

Kayla Preston

Curriculum Vitae

May 2025

Department of Sociology
University of Toronto
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Citizenship: Canadian

EDUCATION

- 2024 (Fall) **Visiting Graduate Student.** Dept. of Sociology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- 2020- **Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology-** University of Toronto, Ontario.
Thesis: “An Analysis of Youth Activists in Canada and the United States.”
Supervisor: Dr. Emine Fidan Elcioglu
Committee Members: Dr. Ellen Berrey, Dr. Yoonkyung Lee
Comprehensive Exams: Political Sociology; Immigration, Race and Ethnicity
- 2018-2020 **Master of Arts in Sociology-** Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Thesis: “Tradition and Authoritarianism as a Solution to Social Decay: An Analysis of Canadian Right-Wing Extremism Online.”
Supervisor: Dr. Fiona Martin.
- 2014-2018 **Sociology with Honors,** St. Thomas University, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Thesis: “We Have to Stop Islam or Say Goodbye to Civilisation”: Facebook Posts and the Crisis of Whiteness in Canadian Society.” Supervisor: Dr. Gül Çalışkan.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social/Digital Media, Online Cultures, Ethnography, Political Sociology, Social Movements, Far-Right Extremism, Masculinity, Activism

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Review Journal Articles

- 2024 Halpin, M., **Preston, K.**, Lockyer, D., & Maguire, F. A solider and a victim: Masculinity, violence, and incels celebration of December 6th. *Canadian Review of Sociology/Revue canadienne de sociologie*, 61(1), 7-24

- 2023 **Preston, K.** Justifying contentious social and political claims using mundane language: An analysis of Canadian right-wing extremism. *Current Sociology*, 00113921231182183
- 2023 Halpin, M., Richard, N., **Preston, K.**, Gosse, M., & Maguire, F. Men who hate women: The misogyny of involuntarily celibate men. *New Media & Society*, 14614448231176777.
- 2022 **Preston, K.** & Caliskan, G. “We Have to Stop Islam, or Say Goodbye to Civilisation”: A Critical Discourse Analysis of the Pegida Canada Facebook Page. *Journal of Critical Race Inquiry*, 9(1), 21-50.
- 2021 **Preston, K.**, Halpin, M., & Maguire, F. The black pill: New technology and the male supremacy of involuntarily celibate men. *Men and Masculinities*, 24(5), 823-841
Media coverage: CTV News, *The Conversation Canada*, *Salon*
- 2017 Çalışkan, G., & **Preston, K.** Tropes of fear and the crisis of the west: Trumpism as a discourse of post-territorial coloniality. *Postcolonial Studies*, 20(2), 199-216.

Book Chapters

- 2024 **Preston, Kayla** “Community Building as a Response to Care in Studying the Far-Right” In Antonia Vaughan, Joan Braune, Meghan Tinsley and Aurelien Mondon (Eds.), *The Ethics of Researching the Far Right* (pp. 218-227). Manchester University Press.
- 2020 Çalışkan, G., **Preston, K.**, Kinsman, G., Moussa, G., & Wahab, A. “Decolonial Intervention to Queer Necropolitics and Homonationalisms” in Çalışkan, G. (Eds.), *Gendering Globalization Globalizing Gender: A Postcolonial Approach* (pp. 40-60). Oxford University Press.
- 2020 Çalışkan, G. & **Preston, K.** “Introduction” In Çalışkan, G. (Eds.), *Gendering Globalization Globalizing Gender: A Postcolonial Approach*. (pp. x-xiv). Oxford University Press.

