

Marzena Sasnal, PhD, MA


Social Scientist

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Qualitative & mixed-methods oriented social scientist, experienced in health services, medical education and migration research with publication record, grant support, and administrative experience.

San Francisco Bay Area 

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Qualitative & Mixed-Methods

Health Services Research

Innovations in Care

Evaluation & Implementation Science

Medical Education

Migration of Highly Skilled

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) / Social Sciences (Sociology)

concentration: Sociology of Migration / Qualitative Research

University of Wroclaw, Poland

completed in 2019

Master of Arts (M.A.) / Sociology

concentration: Communication & Market Research

University of Wroclaw, Poland

completed in 2010 (5-year BA/MA program)

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) / International Relations and Affairs

concentration: Economic International Relations

University of Wroclaw, Poland

completed in 2009 (3-year BA program)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Experience

01/2020-present **Social Science Researcher**, Stanford Surgery Policy Improvement Research and Education Center (S-SPIRE), Stanford University, Stanford, CA

My core responsibilities include:

- *Assisting principal investigators with designing, conducting, analyzing, and overseeing qualitative and mixed-methods research projects;*
- *Independently identifying/modifying standard research procedures; selecting approaches in developing, testing, and evaluating new methods;*
- *Co-authoring manuscripts/reports/professional presentations;*
- *Presenting ongoing work and findings at work-in-progress sessions, professional meetings and academic conferences;*
- *Providing instruction and consultations on research methods and techniques;*
- *Assisting in the preparation of grant applications.*

- 10/2010-09/2019** **Graduate Research Assistant** (Qualitative Methods), Department of Social Sciences, University of Wroclaw, Wroclaw, Poland
- Planned, conducted & managed a self-directed qualitative research project on highly skilled migrants in Silicon Valley: performed literature search, designed interview guides, conducted interviews, coded & analyzed data using qualitative analysis software, presented data to various audiences, managed grants, published findings in peer-review journals and in a book. Other responsibilities included: conducting lectures, delivering presentations at conferences, supporting faculty in their research projects.*
- 02/2011-12/2012** **Research Coordinator**, University of Wroclaw, Poland
- Coordinated a survey research project on motivations to study among high school students: designed & analyzed the survey, wrote final report, supervised work of 10 interviewers.*
- 2006-2010** **Student Research Assistant**, University of Wroclaw, Poland
- Participated in various research projects as a pollster and interviewer: developed research skills by performing literature searches, coding data, entering data into the database, conducting interviews and surveys.*

Teaching Experience

- 10/2010-02/2011** **Lecturer**, undergraduate course: Introduction to Sociology, University of Wroclaw, Poland
- Developed course curriculum, conducted weekly lectures for classes of 60 students, marked assignments.*

Other Work Experience

- 05/2019-01/2020** **Postdoctoral Administrator & Sr. Administrative Associate**, OHNS Department, Stanford School of Medicine, Stanford University, Stanford, CA
- Provided administrative support to 3 faculty and their labs: scheduled calendars, arranged travels, processed reimbursements, honorariums, and invoice payments, drafted official documents and correspondence, ensured efficient operation of the office by improving processes. Additionally, provided operational support and administrative guidance for postdoctoral fellows including appointments, visas, training, stipends, salaries, and leaves.*
- 01/2019-04/2019** **Administrative Associate**, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, Stanford, CA
- Provided administrative support to faculty and staff: processed reimbursements, honorariums, and invoice payments. Additionally, served as front-desk information and problem-resolution resource ensuring the highest quality customer service is afforded to utilize a "One Stop" service model.*
- 02/2014-12/2018** **Office Administrator**, Messick Company LLC, Campbell, CA
- Created a portfolio of the company's products and services, performed bookkeeping tasks (billing, invoicing, reconciling payments, preparing financial records), assisted customers.*

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Books

1. **Sasnal, M.** Polscy ekspaci w Dolinie Krzemowej. Badania wśród specjalistów wysokich technologii. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe Scholar; 2021 (in Polish, title in English: Polish Expats in Silicon Valley: A Study of High-Tech Professionals).

