

## Alexandra J. Freidus

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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND AFFILIATIONS

<b>Assistant Professor</b>	2021 - present
Department of Educational Leadership, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT	
<i>Affiliations:</i> Center for Education Policy Analysis, Research, and Evaluation, University of Connecticut; Disability Covid Chronicles, New York University	
<b>Assistant Professor</b>	2019-2021
Department of Educational Leadership, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ	
<b>Term Assistant Professor</b>	2018-2019
Urban Studies Program, Barnard College, New York, NY	

### EDUCATION

Ph.D., New York University, Urban Education	2018
M.A., Mills College, Social Studies and English Language Arts Education	2007
B.A., Brown University, History	1998

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Books

Freidus, Alexandra. Forthcoming. *Unequal Lessons: School Diversity and Educational Inequality in New York City*. NYU Press.

#### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles\*

\* An asterisk denotes a student author.

Freidus, Alexandra. 2023. "White Organizers or White Organizations? Activism and Identity in a Youth-Led Movement for School Integration." *Harvard Educational Review* 93(2): 202-224. DOI: 10.17763/1943-5045-93.2.202.

Mastrogiovanni, Danielle\* and Alexandra Freidus. 2023. "Deeper Than a Lesson': District Superintendents' Approaches to Culturally Relevant Practices." *Journal of Research on Leadership Education*. Online First. DOI: 10.1177/19427751231215776

Freidus, Alexandra and Erica Turner. 2023. "Contested Justice: New York City's COVID-19 School Reopening Debates." *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* 45(3): 437-463. DOI: 10.3102/01623737221121802

Freidus, Alexandra. 2022. "Segregation, Diversity, and Pathology: Constructing School Quality in Gentrifying New York." *Educational Policy* 36(4): 822-848. DOI: 10.1177/08959048221087206

Freidus, Alexandra. 2022. "Looking Smart: Race and Ability in a Diversifying Middle School." *Anthropology and Education Quarterly* 53(2):149-166. DOI: 10.1111/aeq.12408

Freidus, Alexandra. 2020. "Problem Children and Children with Problems: Discipline and Innocence in a Gentrifying Elementary School." *Harvard Educational Review* 90(4): 550-572. DOI: 10.17763/1943-5045-90.4.550

Freidus, Alexandra. 2020. "Modes of Belonging: Debating School Demographics in Gentrifying New York." *American Educational Research Journal* 57(2): 808-839. DOI: 10.3102/0002831219863372

Freidus, Alexandra. 2020. "I Didn't Have a Lesson?: Politics and Pedagogy in a Diversifying Middle School." *Teachers College Record* 122(7). DOI: 10.1177/016146812012200714

Freidus, Alexandra. 2019. "A Great School Benefits Us All?: Advantaged Parents and the Gentrification of an Urban Public School." *Urban Education* 54(8): 1121-1128. DOI: 10.1177/0042085916636656

Freidus, Alexandra and Pedro Noguera. 2015. "From 'Good Will' to 'Anachronism': School Desegregation in an Era of Shifting Demographics, Racial Discourse, and Conceptions of the Public Good." *Humanity and Society* 39 (3): 1-25. DOI: 10.1177/0160597615601716

### **Invited Manuscripts**

Freidus, Alexandra. Forthcoming. "Review of *False Starts: The Segregated Lives of Preschoolers*." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*.

Freidus, Alexandra, Rachel Fish, and Erica Turner. Forthcoming. "High Stakes Schooling: Risk, Protection, and the Education of Disabled Children in a Pandemic." In *How to Be Disabled in a Pandemic*, edited by Mara Mills, Rayna Rapp, and Faye Ginsburg. NYU Press.

Freidus, Alexandra and Eve L. Ewing. 2022. "Introduction to Special Issue: Good Schools, Bad Schools: Race, School Quality, and Neoliberal Educational Policy." *Educational Policy* 36(4). DOI: 10.1177/08959048221087208

Freidus, Alexandra and Pedro Noguera. 2017. "Making Difference Matter: Teaching and Learning in Desegregated Classrooms." *The Teacher Educator* 52 (2): 99-113. DOI: 10.1080/08878730.2017.1294925