Encyclopedia Entries and Book Reviews

- 2021 **Preston, K.** & Michael, H. “Social isolation in the elderly, global presence, consequences, and possible solutions” In *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Critical Perspectives on Mental Health*. Palgrave
- 2019 **Preston, K.** [Review of the book *Nervous States: How Feeling Took Over the World* by William Davies]. *Canadian Journal of Sociology*, 44(4), 463-466

Manuscripts Under Review and in Preparation

Preston, K., Michael H., & Lockyear D. “Incels and Gender Inequality: Changing Tides in Defining the Far Right” *Received an R&R at Social Problems*

Preston, K. “Anti-2SLGBTQI+ Sentiments Among Right-Wing Youth in Canada” *Forthcoming in Trans Panic and Anti-Gender Movements in the Far Right* (edited collection)

Preston, K. “Far-Right, moderate right or right-wing floaters? The ties that shape Canadian right-wing youth activism.” *Under Review at Canadian Review of Sociology/Revue canadienne de sociologie, (Full Draft Available)*

Preston, K. “Deep Acting and Emotional Labour the Ethics of Studying the Canadian Far Right as a Queer Academic” *Invited to submit to Contemporary Sociology (Full Draft Available)*

Preston, K. “From Screens to Campuses: The Role of YouTube in Shaping Far-Right Activism Among University Students in North America ” *Invited to Submit to special issue at The Sociological Quarterly (Full Draft Available)*

Preston, K. “Divisions in Digital Republican Spaces and Revolutionary Reactions to Political Loss” *In preparation to submit to Social Media + Society (Full Draft Available)*

Preston, K. “Ethnic and Cultural National Identity in the US Tea Party and the People's Party of Canada”. *In preparation for submission to the Nations and Nationalism (Full Draft Available)*

Public Sociology Writing

Preston, Kayla (2022, February) “‘Freedom convoy’ rolls through Ottawa encouraging the participation of Canada’s far-right.” *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/freedom-convoy-rolls-through-ottawa-encouraging-the-participation-of-canadas-far-right-175902>

- Reprinted in *The Tyee* <https://thetyee.ca/Analysis/2022/02/02/Canada-Far-Right-Finds-Moment/>

Preston, Kayla (2021, September 14). “With far right groups on the rise, we should keep an eye on populism this federal election.” *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/with-far-right-groups-on-the-rise-we-should-keep-an-eye-on-populism-this-federal-election-166379>

Preston, Kayla (2020, June 23). “Racism & Hate Crimes in a Pandemic.” *Sociological Images*. <https://thesocietypages.org/socimages/2020/06/23/racism-hate-crimes-in-a-pandemic/>

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2024	Graduate Research Grant. Centre for the Study of The United States, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto. \$2,500.
2024	R.F. Harney Graduate Research Fellowship in Ethnic, Immigration, and Pluralism Studies. Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto. \$1,000
2024	School of Graduate Studies Travel Grant. University of Toronto. \$8,000

2024	Graduate Student Conference Grant. University of Toronto Dept of Sociology. \$750
2024	Program Summer Level Fellowship. University of Toronto Dept. of Sociology (\$1,738)
2023	Program Summer Level Fellowship. University of Toronto Department of Sociology (\$1,600)
2022	Program Summer Level Fellowship. University of Toronto, Dept. of Sociology. \$(2,205)
2020	Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarships (Doctoral). Social Science and Humanities Research Council- University of Toronto. 2020-23. (\$105,000)
2020	C. David Naylor University Scholarship. University of Toronto. 2023-24 (\$30,000).
2020	S.D. Clark Fellowship. University of Toronto. September-August. (\$1,200)
2020	Sociology Admission Merit Award. University of Toronto. September-August. (\$3,500)
2019	Studentship. Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society- Balsillie School of International Affairs. (\$1,755).
2019	Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant. Dalhousie University- Faculty of Graduate Studies (\$500).
2018	Canadian Graduate Scholarship- Master's Program. Social Science and Humanities Research Council- Dalhousie University. September 2018-April 2019. (\$17,500)
2018	Nova Scotia Graduate Scholarship. Dalhousie University- September 2018- April 2020. (\$20,000)
2018	Faculty of Graduate Studies Entrance Scholarship. Dalhousie University. (Honourary)
2014-2018	Francis McLaughlin Scholarship. St. Thomas University (\$25,656)
2014	St. Thomas University Entrance Scholarship. St. Thomas University (Honouray)

