



Sara Skarp, PhD

Environmental Social Scientist

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I am an interdisciplinary environmental social scientist, drawing from fields such as environmental sociology, sustainability science, and political science. My research and teaching take their starting points in climate change and environmental action, for example grassroots initiatives and collaborative sustainability efforts in areas related to e.g. waste, and tourism. I have a strong passion for my field of work and study, and have therefore also worked with outreach in different ways.

Current and previous positions

- 2022- **Postdoctoral research fellow, Department of Sociology, Lund University**
Research conducted within Mistra Sustainable Consumption, focused on sustainable tourism initiatives. Teaching in classical and contemporary sociological theory, including environmental sociology.
- 2022 **Postdoctoral research associate, CAST Centre, University of Manchester**
Research project on pandemic holiday travel practices, with relevance for climate-friendly transformation in the holiday travel sector.
- 2021 **Project coordinator for the Youth Climate Change Programme, University of East Anglia**
Climate outreach programme for children and youths, based at UEA.
- 2018- **Associate tutor, School of Environmental Science, University of East Anglia**
2021 Lecture and seminar leader and assistant on second cycle module *Sustainable Consumption*, first cycle modules *Energy and People*, *Natural Resources and Environmental Economics*, *Sustainability, Society, and Biodiversity*, and *Global Environmental Challenges*

Degrees

- 2017- **Doctor of Philosophy, Environmental (Social) Science, University of East Anglia**
2022 Mixed methods research on the community waste movement in the UK. Thesis title: *The gateway to all good things? Commoning, sustainability, and post-capitalist possibility in UK community waste initiatives.*
- 2014- **M.Sc. in Sustainability Studies and Environmental Science (LUMES), Lund University**
2016 Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies (LUCSUS)
- 2010- **B.A. in Global Studies and Human Ecology, University of Gothenburg**
2013 School of Global Studies

Publications

Skarp, S., Hoolohan, C. (2024). Exploring pandemic holiday practices: Meaning, experience and aspiration. *Annals of Tourism Research Empirical Insights*, 5(2), 100135. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annale.2024.100135> [Peer-reviewed]

Skarp, S., Fünfschilling, L., Klintman, M., Linnell, M. (2023). A speculative conversation on climate change and sociology. *Sociologisk Forskning*, 60(3–4), 401–410. <https://doi.org/10.37062/sf.60.25402> [Reflective piece]

Skarp, S. (2022). *The gateway to all good things? Commoning, sustainability, and post-capitalist possibility in UK community waste initiatives*. Doctoral dissertation. University of East Anglia. [Monograph]

Skarp, S., Wagner, S. M., Varvarousis, A., Petridis, P. (2016). Local initiatives and their chances to drive socioecological change: Social cooperatives on the Greek island of Samothraki. *Sustainable Mediterranean*, p. 36-38. [Report]

In preparation and planned

Skarp, S. [planned] *Shelter from the storm: a wind shelter as focal point for recreation, tourism, and nature use conflicts*. [Under review]

Skarp, S., Klintman, M. [planned] *The path to sustainable tourism – exploring framing tensions and synergies in sustainable tourism initiatives in Sweden*. [Expected submission: October, 2024]

Skarp, S., Klintman, M. [planned] *Exploring efficiency and sufficiency framings in Swedish sustainable tourism initiatives*. [Expected submission: March, 2025]

Other

Skarp, S., Seyfang, G. (2023). *The Community Waste Movement: A report about an amazing movement that helps people and their stuff*. [Outreach report] Available at https://www.saraskarp.com/files/ugd/884822_66caf23a9bba4c66972410f1532482df.pdf

Skarp, S. (2022). For, of, and against rubbish: mapping the role and potential of UK community waste initiatives. [Conference paper for NESS 2022]

Conference presentations - a recent selection

2024 Sociologidagarna (Sveriges Sociologförbund), Gothenburg, presented *Shelter from the Storm - a wind shelter as focal point for sustainable tourism and nature use disputes*.

2023 Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative (SCORAI) Conference, Wageningen, presented *Knowing sustainable tourism: disputed knowledge claims, communication, and framing in Swedish sustainable tourism initiatives*.