## Public Scholarship

- Cook, Hannah\* and Alexandra Freidus. Forthcoming. “Mandating an Elective? The Implementation of Black and Latino Studies Courses in Connecticut High Schools.” Center for Education Policy Analysis, Research, and Evaluation Policy Brief.
- Freidus, Alexandra. 2022. “When White Parents Believe in Diversity and Deficit.” School Diversity Notebook: News, Research, and Reflections on the Struggle for School Diversity. <https://sdnotebook.com/2022/10/27/when-white-parents-believe-in-diversity-and-deficit/>
- Freidus, Alexandra. 2021. “Lockdown.” In Lowenhaupt, R. and Theoharris, G. (Eds.), *Parenting in the Pandemic: The Collision of School, Work, and Life at Home A Collection of Essays*. Information Age Publishing. <https://www.infoagepub.com/products/Parenting-in-the-Pandemic>
- Freidus, Alexandra. March 17, 2021. “Race and School Discipline in the COVID Era.” Voices in Education: The Blog of Harvard Education Publishing. <https://www.hepg.org/blog/race-and-school-discipline-in-the-covid-era>
- Freidus, Alexandra. January 31, 2018. “The election, one year later: Life goes on at an East Coast middle school.” *Teaching Tolerance Magazine*. <https://www.learningforjustice.org/magazine/the-election-one-year-later-life-goes-on-at-an-east-coast-middle-school>
- Freidus, Alexandra. 2017. “Who are the ‘diversity in admissions’ pilot schools?” *Spotlight on NYC Schools*. New York: Research Alliance for New York City Schools, New York University. <https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/research-alliance/research/spotlight-nyc-schools/who-are-diversity-admissions-pilot-schools>

## SELECTED GRANTS

### External Grants

- 2024 American Institutes for Research. \$187,500. Principal Investigator. *Leveraging Community Dialogue for School Integration in a Multiracial Democracy*, with Richard Blissett, Erica Turner, and Adriana Villavicencio.
- 2024 Spencer Foundation. \$187,500. Principal Investigator. *Leveraging Community Dialogue for School Integration in a Multiracial Democracy*, with Richard Blissett, Erica Turner, and Adriana Villavicencio.
- 2023 Spencer Foundation Pilot Vision Grant. \$75,000. Co-Principal Investigator. *Beyond the Black/White Binary: Co-Conceptualizing School Diversity for a Multiracial Democracy*, with Adriana Villavicencio, Erica Turner, and Richard Blissett.
- 2022 Spencer Foundation Racial Equity Special Research Grants Program. \$74,932. Principal Investigator. *Young People as Policy Actors: School Integration and Educational Justice in New York City*.

**Internal Grants**

- 2023 University of Connecticut Scholarship Facilitation Fund. \$2,000.
- 2022 University of Connecticut Research Excellence Program. \$24,997. PI.  
*A Qualitative Study of the Implementation of Ethnic Studies Mandates in Majority White Connecticut Schools.*
- 2020 Seton Hall University Research Council Grant. \$10,000. PI.  
*Youth Activism, Civic Learning, and Educational Policymaking in New York City.*

**SELECTED HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

- 2023 Anthropology & Education Quarterly Top-Cited Paper Award
- 2022 National Academy of Education/Spencer Research Development Award
- 2021 Council on Anthropology & Education Concha Delgado Gaitán Presidential Fellow
- 2018 Council on Anthropology & Education/Studies in Educational Ethnography Award
- 2017 National Academy of Education/Spencer Dissertation Fellow
- 2017 Fahs-Beck Fund for Social Research Dissertation Scholar
- 2016 NYU Steinhardt Mitchell Leaska Dissertation Research Award
- 2015 NYU Steinhardt Doctoral Fellowship Development Award

**PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION****Select Invited Talks & Seminars**

- 2022 Teaching Race History and Reading Banned Books: Conversations on Intellectual Freedom. Harriet Beecher Stowe Center. Hartford, CT.
- 2022 Belonging and Gentrification in Educational Policy. University of Wisconsin. Madison, WI.
- 2022 Youth Activism and Educational Change in New York City. University of Georgia. Athens, GA.
- 2022 Modes of Belonging: Interrogating Race and Education. University of California, Irvine. Irvine, CA.

- 2022 School Gentrification and Critical Policy Studies. University of Maryland. College Park, MD.
- 2022 Doing Fieldwork with Children. University of North Texas. Denton, TX.
- 2021 Researcher Positionality. Just Education Policy: An Institute for Developing Scholars. University of Georgia. Atlanta, GA.
- 2021 Problem Children and Children with Problems: Ethics in the Field. York University. Toronto, ON.
- 2021 Problem Children and Children with Problems: Relationships and Methods in Qualitative Fieldwork. Iowa State University. Ames, IA.
- 2021 Modes of Belonging: Neoliberal Progressivism and Educational Change. Virginia Commonwealth University. Richmond, VA.
- 2021 School Segregation in New York City: Status and Struggles. Barnard College. New York, NY.
- 2020 Ethnographic Fieldwork in Schools. New York University. New York, NY.
- 2019 A Great School Benefits Us All: Gentrification and Urban Education. University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 Promising Scholarship in Education: Dissertation Fellows and Their Research Poster Session. American Educational Research Association. New York, NY.
- 2018 Discussion and screening, *Backpack Full of Cash*. Barnard College. New York, NY.
- 2005 “The Journey Forward: Moving the Lessons of Teacher Education into the Early Years of Teaching.” The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Palo Alto, CA.
- 2003 “Just Like Me: Self-Portraits in the Multicultural Classroom” (with Maya Christina Gonzalez). Reading the World V: The Annual Conference of the University of San Francisco. San Francisco, CA.
- 2001 “Now I Want You to Write Me a Poem/Ahora quiero que tú me escribas un poema: LitLinks Internet-Based Writing Workshops” (with Francisco X. Alarcón). The 26<sup>th</sup> Conference of the California Association of Bilingual Educators. Los Angeles, CA.

