

arden armbruster

ardenarmbruster.com • adarmbruster@gmail.com • Brooklyn, NY • she/her/hers

Policy researcher and college instructor with expertise in quantitative analysis and cultural institutions, experienced in translating complex data into insights for government agencies and nonprofits.

EDUCATION

Baruch College, Master of Public Administration (2022)

The University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Bachelor of Music (2014)

WORK & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

CURRENT

Lead Budget and Policy Analyst, NYC Independent Budget Office (2024–present)

Budget and Policy Analyst (2022–2024)

- Conducts research on and responds to inquiries about NYC’s cultural and criminal legal agencies (e.g., Department of Cultural Affairs, public libraries, Department of Correction). See “selected writing” below for examples.
- Produces and presents written reports, slideshows, and infographics in plain language to convey current and historical budget and policy information about portfolio agencies
- Corresponds with the public, elected officials, advocates, press, and others to strengthen their understanding of the city’s budget and inform policy conversations
- Oversees department intern(s) and group projects

Part-Time Lecturer, Teachers College, Columbia University (2024–present)

- Master of Arts Administration Courses:
 - Fall 2025: “Data Analysis for Decision-Making in the Arts” (with Gonzalo Casals, [evaluations](#))
 - Fall 2024: “Using Data for Cultural Policy and Advocacy” (with Gonzalo Casals, [evaluations](#))
- Co-developed curriculum and materials for each of the above courses

PREVIOUS

- Graduate Intern, Office of Data & Technology, Taxi & Limousine Commission (Summer 2022)
- Graduate Assistant to Professor Michael Seltzer, Baruch College (2021–2022)
- Administrator, Mellon Public Humanities & Social Justice Scholars, Hunter College (2021)
- Production Coordinator, Public Programs, The New York Public Library (2017–2020)
- Associate Producer of Performing Arts Programs, Symphony Space (2017)
 - Assistant Producer of Performing Arts Programs (2015–2017)
- Company Manager, The Nouveau Classical Project (2015–2017)
- Education Coordinator, PopsEd, The New York Pops (2015)
- William R. Kenan Jr. Fellow, Lincoln Center Education (2014)

WRITING

[Painting the Town’s Budget: An Overview of DCLA Expense Funding, 2017-2026](#) (NYC IBO, 2025)

[Testimony on Cultural Development Fund Programs in NYC Public Schools](#) (NYC IBO, 2025)

Press: [NY Daily News](#), [Yahoo! News](#), 1010 WINS

[A Shrinking System with Similar Spending: A Decade of Jail Trends \(2014–2023\)](#) (NYC IBO, 2024)

Press: [Gothamist](#), [City and State](#), 1010 WINS

[In Custody: Length of Stay and Population Demographics at NYC Jails, 2014–2023](#) (NYC IBO, 2024)

Press: [NYT Close Up](#), [Queens Eagle](#), PIX11

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[*Money, Money, Monet: Identifying New York City Payments to Cultural Nonprofits*](#) (NYC IBO, 2023)

[*Where Are Cultural Development Fund Awards Distributed Throughout New York City?*](#) (NYC IBO, 2023)

[*Art, Democracy, and Economics: Measuring the Arts' Relationship to Civic Engagement*](#) (Capstone, 2022)

Co-authored:

[*How Federal Budget Changes Could Impact New York City Cultural Organizations*](#) (NYC IBO, 2025)
with Erin Unger

[*Changes to New York City Employee Staffing Levels*](#) (NYC IBO, 2025)
with Cameron Chapman
Press: [*The Chief Leader*](#)

[*Capital Projects on Rikers Island*](#) (NYC IBO, 2024)
with Zachary Herman

PUBLIC SPEAKING & MEDIA APPEARANCES

[Presentation for Bronx Community Board 8 on Arts Education](#) (May 2025)

[NYC City Council Arts Education Hearing](#) (April 2025)

[The New York Times Close-Up](#) (March 2024)

[The Power of Transparency: Towards An Open Data Agenda For Culture & Arts](#) (March 2024)

SKILLS

Research and Analysis: quantitative research design, descriptive and inferential statistics, administrative data analysis, data wrangling, policy analysis, critical evaluation of research studies, collection of quantitative data for research and operations, development of survey instruments, data visualization, querying relational databases

Additional Skills: presentations and communication, teaching and training, budgeting, nonprofit and public management, program evaluation, copy editing

Software and Applications

- **Data analysis and management tools:** R, Excel, Airtable, Stata, ArcGIS, SQL
- **Survey and website builders:** SurveyMonkey, Qualtrics, Wordpress, Squarespace, Mailchimp
- **NYC government systems:** FMS3, CHRMS
- **Standard professional applications:** Google Workspace, Microsoft Office Suite, Airtable, Canva

Trainings

Microsoft Power BI Data Analyst (PL-300T00) (Microsoft, 2025)

Introduction to Python (Datacamp, 2024)

Rethinking Criminal Justice as Public Health (Columbia University, 2023)

Data Analytics: Tools and Techniques for Auditors (NYC DCAS, 2023)

ArcGIS Pro: Essential Workflows (ESRI, 2023)

Building Racial Equity Training (Race Forward, 2022)