HONOURS, AWARDS, AND RECOGNITIONS

2020	Conference Grant- European Association for the Study of Science and Technology and the Society for Social Studies of Science- (Virtual) Conference in Prague.
2019	SSHRC Storyteller Finalist- Social Science and Humanities Research Council
2018	The University Medal of Academic Excellence - St. Thomas University

2018 The Sociology Prize for Fourth Year- St. Thomas University
 2017 The Sociology Prize for Third Year -St. Thomas University

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Conference Presentations

2024 "White Nationalism in Canada" American Sociological Association. August 10.
 Invited Panelist

2024 "Yesterday's YouTube Teens, Today's Far-Right Supporters: Canadian Right-Wing Youth Activists' Introduction to Far-Right Media" American Sociological Association. August 11.

2024 "Deep Acting and Emotional Labour: the Ethics of Studying the Canadian Far Right as a Queer Academic" American Sociological Association. (Preconference). August 9.

2024 "It's like we're trying to find a home." Canadian right-wing youths differing pathways to social movement activism." Canadian Sociological Association. June 18.

2023 "Paths Toward Populism: The Making of the Tea Party and the People's Party of Canada." Canadian Sociological Association. June 1.

2022 "Twitter Versus Reddit - How the GOP Navigates Online Discourse and Support from their Base" Canadian Sociological Association. May 17.

2021 "Justifying Contentious Social and Political Claims Using Mundane Language: An Analysis of Far Right Extremism". American Sociological Association Annual Conference. August 7.

2021 "The Plight of Traditional Values and White Identity: An Analysis of Far Right Extremism Groups" Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Conference. August 4.

2021 "Examining the Contentious Ideologies of Canadian Right-Wing Extremist Groups Using Boltanski and Thévenot's Common Worlds." Qualitative Analysis Conference. June 23.

2021 "Tradition and Authoritarianism as a Solution to Social Decay- An Analysis of Canadian Right- Wing Extremism Online." Canadian Sociological Association Annual Conference. May 31-June 4.

2020 "The Far Right on Facebook: A Canadian Perspective." European Society of Criminology's Cybercrime Working Group and the American Society of Criminology's Division on Cybercrime (Virtual) Conference. September 11.

2020 "'It's Over': Involuntarily celibate men's perception of women, social media, and the masculine order" European Association for the Study of Science and Technology and the Society for Social Studies of Science- (Virtual) Conference in Prague. August 20. *With Dr. Michael Halpin and Dr. Finlay Maguire

- 2020 “Having Hope When Studying Hate” Workshop Series: The Ethics of Researching the Far Right. Sponsored by the British Sociological Association Post/Decolonial Transformations Study Group. August 11.
- 2019 “Relating hegemonic whiteness to Definitions of Right-Wing Extremism in Canadian Extremist Groups.” Canadian Sociological Association Annual Conference. June 3-6
- 2019 “A Critical Discourse Analysis of The Online Presence Of Canadian Right-Wing Extremist Groups” SSHRC Storytellers Showcase. SSHRC Congress. June 3.
- 2019 “Relating hegemonic whiteness to Definitions of Right-Wing Extremism in Canadian Extremist Groups.” The 36th Qualitative Analysis Conference: The Transdisciplinary Efficacy of Qualitative Methods: Studying Everyday Life, the Empirical Tradition Continues. May 9-11.
- 2019 “We have to stop Islam or say goodbye to civilisation: A Critical Discourse analysis of Pegida Canada’s Facebook Posts.” The 35th Annual Qualitative Analysis Conference: Creating, Negotiating, and Transcending Social Boundaries in Everyday Life. May 16-18.
- 2018 “We have to stop Islam or say goodbye to civilisation: A Critical Discourse analysis of Pegida Canada’s Facebook Posts.” Sociology, 4th year. St. Thomas University 15th Annual Student Research and Ideas Fair. March 16.
- 2017 “The Truth and the Other in Trump’s Speeches”. Sociology, 3rd year. St. Thomas University 14th Annual Student Research and Ideas Fair. March 17.

