

Daniel A. Winchester

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Academic Positions

Associate Professor of Sociology, Purdue University, 2020 –
Assistant Professor of Sociology, Purdue University, 2014 – 2020
Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Connecticut, 2013 – 2014

Education

Ph.D., Sociology, University of Minnesota, 2013
Dissertation: “Assembling the Orthodox Soul: Practices of Religious Self-Formation among Converts to Eastern Orthodoxy”

M.A. Sociology, University of Missouri, 2006
Master’s Thesis: “Practicing the Faith: Conversion and the Construction of a Muslim Religious Identity”

B.A. Sociology, University of Missouri, 2002, Cum Laude with Departmental Honors

Areas of Specialization

Religion, Culture, Social Theory, Subjectivity and Identity, Morality, Embodiment, Qualitative Methodology

Publications

Journal Articles

Winchester, Daniel and Michal Pagis [equal co-authorship]. “Sensing the Sacred: Religious Experience, Somatic Inversions, and the Religious Education of Attention.” Forthcoming in *Sociology of Religion*.

Winchester, Daniel. 2020. “Windows into Heaven, Mirrors for the Soul: How Icons Shape Identities among the Eastern Orthodox.” *Liturgy* 35(2): 48-54.

Winchester, Daniel and Kyle D. Green. 2019. “Talking Your Self Into It: How and When Accounts Shape Motivation for Action.” *Sociological Theory* 37(3): 257-281.

- Winner of the Junior Theorist Award for Best Article from the American Sociological Association Section on Theory

Winchester, Daniel and Jeffrey Guhin. 2019. “Praying ‘Straight from the Heart’: Evangelical Sincerity and the Normative Frames of Culture in Action.” *Poetics* 72(1): 32-42.

Winchester, Daniel, J. William Spencer, and Denise Baird. 2018. "I felt guilty for being so happy": Narrative Expressions and Management of Post-Divorce Ambivalence." *Sociological Focus* 51(3): 200-216.

Winchester, Daniel. 2017. "A Part of Who I Am': Material Objects as 'Plot Devices' in the Formation of Religious Selves." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 56(1): 83-103.

Winchester, Daniel. 2016. "A Hunger for God: Embodied Metaphor as Cultural Cognition in Action." *Social Forces* 95(2): 585-606.

- Winner of the Clifford Geertz Award for Best Article from the American Sociological Association Section on Culture

Winchester, Daniel. 2016. "Religion as Theoretical Case, Lens, and Resource for Critique: Three Ways Social Theory Can Learn from the Study of Religion." *Sociology of Religion* 77(3): 241-260.

Edgell, Penny, Kathleen E. Hull, Kyle Green, and Daniel Winchester. 2016. "Reasoning Together through Telling Stories: How People Talk about Social Controversies." *Qualitative Sociology* 39(1): 1-26.

Winchester, Daniel. 2015. "Converting to Continuity: Temporality and Self in Eastern Orthodox Conversion Narratives." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 54(3): 439-460.

Tavory, Iddo and Daniel Winchester [equal co-authorship]. 2012. "Experiential Careers: The Routinization and De-routinization of Religious Life." *Theory & Society* 41(4): 351-373.

Hartmann, Douglas, Daniel Winchester, Penny Edgell, & Joseph Gerteis. 2011. "How Americans Understand Racial and Religious Difference: A Test of Parallel Items from a Recent National Survey." *The Sociological Quarterly* 52(3): 323-345.

Winchester, Daniel and Steven Hitlin. 2010. "The Good, the Bad, and the Social." *Contexts* 9(4): 40-44.

Winchester, Daniel. 2008. "Embodying the Faith: Religious Practice and the Making of a Muslim Moral Habitus." *Social Forces* 86(4): 1753-1780.

Book:

Longhofer, Wesley and Daniel Winchester (Eds). 2016 [2012]. *Social Theory Re-Wired: New Connections to Classical and Contemporary Perspectives*, 2nd Edition. New York: Routledge.

