

Jack R. Thornton
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June 2024

APPOINTMENTS

Bryn Mawr College 2024-present
Visiting Assistant Professor, Sociology

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania 2024
Ph.D., Sociology

Grinnell College 2017
B.A., Sociology (honors)

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:

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

- Honorable Mention, ASA Consumers & Consumption Student Paper Award

"Rookie Gentrifiers: Privileged Views of Urban Space during College"

- Revise and Resubmit at *Sociology of Education*

"Classmates or Colleagues? How Elite Students Learn to Manage One Another"

- Revise and Resubmit at *Qualitative Sociology*

In Preparation:

Generous: The Labor of Philanthropy in Higher Education (book manuscript)

“Leaders of Character? Informal Perceptions of Merit and Organizational Status Hierarchy”
(with C. Carter, North Carolina State University)

“Uncovering the Roles of Racial/Ethnic and Gender Identity in the Pre-Med Experience” (with
undergraduate co-authors S. Capers, V. Chinaka, and T. Malloy)

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 (Bryn Mawr College)

- Sociology of Elites
- Space, Place, and Environment
- Introduction to Sociology

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

Honorable Mention, Student Paper Award, ASA Section on Consumers & Consumption.	2024
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
Phi Beta Kappa, Grinnell College.	2017
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:

- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting**, Montreal, QC. 2024
- “‘Are We the Help?’ Frontline Fundraising as Elite Service Work”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting**, Montreal, QC. 2024
- “Leaders of Character? Perceptions of Merit and Organizational Status Hierarchy”

- Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting**, Limerick, IR. 2024
- “Are We the Help? Frontline Fundraising as Elite Service Work”
- Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting**, Limerick, IR. 2024
- “Leaders of Character? Perceptions of Merit and Organizational Status Hierarchy”
- 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? Perceptions of Merit and Organizational Status Hierarchy”
- Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting**, Washington, DC. 2024
- “Uncovering the Roles of Racial/Ethnic and Gender Identity in the Pre-Med Experience”
- 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:

Guest Lecture, Introduction to Sociology, University of Pennsylvania. 2024

- “Never Order Champagne at a Hotel Bar’: Surplus Value and Sexual Exploitation in Feminized Work”

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>.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Intern, Coalition for Restaurant Safety and Health, Philadelphia, PA. 2020

- Gathered and analyzed 100 survey responses from Philadelphia hospitality 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 and prospect briefings
- Used quantitative criteria including income, assets, liabilities, and giving patterns to evaluate individual donors' gift potential, 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 briefs based on interviews, labor market analytics, federal datasets, 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

David Grazian
Professor of Sociology
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Jason Schnittker
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Benjamin Shestakofsky
Asst. Professor of Sociology
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bshesta@sas.upenn.edu