

Jack R. Thornton
jackrt@sas.upenn.edu

March 2024

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania

Ph.D., Sociology

Expected 2024

Grinnell College

B.A., Sociology (honors)

Phi Beta Kappa

2017

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economic Sociology

Race/Class/Gender

Sociology of Education

Sociology of Work

Social Psychology

Sociology of Culture

PUBLICATIONS

Articles:

Thornton, Jack R. 2023. "Lucky Me: Acknowledging Class Privilege on an Elite College Campus." *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* 9: 1-15.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/23780231231212113>.

Thornton, Jack R. and Mara Rosenberg (equal authorship). 2016. "I Don't Want to Make Them Uncomfortable: A Micro-Scale Examination of Emotional and Physical Boundaries within Male Friendship." *Grinnell Undergraduate Research Journal*. 3: 61-67.
<https://ojs.grinnell.edu/index.php/gcurj/issue/view/32.html>.

Under Review:

"Rookie Gentrifiers: Privileged Views of Urban Space during College" (*Re&R at Sociology of Education*)

"Classmates or Colleagues? How Elite Students Learn to Manage One Another" (*Re&R at Qualitative Sociology*)

In Preparation:

"Are We the Help? Frontline Fundraising as Elite Service Work"

"Leaders of Character? Informal Perceptions of Merit and Organizational Status Hierarchy"

Reports:

Thornton, Jack R. (contributing author). 2020. *Lead by Example: Creating a Harassment-Free Hospitality Industry*. Coalition for Restaurant Safety and Health, Philadelphia, PA.
<https://www.saferestaurantsphilly.org/report>.

Thornton, Jack R. 2014. *Dangerously Out of Bounds: Taser Use in Nebraska*. ACLU of Nebraska. Lincoln, NE. <https://www.aclunebraska.org/en/publications/dangerously-out-of-bounds>.

Thornton, Jack R. 2014. *For the Good of the Public: How Nebraska Police Complaint Processes Fail the Public*. ACLU of Nebraska. Lincoln, NE.
<https://www.aclunebraska.org/en/publications/for-the-good-of-the-public>.

Reviews:

Thornton, Jack R. 2024. "Sesame Street: A Transnational History." *ASA Children & Youth Section*.
https://childrenandyouth.weebly.com/uploads/4/7/8/0/4780801/c_y_newsletter_winter_2024.pdf.

Thornton, Jack R. 2023. "The Pandemic Divide: How COVID Increased Inequality in America." *H-Sci-Med-Tech*. <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=58631>.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor (University of Pennsylvania)

- Sociology of Gender
- Introduction to Sociology

Teaching Assistant (University of Pennsylvania)

- Sociology of Media and Pop Culture
- Medical Sociology
- Sociology of the Family
- Mental Illness

Teaching Assistant (Grinnell College)

- Sociology of Health and Illness
- Introduction to Sociology

HONORS & AWARDS

Gertrude and Otto Pollak Research Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, \$6,000.	2023-2024
ASA Conference Travel Award, University of Pennsylvania, \$1,000.	2022
Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, \$175,000.	2019
Judith L. McKim Prize in Sociology, Grinnell College, \$2,800.	2017
Trustee Honor Scholarship, Grinnell College, \$72,000.	2013-2017
Lenox Foundation Scholarship, Grinnell College, \$21,600.	2013-2017
Rioff Affordable Housing Fund Internship Grant, Grinnell College, \$4,500.	2015
GrinnellLink Internship Grant, Grinnell College, \$3,150.	2014

PRESENTATIONS

Academic Conferences:

- Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting**, Washington, DC. 2024
- “‘Are We the Help?’ Frontline Fundraising as Elite Service Work”
- Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting**, Washington, DC. 2024
- “Leaders of Character? Informal Perceptions of Merit and Organizational Status Hierarchy”
(with C. Carter, North Carolina State University)
- Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting**, Washington, DC. 2024
- “Uncovering the Roles of Racial/Ethnic and Gender Identity in the Penn Pre-Med Experience” (with undergraduate co-authors S. Capers, V. Chinaka, and T. Malloy)
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting**, Philadelphia, PA. 2023
- “Rookie Gentrifiers: Privileged Views of Urban Space during College”
- Chicago Ethnography Conference**, Chicago, IL. 2023
- “Rookie Gentrifiers: Privileged Views of Urban Space during College”
- Bourdieu, Work, and Inequalities Conference**, Paris, FR. 2022
- “Classmates or Colleagues? How Elite Students Learn to Manage One Another”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting**, Los Angeles, CA. 2022
- “Classmates or Colleagues? How Elite Students Learn to Manage One Another”
- British Sociological Association Annual Conference**, Online. 2022
- “Lucky Me: Acknowledging Class Privilege on an Elite College Campus”
- Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting**, Boston, MA. 2022
- “Lucky Me: Acknowledging Class Privilege on an Elite College Campus”
- Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Annual Meeting**, New York, NY. 2019
- “Extracurricular Activities and Social Advantage at an Elite College”
- Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Annual Meeting**, Seattle, WA. 2016
- “‘I Don’t Want to Make Them Uncomfortable’: A Micro-Scale Examination of Emotional and Physical Boundaries within Male Friendship”
- Guest Speaker:**
- Urban Studies Graduate Colloquium**, University of Pennsylvania. 2023
- “Rookie Gentrifiers: Privileged Views of Urban Space during College”
- Guest Lecture**, Sociology of Work, North Carolina State University. 2023
- “The Sociology of ‘Dirty Work’”

