

MATTHEW CARSON

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EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles June 2024
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology & Political Science
Highest Departmental Honors in Political Science (Best Honors Thesis)
Departmental Honors in Sociology (Best Honors Thesis)
College Honors
Summa Cum Laude

Los Medanos College August 2022
Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts: Behavioral Science & Social Science, With Honors
Associate of Arts in Sociology, With Honors

Diablo Valley College August 2022
Associate of Arts in Political Science for Transfer, With Honors

United Association Local 342 JATC July 2013
Certificate in Plumbing (5-year apprenticeship)

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Political Science Best Honors Thesis Prize June 2024
“The Policing of the ‘Reserve Army’: Economic Inequality and Police Killings”
<https://bit.ly/PolSciThesis>

Sociology Best Honors Thesis: Lisa Mederos Memorial Prize June 2024
“Construction Union Agreements: Union Organizing in Historical-Comparative Perspective”
<https://bit.ly/SocThesis>

1st Place, 2024 StatCrunch Student Contest May 2024
Placed #1 in the StatCrunch statistics contest (\$1,000).
<https://bit.ly/StatCrunchWinners>

Undergraduate Research Scholars Program (URSP) September 2023
Scholarship for senior thesis in sociology (\$6,000).

Honors Scholar, Los Medanos College May 2020
Received the college’s highest distinction.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Harvard University June 2023–September 2023
Worked with Professor Adaner Usmani (Harvard Sociology) on a project analyzing prison conditions and its relationship with the broader labor market and precariousness of work in the region.

Undergraduate Research Experience, UCLA Political Science October–December 2022
Assisted a graduate student with data collection for a political psychology experiment in the Race, Ethnicity, and Politics subdiscipline.

Bay Honors Research Symposium

April 2020

Accepted to give a presentation about eminent domain and global warming; cancelled because of COVID-19. See ‘Published Works’ section for the corresponding paper.

PUBLISHED WORKS

“Global Warming and the Takings Clause: Can Eminent Domain Be Used to Avert a Climate Crisis?” *ThinkYou?! https://bit.ly/CarsonThinkYou* November 1, 2023

“Engines Out and Pickets Up to Stop Health Plan Downgrade by Cummins.” *Labor Notes* (with Keith Brower Brown, and Ella Teevan). <https://bit.ly/EnginesOut> June 21, 2021

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Statistics 20	Statistical Programming with R
Political Science 170A	Studies in Statistical Analysis of Political Data
Sociology 111	Social Networks (computational sociology)

LANGUAGES AND TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Spoken/Written	Spanish (limited reading and speaking)
Programming	R**, Python*, Stata*, L ^A T _E X*
Version Control	Git*
Citation Management	Zotero***, BIB _T E _X *

*Working knowledge; **Intermediate; ***Intermediate-advanced.

EMPLOYMENT

Harvard Sociology <i>Part-time Research Assistant</i>	7/2024–Present <i>Cambridge, MA</i>
The Center for Working Class Politics <i>Part-time Research Assistant</i>	7/2024–Present <i>Brooklyn, NY</i>
UNITE HERE Local 11 <i>Election Canvasser</i>	4/2022–6/2022 <i>Los Angeles, CA</i>
UA Local 342 <i>Journeyman Plumber</i>	8/2007–1/2017 <i>Concord, CA</i>

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Adaner Usmani (sociology)	ausmani@fas.harvard.edu
Michelle Torres (political science)	smtorres@ucla.edu
Chris Tausanovitch (political science)	ctausanovitch@ucla.edu
Zsuzsa Berend (sociology)	berend@soc.ucla.edu
Michael Tsiang (statistics)	mike@stat.ucla.edu
Michael Lofchie (political science)	mlofchie@polisci.ucla.edu