Book Chapters:

Winchester, Daniel. "Doing It: Ethnography, Embodiment, and the Interpretation of Religion." Forthcoming in *Interpreting Religion: The Meanings of Religious Belief and Practice*. Eds. Erin F. Johnston and Vikash Singh. Bristol, UK: Bristol University Press.

Pagis, Michal and Daniel Winchester [equal co-authorship]. "Mediating the Sacred: Thinking through Religious Experience in the Classics and Beyond." Forthcoming in *Handbook of Classical Sociological Theory*. Eds. Seth Abrutyn and Omar Lizardo. Springer.

Neitz, Mary Jo, Kevin L. McElmurry, and Daniel Winchester. 2018[2010]. "New Sociological Narratives of Morality under Modernity: From Subtraction to Multiplicity." Pp. 181-190 in *Handbook of Cultural Sociology, 2nd Edition*. Eds. John Hall, Laura Grindstaff, & Ming-cheng Lo. Routledge.

Benzecry, Claudio and Daniel Winchester [equal co-authorship]. 2017. "Varieties of Microsociology." Pp. 42-74 in *Social Theory Now*. Eds. C. Benzecry, M. Krause, and I. Reed. University of Chicago Press.

Winchester, Daniel. 2015. "The Feel of Faith." Pp. 17-35 in *Getting Culture*. Eds. Douglas Hartmann and Chris Uggen. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

Other Publications:

Winchester, Daniel. "Imagining American Democracy Together: Whither Deliberation?" Symposium essay in response to Ruth Braunstein's *Prophets and Patriots: Faith in Democracy Across the Political Divide*. Forthcoming in *Syndicate*, <https://syndicate.network/>.

Winchester, Daniel. 2021. Review of *What Happens When We Practice Religion?: Textures of Devotion in Everyday Life*, by Robert Wuthnow. *Sociology of Religion* 82(1): 116-117.

Winchester, Daniel. 2009. "Summer Workshop with Robert Orsi: Ethical, Methodological, and Pedagogical Challenges." *Perspectives: The Magazine of the Program in Religious Studies* 2(1): 9.

Golden, Shannon, Wesley Longhofer, and Daniel Winchester. 2009. "Nonprofits in Need." *Contexts* 8(3): 14-15.

Fellowships & Grants

Purdue College of Liberal Arts Cornerstone Fellowship (\$3,000), 2018.

Sociology of Transformative Experience Funding Initiative (\$96,000), The Experience Project, Universities of Notre Dame and North Carolina-Chapel Hill, 2015-2017

Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (\$22,500), University of Minnesota, 2011-2012

Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship (\$22,500), 2011-2012, *Award Declined*

Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowship (\$22,500), Institute for Advanced Study, University of Minnesota, 2010-2011

Anna Welsch Bright Dissertation Research Award (\$6,000), University of Minnesota, 2009-2010

Graduate Research Partnership Program Award (approx. \$5,660), University of Minnesota, Summer 2009

Edelstein Family Foundation AMP Graduate Fellowship (approx. \$18,500), University of Minnesota, 2006-2007

Americorps/Vista Graduate Fellowship (approx. \$10,000), University of Missouri, 2003-2004

Awards & Distinctions

College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, Purdue University, 2019-2020

Junior Theorist Award, American Sociological Association Section on Theory, 2019

Clifford Geertz Award for Best Article, American Sociological Association Section on the Sociology of Culture, 2017

Daryl Evans Outstanding Teaching Award, Department of Sociology, Purdue University, 2014

Junior Scholar Spotlight, American Sociological Association Section on the Sociology of Culture, 2013

Public Sociology Award, University of Minnesota, 2011

Invited Scholar, Understanding Morality: Developing Interdisciplinary Perspectives Conference, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA, Summer 2009

Invited Scholar, Young Scholars in the Sociology of Religion Conference, Notre Dame University, Summer 2009

