141.

Schoon, Eric W. and Colin J. Beck. 2021. "Repertoires of Terror: News Media Classification of Militant Groups, 1970-2013." *Socius* 7: 2378023121990165.

Beck, Colin J. 2018. "The Structure of Comparison in the Study of Revolution." *Sociological Theory* 36(2): 134-161.

Beck, Colin J. 2017. "The Comparative Method in Practice: Case Selection and the Social Science of Revolution." *Social Science History* 41(3): 533-554.

Beck, Colin J. 2014. "Reflections on the Revolutionary Wave in 2011." *Theory and Society* 43(2): 197-223.

Outstanding Article Award, Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section, American Sociological Association

Honorable Mention, Best Article Award, Global and Transnational Sociology Section, American Sociological Association

Beck, Colin J. and Emily Miner. 2013. "Who Gets Designated a Terrorist and Why?" *Social Forces* 91(3): 837-872.

Beck, Colin J., Gili S. Drori, and John W. Meyer. 2012. "World Influences on Human Rights Language in Constitutions: A Cross-National Study." *International Sociology* 27(4): 483-501.

Beck, Colin J. 2011. "The World-Cultural Origins of Revolutionary Waves: Five Centuries of European Contention." *Social Science History* 35(2): 167-207.

Best Article Award, Global and Transnational Sociology Section,  
American Sociological Association

Beck, Colin J. 2009. "State Building as a Source of Islamic Political Organization." *Sociological Forum* 24(2): 337-356.

Reprinted in *Islamic Political and Social Movements*, edited by Barry M. Rubin ([2013] London: Routledge)

Beck, Colin J. 2008. "The Contribution of Social Movement Theory to Understanding Terrorism." *Sociology Compass* 2(5): 1565-1581.

Beck, Colin J. 2007. "On the Radical Cusp: Ecoterrorism in the United States, 1998-2005." *Mobilization* 12(2): 161-176.

*Chapters:*

Beck, Colin J. 2020. "Revolutions Against the State." Pp. 564-592 in *The New Handbook of Political Sociology: States, Parties, Movements, Citizenship, and Globalization*, edited by T. Janoski, C. de Leon, J. Misra, and I. Martin. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Beck, Colin J., John W. Meyer, Ralph I. Hosoki, and Gili S. Drori. 2019. "Constitutions in World Society: A New Measure of Human Rights." Pp. 85-109 in *Constitution-Making and Transnational Legal Order*, edited by T. Ginsburg, T. Halliday, and G. Shaffer. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Beck, Colin J. and Eric W. Schoon. 2018. "Terrorism and Social Movements." Pp. 698-713 in *Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Social Movements, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*, edited by D. Snow, S. Soule, H. Kriesi, and H. McCammon. New York: Wiley-Blackwell.

Beck, Colin J. 2017. "Revolutions: Robust Findings, Persistent Problems, and Promising Frontiers." Pp. 168-183 in *States and Peoples in Conflict: Transformations of Conflict Studies*, edited by M. Stohl, M. Lichbach, and P. Grabosky. New York: Routledge.

*Other:*

Beck, Colin J. 2022. Book Review of *Global Struggle and Social Change* by Christopher Chase-Dunn and Paul Almeida. *Contemporary Sociology* 51(6): 476-478.

Beck, Colin J. 2020. Book Review of *Anatomies of Revolution* by George Lawson. *Social Forces* 98(4): e30.

Beck, Colin J. 2016. Book Review of *Dynamics of Radicalization: A Relational and Comparative Perspective* by Eitan Y. Alimi, Chares Demetriou, and Lorenzo Bosi. *American Journal of Sociology* 121(6): 1971-1972.

Beck, Colin J. 2015. Book Review of *The Surveillance-Industrial Complex: A Political Economy of Surveillance* edited by Kirstie Ball and Lauren Snider. *Contemporary Sociology* 44(4): 484-486.

Beck, Colin J. 2013. "Ideology." *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social and Political Movements*, edited by D. Snow, D. della Porta, B. Klandermans, and D. McAdam. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

Beck, Colin J. 2012. Book Review of *Protest with Chinese Characteristics: Demonstrations, Riots, and Petitions in the Mid-Qing Dynasty* by Ho-Fung Hung. *American Journal of Sociology* 117(4): 1278-1280.

PRESENTATIONS *Invited talks:*

2021. "Revolutions and Historical Social Science Research: A Conversation." Comparative Historical Analysis and Theory Flash Talk.

