

ELLEN M. BURSTEIN

ellenburstein@gmail.com

EDUCATION:

Oxford University, Oxford, UK — MSc in Migration Studies, October 2025 — present.

Supervisor: Professor Madeleine Reeves, University of Oxford.

Oxford University, Oxford, UK — MPhil in Medical Anthropology, October 2023 — June 2025, Distinction.

Dissertation: A National Health Service in an “Island of Strangers”: An Ethnography of Migration and the NHS (Supervisor: Professor Lys Alcayna-Stevens, University of Oxford) (Distinction).

FXB Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University — Intensive Summer Course on Migration and Refugee Studies in Greece, July 2023.

Harvard College, Cambridge, MA — Graduated March 2023, Cum Laude with Highest Honors in Anthropology. Concentration (major) in Social Anthropology; secondary (minor) in Government; citation in French language.

Honors Thesis: Trust, Accompaniment, and La Colaborativa: An Ethnography of COVID-19 Vaccination in Chelsea, Massachusetts (Advisor: Professor Salmaan Keshavjee, Harvard Medical School).

WORKING PAPERS:

“REVIEW: Homesick, Nicholas Shapiro.” Accepted *Anthropological Quarterly*. 2026.

“Incommunicability and Responsibility: The NHS and Migrant Communities.” 2026.

“Trust and Accompaniment: An Ethnographic Study of La Colaborativa’s COVID-19 Efforts in Chelsea, Massachusetts.” With Salmaan Keshavjee. 2026.

PRESENTATIONS:

“Incommunicability and Responsibility: The NHS and Migrant Communities,” featured poster at the 11th Biennial Conference of the Society for Humanities, Social Science, and Medicine, UCSF/ UC Davis/ UC Berkeley, San Francisco, California, USA, April 2026.

“Incommunicability and Responsibility: The NHS and Migrant Communities,” featured paper at the annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, New Mexico, USA, March 2026.

“Incommunicability and Responsibility: The NHS and Migrant Communities” featured speaker at the Faith and Migration Research Symposium, Woolf Institute, University of Cambridge, Cambridge UK, February 2026.

“Incommunicability and Responsibility: The NHS and Migrant Communities” presentation at Multaka Oxford, University of Oxford, Oxford UK, February 2026.

“The Case for a Critical Medical Anthropology of COVID-19,” paper presentation at the Medical Anthropology Young Scholars annual conference in Tilburg, Netherlands, June 2025. Co-authored with Anile Tmava.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Burstein EM, Tmava A. A Call for a Critical Medical Anthropology of the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Anthropology & Medicine*. 2026. Available at: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/41582616/>

Burstein EM. Review: A Vital Frontier: Water Insurgencies in Europe. *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford*, 2024. Available at: https://www.anthro.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/anthro/documents/media/jaso_16_2024_full_issue.pdf

Burstein EM. To Help Support Their Mental Health, Students Want Schools... *Teen Vogue*, October 10, 2023. Available at: <https://www.teenvogue.com/story/mental-health-students-want-schools-to-make-these-changes>

Burstein EM, Zhang A. Young Americans are facing a mental health crisis... Boston Globe, May 6, 2021. Available at: <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2021/05/06/opinion/young-americans-are-facing-mental-health-crisis-need-action/>

Burstein EM. Can colleges require students to get the COVID vaccine? Teen Vogue, April 12, 2021. Available at: <https://www.teenvogue.com/story/colleges-require-students-covid-vaccine>

Burstein EM (and co-writers when appropriate). Full reportage from writings for *The Harvard Crimson* available at: https://www.thecrimson.com/writer/1214726/Ellen_M._Burstein/

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

The Vaccine Confidence Project

Intern — February 2023 - December 2023

Intern to Professor Heidi Larson, director of the Vaccine Confidence Project, on work related to The Global Listening Project's research on global public sentiments on the COVID-19 recovery and related issues.

Harvard Summer School

Residential Proctor — June 2022 - August 2022

Residential advisor including academic advising and college preparation.

Harvard Global Health Institute

Research Assistant — March 2021 - November 2021

Research assistant to Dr. Ingrid Katz, developing Harvard College class "Vaccines: History, Science, Policy (Gen Ed 1175); contributed research on vaccine policy.

