

**WHITNEY JOHNSON**  
University of Chicago  
Department of Sociology  
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## EDUCATION

### **University of Chicago**, PhD in Sociology 2018

Concentrations: Culture, Economy, Theory, Gender, Qualitative Methods  
Dissertation Title: “Learning to Listen: Knowledge of Value in Auditory Culture”  
Committee: Karin Knorr Cetina (chair), Andrew Abbott, and Gary Alan Fine

### **University of Chicago**, MA in Sociology 2012

Concentrations: Theory, Culture, Economic, Globalization, Gender  
Qualifying Paper: “Weird Music and Suggested Donations: Taste Tensions in the Field of Cultural Production”  
Advisors: Karin Knorr Cetina and John Levi Martin

### **University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy**, Master of Public Policy 2009

Concentrations: International Policy, Cultural Policy, Quantitative Methods  
Honors Paper: “Cultural Policy in Immigrant Communities: A Developmental Dialectic”  
Readers: Terry Nichols Clark and Alicia Menendez

### **Cedarville University**, BA in Theology 2003

Minors: Psychology, Music, Literature

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## PUBLICATIONS

### *Peer-Reviewed*

**“Weird Music: Tension and Reconciliation in Cultural-Economic Knowledge”**  
*Cultural Sociology*, March 2017, Volume 11(1): 44-59

### *Under Review*

**“Hearing Value: Taking Time for Embodied Perception, Understanding, and Judgment”**  
Under Review with *Theory, Culture & Society*  
***Learning to Listen: Knowledge of Value in Auditory Culture***  
Book Proposal under review at University of Chicago Press

### *Other Publications*

**Book Review for *The Work of Art: Value in Creative Careers* by Alison Gerber**  
American Sociological Association  
Sociology of Culture Section Newsletter

**“Cultural Intermediation: Connecting Communities in the Creative Urban Economy”**  
*International Scoping Study*, Arts & Humanities Research Council,  
University of Birmingham, 2013  
Principal Investigator: Phil Jones

**“Cassette Tape Materiality”**  
*Shift: Graduate Journal of Visual and Material Culture*, October 2011, Issue 4

**“Cultural Policy in Immigrant Communities”**

*Chicago Policy Review*, Summer 2010, Volume 14

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**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

***University of Chicago***

**Lecturer**

*Self, Culture, and Society*, Spring 2019, Winter 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017 and Fall 2015  
*Sociology of the Arts*, Spring 2017 (Robert E. Park Lectureship)  
*Academic and Professional Writing*, Winter 2016

**Teaching Intern**

*Self, Culture, and Society: III*, Spring 2013, Instructor: Joe Masco  
Guest Lecture: “Feminisms: From de Beauvoir to Butler”  
*Self, Culture, and Society: II*, Winter 2013, Instructor: William Mazzarella  
Guest Lecture: “Walter Benjamin and the Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Avant-Garde”  
*Self, Culture, and Society: I*, Fall 2012, Instructor: Moishe Postone

**Teaching Assistant**

*Urban Policy Analysis*, Fall 2017, Instructor: Terry Clark  
*Strategy and Structure*, Spring 2016, Instructor: Johan Chu  
*Strategy and Structure*, Spring 2015, Instructors: Elizabeth Pontikes  
*Sociology of Human Sexuality*, Spring 2012, Instructor: Ed Laumann  
*Internet and Society*, Spring 2012, Instructor: James Evans  
*Global Society and Global Culture*, Fall 2011, Instructor: Karin Knorr Cetina

***School of the Art Institute of Chicago***

**Instructor**

*Sociology of the Arts*, Fall 2017  
*Gender: Theory and Action*, Fall 2018, Fall 2017 and Spring 2016  
*First Year Seminar: Meaning*, Fall 2018, Fall 2017 and Fall 2013  
*Object and Society*, Fall 2015, Fall 2014, and Fall 2013  
*First Year Seminar: Manifestos*, Fall 2018 and Spring 2014

***Other Teaching Experience***

**Employment Readiness Course**, 2005-2007

Matching Grant Systems Coordinator  
Heartland Alliance, International Refugee Center

**Citizenship Literacy Course**, 2004-2005

AmeriCorps Member  
International Institute of Boston

**Literacy Tutoring Program**, 2003-2004

Service Leader, City Year Chicago

**Adult Literacy Course and Early Childhood English**, 2001

Summer Intern, Lusaka, Zambia

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**GRANTS AND AWARDS**

**American Sociological Association**, Student Forum, 2018  
Travel Award (\$250)

**University of Chicago**, Graduate Council, 2017  
Travel Grant (\$350)

**University of Chicago**, Social Science Division, 2017  
Agnes and Nathan Janco Travel Grant (\$2,000)

**American Journal of Sociology**, Graduate Student Fund, 2016-2017  
Dissertation Support (\$20,000)

**Robert E. Park Lectureship**, Department of Sociology, 2017  
“Sociology of the Arts”

**National Science Foundation**, Division of Social and Economic Sciences, 2015  
Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (\$11,980)

**University of Chicago**, Social Science Division, 2014  
Short-term Research Grant (\$5,500)

**University of Chicago**, Harris School Honors Program Graduation, 2009  
For submission and approval of the honors thesis paper  
(Readers: Terry Nichols Clark and Alicia Menendez)