2019. "Rethinking Revolutions." Department of Sociology, Stockholm University, Sweden.

2013. "Putting Revolutions in Their (Global) Place." Department of Sociology, University of Arizona, Tucson.

2010. "The World Cultural Origins of Revolutionary Waves." Program on Global Studies Colloquium Series, University of California, Riverside.

*Conferences:*

2021. "The Constitutionalization of Human Rights" (co-authors: Kristen Shorette, John W. Meyer, Gili S. Drori). American Sociological Association.

2017. "Let's Stop Citing." Rethinking Revolutions Workshop, London School of Economics, London, United Kingdom.

2016. "Constitutions in World Society: A New Measure of Human Rights" (co-authors: John W. Meyer, Gili S. Drori, and Ralph Hosoki). University of California, Irvine School of Law, Irvine, California.

2016. "Case Selection and the Social Science of Revolution." American Sociological Association, Seattle, Washington.

2016. Panelist, Peaceful Revolutions? International Studies Association, Atlanta, Georgia.

2015. "Epistemologies and the Structure of Comparison in the Study of Revolution." American Sociological Association, Chicago, Illinois.

2014. "The Comparative Method in Practice: Analytical Case Networks in the Study of Revolution." American Sociological Association, San Francisco, California.

2014. "The Comparative-Historical Sociology of World Society Theory." The Future of World Society Mini-Conference, Stanford, California.

2013. "Transnational Theory and Method in the Social Science of Revolution: The Case of the Arab Spring." Capitalism, the Politics of Inequality, and Historical Change Mini-Conference, Columbia University, New York.

2012. "The Arab Spring in Comparative-Historical Perspective." California Sociological Association, Riverside, California.

2012. "2011 and a New Generation of Revolutionary Theory." Social Science History Association, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

2012. "Reflections on the Revolutionary Wave in 2011." American Sociological Association, Denver, Colorado.

2012. "Who Gets Labeled a Terrorist and Why?" (co-author: Emily Miner). International Studies Association, San Diego, California.

2012. "Revolutions and Revolutionary Waves before Nation-States." International Studies Association, San Diego, California.

2011. "Who Gets Labeled a Terrorist and Why?" (co-author: Emily Miner). American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, Nevada.

2010. "What Do We Really Know About (the Social Science of) Revolution?" Social Science History Association, Chicago, Illinois.

2009. "Class, Contagion, or Complaint? A Sociology of the Revolution of 1525." Social Science History Association, Long Beach, California.

2009. "World Influences on Human Rights in Constitutions" (co-authors: Gili S. Drori and John W. Meyer). American Sociological Association, San Francisco, California.

2008. "A Theory of Ideology, Social Structure, and Revolution." American Sociological Association, Boston, Massachusetts.

2007. "Revolutionary Waves and Global Processes." American Sociological Association, New York, New York.

2006. "The Islamic Compromise: State Repression, Concession, and Political Islam." American Sociological Association, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

2003. "Repression and Compromise: The Social Movement Perspective on Islamic Militancy." MacArthur Fellows Conference on Religion and Violence, Stanford University, California.

TEACHING *Pomona College:*

Recent courses:

- Cases, Comparisons, Causality
- Critical Inquiry Seminar: Black Revolution
- Fascist!
- Globalizations
- Intermediate International Relations Seminar
- Radicals, Revolutionaries, and Terrorists
- Social and Political Movements

*Stanford University:*

2009. Lecturer in Sociology: Senior Seminar.

2005-2008. Instructor in Sociology: Politics and Society; Social Movements and Collective Action; Sociology of Terrorism; Teaching Development Seminar.

2008. Instructor in Urban Studies: Preparation for Senior Thesis Workshop; Senior Seminar.

2002-2005. Teaching Assistant in International Relations: Globalization and Organizations; Science, Technology, and Development.

2002-2004. Teaching Assistant in Sociology: Introduction to Social Stratification; Law and Society; Race and Ethnic Relations; Senior Seminar; Sociology of Terrorism.

SERVICE *Professional:*

2022- . Advisory Panel, National Science Foundation.

2017- . Editorial Board, *Journal for the Study of Radicalism*.

2017-2020. Cooperating Researcher. World Politics Research Training Group, Bielefeld University.

