

# JOSEF BARLA

Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt am Main  
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## EDUCATION

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PhD Philosophy  
University of Vienna

MA Sociology  
University of Vienna

## RESEARCH AREAS

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Biopolitics and bioeconomy, new materialist theories of technology, posthumanist sociology, feminist epistemologies, sociology of the Anthropocene

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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since 04/2018 **Post-Doctoral Researcher** at the Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt

09/2017 – 02/2018 **Lecturer** at the Department of Social- and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna

01/2017 – 12/2017 **Affiliated Researcher** of “The Seed Box: A Mistra-Formas Environmental Humanities Collaboratory”, Linköping University

03/2016 – 08/2016 **Lecturer** in the MA Program Interdisciplinary Women’s and Gender Studies, University of Graz

09/2015 – 02/2016 **Lecturer** at the Department of Theater, Film, and Media Studies and at the Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

08/2015 – 09/2015 **Visiting Researcher** at the Posthumanities Hub and at the GEXcel International Collegium for Advanced Transdisciplinary Gender Studies, Linköping University

09/2013 – 02/2014 **Lecturer** at the Department of Sociology, University of Vienna

10/2012 – 03/2013 **Visiting Researcher** at the Department of Sociology and at the Science and Justice Research Center, University of California at Santa Cruz

03/2010 – 02/2013 **Research Fellow** in the interdisciplinary research training group “Gender, Violence and Agency in the Era of Globalization”, University of Vienna

## PUBLICATIONS

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Journal articles “Beyond Reflexivity and Representation: Diffraction as a Methodological Sensitivity in Science Studies.” *Distinktion: Journal of Social Theory*, 2021, DOI: 10.1080/1600910X.2021.1934506.

“Technoecologies of Borders: Thinking With Borders as Multispecies Matters of Care.” *Australian Feminist Studies* 32 (94): 395-410, 2018; co-authored with Christoph Hubatschke.

- Monographs *The Techno-Apparatus of Bodily Production: A New Materialist Theory of Technology and the Body*. Bielefeld: transcript, 2019.
- Edited books *Biokapital. Beiträge zur Kritik der politischen Ökonomie des Lebens*. Frankfurt am Main: Campus, under contract; co-authored with Thomas Lemke and Vicky Kluzik.
- Gewalt und Handlungsmacht: Queer\_Feministische Perspektiven*. Frankfurt am Main and New York: Campus, 2012.
- Book chapters “Provocations of New Materialisms on the Crossroads of the Natural and Human Science.” In *European New Materialisms*. Eds. Iris van der Tuin, Felicity Colman, and Vera Bühlmann. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, forthcoming; co-authored with Dagmar Lorenz-Meyer and Peta Hinton.
- “New Materialisms Across the Natural Science and Humanities: Trajectories, Inspirations, and Stirrings.” In *European New Materialisms*. Eds. Iris van der Tuin, Felicity Colman, and Vera Bühlmann. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, forthcoming; co-authored with Dagmar Lorenz-Meyer and Peta Hinton.
- “Response-Ability in the Age of Insects: Towards a Politics of Re-Presenting as Intervening.” In *Postcards from the Anthropocene*. Eds. Tiago Torres-Campos and Benek Cincik. Barlecona: dpr Press, 2020.
- “Governing the Flows of Information in Control Societies.” In *Many Worlds, Many Nets, Many Visions. Critical Voices, Visions and Vectors for Internet Governance*. Eds. Katharina Mosene and Matthias C. Kettmann. Berlin: Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society, 2019, 38; co-authored with Christoph Hubatschke.
- “Technoecologies of Borders: Thinking with Borders as Multispecies Matters of Care.” In *Feminist Technoecologies: Reimagining Matters of Care in and Sustainability*. Ed. Dagmar Lorenz-Meyer, Pat Treusch, and Xin Liu. London and New York: Routledge, 2019, 45–60; co-authored with Christoph Hubatschke.
- “Technologies of Failure, Bodies of Resistance: Science, Technology, and the Mechanics of Materializing Marked Bodies.” In *Mattering: Feminism, Science and Materialism*. Ed. Victoria Pitts-Taylor. New York: New York University Press, 2016, 159–172.
- “Verschränkungen von Gewicht. Von Verbindungen zu Un/Bestimmtheiten.” In *Parahuman. Neue Perspektiven auf das Leben mit Technik* (Schriften des Deutschen Hygiene-Museums Dresden). Eds. Karin Harrasser and Susanne Rößinger. Köln: Böhlau, 2016, 164–173.
- “‘Ihr wortlos Lied, vielstimmig, scheinbar eins’: Die Frage nach dem Politischen in Bruno Latours Technikphilosophie.” *Technik und Politik. Von Benjamin und Deleuze bis Latour und Haraway*. Ed. Mona Singer. Wien: Löcker, 2015, 88–115.
- “Apparate körperlicher Produktion und die Materialität der Figuration.” In *Critical Matter: Diskussionen eines neuen Materialismus*. Eds. Tobias Goll, Daniel Keil, and Thomas Helios. Münster: edition assemblage, 2014, 148–164.