**University of Chicago**, Harris School International Policy Practicum, 2009  
Selection by committee for two-week policy practicum in Turkey

**University of Chicago**, Human Rights Internship Grant, 2008  
\$5,000 grant for 10-week internship at PICUM in Brussels, Belgium

**University of Chicago**, Harris School Dean’s Scholarship, 2008-2009  
Full-tuition scholarship for two-year MPP program

**Cedarville University**, Cedarville Scholar Leadership Award, 1999-2003  
Half-tuition scholarship for four-year BA program

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## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

### *Conferences*

**Re:Sound**, August 2019  
International Conference for Histories of Media Arts  
“Language/Listening: Sonic Realism and Materialism in Social Understanding”  
*The Return of the Sonic Real: Sonic Materialisms* Panel

**American Sociological Association Annual Meeting**, August 2018  
“Hearing Value: Taking Time for Embodied Perception and Judgment”  
Theory Section Session Panel  
*Transpassing /Poaching/ Raiding /Transcending: Projects of Integration in Sociological Theory*

*Schema, Conceptualizations, and Tools for Sociological Analysis*

**American Sociological Association Annual Meeting**, August 2018

“Writing Sound: Textual Value Devices in Auditory Culture”

Sociology of Culture Section Roundtable

**Roots and Branches of Interpretive Sociology Conference**, August 2018

“Hearing Value: Embodied Perception, Understanding, and Value”

*The Fine Lines of Interpreting Bodies and Identities Panel*

**International Social Theory Consortium**, May 2018

“Concept and Sensation in Auditory Culture: The Emancipated Spectator in Simulated Utopia”

**Social Science Division Student Research Conference**, May 2015

“Learning to Listen: Knowledge of Value in the Sound Culture Industry”

**Chicago Ethnography Conference**, March 2014

“Weird Music: Tension and Reconciliation in an Avant-Garde Economy”

Subculture and Outside Culture Panel

**American Sociological Association Annual Meeting**, August 2013

“Weird Music and Suggested Donations: Taste Tensions in the Field of Cultural Production”

Economic Sociology Roundtable

**Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting**, March 2013

“Weird Music and Suggested Donations: Carnival in the Field of Cultural Production”

*Carnival and Spectacle* (Formal Paper Session)

**Workshops**

**Sound and Society**, February 2019

“The Rules of Music-Sociological Method”

**Money, Markets, and Governance Workshop**, March 2017

“Learning to Listen: Textual Value Devices in Auditory Culture”

**Money, Markets, Consumption Workshop (University of Chicago)**, May 2013

“Weird Music and Suggested Donations: Taste Tensions in the Field of Cultural Production”

**Knowledge/Value Workshop (University of Chicago)**, February 2013

“Weird Music and Suggested Donations: Taste Tensions in the Field of Cultural Production”

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**SERVICE**

**American Journal of Sociology**, 2014-2015

Student Editor

Adjudicate manuscripts as part of the editorial board and lead manuscript board

**American Journal of Sociology**, 2013-2014

Manuscript Board

Pair manuscripts with reviewing scholars

**American Journal of Sociology, 2012-2013**

Book Review Board

Pair books with reviewing scholars and edit book reviews

**Conference Organizer, 2012-2013**

Chicago Ethnography Conference

Plan and organize citywide graduate student conference

**Panel Organizer, 2012**

Spring Institute Professionalization Panel: Balancing Work and Life

University of Chicago, Department of Sociology

Find and prepare panelists for participation

**Research Assistant, 2011**

University of Chicago, Department of Sociology (Prof. Karin Knorr Cetina)

Chicago, IL

Library research of scopic knowledge technologies, editing

**Manager of Data Integration and Analysis, 2009-2010**

Noble Network of Charter Schools

Chicago, IL

Data analysis, dashboard development, performance reporting to key stakeholders

**Research Assistant, 2008-2009**

University of Chicago, Urban Innovation Analysis (Prof. Terry Nichols Clark)

Chicago, IL

Econometrics and quantitative analysis, literature review, training undergraduates in quantitative methods

**Human Rights Research Intern, 2008**

Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants

Brussels, Belgium

Media analysis, legal document synthesis, website development, editing

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**ASSOCIATIONS**

**American Sociological Association, 2010-present**

Student Member

**Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, 2016-present**

Artist as Activist Fellowship Reviewer

**Lampo (Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts) 2014-present**

Program Assistant

**Association for the Memory of the Innocents of Massembo-Loubaki, 2006-2008**

Brazzaville, Congo

Board of Directors

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## **ACADEMIC REFERENCES**

### **Karin Knorr Cetina**

Otto Borchert Distinguished Service Professor of Sociology and Anthropology  
Sociology Department Chair  
University of Chicago  
Social Science Research Building 424  
1126 East 59th Street  
Chicago, IL 60637  
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### **Andrew Abbott**

Gustavus F. and Ann M. Swift Distinguished Service Professor of Sociology  
University of Chicago  
Social Science Research Building 314  
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### **Terry Nichols Clark**

Professor of Sociology  
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### **Gary Alan Fine**

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