

# Michelle L. O'Brien

*Curriculum Vitae*

June 2020

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## EDUCATION

- 2018      Ph.D., Sociology  
            University of Washington, Seattle  
            Dissertation: *The Long Shadow: The Long-Term Consequences of Armed Conflict for Population Change in Tajikistan*
- 2014      M.A., Sociology  
            University of Washington, Seattle
- 2007      B.A., Sociology  
            University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2019-Present    Postdoctoral Researcher  
                    New York University Abu Dhabi  
                    Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2018-2019      Postdoctoral Researcher  
                    Mershon Center for International Security Studies  
                    The Ohio State University  
                    Columbus, OH

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed Journal Articles

- Forth*    **O'Brien, Michelle L.** "Disruption and Decline: The Gendered Consequences of Civil War and Political Transition for Education in Tajikistan." *Post-Soviet Affairs*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/1060586X.2019.1701880>
- 2018    **O'Brien, Michelle L.** "Migration as an Adaptive Response to Ethnic Nationalism in Russia." *Migration Studies*. 6(2): 187-204. <https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnx039>

## **Book Chapters**

- Forth* Nyseth Brehm, Hollie and **Michelle L. O'Brien**. "Moving Beyond Perpetrators, Victims, Bystanders, and Upstanders." in *Teaching About Genocide: Insights and Advice from Secondary Teachers and Professors*, vol 2, edited by Samuel Totten. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.
- 2016 Groeneveld, Jürgen, Anna Klabunde, **Michelle L. O'Brien**, and André Grow. "How to Describe Agent-Based Models in Population Studies?" Pp. 237-54 in *Agent-Based Modelling in Population Studies*, vol. 41, *The Springer Series on Demographic Methods and Population Analysis*, edited by A. Grow and J. Van Bavel. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.
- 2016 Williams, Nathalie E., **Michelle L. O'Brien**, and Xiaozheng Yao. "Using Survey Data for Agent-Based Modeling: Design and Challenges in a Model of Armed Conflict and Population Change." Pp. 159-84 in *Agent-Based Modelling in Population Studies*, vol. 41, *The Springer Series on Demographic Methods and Population Analysis*, edited by A. Grow and J. Van Bavel. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.

## **Book Reviews**

- 2019 **O'Brien, Michelle L.** Review of *Cascades of Violence: War, Crime and Peacebuilding Across South Asia*, by John Braithwaite and Bina D'Costa. *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews*. 48(4): 402-404.

## **Manuscripts in Submission**

- O'Brien, Michelle L.** "The Long-Term Consequences of Armed Conflict for Migration: The Case of Tajikistan." Invited to revise and resubmit. *International Migration Review*.
- O'Brien, Michelle L.** "Abortion and Miscarriage in the Aftermath of the Tajikistani Civil War." Invited to revise and resubmit. *Population Research and Policy Review*.
- O'Brien, Michelle L.** "Violence-Motivated Migration: How subjective perceptions of the threat of violence affect migration aspirations." Under review. *American Sociological Review*.
- O'Brien, Michelle L.** and Maureen A. Eger. "Suppression, Spikes, and Stigma: How COVID-19 Will Shape International Migration and Hostilities Toward It." Under review. *International Migration Review*.
- Williams, Nathalie, **Michelle L. O'Brien** and Xiaozheng Yao. "Migration Stocks and Flows during Armed Conflict: New Evidence from an Agent-Based Model in Nepal." Invited to revise and resubmit. *Population and Development Review*.

Nyseth Brehm, Hollie, **Michelle L. O'Brien** and James Wahutu. "The Problem with Binary Categories in the Study of Collective Violence." Under review. *Sociology of Development*.

### **Other Publications**

- 2020 **O'Brien, Michelle L.** and Maureen A. Eger. "COVID-19 Will Have Long-Lasting Effects on Migration." *Fair Observer*. May 14.
- 2016 **O'Brien, Michelle L.** "Global Asia: Turning Points in Central Asia, 1900-2016." *The Seattle Times: Newspapers in Education*. November 9.
- 2016 **O'Brien, Michelle L.** "The Rise of Neo-Nationalists in Russia." The Ellison Center at the University of Washington. Podcast. October 17.
- 2016 **O'Brien, Michelle L.** "Tipping Points in Soviet History." The Ellison Center at the University of Washington. Podcast. March 18.

