Malcolm Araos

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APPOINTMENTS

New York University
2025-Present Assistant Professor, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service
2025-Present Associated Faculty, Department of Environmental Studies

University of Utah
2023-2025 Postdoctoral Fellow, Wilkes Center for Climate Science & Policy

EDUCATION

2023 **Ph.D. Sociology**, New York University
2016 **M.A. Geography**, McGill University
2013 **B.A. Geography**, McGill University

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Climate adaptation politics and policy; urban climate governance; environmental inequality and justice; participatory democracy; environmental sociology; qualitative methods

BOOK PROJECT

Democracy Underwater: Climate Adaptation Progress and Paralysis in New York City (under advance contract, University of Chicago Press).

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

*Equal authorship, †Student co-author

2026 **Araos, M.**, Collins, T.W., Clark, A.,† Lopez, N.,† Obayashi, S.,† Stephens, G.,† Grineski, S.E. "Misrecognition or Heightened Awareness? The Role of Local Context in Perceptions of Environmental Inequality Across Social Groups." *Social Problems.*

2026 Grineski, S.E., **Araos, M.**, Collins, T.W. "Concerns About the Drying Great Salt Lake: What Do People Care About and Who Cares the Most?" *Environment and Behavior.*

2024 Grineski, S.E., Mallia, D., Collins, T.W., **Araos, M.** Lin, J.C., Anderegg, W.R.L., Perry, K. "Harmful Dust From Drying Lakes: Preserving Great Salt Lake (USA) Water Levels Decreases Ambient Dust and Racial Disparities in Population Exposure." *One Earth.*

2024 **Araos, M.**, Bhardwaj, A., and Klinenberg, E. "The Social Life of Climate Projects." *Sociological Forum.*

2024 **Araos, M.** and Matthew Wolfe. "The Climate Missing: Identifying Bodies and Preventing Disappearances Linked to Climate Change." *BMJ Global Health.*

2023 **Araos, M**. "Democracy Underwater: Public Participation, Technical Expertise, and Climate Infrastructure Planning in New York." *Theory and Society.*

- Co-winner of ASA's Section on Environmental Sociology's Best Student Paper Award.
- Research discussed in: *The New York Times*; *New York Magazine*.

2021 **Araos, M.***, Jagannathan, K*., et al. (31 other co-authors). "Equity in Human Adaptation-Related Responses: A Systematic Global Review." *One Earth.*

2021 Berrang-Ford, L., Siders, A.R., Lesnikowski, A., Paige Fischer, A., Callaghan, M.W., Haddaway, N.R., Mach, K.J., **Araos, M.**, et al. (118 other co-authors). "A Systematic Global Stocktake of Evidence on Human Adaptation to Climate Change." *Nature Climate Change.*

2020 Klinenberg, E., **Araos, M.**, Koslov L. "Sociology and the Climate Crisis." *Annual Review of Sociology.*

2019 Belfer, E., Ford, J.D., Maillet, M., **Araos, M.**, and Flynn, M. "Pursuing an Indigenous Platform: Exploring Opportunities and Constraints for Indigenous Participation in the UNFCCC." *Global Environmental Politics.*

2018 Klein, J., **Araos, M.**, Karimo, A., Heikkinen, M., Ylä-Anttila, T., and Juhola, S. "The Role of the Private Sector and Citizens in Urban Climate Change Adaptation: Evidence from a Global Assessment of Large Cities." *Global Environmental Change.*

2018 Madhavan, S., Clark, S., **Araos, M.**, Beguy, D. "Distance or Location? How the Geographic Distribution of Kin Networks Shapes Support Given to Single Mothers in Urban Kenya." *Geographical Journal.*

2017 **Araos, M.**, Ford, J.D., Berrang-Ford, L., Moser, S., and Biesbroek, R. "Climate Change Adaptation Planning for Global South Megacities: The Case of Dhaka." *Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning.*

2017 Ford J.D., Labbe, J., Flynn, M., **Araos, M.**, and IHACC Research Team. "Readiness for Climate Change Adaptation in the Arctic: A Case Study from Nunavut, Canada." *Climatic Change.*

