**MELISSA OSBORNE**

Western Washington University, Department of Sociology

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**EMPLOYMENT**

Associate Professor of Sociology, Western Washington University 2023

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Western Washington University 2019

Researcher in Residence, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation 2020 – present

**EDUCATION**

**Ph.D. University of Chicago** 2019

Sociology

Graduate Certificate in Gender and Sexuality Studies

**M.A. University of Chicago** 2015

Sociology

**B.A. Reed College** 2013

Sociology

Phi Beta Kappa

**A.A. Umpqua Community College**  2010

Phi Theta Kappa

**RESEARCH and TEACHING INTERESTS**

Social mobility, inequality and stratification, education, organizations, urban sociology, culture, theory, game studies, qualitative methods, survey research

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books**

Osborne, Melissa. 2024*. Polished: College, Class, and the Burden of Social Mobility*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

**Peer Reviewed Journal Articles**

Alexandra Brewer, **Melissa Osborne,** Anna Mueller, Arjun Dayal, Daniel O’Conner, and Vineet Arora. 2020. “Who Gets the Benefit of the Doubt? Gender, Role Expectations, and Assessment in Physician Education.” *American Sociological Review*. 85(2):247-270.

* 2021 Eliot Friedson Award (Honorable Mention) for Best Article in the American Sociological Association’s Section on Medical Sociology
* 2021 Academy of Management, Organizations and Management Theory Division, Best Published Paper Award (Finalist)

Abrutyn Seth, Mueller Anna, **Osborne Melissa**. 2020. “Rekeying Cultural Scripts for Youth Suicide: How Social Networks Facilitate Suicide Diffusion and Suicide Clusters Following Exposure to Suicide.” *Society and Mental Health*. 10(2):112-135.

**Melissa Osborne.** 2018. “Who Gets ‘Housing First’?: Eligibility Determination in an Era of Housing First Homelessness.” *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*. 48(3):402-428.

* 2017 Best Graduate Student Paper Competition, Sociology and Social Welfare Division, Society for the Study of Social Problems
* 2017 Graduate Student Paper Award, First Place, Midwest Sociological Society
* 2017-18 Patricia Lynn Baker Prize, Social Sciences Division, University of Chicago

Anna Mueller, Seth Abrutyn, and **Melissa Osborne.** 2017. “Durkheim’s “Suicide” in the Zombie Apocalypse.” *Contexts.* 16(2):44-49.

Anna Mueller, Tania Jenkins, **Melissa Osborne**, Arjun Dayal, Daniel O’Conner, and Vineet Arora. 2017. “Gender Differences in Attending Physicians' Feedback for Residents in an Emergency Medical Residency Program: A Qualitative Analysis.” *Journal of Graduate Medical Education.* 9(5): 577-585.

* Recognized as one of the Top Articles in Medical Education 2017 by the American Pediatric Association

Forrest Stuart, Amada Armenta, and **Melissa Osborne**. 2015. “Legal Control of Marginal Groups.” *Annual Review of Law and Social Science*. 11:235-54.

**MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS**

**Melissa Osborne.** “Considering Cannon: Leveraging a Student Participatory Exercise to Establish Norms, Challenge Assumptions, and Expand Accessibility in Sociological Courses”

**Melissa Osborne.** “Ready to Launch or at Risk of Derailing?: Scholarship Recipients’ Transition Away from Organizational Support.”

**Melissa Osborne** and Jeffrey N. Parker. “Cultural Capital without Cultural Capitalists?”

**AWARDS and HONORS**

2023 Peter J. Elich Excellence in Teaching Award at Western Washington University (Nomination)

2021 Eliot Friedson Award (Honorable Mention) for Best Article in the American Sociological Association’s Section on Medical Sociology

2021 Academy of Management, Organizations and Management Theory Division, Best Published Paper Award Finalist

2020 Peter J. Elich Excellence in Teaching Award at Western Washington University (Nomination)

2019 Peter J. Elich Excellence in Teaching Award at Western Washington University (Nomination)

2019 University of Chicago Graduate Student Leadership and Activism Award

2019 Best Graduate Student Paper Award, Society for the Study of Social Problems, Educational Problems Division

2018 Best Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association, Section on Children and Youth.

2018 Robert Dentler Award, American Sociological Association, Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology.

2018 Robert Park Lectureship, Department of Sociology, University of Chicago

2018 Patricia Lynn Baker Prize, Division of the Social Sciences, University of Chicago

2017 Best Graduate Student Paper Award, Society for the Study of Social Problems, Sociology and Social Welfare Division

2017 Graduate Student Paper Award, First Place, Midwest Sociological Society

2010 Coca-Cola New Century Scholar Award

2010 *USA Today’s* All-USA Academic Team Award

**GRANTS**

2023 CHSS Summer Research Grant, Western Washington University

2021 Social Justice & Equity Committee Research Grant, Western Washington University

2021 CHSS Summer Research Grant, Western Washington University

2020 CHSS Summer Research Grant, Western Washington University

2018 Henderson Research Grant, University of Chicago

2017 University of Chicago Division of the Social Sciences Dissertation Research Grant

2017 Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture Graduate Research Grant