Book Chapters or Articles

1. **Sasnal M.** Transnarodowość współczesnych migrantów na przykładzie polskich specjalistów wysokich technologii w Dolinie Krzemowej. In: Dębicki M, Dolińska K, Kajta J, et. al., editors. Granice, pogranicza i dalej – niekończąca się przygoda. Księga Jubileuszowa dedykowana Profesorowi Zbigniewowi Kurczowi. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe Scholar; 2021. p.329-339; in print (in Polish, title in English: Transnationality of Contemporary Migrants: A Qualitative Study Among Polish High-Tech Professionals in Silicon Valley).
2. **Sasnal M.** Bezpieczeństwo w Görlitz i Zgorzelcu w opiniach mieszkańców. In: Dolińska K, Niedźwiecka-Iwańczak N, editors. Zgorzelec jako miasto pograniczne w opiniach jego mieszkańców. Wrocław: Wydawnictwo GAJT; 2011. p. 147–65 (in Polish, title in English: Safety in Görlitz and Zgorzelec in Opinions of Inhabitants).
3. **Sasnal M.** Polsko-niemieckie sąsiedztwo. Opinie mieszkańców Zgorzelca. In: Kurcz Z, Opiłowska E, editors. Polsko-niemieckie transgranicza – rozmyte konfiguracje tożsamości. Wrocław: Wydawnictwo GAJT; 2011. p. 55–72 (in Polish, title in English: Polish-German Neighborhood: Opinions of Inhabitants of Zgorzelec).
4. **Sasnal M.** Tożsamość narodowa czy tożsamość europejska? Polska emigracja w Wielkiej Brytanii. In: Mikucka-Wójtowicz D, Kopeć R, editors. Kwestie narodowościowe w świetle procesów integracyjnych w Europie. Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe Akademii Pedagogicznej im. Komisji Edukacji Narodowej; 2009. p. 147–54 (in Polish, title in English: Either National or European Identity? Polish Emigration in Great Britain).
5. **Zajac M, Sasnal, PM.** Bezpieczeństwo danych. Czynniki ludzki najsłabszym ogniwem zabezpieczeń. In: Rola informatyki w naukach ekonomicznych i społecznych Zeszyty naukowe. 2008. p. 227–36 (in Polish, title in English: Safety of Data. Human Factor as the Weakest Link of Security).

Journal Articles

1. Arya S, Langston AH, Chen R, **Sasnal M**, George EL, Kashikar A, Barreto NB, Trickey AW, Morris AM. Perspectives on Home Time and its Association With Quality of Life After Inpatient Surgery Among US Veterans, in print.
2. **Sasnal M**, Miller-Kuhlmann R, Merrell SB, Beres S, Kipp L, Lee S, et al. Feasibility and acceptability of virtually coaching residents on communication skills: a pilot study. BMC Medical Education Educ. 21(1): 1-9. 2021
3. Wise CE, Berekenyei Merrell S, **Sasnal M**, Forrester JD, Hawn MT, Lau JN, et al. COVID-19 Impact on Surgical Resident Education and Coping. Journal of Surgical Research. (264): 534-543. 2021
4. **Sasnal M.** Ein uneinheitliches Bild deutsch-polnischer Nachbarschaft. Forschungen zu den Ansichten von Einwohnern der Grenzstadt Zgorzelec. Inter Finitimos: Jahrbuch zur Deutsch-Polnischen Beziehungsgeschichte. (8): 148–67. 2011 (in German, title in English: Polish-German neighborhood. Opinions of inhabitants of Zgorzelec)

Manuscripts in Preparation

1. Nassar AK, **Sasnal M**, Miller-Kuhlmann R, Korndorffer, Gold K. Developing an Interdepartmental Residency Communication Coaching Program.
2. Miller-Kuhlmann R, **Sasnal M**, Gold C, Nassar AK, Korndorffer J, Van Schaik S, et.al. Twelve Tips for Developing a Coaching Program in Medical Education.
3. **Sasnal M**. Who Are Contemporary Polish Migrants in Silicon Valley? A Qualitative Study Among High-Tech Professionals.
4. **Sasnal M**, Langston AH, Morris AM, Sox-Harris AH, Arya S. Patient Perspectives on Recovery & Information Needs Post-Surgery: A Qualitative Study of Older Veterans.
5. **Sasnal M**, McCaa M, Morris AM, Lorenz K, Aslaskon R, Giannitrapani K. Interdisciplinary Collaboration in the Perioperative Period: A Qualitative Study of Palliative Care Teams on Developing Relationships with Surgeons.
6. Giannitrapani K, McCaa M, **Sasnal M**, Connell N, Morris AM, Shreve S, Schenker Y, Lorenz K. Strategies to Improve Quality of Care for Seriously Ill Patients in the Perioperative Period.

Abstracts

1. **Sasnal M**, Langston AH, Morris A, Sox-Harris AH, Arya S. Understanding Patient Perspectives on Postoperative Recovery: A Qualitative Study of Older Veterans. 17th Annual Academic Surgical Congress. February 2022.
2. Giannitrapani K, McCaa M, **Sasnal M**, Connell N, Morris AM, Shreve S, Schenker Y, Lorenz K. Strategies to Improve Perioperative Quality of Care Through Palliative Care. 2022 Annual Assembly of Hospice and Palliative Care. February 2022.
3. Arya S, Langston AH, Chen R, **Sasnal M**, George EL, Kashikar A, Barreto NB, Trickey AW, Morris AM. Home-Time and Health-Related Quality of Life: A Mixed Methods Study of Veterans after Surgery. 2021 Association of VA Surgeons Meeting. April 2021.