- Pollak Scholars Mini-Lecture Colloquium**, University of Pennsylvania. 2023
- “What Makes You So Special? Organizational Distinction and the Reed College Nuclear Reactor”
- Invited Gertrude and Otto Pollak Lecture**, University of Pennsylvania. 2023
- “Literal and Liberal: Reconsidering Early American Appropriations of Bourdieu”
- Culture, Ethnography, and Interaction Workshop**, University of Pennsylvania. 2022
- “Classmates or Colleagues? How Elite Students Learn to Manage One Another”
- Professional Consulting:**
- Invited Presentation, Advancement Office**, Ursinus College. 2024
- “Generous: The Labor of Philanthropy in Higher Education”
- Invited Presentation, Capital Giving Leadership Retreat**, Princeton University. 2023
- “‘Are We the Help?’ Frontline Fundraising as Elite Service Work”
- Contributing Scholar**, interviewed for *Fundraising at Regional Public Universities: Under the Radar, Below the Fold* by William J. Broussard. Palgrave Macmillan: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-45481-3>. 2023

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Research Intern**, Coalition for Restaurant Safety and Health, Philadelphia, PA. 2020
- Gathered and analyzed 100 survey responses from Philadelphia restaurant and hotel workers
 - Contributed to policy report about sexual harassment in the hospitality industry
- Research Assistant** to Dr. Karla Erickson, Professor of Sociology 2017
- Conducted and analyzed 20 interviews with recent college graduates for research on millennials’ career trajectories and notions of success in an uncertain economic context
- Communications Intern**, National Coalition for the Homeless, Washington, DC. 2015
- Edited and contributed to annual report on hate crimes against the homeless
- Research Intern**, ACLU of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE. 2014
- Conducted content analyses of 100 police incident reports and 31 department websites
 - Authored two reports on law enforcement Taser use and complaint processes in Nebraska
- Research Assistant** to Dr. Geoff Harkness, Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology 2013
- Transcribed and analyzed 25 interviews with Iraqi and Qatari undergraduate women for research on self-expression through apparel and athletics

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Prospect Research Associate, Pew Charitable Trusts, Washington, DC. 2018-2019

- Drafted and edited philanthropic research documents for use by institutional and individual giving officers, including background reports, prospect briefings, and biographies
- Used quantitative criteria including income, assets, liabilities, and giving patterns to evaluate individual donors' gift potential, propensity to make a gift, and any reputational risks

Market Research Associate, EAB, Washington, DC. 2017-2018

- Conducted 3-4 interviews per week with faculty and administrators to develop recommendations for structure and management of new academic programs
- Composed in-depth, 20-page strategic briefs based on interview data, quantitative labor market analytics, datasets from the National Center for Education Statistics and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and secondary research to advise universities on program development

Prospect Research Intern, National Public Radio (NPR), Washington, DC. 2016

- Combined biographical, financial, and philanthropic data on individuals and foundations to identify potential donors and craft over 50 prospect research profiles

SERVICE/MEMBERSHIPS

University of Pennsylvania:

Graduate Student Representative, Undergraduate Committee	2022-2023
Student Organizer, Culture, Ethnography, and Interaction Workshop	2022-2023
Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Committee	2021-2022

Grinnell College:

Social Studies Editor, Grinnell Undergraduate Research Journal	2016-2017
Student Co-Chair, Sociology Departmental Committee	2015-2017
Student Representative for Social Studies, Curriculum Committee	2014-2015

Member:

American Sociological Association
 Eastern Sociological Society
 Society for Advancement of Socio-Economics

REFERENCES

Dr. David Grazian
 Professor of Sociology
 University of Pennsylvania
dgrazian@sas.upenn.edu

Dr. Jason Schnittker
 Professor of Sociology
 University of Pennsylvania
jschnitt@ssc.upenn.edu

Dr. Benjamin Shestakofsky
 Asst. Professor of Sociology
 University of Pennsylvania
bshesta@sas.upenn.edu