

Jonah Bleckner

Research Specialist



EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts
Political Science, Philosophy
Vassar College
Poughkeepsie, NY

General Course
Government, Philosophy
London School of Economics &
Political Science
London, UK

Introduction to Architecture
Pratt Institute
New York, NY

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

International Facilities
Management Assoc. (IFMA),
Member

Environmental Design Research
Association (EDRA),
Speaker & Member

AIANY Social Science Research
and Architecture Committee
Member

Jonah is passionate about the intersection of **research, design, and public policy**. While earning his degree in Political Science and Philosophy, he developed an interest in using social research and design-thinking as tools to address racial, economic, social and environment injustices. Jonah now applies his interest in spatial design and policy, along with his observational and analytical skills, to the study of the workplace as a social environment.

PLASTARC EXPERIENCE

Verizon

New York, NY
PLASTARC conducted a three month international coworking feasibility study for Verizon Real Estate that was constituted by three research streams: internal demand research, market research and site research. The feasibility study culminated in the creation of a coworking business case and work plan for each location on a shortlist of 10 sites.

Unilever

Englewood Cliffs, NJ
PLASTARC advised on the development of Unilever's change leadership initiative for their US headquarters, with a focus on translating global workplace standards and communicating new ways of working.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Center for an Urban Future (CUF)

New York, NY
Research Assistant at an urban policy think tank that publishes policy reports on issues that relate to economic and workforce development. Conducted phone interviews, data analysis and external research for policy reports, including:

Women Entrepreneurs & Women-Owned Businesses

Unpublished
CUF is currently working on a report that breaks down the current state of women entrepreneurship and women-owned businesses in New York City. This report will suggest policy reforms to foster the growth of female entrepreneurs in the city.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

New York City Employment & Training Coalition

New York, NY
Interned for a coalition that supports nearly 200 community-based organizers, educational institutions and trade unions that annually provide job training and employment services to 800,000 unemployed and underemployed New Yorkers. Planned and facilitated a policy forum to explore ways to translate workforce development research and theory into policy and action.

Vassar College Philosophy Department

Poughkeepsie, NY
Research Assistant for the Chair of the Philosophy Department. Edited papers and prepared lectures and presentations. Designed departmental resources.

Shutterstock

New York, NY
Created and organized metadata for thousands of photographs using Microsoft Excel. Recruited photographers and artist for new premium photography platform using Salesforce.

PUBLICATIONS

Senior Thesis in Political Science, May 2015

A study of how the architectural history of Vassar College has influenced the shape of its campus politics and activism. Received departmental honors and the Ida Frank Guttman award for best thesis in Political Science.

State Of The Chains, 2015

CUF, 30 December 2015
For eight consecutive years, CUF has published a report that tracks the growth of chain store locations across New York City. For this report, I executed a data collection and trend analysis in order to quantify the growth of each national retailer across the different boroughs and zip codes that constitute the city. This work has been cited by the press in 18 different articles released by publications such as *The New York Times*, *Gothamist* and the *New York Observer*.