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- 2019 "The Long-Term Social and Demographic Effects of Mass Violence: Rwanda, Tajikistan, and Nicaragua." Seed grant from the Department of Sociology, The Ohio State University. with Kammi Schmeer and Hollie Nyseth Brehm (\$25,000)
- 2019 "Religious Change in the Aftermath of Genocide." Research seed grant from the Mershon Center for International Security Studies, The Ohio State University (\$600)
- 2019 Travel grant, Institute for Population Research, The Ohio State University (\$1100)
- 2018 "Moving Subjects," multidisciplinary seed grant funded by the Migration, Mobility & Immobility Initiative at The Ohio State University (\$1000)
- 2017 Boba Research Fellowship, Ellison Center for Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies, University of Washington (\$2000)
- 2015 Training Fellowship, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, University of Washington (NIH-funded stipend)
- 2015 Award for Outstanding Performance for the Master of Arts Degree, Department of Sociology, University of Washington
- 2015 Best Poster, Migration and Urbanization Session, Population Association of America Annual Meeting
- 2015 Travel Grant, East-West Center, Honolulu, HI (\$300)
- 2014 Travel grant, Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences, University of Washington (\$1,000)
- 2013 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Russian, University of Washington (\$7,500)

## INVITED TALKS

- 2018 “The Long Shadow of Armed Conflict: Individual Disruptions and Institutional Decay.”  
Historical Legacies of War Seminar Series, University of Michigan.
- 2016 “Familiar Adversaries, New Minorities, and the Legacy of the Soviet Union in Central Asia.”
- *Newspapers in Education at The Seattle Times.*
  - *Washington State Council for the Social Studies Spring Conference.*
- 2015 “Understanding Central Asian Migration to Russia.”
- *Migration and Refugees: Peril and Hope*, a Community College Master Teaching Institute hosted by the Ellison Center for Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies at the University of Washington.

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

### Presentations

- 2020 “Violence-Motivated Migration: A Cross-National Analysis of the Relationship Between Nonwartime Violence and Migration”
- *American Sociological Association*
- 2019 “The Long-Term Effects of Civil War on Reproductive Health in Tajikistan”
- *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*
- 2018 “New Perspectives on Conflict and Migration: Development as a Moderating Factor.”
- *Association for the Study of Nationalities Convention*
- 2017 “Re-traditionalization? Marriage and Fertility Timing in Post-Conflict Tajikistan.”
- *American Sociological Association*
  - *Institute for the Study of Religion, Economics and Society Graduate Student Conference*, Chapman University.
- “Weak Institutions and International Migration after Armed Conflict in Tajikistan.”
- *Association for the Study of Nationalities Convention*
  - *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*
- “Measuring Anti-Immigrant Sentiment Using Big Data Techniques.”
- *Graduate Trainee Spotlight*, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, University of Washington. *Note: Best Poster Winner.*
- 2016 “Gender, Violence, and Migration in Contemporary Russia.”
- *American Sociological Association*
  - *Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism Conference*
  - *Association for the Study of Nationalities Convention*

- 2015 “Migration as an Adaptive Response to Ethnonationalism in Russia.”
- *American Sociological Association*
  - Poster session on Migration and Urbanization. *Population Association of America Annual Meeting. Note: Best Poster Winner*
  - *Association for the Study of Nationalities Convention*
- 2014 “An Agent-Based Model of Armed Conflict and Population Dynamics: Developing Demographic Methods for Survey Based Agent-Based Model Design.” (with Nathalie Williams and Xiaozheng Yao)
- *Recent Developments in Agent-Based Modeling for Population Studies*

### **Service**

- 2016 Volunteer, International Conference on Social Informatics (SocInfo), eScience Institute, University of Washington
- 2015 Graduate Student Assistant, Annual Meeting of the International Migration Section of the American Sociological Association

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### *University of Washington, Undergraduate*

Research Methods in Sociology

(Instructor of Record: Summer 2015, Summer 2018; TA: Spring 2014)

War (Cross-listed with International Studies)

(Instructor of Record: Spring 2018)

Social Problems

(TA: Winter 2018)

Introduction to Sociological Theory

(TA: Spring 2013)

#### *The Ohio State University, Undergraduate*

Genocide and its Aftermath in Rwanda

(Assistant Resident Director, Spring 2019)

### **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

#### **Manuscript Reviewing**

*International Migration Review*

*Contemporary Sociology*  
*The Migration Conference*

### **Committee Work**

Emerging Scholars Forum, *Global Perspectives*  
Outstanding Paper Award committee, Ethnicity, Nationalism, & Migration Studies section,  
International Studies Association

## **DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

### **Seminar Coordination**

Monthly Seminar on Cultural, Organizational, Political, and Economic Sociology, University of Washington (2013-2015)

Graduate Student Research Symposium, Department of Sociology, University of Washington (2014)

### **Grant Coordination**

States, Markets, and Societies. Mellon Foundation. Awarded to the University of Washington, Principal Investigator: Gary Hamilton. (2014-2015)

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

2019-Present Member, Advisory Board, Lifting Hands International  
2018-2019 Member, Board of Directors, Lifting Hands International

## **RELATED PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

2020 Certificate in Geographic Information Systems  
2018 Graduate Certificate in Demographic Methods

## **LANGUAGES**

Russian, Advanced Reading and Conversational Speaking

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Sociological Association

Population Association of America  
International Union for the Scientific Study of Population  
International Studies Association

## REFERENCES

Steve Pfaff  
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