### **Symposia Organized**

- 2022 “Rethinking ‘Learning Loss’: Family, Community, and Educator Perspectives on Equity and Learning During COVID-19” (chaired with Erica Turner). Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. San Diego, CA.

- 2021 “Co-Producing Knowledge and Family in Educational Ethnography” (chaired with Rachel Silver). Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Baltimore, MD.
- 2021 “What Is Possible and Desirable: Conceptualizing Race and School Quality Across Local Contexts.” Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. (Virtual conference.)
- 2019 “Behind the Discipline Gap: Racialized Experiences of School and Classroom Discipline.” Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. Toronto, Canada.
- 2018 “Behind the Statistics: Racialized Experiences of Identity and Belonging in Classroom Discipline” (chaired with Eliot Graham). Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Jose, CA.
- 2018 “Struggling for Equity: A New Wave of Research on How Schools Respond to Gentrification” (chaired with Esa Syeed). Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. New York.
- 2017 “Negotiating the 2016 Election in Schools: Ethnographic Understandings of a Post-Trump America” (chaired with Jia-Hui Stefanie Wong). Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Washington, D.C.

### Select Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers

- 2024 “At What Cost? New York City Young Activists’ Shifting Perceptions of School Integration.” Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2024 “Reconceptualizing Integration for Racial Justice” (with Erica Turner, Adriana Villavicencio, and Richard Blissett). Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023 “Beyond the Black/White Binary in District Integration, Enrollment, and Diversity Plans” (with Erica Turner and Adriana Villavicencio). Annual Meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration. Minneapolis, MN.
- 2022 “Risk, Protection, and Vulnerability: Pandemic Discourses about the Schooling of Disabled Children in New York City.” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Seattle, WA.
- 2022 “Collective Justice in Education: Lessons from the COVID-19 School Reopening Debates” (with Erica Turner). Annual Meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration. Seattle, WA.
- 2021 “Contested Justice: Rethinking Educational Equity through New York City’s COVID-19 School Reopening Debates” (with Erica Turner). *Sociology of*

- Education Association Conference on COVID-19's Effects on Education. (Virtual conference.)
- 2021 "White Organizers and White Organizations? Activism and Allyhood in Multiracial Campaigns for Educational Justice." Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. (Virtual conference.)
- 2021 "Segregation, Diversity, and Pathology: School Quality and Student Demographics in Gentrifying New York." Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. (Virtual conference.)
- 2020 "Experts and Learners: Small Group Instruction and Academic Ability in a Diversifying Middle School." Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. San Francisco, CA. (Conference canceled.)
- 2020 "Mothering and Methods: Positionality and Ethnographic Interpretation in a Kindergarten Classroom." 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Ethnography in Education Research Forum. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2019 "White Girlhood and Black Boyhood: Discipline and Belonging in a Gentrifying Elementary School." Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. Toronto, Canada.
- 2018 "Whiteness, Blackness, and Belonging in School and Classroom Discipline." Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Jose, CA.
- 2018 "That Kind of Student: Teaching, Learning, and Educational Equity in Gentrifying Schools." Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. New York City, NY.
- 2017 "I Didn't Have a Lesson: Teaching, Learning, and the 2016 Presidential Election." Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Washington, DC.
- 2017 "Race, Class, and Belonging: Debating School Desegregation in Gentrifying New York." Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association. San Antonio, TX.
- 2017 "Classroom Interactions in Desegregating Classrooms." 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Ethnography in Education Research Forum. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2015 "Differentiating Students: Needs, Deficits, and Difference in Instructional Discourse." 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Ethnography in Education Research Forum. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2014 "The Desegregation of Mark Twain Intermediate School: Good Will, Democratic Equality, and the Educational Marketplace." Education and Civil Rights: Historical Legacies, Contemporary Strategies, and Promise for the Future. State College, PA.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Graduate Teaching