2017 Lesnikowski, A., Ford, J.D., Biesbroek, R., Berrang-Ford, L., Maillet, M., **Araos, M.,** Austin, S.E. "What Does the Paris Agreement Mean for Adaptation?" *Climate Policy.*

2016 **Araos, M.**, Berrang-Ford, L., Ford, J.D., Austin, S.E., Biesbroek, R., Lesnikowski, A. "Climate Change Adaptation Planning in Large Cities: A Systematic Global Assessment." *Environmental Science and Policy.*

2016 Ford, J.D., Tilleard, S., Berrang-Ford, L., **Araos, M.**, Lesnikowski, A., Biesbroek, R., Hsu, A., Bizikova, L., Chen, C., and MacDonald, G. "Big Data has Big Potentials for Climate Change Adaptation." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.*

2015 Ford, J.D., Berrang-Ford, L., Biesbroek, R., **Araos, M.**, Austin, S.E., and Lesnikowski, A. "Adaptation Tracking for a Post-2015 Climate Agreement." *Nature Climate Change.*

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Manuscripts in Progress

Araos, M. "Conciliatory Politics for Adaptation: How Environmental Advocates Navigate Conservative Contexts" *Under Review.*

Araos, M. "Popular Resilience: Mobilization of Citizen Science in Resistance to Climate Action in New York City." *Manuscript in Preparation.*

Bhardwaj, A. and **Araos, M.** "Does Removing Barriers Lead to Climate Action? A Call to Study How Climate Projects Unfold." *Project phase.*

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Scientific Reports

Contributing Author to Chapter 4 of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group II's Sixth Assessment Report, 2022.

Contributing Author to Chapter 4 of the IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 Degrees, 2018.

Book Reviews

Review of "Form and Flow: The Spatial Politics of Urban Resilience and Climate Justice" by Kian Goh in *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 2022.

Review of "Futureproof: How to Build Resilience in an Uncertain World" by Jon Coaffee in *City & Community,* 2020.

Review of "Do Androids Dream of Electric Cars? Public Transit in the Age of Google, Uber, and Elon Musk" by James Wilt in *Rabble.ca*, 2020.

Review of "The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming" by David Wallace-Wells in *Public Books*, 2019.

Op-Eds and Public Writing

Wolfe, M., **Araos, M.** (2023) "Climate Change Is Forcing Families Into a New Kind of Indefinite Hell." *The New York Times*.

Klinenberg, E., **Araos, M.** (2022). "La Sociología del Calor." *El País*.

Araos, M. (2018). "Climate Change can be Deadly if You Live Alone." *The Conversation (re-published in CityLab, Grist, The National Post, The Ottawa Citizen, Maclean's Magazine).*

Araos, M., Ford, J., Austin, S.E. (2017). "Climate Change is Making Cities Sick." *The Conversation (re-published in CityLab and WIRED).*

Araos, M. (2015). "Adaptation to Climate Change - How Well is Dhaka Doing?" *Dhaka Tribune*.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

2026	NYU Climate Seed Grant, "How Information about Climate Risk Shapes Housing Markets." Role: PI. With Kate Thomas. ($19,373).
2023-2025	Wilkes Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Utah ($64,000 per year)
2021	Marvin E. Olsen Student Paper Award, Section on Environmental Sociology, American Sociological Association ($500).
2018-2022	Doctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada ($15,000 per year)
2019-2020	Urban Doctoral Fellowship, New York University's Urban Initiative ($3,500).
2017-2023	Henry M. MacCracken Doctoral Fellowship, New York University (~$30,000 per year)
2017	Dean's Supplementary Fellowship Grant ($1,000)
2015-2016	Master's Scholarship, Fonds de Recherche Santé du Québec ($15,000 per year)
2014-2015	Master's Scholarship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada ($17,500 per year)
2014	Graduate Excellence Award, McGill University ($1,000)