Reviewer for:

*American Journal of Sociology; American Political Science Review; American Sociological Review; British Journal of Political Science; Cambridge University Press; Columbia University Press; Comparative Political Studies; Critical Studies on Terrorism; Cultural Sociology; Current Sociology; European Journal of Sociology; European Sociological Review; Government and Opposition; International Journal of Comparative Sociology; International Theory; International Sociology; Journal of Historical Sociology; Journal of Management Inquiry; Journal for the Study of Radicalism; Law & Society Review; Mobilization; National Science Foundation; Oxford University Press; Political Power and Social Theory; Polity Press; Research in Political Sociology; Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change; Routledge; Sage; Social Forces; Social Problems; Social Psychology Quarterly; Sociological Forum; Sociological Inquiry; Sociological Theory; Sociological Spectrum; Sociology Compass; Sociology of Race and Ethnicity; Springer; The Sociological Quarterly; Theory and Society; University of Chicago Press*

Committees:

2022-2023. Chair, Membership Committee, Comparative and Historical Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

2020. Member, Nominations Committee. Political Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

2019. Member, Best Article Award Committee. Global and Transnational Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

2017. Coordinator, Social Movements Research Cluster. Global and Transnational Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

2014-2017. Secretary-Treasurer. Comparative and Historical Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

2016. Member, Outstanding Article Award Committee. Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section, American Sociological Association.

2016. Member, Best Article Awards Committee. Global and Transnational Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

2012-2015. Secretary-Treasurer. Global and Transnational Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

2013. Chair, Theda Skocpol Dissertation Award Committee. Comparative and Historical Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

2010-2011. Member, Awards Committee. Global and Transnational Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.

Conference sessions:

2022. Organizer. The Future of World Society Theory Mini-Conference. Pomona College, Claremont, California.

2021. Chair. Challenging Repression: Social Movements in Comparative and Authoritarian Contexts. American Sociological Association.

2017. Organizer and Chair. The Future of Muslim Societies. American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada.

2017. Chair, Global and Transnational Social Movements Roundtable, American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada.

2017. Discussant, Rethinking Revolutions Workshop, London School of Economics, London, United Kingdom.

2014. Chair. Integrating Global/Transnational Sociology and Comparative Analysis: Conceptual and Methodological Issues. American Sociological Association, San Francisco, California.

2013. Organizer. Historic and Historical Organized Violence I & II. Social Science History Association, Chicago, Illinois.

2013. Chair and Discussant. Capitalism, States, and Transformations in Global Perspectives I. Capitalism, the Politics of Inequality, and Historical Change Mini-Conference, Columbia University, New York.



2012. Organizer. Comparative-Historical Roundtables. American Sociological Association, Denver, Colorado.

2010. Chair. Power, Patriotism, and Military Conflict. Social Science History Association, Chicago, Illinois.

2007. Organizer and Chair. Terrorism, Counter-terrorism, and Political Violence. Pacific Sociological Association, Oakland, California.

*Institutional:*

Pomona College:

2010- . Member, International Relations Program Coordinating Committee.

2011- . Member, Eda May Haskell Library Prize Selection Committee.

2023- . Member, Faculty Grievance Committee.

2016, 2018-2019, 2022- . Member, Work-Family Committee.

2021-2022. Member, Faculty Compensation and Benefits Ad Hoc Committee.

2017-2018. Chair, Department of Sociology.

2011-2016. Co-founder and Organizer, Social Science Faculty Research Workshop.

2015. Member, Faculty Personnel Committee.

2013-2015. Member, Committee on Social Responsibility.

2011-2012. External Member, Faculty Search Committee, Politics Department.

2011-2012. Member, Institutional Review Board.

2010-2011. Member, Curriculum Committee.

Department of Sociology, Stanford University:

2005-2006. Member, Undergraduate Studies Committee.

2004. Member, Speaker Series Committee.

2003-2004. Co-Chair, Activities Committee.

2003-2004. Editor, Department Newsletter.

AFFILIATIONS American Sociological Association  
Sections on Global and Transnational Sociology, Comparative and  
Historical Sociology, Political Sociology, Collective Behavior and Social  
Movements, Peace, War, and Social Conflict

Social Science History Association

REFERENCES John W. Meyer. Professor of Sociology, Emeritus, Stanford University.

Julian Go. Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago.

Jack A. Goldstone. Virginia E. and John T. Hazel, Jr. Chair Professor of  
Public Policy, George Mason University.

George Lawson. Associate Professor of International Relations, London  
School of Economics.