

Christopher Levesque

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EMPLOYMENT

July 2023 - Present
Assistant Professor, Sociology and Law & Society
[Kenyon College](#) | Gambier, OH

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Sociology of law, migration, social stratification, health, demography

EDUCATION

August 2017 - June 2023
Ph.D., Sociology
[University of Minnesota - Twin Cities](#) | Minneapolis, MN
Committee: Jack DeWaard & Elizabeth Heger Boyle (co-advisors), Christopher Uggen, Ryan Allen, Linus Chan
Minor: Population Studies

August 2017 - August 2020
Master of Arts, Sociology
[University of Minnesota - Twin Cities](#) | Minneapolis, MN
Minor: Population Studies

August 2009 - May 2013
Bachelor of Arts, Government & German Studies, *magna cum laude*
[Cornell University](#) | Ithaca, NY
Advisor: Michael Jones-Correa

PUBLICATIONS

Ryo, Emily, Ian Peacock, Weston Ley, & **Christopher Levesque**. Forthcoming 2025. "[Racial Disparities in Crime-Based Removal Proceedings](#)." *Minnesota Law Review*.

Ha, Jasmine, Jack DeWaard, Guy Abel, Kazumi Tsuchiya, Jessie Pinchoff, **Christopher Levesque**, & Kobie Price. Forthcoming 2025. "[The globalization of international migration? A data-driven synthesis to inform theory and policy in the 21st century and beyond](#)." *Population and Development Review*.

Ryo, Emily & **Christopher Levesque**. 2024. "[Immigration Detention as Racialised Wealth Extraction](#)." In *Immigration Detention and Social Harm*. Edited by Michelle Peterie. Routledge Press.

Johnson, Amy L., **Christopher Levesque**, Neil A. Lewis, Jr., & Asad L. Asad. 2024. "[Deportation threat predicts Latino US citizens and noncitizens'](#)

psychological distress, 2011 to 2018.” *Proceedings of the National Academies of the Sciences (PNAS)*.

Levesque, Christopher, Linus Chan, & Kimberly Horner. 2023. “[Process as suffering: How U.S. immigration court process and culture prevent substantive justice.](#)” *Albany Law Review*.

Levesque, Christopher, Jack DeWaard, Linus Chan, Kazumi Tsuchiya, Olivia Toles, Michele Garnett McKenzie, Amy Lange, Kimberly Horner, Eric Ryu, & Elizabeth Heger Boyle. 2023. “[Crimmigrating narratives: examining third-party observations of U.S. detained immigration court.](#)” *Law & Social Inquiry* 48(2):407-36.

Tsuchiya, Kazumi, Olivia Toles, **Christopher Levesque**, Kimberly Horner, Eric Ryu, Linus Chan, & Jack DeWaard. 2021. “[Perceived structural vulnerabilities among detained noncitizen immigrants in Minnesota.](#)” *PLoS ONE* 16(6): e0252232.

Levesque, Christopher & Jack DeWaard. 2021. “[Migration and Migrants in the United States.](#)” In *Companion to the Encyclopedia of Urban and Regional Studies*. Edited by Anthony M. Orum. UK: Wiley Blackwell Publishing.

AWARDS

External

2021

American Sociological Association Dissertation Development Research Improvement Grant (ASA DDRIG) (\$14,500)

2018

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Grant (\$7,500)

University of Minnesota

2023

UMN Sociology Don Martindale Award (\$1,000)

2021

UMN Sociology Anna Welsch Bright Research Award (\$5,000)

UMN College of Liberal Arts Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (DDF) (\$25,000)

Minnesota Population Center Graduate Student Research Grant (\$2,000)

2020

UMN Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowship (\$25,000)

UMN Shimota Dissertation Development Summer Fellowship (\$4,000)

2019

UMN Center for German & European Studies Travel Grant (\$500)

UMN Holocaust, Genocide & Mass Violence (HGMV) Travel Grant (\$1,500)

**POLICY
&
OPINION**

Chishti, Muzaffar, Doris Meissner, Stephen Yale-Loehr, Kathleen Bush-Joseph, & **Christopher Levesque**. 2023. “At the Breaking Point: Rethinking the U.S. Immigration Court System.” *Migration Policy Institute*. July 2023.

