

Ryan Fajardo

STRATEGIC ANALYSIS & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

Doctoral Researcher, Dept. of Sociology

Sept. 2020-Present

- Directed end-to-end research lifecycles for 2 projects, securing 5 competitive grants and fellowships (\$10,000), and publishing findings in 2 top-tier social science journals.
- Leveraged data insights into strategic policy recommendations for state-funded agencies, like the Illinois Council on Problem Gambling.
- Spearheaded statewide marketing campaigns through the Illinois Advisory Council to foster community engagement and statewide awareness for gambling disorder.

Teaching Assistant, Dept. of Sociology & Dept. of Legal Studies

Sept. 2021-Present

- Secured a competitive \$45,000 grant to provide direct instruction to undergraduate researchers through project development, methodological rigor, and ethical compliance.
- Provided instructional delivery for over 250 students, consistently achieving top-marks performance ratings for communication clarity and responsiveness.

DEVELOPMENT & PARTNERSHIP EXPERIENCE

West Side Campaign Against Hunger, New York, NY

Volunteer and Development Coordinator

Jan. 2019-Mar. 2020

- Mobilized 1,000+ volunteers providing over 10,000 service hours to deliver food to over 70,000 food-insecure New Yorkers annually.
- Stewarded a 1,000+ donor portfolio via Salesforce, generating strategic reports to monitor \$300,000+ in annual giving.
- Cultivated 20+ corporate and community partners, translating relationships into \$30,000+ in annual contributions and 2,000+ service hours.
- Supported the execution of an annual gala, coordinating day-of logistics and on-site volunteer activities to ensure a seamless experience for guests.

Philadelphia Network for Neighborhood Development, Philadelphia, PA

Community Partnership Coordinator, Bayard Taylor Elementary

Sept. 2017-July 2018

- Developed a community services network of 15 school partners to address critical student needs, including reliable afterschool care.
- Secured and managed a \$5,000 grant to establish bilingual home libraries for 100+ 6th-grade students, expanding school-wide literacy resources.
- Led a 4-person educator team to deliver summer literacy programming for 80 students.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS & EXPERTISE

Data Collection: Qualitative Interviewing, Ethnography, Focus Group Facilitation, Qualtrics/SurveyMonkey, Ethics Board Compliance,

Analysis/Communication: STATA/R, Thematic Coding (Atlas.ti), Data Visualization (ggplot), Microsoft/Google Suite, Spanish (Upper-Intermediate/Actively Improving)

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY

LaborLab, Chicago, IL 2026-Present
Union Research Fellow

- Synthesized public financial data and regulatory filings to generate strategic intelligence reports, directly informing resource allocation for large-scale labor initiatives

Northwestern Dept. of Sociology, Evanston, IL 2021-2023
Representative, Faculty Liaison Committee

- Advocated for a cohort of 70+ graduate students in high-level meetings with department leadership to implement transparent supervision and labor allocation procedures, reducing overall grievances.

Make the Road New York, New York, NY 2019-2020
American Citizenship Exam Educator

- Instructed foreign visa holders in advanced test-taking techniques and civic literacy, directly contributing to successful US citizenship exam completion.

Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 2018-2019
Emancipation Database Volunteer

- Digitized and categorized archival records for the Philadelphia Abolitionist Society, migrating critical data into a centralized online system to streamline research workflows.

EDUCATION

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology Expected 2026
Master of Arts in Sociology 2023

Williams College, Williamstown, MA
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology (with Honors) & Economics 2017

INTERESTS

Martial Arts (Boxing/Muay Thai), Cycling, Sewing, Fermentation (Kombucha & Mead)