2017 Midwest Sociological Society Research Grant

2012 Alta S. Corbett Grant for Research on Public Policy Issues, Reed College

**FELLOWSHIPS and SCHOLARSHIPS**

2018 Beth B. Hess Memorial Scholarship Award, Awarded by: SWS, SSSP, and ASA

2018-19 Benjamin Bloom Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of Chicago

2018-19 *American Journal of Sociology*, Editorial Fellowship

2018 Intersectional Qualitative Research Methods Institute Fellow, UT Austin

2018 Chicago Ethnography Incubator Graduate Student Fellow, University of Chicago

2016-17 Urban Doctoral Fellowship, University of Chicago

2013-16 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Fellowship

2012 Betty Gray Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Reed College

2011 Edward H. Cooley Scholarship, Reed College

2010-13 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship

**INVITED TALKS and PANELS**

“Polished: College, Class, and the Burdens of Social Mobility”

* University of Chicago Committee on Education. Spring 2024.
* Stanford University Ethnography Lab. Spring 2024

“First Year as Faculty”

* University of Chicago Graduate Programs. 2022.

“Writing Your Dissertation.”

* Qualitative and Fieldwork Methods Workshop, Stanford Ethnography Lab. 2022

“First-Generation Student Support and Navigating the Costs of Social Mobility in College”

* University of Chicago Student Support Services Spring Series. 2020. \*Postponed due to COVID19

“Contending with the Double Bind: How Student-Parent Expectations About College and Mobility Matter for First-Generation Experience and Outcomes”

* Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Winter Professional Development Workshop. 2019.

“Learning to Play the Field: Extended Advantages of Elite Secondary Education for Low-Income College Students.”

* Socioeconomic Empowerment Summit. University of Chicago. 2018
* Workshop on Education Lecture Series. University of Chicago. 2018-19

“Who Gets ‘Housing First’?: Eligibility Determination in an Era of Housing First Homelessness.”

* US-China Forum on Innovation on the Urban-Rural Continuum. Hong Kong University. 2017.
* Urban and Community Studies Workshop. Northwestern University. 2017.

**PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP FACILITATION**

“Motivational Interviewing in the Contexts of Education” Facilitated to Educational Advising Team at the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. February 2022.

“Qualitative Fieldnotes; Leveraging Case Notes for Enhanced Scholar Support” Facilitated to Educational Advising team at the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. May 2021.

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

“Ready to Launch or at Risk of Derailing?: Scholarship Recipients’ Transition Away from Organizational Support”

* British Journal of Sociology Conference at London School of Economics. London. 2024
* American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia. 2023

“Capital without Capitalists? (With Dr. Jeffrey Parker)

* Selected for the Junior Theorists Symposium. Philadelphia. 2023

“Polished: Negotiating the Cost of Social Mobility in College”

* Pacific Sociological Association Meeting Annual Meeting. Sacramento. April 2022
* American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Los Angeles. August 2022

“How Student-Parent Expectations About College and Mobility Matter for First-Generation Experience and Outcomes”

* American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2020 (online).

 “Contending with the Double Bind: How Student-Parent Expectations About College and Mobility Matter for First-Generation Experience and Outcomes”

* Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting. February 2019
* Midwest Sociological Society’s Annual Conference. March 2019
* Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, August 2019
* American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2019

“Learning to Play the Field: Extended Advantages of Elite Secondary Education for Low-Income College Students.”

* Sociology of Education Association Annual Conference. February 2018.
* Midwest Sociological Society’s Annual Conference. Minneapolis. March 2018.
* 20th Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference. March 2018.
* American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia. August 2018.
* Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. Philadelphia. August 2018.

“Who Gets ‘Housing First’?: Eligibility Determination in an Era of Housing First Homelessness.”

* American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal. August 2017.
* Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, Montreal. August 2017.
* 19th Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference. April 2017.
* Midwest Sociological Society’s Annual Meeting, Milwaukee. April 2017.

“He’s Ready to Launch!: Gender and Implicit Bias in Emergency Medical Residency Programs.”

with Anna Mueller, Rebecca Ewert, Daniel O’Conner, Arjun Dayal, and Vineet Arora.