“Flucht und Migration als Kritik?” In *Gewalt und Handlungsmacht: Queer\_Feministische Perspektiven*. Ed. Gender Initiativkolleg Wien. Frankfurt/M. and New York: Campus, 2012, 196–203.

“Kapitalistische Quasi-Objekte. Zu einer Latourschen Lesart Marx‘ Ausführungen zur Maschine.” In *Crossing Borders: | Thinking (across) Boundaries*. Eds. Alfred Dunshirn, Elisabeth Nemeth, Gerhard Unterthurner. Wien: Österreichische Gesellschaft für Philosophie, 2012, 361–370; co-authored with Fabian Steinschaden, <<http://phaidra.univie.ac.at/o:128384>>.

#### Other

“Anthropocene.” Entry in the *New Materialism Almanac*. Eds. Sam Skinner and David Gauthier. <<http://newmaterialism.eu/almanac/t/technology-technicity-techne>>, March 18, 2018.

“Technology/Technicity/Techné.” Entry in the *New Materialism Almanac*. Eds. Sam Skinner and David Gauthier. <<http://newmaterialism.eu/almanac/a/anthropocene>>, March 16, 2018.

“Cyborg.” Entry in the *New Materialism Almanac*. Eds. Sam Skinner and David Gauthier. <<http://newmaterialism.eu/almanac/c/cyborg>>, July 4, 2017.

“New Materialisms/New Colonialisms.” Proceedings of ISCH COST Action IS1307 *New Materialism* working group two *New Materialism on the Crossroads of the Natural and Human Sciences*, 2015; co-authored with Peta Hinton and Tara Mehrabi, <[http://newmaterialism.eu/content/5-working-groups/2-working-group-2/position-papers/subgroup-position-paper-\\_new-materialisms\\_new-colonialisms.pdf](http://newmaterialism.eu/content/5-working-groups/2-working-group-2/position-papers/subgroup-position-paper-_new-materialisms_new-colonialisms.pdf)>

#### Translations

“Die Versuchungen. Donna Haraway, feministische Objektivität und die Frage der Kritik” (The Temptations: Donna Haraway, Feminist Objectivity, and the Problem of Critique, by Heather Love). In *Wessen Wissen? Materialität und Situiertheit in den Künsten*. Eds. Kathrin Busch, Christina Dörflinger, Kathrin Peters, and Ildiko Szántó. Paderborn: Fink, 2018, 115-134; co-authored with Katharina Maly.

“Real werden. Technowissenschaftliche Praktiken und die Materialisierung der Realität” (Getting Real: Technoscientific Practices and the Materialization of Reality by Karen Barad). In *Gender & Medien-Reader*. Eds. Kathrin Peters and Andrea Seier. Zürich: diaphanes, 2016, 515-540; co-authored with Katharina Maly.

“Fötus. Das virtuelle Spekulum in der Neuen Weltordnung” (Fetus: The Virtual Speculum in the New World Order by Donna Haraway). In *Gender & Medien-Reader*. Eds. Kathrin Peters and Andrea Seier. Zürich: diaphanes, 2016, 249-278; co-authored with Katharina Maly.

#### Reviews

“Dawson, Ashley. 2016. *Extinction. A Radical History*” and “Heise, Ursula K. 2016. *Imagining Extinction: The Cultural Meaning of Endangered Species*”. *Das Argument* 323, 2017, 435-438; co-authored with Ines Handler.

“Benjamin, Walter: Radio Benjamin, ed. by Lecia Rosenthal.” *Das Argument* 314, 2016, 736-737; co-authored with Christoph Hubatschke.

“Colebrook, Claire: Death of the PostHuman: Essays on Extinction, Vol. 1.” *Das Argument* 312, 2015, 260-261.

“Braidotti, Rosi: Posthumanismus.” *Das Argument* 309, 2014, 575–577.

“Balke, Friedrich/Muhle, Maria/von Schöning, Andrea (Eds.): Die Wiederkehr der Dinge.” *Das Argument* 304, 2013, 755-757.

