

Arijita Pal

Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Sociology,
Louisiana State University
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EDUCATION

- 2027 Ph.D. in Sociology, Louisiana State University
Committee: Tim Slack (Chair), Heather O’Connell, Rhiannon Kroeger
Dissertation: “*Food Insecurity across Immigrant Generations, Post-COVID
Pandemic, and Racialized Representation across Counties of the USA*”
- 2023 M.A. Sociology, Louisiana State University
Committee: Tim Slack (Chair), Heather O’Connell, Rhiannon Kroeger
Thesis: “*Unequal Hardship: Exploring the Intersection of Food Insecurity,
Race/Ethnicity, and Family Structure in America*”
- 2008 M.Phil. Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University
Thesis: “*Diversification of Indian Agriculture: Unit-level Analysis*”
- 2006 M.A. Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University
- 2004 B.Sc. Geography, Presidency College, University of Calcutta

AREAS OF INTEREST

Food Security, Race/ethnicity, Family, Intersectionality, Migration, Place, Child Rights, Agriculture, Research Methods.

RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS (*Manuscripts in Progress*)

Slack, Tim, Arijita Pal, and Heather Rackin. “Joblessness in Rural and Urban America: An Examination of Labor Force Nonparticipation, 2000–2024.” Revise and resubmit to *Rural Sociology*

Oh, Hyunsu, Arijita Pal, and Michael Carroll. “Food Insecurity, Substandard Housing, and Violent Crime in Houston.” Submitted to *Journal of Criminal Justice*

Pal, Arijita, and Tim Slack. “Food Insecurity at the Intersection of Race, Ethnicity, and Family Structure, 2017-2019.” In preparation for submission to *Social Science Research*.

2021-Present

Graduate Teaching Assistant. Department of Sociology, Louisiana State University
- Quantitative research on Food Insecurity, Race, and Family

2022-2023

Graduate Research Assistant. Social Research and Evaluation Center (SREC), Louisiana State University
- Supported GPRA survey management for the COVID Emergency Grant- Knack system

- Supported data quality management for State Opioid Response

Nov 2020 to July 2021

Senior Manager, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning. ChildFund International, New Delhi

- Evaluation research on Child Protection
- Quantitative and qualitative research on Child Rights situation in different states of India
- Social Impact Assessment of Himalayan villages in Himachal Pradesh
- Socio-economic studies in coastal villages of five states in India- Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Maharashtra, and West Bengal

July 2017 to Nov 2020

Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. ChildFund International, New Delhi and Bengaluru

- Evaluation research on Child Protection
- Quantitative and qualitative research on Child Rights situation in different states of India

Mar 2017 to June 2017

Research Scientist. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, Mumbai

- Evaluation research on social impact of solar power projects
- Qualitative research on solar streetlights in Pune and Nashik, Maharashtra

Jan 2014 to Jan 2017

Project Coordinator. Fundación Educación Y Cooperación (EDUCO), Mumbai

- Qualitative research on Child Protection
- Evaluation research on Child Rights

Oct 2012 to Jan 2014

Operations Manager. Aangan Trust, Mumbai

- Evaluation research on Child Protection

Sep 2011 to Sep 2012

Consultant. CARE Nepal, Magic Bus, Street Children UK, Sutra Consulting, and Community for Rights to Housing. Mumbai.

- Qualitative research on *“Food Practices among Women in Urban Slums: Case of two slums, Mumbai”*
- Qualitative research on *“Needs Assessment Study on CSR initiative in Jammu”*
- Evaluation research on *“Maharashtra Agricultural Competitiveness Project”*
- Qualitative research on *“Bangladeshi Migrants in Mumbai: Cases from Wadala & Kalwa”*
- Qualitative research on *“Consortium of Street Children and Preparedness of Mumbai-based NGOs”*

Dec 2010 to Aug 2011

Manager - Development Support. Child Rights and You (CRY), Mumbai

- Quantitative and qualitative research on Child Rights situation in different states of India

Jan 2009 to Nov 2010

Monitoring & Evaluation Officer. Committed Communities Development Trust (CCDT), Mumbai.