University of Connecticut (2021- )

Educational Policy and Politics

Policies for Improvement: Mobilizing School and Community

Inquiry and Research in Educational Leadership

Critical Reading Practicum

*Dissertation Chair:* Andrea Chudzik; Ashley Shaw; Kenneth Daly; Matthew Brown

*Doctoral Committee:* Hannah Cooke; Rana Hafiz; Eileen Bouffard; Sophie Gocheva; Heather

McDonald; Katherine Leonard; Nicole Walsh; Rebecca Bissonnette; Danielle DeRosa

(defended 2023); Melissa Sieffert (defended 2022); Whitney Losapio (defended 2022); Linda

Darcy (2023)

Seton Hall University (2019-2021)

Curriculum, Policy, and Ideology

Qualitative Research Methods

Advanced Qualitative Research Methods

Dissertation Seminar II

*Dissertation Chair:* Jessica Urban (defended 2021); Danielle Mastrogiovanni (defended 2022)

*Doctoral Committee:* Katie Stigliano (defended 2020); Yanhao Wang (defended 2022); Tracy

Alexander

New York University (2017-2018)

Searching for Equity: Research on Urban and Minority Education

Secondary Social Studies Field Supervisor

Bank Street College of Education (2014-2015)

Foundations of Educational Leadership

Leadership in Curriculum and Instruction

Long Island University (2015)

The Lives of Adolescents

### Undergraduate Teaching

Barnard College (2018-2019)

Race, Space, and Urban Schools

Urban Ethnography

Junior Seminar: Segregation in New York City

Senior Seminar: New York City Field Research

### K-12 Teaching

2008-2009 History, Lick-Wilmerding High School, San Francisco, CA

2004-2008 History and English Language Arts, Berkeley High School, Berkeley, CA

### Related Professional Experience



2014-2017	School Coach, College Access: Research and Action, New York, NY
2009-2012	Director of Teacher Leadership Development, Achievement First, Brooklyn, NY
2000-2003	Director of Community Programs, Children's Book Press, San Francisco, CA
1998-2000	AmeriCorps Partner, Partners in School Innovation, San Francisco, CA

## **PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### **Public Service**

2023-present	Contributor, "Public Learning for a Multiracial Democracy: A Project to Construct a New Narrative." W.T. Grant Foundation strategic initiative.
2021	This is America: Critical Race Theory panelist, University of Connecticut
2021	Activists x Academics working group member, UCLA Civil Rights Project & Teens Take Charge
2019-2020	Reimagining Education Summer Institute facilitator, Teachers College
2018	NYC Parent Action Conference symposium on school integration
2015-2017	Socioeconomic Integration working group member, NYC public schools
2016	School Funding Equity working group member, PTALink

### **Service to the Profession**

Editorial Board	<i>American Educational Research Journal</i>
Editor	"What is Possible and What is Desirable: Race and School Quality Across Local Contexts." Special Issue of <i>Educational Policy</i> 36(4).
Journal Reviews	<i>The Urban Review</i> (Reviewer Excellence Award), <i>Sociology of Education</i> , <i>Anthropology and Education Quarterly</i> , <i>Educational Administration Quarterly</i> , <i>Leadership and Policy in Schools</i> , <i>Educational Policy</i> , <i>Journal of Educational Policy</i> , <i>Teachers College Record</i> , <i>Urban Education</i> , <i>AERA Open</i> , and <i>Education Policy Analysis Archives</i> , and
Conference Reviews	American Educational Research Association, Divisions G and L; University Council for Educational Administration

## **AFFILIATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS**

American Educational Research Association, 2014-present  
Division G: Social Contexts of Education  
Division L: Education Policy and Politics  
Special Interest Group: Critical Educators for Social Justice

University Council for Educational Administration, 2021-present

American Anthropological Association, 2017-present  
Council on Anthropology and Education

California Clear Teaching Credential  
Secondary Social Studies, English Language Arts, and Cross-Cultural Language Acquisition  
and Development

## **MEDIA MENTIONS**

*USA Today*, April 12, 2022. “Diverse Schools are Taking a New Approach to Anti-Racism: Training White Parents.”

*Fortune*, June 7, 2020. “Escaping ‘Zoom Fatigue’ is Surprisingly Complicated.”

*The Washington Post*, September 20, 2019. “As Cities Gentrify and Schools Diversify, PTOs Grapple to Ensure All Parent Voices Are Heard.”

*CityLab*, July 15, 2019. “How U.S. Childcare is Segregated: A Brooklyn Tale.”

*The Atlantic*, July 13, 2016. “How Marginalized Families Are Pushed Out of PTAs.”