Christopher Levesque. 2022. “Book Review: Deported Americans.” *Border Criminologies (University of Oxford)*. May 6, 2022.

Gelatt, Julia, Jeanne Batalova, & **Christopher Levesque**. 2021. “Immigrant and Other U.S. Workers a Year into the Pandemic: A Focus on Top Immigrant States.” Policy Brief in *Migration Policy Institute*. June 30, 2021.

Christopher Levesque. 2021. “Book Review: Banned: Immigration Enforcement in the Time of Trump.” *Border Criminologies (University of Oxford)*. March 26, 2021.

Batalova, Jeanne, Mary Hanna, & **Christopher Levesque**. 2021. “Frequently Requested Statistics on Immigrants and Immigration in the United States.” Policy Brief in *MPI Migration Information Source*. February 11, 2021.

Allen, Ryan, Jack DeWaard, Erika Lee, & **Christopher Levesque**. 2018. “The Trump administration’s proposed changes to the ‘public charge’ rule lack merit.” Op-ed in *MinnPost*. December 12, 2018.

**PAPER
PRESENTATIONS**

Levesque, Christopher, Emily Ryo, Ian Peacock, & Weston Ley. June 2024. “Racial Disparities in U.S. Immigration Detention.” Law and Society. Denver, CO.

Yu, Lilly & **Levesque, Christopher**. June 2024. “Seeing ‘Down the Line’: Anticipating and Preventing the Collateral Consequences of Deportation via Affirmative and Defensive Legal Processes in the United States.” Law and Society Association. Denver, CO.

Levesque, Christopher & Lilly Yu. March 2024. “Examining U.S. Immigration Lawyers’ Time-Based Strategies in Affirmative and Defensive Procedure.” CINETS Crimmigration Control International Network of Studies. Portland, OR.

Ryo, Emily, Ian Peacock, Weston Ley, & **Christopher Levesque**. March 2024. “Racial Disparities in Crime-Based Removal Proceedings.” CINETS Crimmigration Control International Network of Studies. Portland, OR.

Levesque, Christopher. June 2023. “Examining the currency of time and timeliness in immigration removal proceedings.” Law and Society Association. San Juan, PR.

Ha, Jasmine, Jack DeWaard, Guy Abel, Kazumi Tsuchiya, J. Pinchoff, **Christopher Levesque**, & Kobie Price. April 2023. “The Globalization of International Migration? A Data-Driven Synthesis to Inform Theory and Policy in the 21st Century and Beyond.” Population Association of America. New Orleans, LA.

Levesque, Christopher. August 2022. “‘Presenting a movie not a piece of paper’: attorneys’ fairness perceptions and strategies in deportation court.” American Sociological Association. Los Angeles, CA.

Levesque, Christopher. July 2022. “Losing Slowly: Comparing Perceptions of Procedural Fairness in Upper Midwest Immigration Courts.” Law and Society Association. Lisbon, Portugal.

Levesque, Christopher. April 2022. “Deportation in new destinations: examining regional variation in immigration court decisions.” Population Association of America. Atlanta, GA.

DeWaard, Jack, Jasmine Trang Ha, **Christopher Levesque**, Kobie Price, Kazumi Tsuchiya. April 2022. “The globalization of international migration: A demographic decomposition of international migration rates, 1990-2015.” Population Association of America. Atlanta, GA.

Levesque, Christopher. April 2022. “Representation in new destinations: reflecting on attorneys’ perceptions of immigration court in the Upper Midwest.” Midwest Sociological Association. Chicago, IL.