TEACHING

2026	Instructor, Introduction to Public Policy (graduate), Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, NYU
2026	Instructor, Climate Policy and Politics (graduate), Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, NYU
2023	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Sociology (undergraduate), with Prof. Nahoko Kameo, Department of Sociology, NYU
2023	Course Assistant, Environmental Inequality and Justice (undergraduate), with Prof. Colin Jerolmack, Department of Environmental Studies, NYU
2020	Teaching Assistant, The Social Challenges of Climate Change (undergraduate), with Prof. Eric Klinenberg, Department of Sociology, NYU
2018, '19, '20	Instructor, Climate Resilience Leadership Lab, DREAM High School, New York
2015	Teaching Assistant, Cities in the Modern World (undergraduate), with Prof. Ben Forrest, Department of Geography, McGill University
2014	Teaching Assistant, Statistics and Spatial Analysis (undergraduate), with Prof. Lea Berrang-Ford, Department of Geography, McGill University

INVITED TALKS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024	"Democracy Underwater: Participatory Governance, Climate Adaptation, and the Future of Coastal New York City," School of Marine and Environmental Affairs, University of Washington
2024	"Democracy Underwater: Participatory Governance, Climate Adaptation, and the Future of Coastal New York City," Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, NYU
2024	"Democracy Underwater: Participatory Governance, Climate Adaptation, and the Future of Coastal New York City," Department of Political Science, Northwestern University
2024	"Democracy Underwater: Participatory Governance, Climate Adaptation, and the Future of Coastal New York City," McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University
2024	"Climate Closure: Rethinking Barriers to Decarbonization and Adaptation," Paper Presentation at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, CA (Declined – Parental Leave)

2024	"Democracy Underwater: Climate Adaptation and Participatory Governance in a Coastal New York City Neighborhood," Brown Bag Talk, Department of Sociology, University of Utah
2022	"Democracy Underwater: Climate Adaptation and Participatory Governance in a Coastal New York City Neighborhood," Invited Talk for NYU Law Reading Group on Cities and Climate Change
2021	"Democracy underwater: public participation, technical expertise, and climate infrastructure planning in New York City," Paper Presentation at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Virtual)
2020	"Resisting Resiliency: Social Controversies over Climate Adaptation Infrastructure in Manhattan," Paper Presentation at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Meeting (Virtual)
2020	"Resisting Resiliency: Mobilization Against Sea Level Rise Infrastructure in Manhattan," UCLA Climate Adaptation Symposium (Virtual)
2020	"Resisting Resilience: The Contested Practice of Adapting to Climate Change in the Lower East Side of Manhattan" Paper Presentation at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Denver, CO (Cancelled due to Covid-19)
2015	"Planned Adaptation in Large Cities: A Global Assessment," European Climate Change Adaptation Conference, Copenhagen, DK
2015	McGill University Research Booth, COP 21, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Paris, FR
2014	McGill University Research Booth, COP 20, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Lima, PE
2014	"Tracking Adaptation to Climate Change," Adaptation Futures Conference, Fortaleza, BR

SERVICE

2026-27	NYU Climate Initiative Steering Committee
2026-27	Faculty Co-lead, NYU Climate Doctoral Fellowship
2024	Reviewer for European Research Council research grant on heat adaptation
2019-'23	Co-organizer for NYU's Institute for Public Knowledge's Doctoral Working Group on Climate Change

2021	Discussant for the American Public Policy Analysis & Management Conference, Session on Public Opinion and Policy Narratives in Policymaking and Risk Communication
2021	Discussant for NYLON, a qualitative research workshop group
2020	Reviewer for "Planet Texas 2050 Flagship: Equitable and Regenerative Cities" research grant at the University of Texas, Austin
Reviewer:	*American Journal of Sociology; Social Forces; Theory and Society; Socius; Nature Communications; Global Environmental Change; Environmental Research Letters; City and Community; Sociological Forum; Environmental Sociology; Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning; Climatic Change; Environment, Development, and Sustainability; Urban Climate; Regional Environmental Change; WIREs Climate Change; and the European Research Council.*