Conference Leadership

- 2025 **Session Chair and Organizer.** Politicizing Gender and Sexuality: Marginalization and Resistance. Canadian Sociological Association
- 2021 **Session Chair.** Session Activism. The Qualitative Analysis Conference. June 23.
- 2019 **Session Chair.** Session 4.4 Bodies and Biopolitics. The 36th Qualitative Analysis Conference: The Transdisciplinary Efficacy of Qualitative Methods: Studying Everyday Life, the Empirical Tradition Continues.
- 2018 **Registration Volunteer.** The 35th Annual Qualitative Analysis Conference. St. Thomas University. May 16-18.
- 2017 **Panel Chair.** Queer Research Day. St. Thomas University/ University of New Brunswick. March 31.
- 2017 **Conference Assistant.** Queer Research Day. St. Thomas University/ University of New Brunswick. March 31.

Invited Talks and Presentations

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| 2025 | Pluralism and National Cultural Influences on Right-Wing Group Behaviour. "The Global Politics of Mobility: Crisis, Exclusion, and Integration" R.F. Harney Program in Ethnic, Immigration and Pluralism Studies- Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy. University of Toronto. April 4. |
| 2025 | Christianity, Immigration and Nationalism: American Right Wing Youth's Explanation for Their Vote in 2024. Centre for the Study of the United States, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy. University of Toronto. March 6 |
| 2025 | Community Building as a Response to Care in Studying the Far-Right. Centre for Research on Extremism, Reactionary Politics Research Network Webinar on Researching the Far Right. January 16. |
| 2024 | Right-Wing Youth and Anti-Gender Ideology in Canada. University of Oslo. Center for Research on Extremism. October 9. |
| 2024 | Discussion of Parental Rights Bills Among Youth Right-Wing Actors in Canada. Canadian Institute for Far-Right Studies. August 6. |
| 2024 | Canadian Far Right, Hateful Speech and Making the Extreme Mundane. Sociology of Canada. Acadia University. March 20. |
| 2022 | The Far Right, White Supremacy and Hateful Speech and Crimes. SOC212H1: Sociology of Crime and Deviance. University of Toronto. April 11. |
| 2020 | Open Dialogue: Neighborly Relations: The Implications for Canada of the United States 2020 Presidential Election. Dalhousie University. October 28. (Panel Participant) |
| 2019 | "Identity and Belonging: A Discourse Analysis of Canadian Right-Wing Extremism Online." Guest presentation for Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology Course SOSA 2002 Thinking and Doing Sociology. April 8 |

INTERVIEWS WITH PRESS AND MEDIA COVERAGE

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| 2024 | "Canadians warned about travel to U.K. amid riots." <i>Global News Morning</i> . August 15 https://globalnews.ca/video/10700093/canadians-warned-about-u-k-travel-amid-riots/ |
| 2024 | "Violent protests continue in the U.K. after spread of misinformation" <i>Global News</i> . August 10. https://globalnews.ca/video/10692420/violent-protests-continue-in-the-u-k-after-spread-of-misinformation/ |