Levesque, Christopher. May 2021. “Studying Spatial Contexts of the U.S. Immigration Court System.” Law and Society Association. Virtual Meeting.

Levesque, Christopher. May 2021. “Mapping immigration court processes, outcomes, and deportation decisions.” Population Association of America. Virtual Meeting.

Levesque, Christopher & Jack DeWaard. May 2021. “Rusty and rooted: estimating duration of residence in the U.S. Rust Belt before, during, and after the Great Recession.” Population Association of America. Virtual Meeting.

Levesque, Christopher, Jack DeWaard, Linus Chan, Michele Garnett McKenzie, Kazumi Tsuchiya, Olivia Toles, & Amy Lange. May 2020. “Detained and denied: third-party observers’ perceived civic and democratic costs of detained

immigration court.” Law and Society Association. Virtual Meeting.

Levesque, Christopher & Jack DeWaard. April 2020. “Calculating duration expectancy to describe Rust Belt migration before, during, and after the Great Recession.” Population Association of America. Virtual Meeting.

Levesque, Christopher. August 2019. “Assimilation or exclusion? Refugee access to health in Germany after the migrant crisis.” American Sociological Association. Section on International Migration. New York, NY.

Levesque, Christopher. August 2019. “Screening for the ‘Good Life’: Nurses’ Insights into the New Era of Refugee Health Care and Integration in Minneapolis, St. Paul.” The Society for the Study of Social Problems. New York, NY.

Liebler, Carolyn, **Christopher Levesque**, & Miri Song. April 2019. “Measuring ‘Context’ when Studying Racial Identity and Family among Mixed-Heritage People in the U.S.” Population Association of America. Austin, TX.

**POSTER
PRESENTATIONS**

Osypuk, Theresa, Bria Gresham, **Christopher Levesque**, Naomi Thyden, Toben Nelson, David Rehkopf, Lan Liu, & Pamela Joshi. “Did Youth With Improved Health Experience Economic and Educational Mobility in a Housing Voucher Experiment? Findings From a Randomized Controlled Trial of Housing Vouchers—Estimating Controlled Direct Effects Over 15 Years.” Population Association of America. Columbus, OH.

Levesque, Christopher. April 2023. “When and where do attorneys matter most? Examining the timing and impact of attorney entry for deportation cases in the Upper Midwest.” Population Association of America. New Orleans, LA.

Tsuchiya, Kazumi, **Christopher Levesque**, & Jack DeWaard. “What factors influence bond decisions for immigrant detainees in immigration court? Understanding the confluence of criminal history and mental health in immigration bond hearings.” Population Association of America 2020. Virtual Meeting.

**RESEARCH
EXPERIENCE**

August 2022 - August 2023

Project Assistant, Compounded Disadvantage: Race, Criminal Record, and Access to Justice in Immigration Courts

[University of Southern California Law School](#)

NSF# [2213699](#)

Helped team prepare, clean, and execute STATA files and review literature on racial disparities in U.S. immigration court.

August 2022 - May 2023

Research Assistant, Health, Neighborhood Context, and Mobility
[Minnesota Population Center](#)

NIH# [5R01HD090014-04](#)

Analyzed restricted Census RDC data using controlled direct effects (CDE) and multiple imputation by chained equations (MICE) methods. Measured housing vouchers' impact on improved employment and education among youth and grown children.

January 2022 - August 2022

Research Assistant, Institute for Social Research and Data Innovation

[Minnesota Population Center](#)

NICHD# [R01HD099182-01A1](#)

Coded and analyzed international health survey data from IPUMS-DHS. Researched with Dr. Elizabeth Heger Boyle (Sociology) and Cynthia Pando (UMN Public Health) on topics related to migration, well-being, and women's health.

May 2021 - September 2021

Consultant, U.S. Immigration Team

[Migration Policy Institute](#)

Drafted immigration court reform research, with emphasis on trends in technology, attorney representation, and geography.