“Barad, Karen: Agentieller Realismus.” *Das Argument* 301, 2013, 269-270.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Summer term 2021	“Race and/as Technology: Biopolitics, Race, and Engineered Inequality”, graduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt; taught together with Vicky Kluzik
	“Natur, Technik und Gesellschaft im Anthropozän”, undergraduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University
Winter term 2020/21	“Politik der Natur“, undergraduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt; taught together with Franziska von Verschuer
	“Technik und Gesellschaft: Einführung in die kritische Techniksoziologie”, undergraduate course taught at the Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt
Summer term 2020	“Making Kin, Not Population? Biopolitics, Racism, and Science in the Face of Extinction”, graduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt
	“‘In the Belly of the Monster’: Wissenschaft, Technik und Geschlecht”, undergraduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt
Winter term 2019	“Science-Fiction/Science-Fact: Schlüsseltexte feministischer Technowissenschaftsforschung”, graduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt.
	“Roboter, Rechner und Automaten: Zu einer Soziologie der Maschine”, undergraduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt
Summer term 2018	“Humanism, Posthumanism, and Transhumanism: Toward a Sociology of the Non-/Human”, graduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt
	“Technik und Gesellschaft: Einführung in die Techniksoziologie”, undergraduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt
Winter term 2018/19	“Science Wars Revisited: Science, Objectivity, and Democracy”, graduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt
	“Bruno Latour: ‘Technik ist stabilisierte Gesellschaft’”, undergraduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt
Summer term 2018	“Technik, Geschlecht und Wissenschaft: ‘In the Belly of the Monster’”, undergraduate course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt
	“Biopolitik, ‘Race’ und Wissenschaft: ‘Race is a Fracturing Trauma’”, graduate

course, Institute of Sociology, Goethe University Frankfurt

- Winter term 2017/18 “Themenfelder II: Einführung in die feministische Wissenschafts- und Technikforschung”, graduate course, MA program Gender Studies, University of Vienna
- Summer term 2016 “In the Belly of the Monster: Feminist Perspectives on Science and Technology”, graduate course taught in the Master’s program Interdisciplinary Women’s and Gender Studies, University of Graz
- Winter term 2015/16 “Chaosmosen des Politischen: Barad, Deleuze, Foucault und neue Medientheorien”, graduate course, Department of Theatre, Film and Media Studies, University of Vienna; taught together with Christoph Hubatschke
- “Theoriegeschichte und Theoriedebatte: Utopie und Politik”, undergraduate course, Department of Political Science, University of Vienna; taught together with Katharina Maly
- Fall term 2015 “Introduction to Interdisciplinary Feminist Philosophies of Technology and Technoscience Studies”, invited evening lecture, Department of Thematic Studies: Tema Genus, Linköping University
- Winter term 2013/14 “‘Technik ist stabilisierte Gesellschaft’: Einführung in Bruno Latours Techniksoziologie”, undergraduate course, Department of Sociology, University of Vienna
- Summer term 2011 “Gewalt und Handlungsmacht: Feministische Perspektiven”, interdisciplinary lecture, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Vienna; taught together with Eva Kreisky and GIK Fellows

#### FUNDINGS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

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- 10/2021-09/2023 Principal Investigator of „Ensuring public health through mobilizing death: Expectations as future-making practices in the bioeconomy of transgenic mosquitoes”, research project funded by Fritz Thyssen Stiftung für Wissenschaftsförderung (EUR 15.000)
- 09/2019 *Kongressreise* Grant of the German Academic Exchange Service for a talk given at the 4S 2019 Conference in New Orleans, USA (EUR 1,834)
- 05/2019 *Förderfonds zum Aufbau koordinierter Programme* of the presidium of Goethe University for the German Research Foundation research training school proposal “Fixing Futures: Investigating Regimes of Anticipation in Contemporary Societies” (EUR 1,500); together with Thomas Lemke
- 04/2019 *GRADE Social Sciences at Goethe University Frankfurt* Grant for the workshops “Fragility and Extinction in the Anthropocene” and “Methods in Multispecies Ethnographic Research” (EUR 4,000); together with Franziska von Verschuer, Anastassija Kostan, and Markus Rudolff
- 08/2015 – 09/2015 *Short Term Scientific Mission* Grant of the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (EUR 2,500)
- 03/2013 – 06/2013 *Research Award Scholarship* (Forschungsstipendium) of the University of Vienna (EUR 4,000)