The Winsor School, Boston, MA

Teaching Assistant — February 2021 - June 2021

Supervised hybrid classes and COVID-19 precautions at The Winsor School while many faculty worked remotely.

JOURNALISM and PUBLIC POLICY EXPERIENCE:

The Harvard Crimson

News Executive — December 2020 - December 2021

News executive and co-leader of University coverage, overseeing a team of 18 reporters.

Staff Writer — September 2018 - December 2020

Covered Harvard Square, Harvard Business School, and University finances, publishing 130+ articles.

NBC Boston/ NECN

Intern/ Production Associate — October 2020 - May 2021

Researcher, contributing writer, and producer for special projects for the NBC Boston stations.

Harvard Institute of Politics

Research Team Leader, Harvard Public Opinion Project — Sep 2020 - Dec 2021

Led research teams for the IOP's Fall 2020, Spring 2021, and Fall 2021 polls and led national focus groups of college students during Vice-Presidential and Presidential Debates. Led polling on young people's mental health.

Researcher Jan 2020 - September 2020, Jan 2022 - Dec 2022.

Fellows and Study Groups Program – Jan 2019 - December 2019

Liaison for former director of the National Economic Council Gary Cohn, former U.S. Senator Heidi Heitkamp, and President of *The Economist* Bob Cohn during their fellowships at the Institute of Politics.

PUBLIC SERVICE/ VOLUNTEER WORK:

Balliol College MCR Basketball Team Captain, The University of Oxford, Oxford UK — January 2026 - present.

Balliol College MCR Disabilities Officer, The University of Oxford, Oxford UK — October 2025 - present.

Balliol College MCR Environmental Officer, The University of Oxford, Oxford, UK — August 2024 - June 2025.

Clinical Volunteer, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, UK — February 2024 - March 2025.

University of Oxford School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, Student JCC Representative — October 2023 - June 2024.

Co-student representative for the MSc Medical Anthropology program on the Joint Consultative Committee for the Anthropology department; liaise between academic cohort and faculty and coordinate relevant seminars in medical anthropology.

Harvard IOP, CIVICS teacher — January 2020 - December 2020, January 2022 - December 2022.

Co-teach a weekly civics class for fourth graders in various Boston Public Schools.

Partners in Health, COVID-19 Contact Tracer — May 2020 - July 2020.

Provided quarantine instructions to patient contacts and connected them with community support resources.

“Justin for Medford” Political Campaign, Communications Director – 2021.

Communications director for young, progressive candidate elected to Medford (Mass.) city council.

ACCOLADES:

Sally Falk Moore Prize in Public Service, Harvard College — May 2023

Awarded to “an anthropology concentrator who has shown outstanding commitment to public service” and who “demonstrates an ability to engage their academic work in a way that fosters a compassionate local and global community.”

John Harvard Scholar, Harvard College — October 2022

Top 5% of senior class at Harvard College.

Featured Speaker, Harvard Anthropology Day — September 2022

Presented senior thesis research at “Harvard Anthropology Day,” annual departmental symposium.

Anthropology Department Karp Fund, Summer Grant – June 2022

Grant from Harvard University anthropology department to support thesis research.

Society of Professional Journalists, Winner of Week 1 of College Coronavirus Coverage Awards — April 2020

Shared prize for story on the potential repercussions of a financial downturn on Harvard's endowment.

Harvard Romance Languages and Literatures Department, Prix d'Excellence — April 2019

Awarded for “outstanding student projects from French courses in RLL,” for a group video project in French 40: “The Contemporary Francophone World Through Cinema.”

World Individual Debate and Public Speaking Championship, 9th place overall — April 2018

National Merit Scholarship Finalist — 2018

SKILLS:

French proficiency, Stata, public speaking, reporting, interviewing, ethnographic writing, qualitative research.

MUSICAL EXPERIENCE

Balliol College Chapel Choir, University of Oxford, 2023 - present.

Oxford Millenium Orchestra, Oxford, UK, 2024.

The Radcliffe Choral Society, Alto 2, 2018 - 2023.

New England Conservatory Preparatory School, student in cello + voice, 2010 - 2018.