January 2021 - April 2021

Research Intern, U.S. Immigration Team

[Migration Policy Institute](#)

Helped team clean, describe, and analyze U.S. immigration statistics, including data related to immigration courts, refugee admissions, and the unauthorized immigration population.

September 2020 - May 2021

Research Fellow, Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowship

[University of Minnesota Law School](#), [Binger Center for New Americans](#)

Worked with Professors Linus Chan and Stephen Meili (UMN Law School) examining how immigrant detainees' family networks and criminal background influence judges' deportation decisions across all U.S. immigration courts.

January 2018 - August 2020

Research Assistant, Transparency & Engagement in Immigration Court

[UMN Sociology](#) - [University of Minnesota, Twin Cities](#)

Designed a unique court observation survey using SDAPS and L^AT_EX. Cleaned, coded, and analyzed court observation data using R and NVivo. Interviewed 60+ court volunteers and validated local observer responses using nationally representative data from the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC).

May 2019 - August 2019

Research Assistant, Measuring ‘Context’ when Studying Racial Identity
[Minnesota Population Center](#)

Assisted Dr. Carolyn Liebler (Sociology) by analyzing county-level U.S. Census data for years 1980-2010 using IPUMS; performed Principal Components Analysis (PCA) and k-means cluster analysis.

June 2018 – December 2018

Research Assistant, Migration and Migrants in Terrifying Times
[UMN Sociology - University of Minnesota, Twin Cities](#)

Provided research and administrative support for Dr. Jack DeWaard’s (Sociology) interdisciplinary collaborative workshop in partnership with the Immigration History Research Center and the Humphrey School for Public Affairs.

June 2018 - December 2018

Research Assistant, MPC Short-Term RA Program
[Minnesota Population Center](#)

Developed code and cleaned data on projects for UMN faculty in Pediatrics, UMN Sociology, Public Health, and the Carlson School of Management.

TEACHING

[Kenyon College](#)

SOCY 372 - Quantitative Research Methods

SOCY 226 - Sociology of Law

LGLS 110 - Introduction to Legal Studies

LGLS 310 - Crimmigration Law

LGLS 410 - Senior Seminar in Legal Studies

[University of Minnesota, Twin Cities](#)

Social Statistics

Introduction to Sociology

SERVICE

June 2024

Session Organizer, “Disparate Punishments in U.S. Immigration Enforcement and Detention”

[Law and Society Association](#)

April 2024

Discussant, “Immigration and the Criminal Legal System”

[Population Association of America](#)

June 2023

Session Chair, “New Frontiers in Migration and Citizenship Law”

[Law and Society Association](#)

September 2022 – May 2023
Graduate Representative, MPC Advisory Board
[Minnesota Population Center & Life Course Center](#)

January 2022 – May 2023
Co-organizer, Law, Criminology, and Justice (LCJ) Writing Group
[UMN Sociology - University of Minnesota, Twin Cities](#)

April 2022
Session Chair, “Flash: New Data and Methods in Migration Research”
[Population Association of America](#)

September 2020 – May 2021
Graduate Representative, Programming Committee
[Minnesota Population Center & Life Course Center](#)

August 2019 – May 2020
Graduate Representative, Promotion, Tenure, & Salary (PT&S) Committee
[UMN Sociology - University of Minnesota, Twin Cities](#)

SKILLS

Stata, R, QGIS, Tableau, L^AT_EX, quasi-experimental modeling (e.g., RDD), survey design, interviewing methods, & NVivo. I also possess Special Sworn Status as a researcher at Minnesota’s Census Research Data Center.

TRAINING

June 2019
Berkeley Workshop in Formal Demography
[University of California, Berkeley](#)

September 2019 - Spring 2021
Graduate Training Program in Population Studies
[Minnesota Population Center](#)

LANGUAGES

English & German (native speaker) | Turkish (Intermediate)