Outstanding Graduate Research Paper Award for “Embodying the Faith: Religious Practice and the Making of a Muslim Moral Habitus,” University of Minnesota, 2009

Teaching Experience

Courses Taught at Purdue

Graduate Courses

- SOC 602: Contemporary Sociological Theories
- SOC 609: Seminar in Cultural Sociology

Undergraduate Courses

- SOC 367: Religion in America
- SOC 402: Sociological Theory
- SCLA 102: Transformative Texts: Critical Thinking & Communication II, Modern World

Mentoring

Major Professor for:

- Adam Kotanko, Sociology (MS Sociology, 2020; current PhD advisor)
- Scott Roepke (MS Sociology, 2018)

Disseration/Thesis Committee Member for:

- Tyler Anderson, Sociology (PhD candidate)

- Joey Marshall, Sociology (PhD Sociology, 2020)
 - Yongguang (Max) Xue, Sociology (MS Sociology, 2020)
 - Samantha Hansford, (MS Sociology, 2018)
 - Jiayin Hu (MS Sociology, 2018)
 - Youngeun Nam (MS Sociology, 2018)
 - Fanhao Nie, (PhD Sociology, 2017)
 - Yunping Tong (MS Sociology, 2016)
 - Belyna Bentlage (MS Forestry & Natural Resources, 2015)
- Wilke Undergraduate Mentor for:
- Yexin Huang (BS Sociology, 2016)

Recent Presentations, Panels, and Invited Talks

“Sensing the Sacred: Religious Experience, Somatic Inversions, and the Religious Education of Attention.” Autonomous University of Barcelona, Research in Sociology of Religion (ISOR) Seminar Series. February 2021.

“Attending to Transcending: Lessons from Fasting with the Eastern Orthodox.” Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, New York, New York, August 2019.

“Talking Your Self Into It: How and When Accounts Shape Motivation for Action,” Northwestern University, Department of Sociology, May 2019

“Spiritual Practices and Religious Conversions,” Learning Religion Conference, Stanford University, April 2019

“In Word and Deed: Embodied Cognition as a Resource for the Study of Religious Experience,” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, August 2018.

“Self, Subjects and the Multiples Theories of Culture and Personhood in US sociology,” w/ Claudio Benzecry, The Roots and Branches of Interpretive Sociology Conference, Philadelphia, PA, August 2018.

“The Janus-Face of Culture in Action: How Prayer both Solves & Creates Problems for Evangelicals”. Kercher Speaker Series, Western Michigan University Department of Sociology, April 2018.

“Varieties of Microsociology.” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, QC, November 2017.

“The Prayer Paradox: How Cultural Tools Create Problems as well as Possibilities for Action.” Notre Dame Sociology Colloquium Series, September 2017.

“Talking Your Self Into It: On the Motivational Significance of Accounts” w/ Kyle D. Green. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, QC, August 2017.

“Talking Your Self Into It: On the Motivational Significance of Accounts.” UCLA Sociology Irene Flecknoe Ross Lecture Series, May 2017.

“A Hunger for God: Embodied Metaphor as Cultural Cognition in Action.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, August 2016.

“How Cultural Tools do things with People: On the Possibilities and Problems of Evangelical Prayer” w/ Jeff Guhin. Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, August 2016.

“A Hunger for God: Embodied Metaphor as Cultural Cognition in Action.” 3rd Forum of the International Sociological Association, Vienna, Austria, July 2016.