Academic Research Projects

1. Doctoral Dissertation: Polscy specjaliści wysokich technologii w Dolinie Krzemowej. Portret socjologiczny (in Polish, title in English: Polish High-Tech Specialists in Silicon Valley: a Sociological Portrayal). Advisor: Prof. Z. Kurcz. University of Wroclaw, Poland. Completed September 2019.
2. Master's Thesis: Polsko-niemieckie sąsiedztwo. Opinie mieszkańców Zgorzelca (in Polish, title in English: Polish-German Neighborhood. Opinions of the inhabitant of Zgorzelec). Advisor: Prof. Z. Kurcz, University of Wroclaw, Poland. Completed July 2010.
3. Undergraduate Thesis: Wybrane elementy aktywności społecznej młodzieży. Portret socjologiczny młodego społecznika (in Polish, title in English: Sociological Portrayal of Young Activists: Selected Elements). Advisor: E. Baczyńska, PhD. Completed July 2008.

CONFERENCES

Oral Presentations

Only first-author presentations are shown.

1. **Sasnal M**. Polsko-niemiecka integracja w opiniach Polaków. Mit czy rzeczywistość? (in Polish); title in English: Polish-German Integration In the Opinions of Poles. Myth or Reality? Conference: What are the Europeans Afraid of? Modern Threats and Challenges for Europe in the Humanities. University of Wroclaw, Wroclaw, Poland. May 2011.

2. **Sasnal M**, Obalska A. Unia pozornych przeciwności. Socjologiczna refleksja nad zderzeniem nowoczesności z tradycją w polskich mediach (in Polish); title in English: Union of Apparent Opposites. Sociological Reflection on the Modern and Tradition Values Presented in Polish Television. Conference: Media in Poland – Who Is Manipulating Here? Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland. June 2010.
3. **Sasnal M**, Zalewska A. Polish-Ukrainian Strategic Partnership: Relations Between Poles and Ukrainians. Presented during visit at Ivan Franco University, Lvov, Ukraine. May 2010.
4. **Sasnal M**, Tryszpiotr K. Euro 2012 and the Attitudes of Poles towards Ukrainians. Conference: Euro 2012. Opportunities and Challenges. University of Wrocław, Wrocław, Poland. April 2010.
5. **Zajac M**, Chamczyński M. Corporation Values of East European Countries (Gazprom case). Annual Polish-American Sociological Conference “Communication & Culture”. University of Wrocław, Wrocław, Poland. May 2009.
6. **Zajac M**. Jedno państwo – trzy religie? Wielokulturowość Bośni i Hercegowiny (in Polish); title in English: One Nation – Three Religions. Multiculturalism in Bosnia and Herzegovina. III Annual Students National Conference “Talents”. University of Wrocław, Wrocław, Poland. November 2008.
7. **Zajac M**. Tożsamość narodowa czy tożsamość europejska? Polska emigracja w Wielkiej Brytanii (in Polish); title in English: National or European Identity? Polish Migrants in the UK. I Young Political Researches Meeting. Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland. October 2008.
8. **Zajac M**, Sasnal PM. Bezpieczeństwo danych. Czynniki ludzki najsłabszym ogniwem zabezpieczeń (in Polish); title in English: Security of Data. Human Factor as the Weakest Link in Security. Conference: The Role of Computer Sciences in Social Sciences and Economics. Kielce, Poland. September 2008.
9. **Zajac M**. Media masowe a kształtowanie postaw obywatelskich. Analiza zagadnienia na przykładzie kampanii społecznej “Zmień kraj. Idź na wybory” (in Polish); title in English: Impact of Mass Media on Social Attitudes. Analysis of the Social Campaign “Change the Country. Participate in the Elections”. Conference: Participation in Election Campaigns – Continuity and Changes (1989-2007). University of Wrocław, Wrocław, Poland. June 2008.
10. **Zajac M**. Aktywność młodzieży w organizacjach politycznych oznaką patriotyzmu. Portret młodego aktywisty na podstawie badań własnych (in Polish); title in English: Social Activity as an Indicator of Patriotism. Sociological Portrayal of Young Activists: a Survey Study. Conference: Identity References of Poles: Patriotism of Many Faces, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland. May 2008.
11. **Zajac M**, Wiśniewska D. Zmienność świata – próba odnalezienia się we współczesnej rzeczywistości poprzez działalność wolontariacką (in Polish), title in English: Voluntarily Activity: a Way to Find Identity in Today’s Complex World. III National Student Conference „The Complexity of the World: Human Fears and Hopes. Bydgoszcz, Poland. April 2008.
12. **Zajac M**, Tryszpiotr K. Political Hegemony of the World – Germany. Polish-Ukrainian Conference: Political Hegemonies of Today. Ivan Franco University, Lvov, Ukraine. November 2007.