- 2024 “Far Right Riots in the UK.” *CTV News*. August 4.
<https://www.ctvnews.ca/video/c2971860-uk-pm-condemns-violent-far-right-riots>
- 2024 “PART 3: Atomization & Political Instability | The striking rise of right-wing extremism | Unravelling” Documentary premiered June 2024.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QThBwP2KV3k>
- 2024 “PART 2: Normalization | The striking rise of right-wing extremism | Unravelling” *TVO Today*. Documentary premiered May 2024.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WQwZK-bdtcU>
- 2024 “PART 1: Origins | The striking rise of right-wing extremism | Unravelling” *TVO Today*. Documentary premiered May 2024.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m511AYiqRck>
- 2022 “U.S. Capitol hearings: Why should Canadians care? Extremism, security experts weigh in” *Global News*. Written by Noor Ibrahim. July 7. <https://globalnews.ca/news/8967764/us-capitol-hearings-canada-extremism-security/>
- 2022 “Are Populist Politicians Feeding Into Hate Ideology?” *640 Toronto Radio ON Point with Pierson*. June 14. <https://omny.fm/shows/on-point-with-alex-pierson/are-populist-politicians-feeding-into-hate-ideolog>
- 2022 “Why the ‘Freedom convoy’ protest on Parliament Hill may just be the beginning.” *Toronto Star*. Written by Steve McKinley. January 31.
- 2022 “Ottawa braces for ‘significant’ trucker convoy disruptions as police warn of risks.” *Global News*. Written by Marie Woolf and Joan Bryden. January 26.
- 2021 Interview with 507 News Kitchener about Far-Right Populism. September 15
- 2021 “Here’s what happens – and what doesn’t – if Canada brands the Proud Boys, others as terrorists groups.” *The Star*. Written by Douglas Quan. January 27.
- 2020 “Facebook Disables Hundreds of Accounts Linked to Wet’suwet’en Support Rally.” *The Tyee*. Written by Amanda Follet Hosgood. September 21.
- 2019 “Why a Halifax student is researching the rising online presence of right-wing extremism in Canada.” *The Star*. Written by Yvette d’Entremont. May 30.
- 2019 “A disturbing tale well-told: Sociology student’s research video up for SSHRC Storytellers prize.” *Dal News*. Written by Ryan McNutt. May 22.
- 2017 ‘Trumpism’: student-professor duo have academic paper published.” *The Aquinian*. St. Thomas University Student Newspaper. Written by Cassidy Chisholm. October 2.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course Instructor (Lecturer)

University of Toronto

- 2025 Introduction to Sociology- Social Inquiries (SOC150) – University of Toronto St. George (Spring)
- 2025 Social Movements (SOC329)- University of Toronto St. George (Winter and Spring)
- 2022 Social Inequality (SOC263) - University of Toronto Mississauga (Fall)
- 2022 Race and Ethnicity in Canada (SOC332)- University of Toronto Mississauga (Fall)

Teaching Assistant

University of Toronto

- 2025 Intermediate Qualitative Methods in Sociology. Winter. Instructor: Hammad Khan
- 2024 Intermediate Qualitative Methods in Sociology. Fall. Instructor: Andrea Roman Alfaro.
- 2024 Intermediate Qualitative Methods in Sociology. Winter. Instructor: Cynthia Guzman.
- 2024 Contemporary Sociological Theory. Winter. Instructor: Christian Carson.
- 2023 The Sociology of Anti-Muslim Racism. Fall. Instructor: Sarah Shah.
- 2023 Political Sociology. Fall. Instructor: Yoonkyung Lee.
- 2023 Classical Sociological Theory. Fall. Instructor: Joesph Bryant.
- 2023 Sociology of Crime and Deviance. Winter. Instructor: Storm Jeffers.
- 2022 Sociology of Crime and Deviance. Winter. Instructor: Storm Jeffers.
- 2021 Theory I: Discovering the Social. Fall. Instructor: James Braun.
- 2021 Introduction to Social Problems. Fall. Instructor: Lorne Tepperman.
- 2021 Introduction to Qualitative Methods. Fall. Instructor: Yoonkyung Lee
- 2021 Social Movements. Winter. Instructor: Josh Harold.
- 2020 Political Sociology. Fall. Instructor: Josh Harold.
- 2020 Comparative Indigenous Politics. Fall. Instructor: Robin Gray.

