

# SETAREH MAHMOUDI

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## EDUCATION

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Ph.D.	Sociology, University of California, Irvine Committee: Catherine Bolzendahl (Chair), Nina Bandelj, Sara W. Goodman	2020
M.A.	Sociology, University of California, Irvine	2018
M.Sc.(R)	Sociology, University of Edinburgh	2012
B.A.	Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin	2010

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Immigration, Integration, Systemic Inequality, Resource Inequality, Global Comparative Research

## SKILLS & TRAINING

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Data Analysis and Visualization Software:  
Stata, SPSS, Tableau, Dedoose, MS Office.

Research Methods:

Interviews, Focus Groups, Ethnography, Participant Observation, Document Analysis, Survey Design, Advanced Linear and Logistic Multivariate Regression Modeling.

Languages:

Native fluency in written and spoken Farsi and Swedish. Intermediate fluency in Spanish.

## DISSERTATION PROJECT

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“The Cost of Inclusion: Cross-national comparison of how cultural and economic perspectives inform immigrant sentiments in Western and Central / Eastern Europe.”

- Quantitative project using European Social Survey (ESS) to measure nuanced differences in attitudes toward different immigrant groups in different contexts in Central and Eastern Europe.
- Using data following 2015 refugee crisis, this project looks at how perceptions of the refugee crisis, ethnoreligious divides, and EU membership influence public tolerance and inclusivity.

## PUBLICATIONS

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| 2020 | Isabella Kasselstrand and <b>Setareh Mahmoudi</b> . “Secularization among Immigrants in Scandinavia: A Cross-Sectional Study of Religiosity across Generations and Duration of Residence,” <i>Social Compass</i> (forthcoming in December 2020). |
| 2019 | <b>Setareh Mahmoudi</b> , Kurt Squire, Mizuko Ito. “An Asset-Based Approach to CS Equity: Ethnographic Research on Google igniteCS,” In R. Kalir & D. Filipiak (Eds.) <i>Proceedings of the 2019 Connected Learning Summit</i> (pp. 102-109).    |
| 2013 | <b>Setareh Mahmoudi</b> . Review of <i>The Next Generation: Immigrant Youth in a Comparative Perspective</i> . <i>Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies</i> , 39:7, 1199-1200.   |

## CONFERENCES & PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

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- 2019 “An Asset-Based Approach to CS Equity: Ethnographic Research on Google igniteCS” at the *Connected Learning Summit*, Irvine, CA.
- 2018 “Catholic Perspectives: A Closer Look at How Different Religions Influence Attitudes towards Immigrants” at the *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 “Catholic Perspectives: A Closer Look at How Different Religions Influence Attitudes towards Immigrants” at the *Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, Long Beach, CA.
- 2017 “Religious salience and national belonging among children of immigrants in Scandinavia” with Isabella Kasselstrand at the *Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, Portland, OR.
- 2016 “Let the right one in: Contextualizing economic changes and attitudes toward immigration policies in the European Union” at the *Sociological Research Symposium*, University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA.
- 2012 “Belonging in Sweden: Second-generation Immigrant women in Sweden” at the *New Directions Illumination Series* at the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

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Catherine Bolzendahl, Hilde Coffé, **Setareh Mahmoudi**. “Gender, Economic and Cultural Political Cleavages, and the Importance of Family Issues.”

**Setareh Mahmoudi**. “The Cost of Religious Minorities in Europe: Patterns of Change in the Real and Perceived Effects of Immigration.”

**Setareh Mahmoudi**. “Toleration and Europeanization: Effects of the European Union in Inclusion of Ethnic Minorities.”

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

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### Evaluation Consultant, Connecting Evidence

May 2019 – Present

- Develop six modules on effect of local mobile food program on senior users’ behaviors, attitudes, and emotions to stakeholders.
- Collaborate with lead evaluator to present data-driven opportunities to grow mobile food program that supports social and emotional needs identified in user data from local senior community.
- Manage and expand database of non-profit grant opportunities.

### Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine

Sept. 2014 – June 2020

- Taught between sixty to one hundred students per term in discussion sections to encourage meaningful application and engagement with course subjects, critical thinking, and analysis.
- Created weekly lesson plans and presentations, collaborated other instructors and teaching assistants, and supported student progress in person and through collaborative online workshops.
- Mentored students and nurtured an inclusive and safe classroom environment in which students were offered various opportunities to engage with discussion in productive
- Assisted in a variety of social science disciplines, such as Honors Critical Issues in Social Science, Honors Social Science Writing Seminar, Economics of International Business, Visual Anthropology.

**Senior Research Analyst, SmartStart Evaluation & Research****June 2015 – Nov. 2018**

- Designed surveys and conducted a three-year end-to-end user study on twelve University of California GAANN funded graduate programs.
- Gained experience working with broad range of clients from STEM, to language arts, to staff and faculty in multi-institutional consortium.
- Collaborated with BOMA-Brac NGO to develop uniform evaluation tool measuring impact of poverty intervention for farmers in Kenya.
- Developed databases and prepared data for statistical analyses (e.g., scale uniformity, weighting, missing data) for all team projects.
- Performed quantitative pre/post assessments (incl. significance tests, regressions) and qualitative analyses for contextual depth.
- Applied insights to help develop newly funded STEMEC Consortium helped (1) reduce time & cost connecting multi-institutional resources to student needs and (2) develop universal evaluation tools to ease uniform progress tracking.
- Provided actionable data-driven recommendations based on my study that resulted in measurable improvements in (GAANN):
  - Satisfaction of faculty mentorship
  - Recruitment of URG students
  - Student confidence on the job market
  - Reported isolation of URG students

**Graduate Student Researcher, Connected Learning Lab, UC Irvine****Jan. 2018 – Sept. 2018**

- Designed survey instruments and evaluation plan to measure the impact of Google igniteCS on resilience and retention rates among college-level CS students across the United States and Canada.
- Independently conducted 34 interviews and two focus groups (23 total participants), coded interview transcripts, and analyzed qualitative data.
- Communicated regularly with Google project leaders to develop and adjust analytic plan on impactful program components and processes.
- Developed key deliverables (descriptive briefs and final report) analyzing real user behavior and program strengths, areas for growth, and student outcomes.