2022 Nordic Environmental Social Sciences (NESS) Conference, Gothenburg, presented *For, of, and against rubbish: mapping the role and potential of UK community waste initiatives*.

2021 2nd International Social Solidarity Economy and the Commons (SSEC) Conference, Lisbon, presented *Litter and things, resisters and providers: an exploration of waste and commoning*.

Teaching

Course convenor and lecturing responsibilities

- 2024- Sub-course convenor and main lecturer for first cycle 7.5 ECTS course *Contemporary Sociological Theory* (part of Sociology: Second Level SOCA06) at Department of Sociology, Lund University.
- 2023- Sub-course convenor for first cycle, online 7.5 ECTS courses *Sociological Theory* and *Methods* (part of Sociology: Social Psychology Distance Education SOCA15) at Department of Sociology, Lund University.
- 2018- Lecturer and seminar leader at second cycle course *Sustainable Consumption* (ENV-7025A) at
2021 School of Environmental Science, University of East Anglia.

Thesis supervision and examination

- 2023- Bachelor thesis supervision in sociology (and related sub-fields, including social psychology and criminology) (SOCK10) at Department of Sociology, Lund University.
- 2023- Bachelor thesis examination in sociology (and related sub-fields, including social psychology and criminology) (SOCK10) at Department of Sociology, Lund University.

Teaching assistance

- 2018- Associate tutor (including seminar support and essay grading responsibilities) on first cycle courses
2021 *Energy and People* (ENV-6028B); *Natural Resources and Environmental Economics* (ENV-7116B); *Sustainability, Society and Biodiversity* (ENV-4006B); and *Global Environmental Challenges* (ENV-4001A); and second cycle course *Sustainable Consumption* (ENV-7025A).
- 2018- Member and performer in *3S Theoretical Theatre* teaching group, using drama and humour to
2020 translate complex theoretical ideas and concepts.

Public and academic engagement - a selection

Academic

- 2024 Panel member in panel on *The climate crisis and sociology* at Sociologidagarna 2024, Gothenburg.
- 2022 Seminar: 'Talking absolute rubbish!' on youth engagement at Oxford Brookes University.
- 2021 Seminar: "'Litter is the gateway to all good things': small-scale methods for (more) sustainable waste futures' for Community Economies Research Network Europe.

Public

- 2021 Public lecture for children: 'The long journey: how stuff becomes rubbish', University of East Anglia's annual Children's Christmas lecture.
- 2020 Science editor for climate fiction competition *Any Last Words?*

Academic responsibilities, awards, and funding

Institutional responsibilities

- 2023- Co-chair and convenor for Environmental Sociology (EnvSocs) Research Group, Department of Sociology, Lund University.
- 2023 Co-organiser for departmental lunch seminars, Department of Sociology, Lund University.
- 2018- Member of news and outreach team in Science, Society and Sustainability (3S) Research Group,
2021 School of Environmental Sciences, University of East Anglia.
- 2018- Working paper editor in Science, Society and Sustainability (3S) Research Group, School of
2021 Environmental Sciences, University of East Anglia.

Collaborations and extra-institutional projects

- 2023- Member and initiator of inter-university collaborative project *Living Encyclopaedia of Change*, within Mistra Sustainable Consumption, Phase 2.
- 2021- Advising member to *UPSCALE: Upscaling sustainable collaborative consumption using public*
2022 *libraries*, Cicero Center for International Climate Research.

Academic journal responsibilities

- 2022- Social media editor for Worldwide Waste Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies.
2023

Awards and honors

- 2022 UEA Engagement Awards, University of East Anglia.
- 2022 Special Merit in Research Award, University of East Anglia.
- 2021 3S Person of the Year, 3S Research Group, University of East Anglia.

Funding applications - external and internal

Shelter from the storm. Internal funding application for Mistra Sustainable Consumption Phase 2 funding reserve, 2023. Unsuccessful.

eLife - Enabling transition to circular economic consumer practices for e-products in Norway. The Research Council of Norway, funding call: Collaborative Project to Meet Societal and Industry-related Challenges, 2022. Successful, funding awarded: 13 171 000 NOK.

Grassroots Waste De-Innovations for Sustainable Consumption. Leverhulme Trust, funding call: Early Career Fellowship 2020. Unsuccessful.