Dalhousie University

- 2020 Gender and Diversity. January- April. Instructor: Asha Jeffers.
- 2019 Introduction to Sociology. September-December. Instructor: Tsafirir Gazit.
- 2019 Sociology of the Law. January-April. Instructor: Brett Richardson.
- 2018 Biomedicine Illness Experience. September- December. Instructor: Emma Whelan.

St. Thomas University

- 2018 Sociology of Time. (Course Assistant). Instructor: Dean of Social Sciences Dr. Susan Machum.
- 2017-18 Globalization and Gender and Senior Seminar. Instructor: Gül Çalışkan.
- 2017-18 Introduction to Sociology. Instructor: Gül Çalışkan

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

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| 2025 | Research Assistant. “Mapping and Documenting the Far-Right in Canada. Supervisor: Dr. Audrey Gagnon, University of Ottawa |
| 2023 | Graduate Research Assistant. The Sociology of Anti-Muslim Racism. Assisted student research projects. Supervisor: Dr. Sarah Shah. University of Toronto |
| 2021 | Graduate Research Assistant. Focus concept model design and data visualization for Professor Patricia Landolt, University of Toronto |

2021	Research Assistant. Property Rights, Conspiracy Theory, and the Mobilization of Law. Supervisor: Dr. Ellen Berrey. May-August. University of Toronto
2019-2020	Research Assistant. Men in Social Isolation. Supervisor: Dr. Michael Halpin (Sociology), Dr. Finlay Macguire (Computer Science). Funded by SSHRC
2019	Interviewer/Interview Supervisor- Rural Futures Research Centre. Dalhousie University. January-July. Supervisor: Dr. Karen Foster
2016-2018	Research Assistant, for manuscript preparation on <i>Gendering Globalization Globalizing Gender: A Postcolonial Reader</i> . Supervisor: Dr. Gül Çalışkan.
2016	Research Assistant. “Symbols and Humor as Works of Justice and Citizenship in the Gezi Protests of Istanbul.” And “Negotiating the PNP.” St. Thomas University, Fredericton. Supervisor: Dr. Gül Çalışkan, Sociology.

MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATIONS

2024- Present	Senior Fellow with the Canadian Institute for Far-Right Studies
2021- Present	American Sociological Association
2019- Present	Informed Opinions Expert on Topics: Right-wing extremism, online right-wing extremism, extremism on social media, political ideology, internet forums, online research
2019- Present	Canadian Sociological Association
2019-2023	Junior Affiliate- Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society
2020-2022	Society for Social Studies of Science

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARMENTAL SERVICE

Reviewer	<i>American Sociological Review, Social Media and Society, Men and Masculinities, New Media & Society, Socius, Toronto Metropolitan Centre for Immigration and Settlement (TMCIS) and the CERC in Migration and Integration Working paper Series</i>
2024-2025	Graduate Student Advisory Committee Member - School of Graduate Studies University of Toronto
2024-2025	Graduate Student Member- Arts & Science Council and Graduate Curriculum Committee University of Toronto
2021	Graduate Student Representative- Hiring Committee for International Migration. Department of Sociology University of Toronto
2021	Graduate Student Representative - The Anti-Racism and Equity Committee University of Toronto Department of Sociology
2017-2018	Sociology Student Representative. St. Thomas University Registrar’s Open House

2017

Relief Library Assistant for the Department of Sociology. For
St. Thomas Univ. Sociology Department and Harriet Irving
Library.

LANGUAGE

English – Native fluency.

French – Aural comprehension.

REFERENCES

Dr. Emine Fidan Elcioglu

Associate Professor Sociology
University of Toronto – Scarborough
fidan.elcioglu@utoronto.ca

Dr. Ellen Berrey

Associate Professor Sociology
University of Toronto – Mississauga
ellen.berrey@utoronto.ca

Dr. Yoonkyung Lee

Associate Professor Sociology
University of Toronto – St. George
yoonkyung.lee@utoronto.ca