- Qualitative research on the lives of Female Sex Workers in Kamathipura
- Evaluation research on Child Rights program for children of Female Sex Workers

Oct 2008 to Dec 2008

Research Associate. Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai

- Evaluation research on National Service Scheme in six states of India

Nov 2007 to Sep 2008

Researcher. Centre for Media Studies (CMS), New Delhi

- Communication research on corruption
- Qualitative research on Self-Help Groups in Bharatpur, Rajasthan

Apr 2006 to Aug 2007

Researcher. PRAGYA, Gurgaon

- Qualitative research on the socio-economic impact of community farming, water and sanitation situation in the high-altitude zone

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Pal, Arijita, and Slack, Tim. “*Food Security at the Intersection of Ethnoracial Identity and Family Structure, 2017-2019*”. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. August 2024. Montreal, Canada.

Pal, Arijita, and Slack, Tim. “*Understanding the Nexus of Food Insecurity, Ethnoracial Identity, and Family Structure: A Pre- and Post-COVID Comparison*”. Graduate Research Conference. Louisiana State University. April 2024. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Pal, Arijita, and Slack, Tim. “*Unequal Hardship: Exploring the Intersection of Food Insecurity, Race/Ethnicity, and Family Structure in America, 2017-2019*”. Basic Needs Access Paper Session. Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association. April 2024. New Orleans, Louisiana.

Pal, Arijita, and Slack, Tim. “*Exploring Food Insecurity, Race/Ethnicity, and Family Structure in America, 2017-2019*”. Families and Stratification Paper session. Southern Sociological Society 87th Annual Meeting “Disrupting Binaries”. April 2024. New Orleans, Louisiana.

Pal, Arijita, and Slack, Tim. “*Unequal Hardship: Exploring the Intersection of Food Insecurity, Race/Ethnicity, and Family Structure in America, 2021*”. Race and Ethnicity Paper Session. Applied Demography Conference, Population Association of America, February 2024. Virtual Conference

Pal, Arijita, and Slack, Tim. “*Unequal Hardship: Exploring the Intersection of Food Insecurity, Race/Ethnicity, and Family Structure in America, 2021*”. Social Inequality Paper Session. 49th Annual Conference of Mid-South Sociological Association. October 2023. New Orleans, Louisiana.

TEACHING

Instructor of Record, Louisiana State University, Spring 2026

- SOCL 2201, Introduction to Statistical Analysis (X students completed)

Instructor of Record, Louisiana State University, Fall 2025

- SOCL 2201, Introductory Sociology (182 students completed)

Instructor of Record, Louisiana State University, Spring 2025

- SOCL 2201, Introductory Sociology (47 students completed)

Instructor of Record, Louisiana State University, Fall 2024

- SOCL 2201, Introductory Sociology (120 students completed)

Guest Lecture, Louisiana State University- March 2024
- SOCL 2501, Social Problems

Guest lecture, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Jan 2016
- “Urbanization and resourcing in the context of housing” KGLM 2015, Urbanization

HONORS/AWARDS

Graduate Student Association Travel Award, Louisiana State University, August 2024

Graduate Student Association Travel Award, Louisiana State University, April 2024

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

National Eligibility Test (NET) for Lectureship in Geography. Conducted by University Grants Commission, India, December 2006

Social Accountability Auditing (SA8000 Course). Conducted by Social Accountability International, June 2019

ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2026 Participated in TIGER Talk, Louisiana State University
- 2025 Participated in Graduate Students’ Leadership Initiative, Louisiana State University
- 2024- 2025 Treasurer, Indian Students’ Association, Louisiana State University
- 2023-2024 Secretary, International Students’ Association, Louisiana State University
- 2017- Present Project Committee Member, JNU Alumni Connect
- 2024 Volunteer, Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans.
Volunteer, Graduate Research Conference. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.
Volunteer and Judge, LSU Discover Day, Undergraduate Research Conference,
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.
- 2023 Volunteer, Graduate Research Conference. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.
Volunteer and Judge, LSU Discover Day, Undergraduate Research Conference,
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association

Southern Sociological Society

Southwestern Social Science Association