* Midwest Sociological Society’s Annual Meeting, Milwaukee. April 2017.
* Sociologists for Women in Society’s Winter Meeting, Albuquerque. February 2017

**COURSES TAUGHT**

Sociology of Education

Sociology of Higher Education

Classical Sociological Theory

Homelessness and Housing Policy

Sociological Cinema

Advanced Community Engaged Research Methods (Senior Capstone)

Special Topics in Education (Senior Capstone)

Understanding the Social World Through Games (Honors Seminar)

Directed Sociology Internship

**ACADEMIC ADVISING**

**External Dissertation Committee Member**

So Yoon Lee/University of Chicago/Sociology (in progress)

**Undergraduate Senior Theses**

Breezy LaFever, Sociology Thesis (Exp 2024)

Claude Brun, Sociology and Honors Thesis (Exp 2024)

Nadia Bartrand, Sociology and Honors Thesis (Exp 2024)

Hunter Smith, Computer Science Honors Thesis (2023)

Jay Robles, Sociology and Honors Thesis (2023)

Nicholas Mendez, Sociology Honors Thesis (2023)

Laura Beatty, Sociology Honors Thesis (2021)

**Undergraduate Independent Study**

Lane Juneau, Basic Needs in Higher Education (2024)

Alec Villa, Pedagogical Theory & Training (2024)

Breezy LaFever, Basic Needs in Higher Ed (2024)

Claude Brun, Media Applications of Sociology (2024)

Nadia Bartrand, Loneliness Impacts on Identity (2024)

Nora Hollingsworth, Applied Sociological Methods (2023)

Ethan Nishi, Sociology of Social Media (2023)

Jay Robles, Advanced Research Methods (2023)

Jordan Bridges-Thomas, Sociology of Gaming (2021)

Kyra Craig, Mental Health in Higher Education (2020)

**Undergraduate Student-Faculty Designed Major**

Jocelyn Frasier, Pre-Government Sociology (2023-24)

**Undergraduate Fairhaven Concentrations**

Jordan Bridges-Thomas, Law, Diversity, and Justice (2022)

**SERVICE**

**At Western Washington University**

*Service to the University*

2024- First-Generation Faculty Task Force

2023-25 Sociology on the Peninsulas Program Development Committee, Co-Chair

2023- WWU Food Insecurity Network, Faculty Advisor

2022- Food Insecurity and Basic Needs Taskforce, Member

2021- University Student Retention Strategy Committee, Member

2021-22 University Structural Equity Team, Member

2022 Student Success Dashboard – Testing Group

*Service to the College*

2022-24 Faculty Affairs Council, Chair

2021-24 Sociology Representative, CHSS Faculty Affairs Council

2021-22 CHSS Faculty Affairs Council AdHoc Budget Committee

*Service to the Department*

2023-24 Member, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Wellness Committee

2022-24 Member, Policies and Procedures Committee

2022- Department Food Pantry, Organizer

2021- Department Community Events, Organizer

2021-23 Member, Department Space Committee

2021-22 Member, Admissions Committee

2021-22 Member, Tenure Track Hiring Committee

2020-22 Director, Sociology Internship Program

2021 Member, Sociology Faculty Chair Search Committee

2020-21 Member, Curriculum Committee

2020 Member, COVID DEP Committee

2019-21 Member, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Wellness Committee

2019-20 Member, Sociology Faculty Chair Search Committee

*Service to the Discipline*

2021 Conference Session Organizer – ASA Section on Sexualities

2020 Outstanding Scholarly Contribution Award Committee, Children & Youth Section of ASA

2018-19 Associate Editor, *American Journal of Sociology*

2018 Student Paper Award Committee, Sociology and Social Welfare Division of SSSP

2017-18 Manuscript Board, *American Journal of Sociology*

2015-17 Book Review Board, *American Journal of Sociology*

2015-16 Organizing Committee, 18th Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference

2014-15 Organizing Committee, 5th Annual Engendering Change Conference

2014-15 Organizing Committee, 17th Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference

Occasional Reviewer, *American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, Journal of Contemporary Ethnography, SAGE Open, Sociology of Education, Social Problems*

**Professional Board Membership and Service to the Community**

2021- Member, Whatcom County Coordinated Entry Governing Body

2021- Committee Member, Whatcom County Coalition on Ending Homelessness

2018-22 Executive Board, Reed College Alumni Board

2017-19 Diversity and Inclusion Committee Co-Chair, Reed College Alumni Board

2016-19 Chair, Reed College Peer Mentor Program Alumni Advisory Board

2016-17 Outreach Committee Chair, Reed College Alumni Board

2015-18 At-Large Board Member, Reed College Alumni Board

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Sociological Association

Society for the Study of Social Problems

Sociologists for Women in Society

Sociology of Education Association

American Educational Research Association

Working Class Studies Association