Poster Presentations

1. Langston AH, Chen R, **Sasnal M**, George EL, Kashikar A, Barreto NB, Trickey AW, Morris AM, Arya S. Home-Time and Health-Related Quality of Life: A Mixed Methods Study of Veterans after Surgery. Holman Research Day. Stanford University, Stanford, CA. May 2021.

RESEARCH FUNDING

Patient-Centered Multidisciplinary Care for Veterans Undergoing Surgery (PAUSE) Clinical Trial

Department of Veteran Affairs, Palo Alto, CA

05/2021-04/2025

Goal: Formative evaluation of an innovative hybrid 1 clinical effectiveness-implementation clinical trial to evaluate provider and system factors that impact the uptake of the intervention.

Role: Qualitative Lead

Home-Time: A Novel Patient-Oriented Outcome in Older Veterans Undergoing Surgery

Department of Veteran Affairs, Palo Alto, CA

10/2020-12/2021

Goal: To understand the importance of home-time to veterans after surgery using qualitative interviews.

Role: Qualitative Analyst

Palliative care in the peri-operative period

The VA Palliative Care Quality Improvement Center, Palo Alto, CA

07/2020-12/2021

Goal: To (1) collect palliative care providers' perspectives on how to improve quality of care and quality of death in the peri-operative period; (2) identify mechanisms for relationship building and maintaining between palliative and surgical care teams.

Role: Qualitative Analyst

The Stanford General Surgery & Neurology Communication Coaching Pilot Program Evaluation

Stanford School of Medicine, Stanford, CA

02/2020-08/2022

Goal: To (1) identify the barriers and facilitators of implementation and sustainment a communication-based coaching program for residents; (2) evaluate the impact of a communication coaching program on perceived feedback, support, and skills of residents.

Role: Research Associate & Project Coordinator

Polish High-Tech Specialists in Silicon Valley

Ministry of Science and Higher Education & University of Wroclaw, Poland

11/2014-09/2015

Goal: To identify sociocultural and psychological adaptation mechanisms among highly skilled Polish immigrants in Silicon Valley using a qualitative approach.

Role: PI in self-directed research

CERTIFICATIONS & COURSES

Only selected certifications, courses, and workshops are shown.

Rapid Turn-Around Qualitative Research (1-day workshop). Research Talk & University of North Carolina, NC. August 2021

Implementation Research: Using Qualitative Research Methods to Improve Policy and Practice (2-day workshop). Research Talk & University of North Carolina, NC. July 2021.

Designing Your Mixed Methods Research Project: An Interactive Workshop (3-day workshop). Stanford University, CA. March, 2021

Certificate in Clinical Research Operations, Stanford Center for Clinical and Translational Research. Stanford University, CA. October 2020

Certificate in Mixed Methods Research. University of Michigan. July 2020

Certificate in Research Administration (Cardinal Curriculum Level 1). Stanford University, CA.
March 2020

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2020-present Member, Mixed Methods International Research Association

2008-2011 Member, Student Association "Movement for Supporting Initiatives for International Education"

AWARDS & HONORS

2020 Nominee, The Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award of the Prime Minister of Poland

2019 Defended PhD dissertation with the highest distinction (summa cum laude), University of Wroclaw, Poland

2014-2015 Grantee, Individual Research Grant "Polish High-Tech Specialists in Silicon Valley", Department of Social Sciences, University of Wroclaw, Poland

2013-2014 Grantee (2 times), Research Scholarship for Doctoral Students, University of Wroclaw, Poland

2009-2011 Grantee (3 times), Scholarship of the Polish Minister of Science and Higher Education for outstanding academic achievements

2010 Graduated with MA in Sociology with the highest distinction (summa cum laude), University of Wroclaw, Poland

2008 Grantee, Scholarship „Citi helps students. Students help locally”, Academy for the Development of Philanthropy, Poland

LANGUAGES & SKILLS

Polish (native proficiency)

English (full professional proficiency)

SPSS

Dedoose

NVivo

Atlas.ti

MAXQDA

Qualtrics

REDCap

Zotero

FileMaker Pro

Windows and Mac OS X

Microsoft Office, iWork, and Google office suites