- 03/2013 *Dissemination Grant* of the University of Vienna for a talk given at the Graduate Center of the City University New York, USA (EUR 650)
- 11/2012 – 01/2013 *Short-Term Grant Abroad (KWA)* of the University of Vienna (EUR 2,050)
- 04/2012 *Dissemination Grant* of the University of Vienna for a talk given at Virginia Tech, USA (EUR 650)
- 2006/2007 *Scholarship for Academic Excellence (Leistungsstipendium)* of the University of Vienna and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research (EUR 1,000)

## TALKS

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- 2021 “The Haunting Climate of Materialization: Bodies, ‘Race’, and Technologies of Anti-Blackness”, invited talk given in the research colloquium *Mensch-Maschine-Verhältnis* at Philipps University Marburg, 11 February 2021.
- “Cutting Technology and the Body Together-Apart: Bodies-in-Technology and the Haunted Climate of Materializations”, invited keynote lecture in the *Future Bodies From a Recent Past – Sculpture, Technology, and the Body Since the 1950s* symposium, Brandhorst Museum Munich, 23 January 2021.
- 2020 “‘Making Kin Not Population?’ Feministische speculative Fabulation und die Frage der Bevölkerung im Anthropozän”, paper presented at the *40th Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie Kongress: Gesellschaft unter Spannung*, TU Berlin (online), 14-24 September 2020.
- “Reinventing Life and Death on a Molecular Scale: The Technobiopolitics of Planned Extinction”, paper presented at the *4S 2020 Locating and Timing Matters* conference, Prague (online), 18-21 August 2020.
- “Patterns of Difference that Make a Difference: Diffraction as a Critical Tool of Analysis in STS?”, invited talk given in the *Ethnographic Interventions & Experimental Collaborations lecture series* of the Institute of Cultural Anthropology & European Ethnology, Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, 5 February 2020.
- 2019 “Diffracting AI and Robotics: Decolonial and Feminist Perspectives”, introductory lecture and symposium host, Goethe University Frankfurt, 11–12 October 2019; together with Pat Treusch and Christoph Hubatschke.
- “More-Than-Human Biopolitics and the Ethics of Rendering Life Dieable”, invited talk given in the *Postmagicscience “Pure reason must never prevail”: Witchcraft, Magic, and Materialism* symposium, Schloss Herrenhausen, Hannover, 25-27 September 2019.
- “Engineering Extinction: Genome Editing, Public Health, and Exterminism”, invited talk given in the symposium ‘*We, new utopians...’: Genome Editing and Echoes of Future Life*, Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, 17-18 September 2019.
- “Rendering Life Dieable: Reconfiguring Mosquitos, Biocapital, and Technobiopower”, paper presented at the *4S 2019 Innovations, Interruptions, Regenerations* conference, New Orleans, 4-7 September 2019.

“A Climate of Misogyny: Climate Change Denialism, Epistemic Ignorance, and Toxic Masculinities in the Post-Truth Era”, paper presented at the *NORA Conference 2019: Border Regimes, Territorial Discourses & Feminist Politics* conference, University of Iceland, 22-24 May 2019.

2018

“Economies of hope: transgenic mosquitoes as technoscientific matters of care”, paper presented at the *EASST: Meetings – Making Science, Technology and Society Together* conference, Lancaster University, 25-28 July 2018.

“Political Economies of Hope and the Commodification of Life Itself”, paper presented at the *9th Annual Conference on the New Materialisms: Religious Matters in an Entangled World*, Utrecht University, 20-22 June 2018.

2017

“Ecomodernism and the Technosphere: Narratives of Hyperproductivity in the Anthropocene”, invited talk given in the *New Materialisms and the Environmental Humanities* symposium, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, 14-15 September 2017.

“Response-Ability in the Age of Insects: Politics of Representing as Intervening for the Anthropocene”, paper presented at the *Postcards from the Anthropocene: Unsettling the Geopolitics of Representation* conference, University of Edinburgh, 22-24 June 2017.

“The Politics of Becoming-With in the Anthropocene: The Zika Virus Epidemic as a Naturalcultural Multispecies Entanglement”, paper presented at the *8th Annual Conference on the New Materialisms: Environmental Humanities and New Materialisms. The Ethics of Decolonizing Nature and Culture*, UNESCO Paris, 7-9 June 2017.

“Feminist Technoecologies”, invited round table discussion at the *8th Annual Conference on the New Materialisms: Environmental Humanities and New Materialisms. The Ethics of Decolonizing Nature and Culture*, UNESCO Paris, 7-9 June 2017.

2016

“Chaosmopolitics: Becoming-more-than-human, becoming-worldly, becoming-response-able in the Anthropocene”, paper presented at the *9th International Deleuze Studies Conference: Virtuality, Becoming and Life*, University of Roma Tre, 11-13 July 2016.