“Making Sense of Fasting: On the Role of Metaphorical Cognition in Processes of Meaning-Making.” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Newport Beach, CA, October 2015

“Matters of Faith: Icons, Identification, and the Role of Material Things in Religious Subject Formation.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, August 2015

“Religion as Theoretical Case, Lens, and Resource for Critique.” Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, August 2015

“Religious Conversion, Identity, and Experience.” Center on Religion and Chinese Society, Purdue University, February 2015

“How Does Religion become Reality?: Researching Religious Subjectivity through a Phenomenology of Practice.” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, October 2014

“How Does Religion become Reality?: Approaching Religious Subjectivity through a Phenomenology of Practice.” Advancing Cultural Sociology Conference, Center for Cultural Sociology, Yale University, April 2014

“‘They’re Part of Who I Am’: Icons, Emotion, and the Role of Material Things in Religious Subject Formation,” The Center for Comparative Research, Yale University, January 2014

“Of Bodies and Souls: Fasting and the Moral Topography of the Religious Self,” Department of Sociology, New School for Social Research, December 2013

“Religion, Science, and Law: How People Use Stories in Conversations about Social Controversies” w/ Penny Edgell, Kyle Green, and Kathleen Hull. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November 2013

“Converting to Continuity: Temporality and Self in Eastern Orthodox Conversion Narratives”. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, August 2013.

Professional Service

Departmental Service, Purdue Sociology:

- Law & Society Committee, 2020
- Research Advisory Committee, 2019
- Awards Committee, 2017-2020
- Teaching Committee, 2016-2017
- Advancement Committee, 2015-2016
- Colloquium Committee, 2015
- Website Committee, 2014-2017

Service to the College & University:

- College of Liberal Arts Cornerstone Steering Committee, 2019-
- College of Liberal Arts Faculty Senate, 2017-2019
- Purdue College of Liberal Arts Cornerstone Fellow, 2018.
- Undergraduate Mentor, Margo Katherine Wilke Undergraduate Research Internship Program, 2015-2016
- Enhancing Research in the Humanities and the Arts Grant Competition Committee, Purdue College of Liberal Arts, 2015.

Service to the Discipline:

Editorial Board Service

- Editorial Board Member, *Qualitative Sociology*, 2019-
- Associate Editor, *Sociology of Religion*, 2017-2020
- Graduate Editor, *Contexts*, 2010-2011
- Ad Hoc Reviewer for *Routledge*, *Wiley-Blackwell*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *Social Forces*, *Theory & Society*, *Sociological Theory*, *Political Power & Social Theory*, *Social Psychology Quarterly*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Sociology of Religion*, *Cultural Sociology*, *The Sociological Quarterly*, *Sociological Forum*, *Qualitative Sociology*, *Symbolic Interaction*, *Culture and Religion*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Sociology Compass*, *Sociological Focus*, *Social Movement Studies*, *Sociology of Sport Journal*, and *Contexts*

Conference Organizing Committee

- The Roots and Branches of Interpretive Sociology Conference, Philadelphia, PA, 2018

Conference Session Organizer

- “Meaning-Making through the Lens of Cultural Cognition.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, August 2018.
- “Interpreting Religion.” The Roots and Branches of Interpretive Sociology Conference, Philadelphia, PA, August 2018.
- “Transformative Experience.” The Roots and Branches of Interpretive Sociology Conference, Philadelphia, PA, August 2018.

Conference Session Discussant/Critic

- “Religious Practice in Historical Perspective.” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, QC, November 2017.
- Author Meets Critics Session for *Prophets and Patriots Faith in Democracy across the Political Divide* by Ruth Braunstein. Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, QC, November 2017.
- Author Meets Critics Session for *Alternative Sociologies of Religion: Through Non-Western Eyes* by James Spickard. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., October 2017.
- “Sociology of Culture.” Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, August 2016.
- Author Meets Critics session for *Summoned: Identification and Religious Life in a Jewish Neighborhood* by Iddo Tavory. Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, August 2016.
- “Culture and Communities.” The BOSCONN Symposium on Qualitative Sociology, Boston, MA, May 2014.

Other Service to Professional Organizations

- Publications Committee, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, 2020-
- Chair, Clifford Geertz Prize for Best Article Committee, American Sociological Association Section on Culture, 2018.
- Jack Shand Research Award Small Grant Committee, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, 2015-2016

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association

- Theory Section
- Sociology of Culture Section
- Sociology of Religion Section

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

Association for the Sociology of Religion