“Verschränkungen von Gewicht: Zur Techno-Biopolitik der Apparate körperlicher Produktion”, invited talk given in the research colloquium of Prof. Thomas Lemke *Soziologie mit dem Schwerpunkt Biotechnologie, Natur und Gesellschaft*, Goethe University Frankfurt, 21 January 2016.

2015

“Technik und Politik”, invited discussant, Depot, Vienna, 5 October 2015.

“Mensch – Maschine – the extended body”, invited lecture performance and round table discussion at the *Wunder der Prärie: International Festival for Performance-Art*, Mannheim, 24–27 September 2015.

“Technicity, Bodily Materiality, and Agency”, invited keynote lecture given at the *Wunder der Prärie: International Festival for Performance-Art*, Mannheim, 24–27

September 2015.

“Posthumanist Politics of Nature: Becoming With Technologies and the Chthulucene”, invited seminar in the *Environmental Humanities Forum | the Seedbox*, Linköping University, 8 September 2015.

“Techno-Becomings: Speculative Fabulations about Technology, Bodies and Agency”, invited public lecture given in the context of the performance installation *imagetanz 2015. “training”*: *Spielstätten eines inklusiven Humanismus*, Künstlerhaus Vienna, 6 March 2015.

2014 “Diffracting race: science, technology, and the mechanics of materializing marked bodies”, paper presented at the *5<sup>th</sup> New Materialism Conference*, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Barcelona, 25–26 September 2014.

2013 “Rethinking agency and power with/in technology-body entanglements: towards a philosophy of apparatuses of bodily production”, paper presented at the *Feminism, Science & Materialism* conference, CUNY, 14–15 February 2013.

2012 “Rethinking agency and power with/in technology-body assemblages”, paper presented at the *Violence and Agency: Controversies and Confrontations* conference, University of Vienna (online), 6–7 December 2012.

“New materialism, technology, and the body: theorizing technology and material bodies from an agential realist perspective”, paper presented at the *Critical Matter: 3<sup>rd</sup> International Graduate Conference*, Goethe University Frankfurt, 31 May – 2 June 2012.

“Changing topologies, shifting relations. Toward a post-constructionist philosophy of technology-body entanglements”, paper presented at the *Gender, Bodies and Technology: (Dis)Integrating Frames* conference, Virginia Tech, Roanoke, 26–28 April 2012.

2011 “Mensch-Maschine-Verschrankungen und kapitalistische Quasi-Objekte. Zu einer Latourschen Lesart Marx’ Ausführungen zur Maschine”, paper presented at the *9<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Austrian Society for Philosophy: »Crossing Borders: Grenzen (über)denken«*, University of Vienna, 2–4 June 2011, together with Fabian Steinschaden.

#### PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

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12/2017 “Designing Data Management Plans”, Human Resources Development, University of Vienna. Certificate earned on December 1, 2017.

11/2017 “Project Management: Managing Research Projects”, Human Resources Development, University of Vienna. Certificate earned on November 28, 2017.

11/2017 “Data Management and Archiving”, Human Resources Development, University of Vienna. Certificate earned on November 9, 2017

06/2018 – 07/2017 “Research Data Management and Sharing”, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill & The University of Edinburgh on Coursera. Certificate earned on July 8, 2017.

02/2012 “Teaching Qualification Certificate”, Center for Teaching and Learning, University

of Vienna. Certificate earned on February 15, 2012.

## SERVICES

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Co-Host of the “Kitchen STS” discussion group at Goethe University Frankfurt, since April 2019; together with Franziska von Verschuer and Markus Rudolfi.

Member of the PhD Board at the Faculty of Social Sciences at Goethe University Frankfurt, October 2018 through May 2021.

Member of the Budget Committee of the Faculty of Social Sciences at Goethe University Frankfurt, October 2018 through February 2019.

Co-Chair of the Working Group “New Materialisms on the Crossroads of the Natural and Human Sciences” of the European Cooperation in Science and Technology Action 1307 (PI Iris van der Tuin), from September 2016 through April 2018.

## ACADEMIC NETWORKS AND AFFILIATIONS

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- Cornelia Goethe Center for Women’s and Gender Studies, Goethe University Frankfurt
- iGEN – Interdisciplinary Genome Editing Network, University of Oxford
- LaSST – Lab for Studies of Science and Technology, Goethe University Frankfurt
- Posthumanities Hub, Linköping University

## MEMBERSHIPS

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- 4S Society for Social Studies of Science
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie (German Sociological Association)
- EASST: The European Association for the Study of Science and Technology
- Fachgesellschaft Geschlechterstudien (Gender Studies Association e.V.)