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Nicole Pangborn

EDUCATION

- 2019** Ph.D., Sociology, Princeton University
Dissertation: “Ethnicity, Emotions, and Relations in an Italian-American Suburb”
Committee: Mitchell Duneier (chair), Carol Stack, Robert Wuthnow
- 2016** M.A., Sociology, Princeton University
General exam areas: Social Networks, Microsociology, Sociology of Mental Health & Illness
Exam committee: Matthew Salganik, Mitchell Duneier, Allan Horwitz
- 2012** M.Phil., Applied Biological Anthropology, University of Cambridge (with distinction)
Thesis: “Social Networks and Decision-Making: Food and Influence in the Age of Twitter”
Advisor: Peter D. Walsh
- 2010** B.A., Mathematics, The Johns Hopkins University
Minor in Classics

EMPLOYMENT

- 2021-current** Senior User Experience Researcher, MathWorks (Natick, MA)
In this applied research position, I design & conduct both qualitative and quantitative research projects aimed at improving data visualization capabilities in MATLAB. My research has directly impacted user-facing features, fostered collaboration between disparate teams, and helped software developer leads steer long-term strategic direction for MATLAB Graphics.
- 2020-2021** User Experience Researcher, Yahoo (Sunnyvale, CA)
As part of my work with the Yahoo Sports, Yahoo News, and Yahoo Mail product teams, I conducted in-depth interviews with users and designed and analyzed surveys to guide product development. .
- 2019-2020** Lecturer in Sociology, The Ohio State University (Columbus, OH)
Developed & taught an Intro to Sociology (Honors) course, focusing on core tenets of Sociology & Research Methods. Received some of the highest teacher evaluation scores in the department.
- 2019** Postdoctoral Research Associate, Princeton University (Princeton, NJ)
Began to revise my own ethnographic manuscript while also co-teaching an upper-level undergraduate seminar about residential segregation.

TEACHING (UNIVERSITY)

- SP, AU 2020** Introduction to Sociology (Honors), The Ohio State University
My Intro to Soc class examined social structures from both a macro- and micro-sociological perspective. Teaching goals were for students to (a.) have the tools to interpret sociological studies; (b.) to examine the world through a sociological lens; and (c.) to see their own social worlds in a new light. Overall student eval ratings: 4.81/5.00 (SP2020); 4.75/5.00 (AU2020). [Syllabus](#)
- SP 2019** The Ghetto and the Enclave, Princeton University
This upper-level undergraduate seminar (co-taught with Mitchell Duneier) was a comparative investigation into the distinct strands of literature which inform the ways sociologists think about racially segregated neighborhoods and immigrant settlements. Overall student eval ratings: 4.75/5.
- SP 2015** Social Networks, Princeton University (Assistant in Instruction)
With main instructor Matthew Salganik. Topics covered included the “Small World” problem, the strength of weak ties, and the dynamics of diseases & fashions, among others.
- AU 2014** Introduction to Sociology (Assistant in Instruction)
With main instructor Mitchell Duneir. Topics covered included The Sociological Imagination, Sociological Research Methods, Ethnographic Methods, and Social Interaction, among others.
- SP 2014** Technology and Society, Princeton University (Assistant in Instruction)
With main instructor Angela Creager. This course investigated interactions between technology, society, politics, and economics. Topics included nuclear power/waste; GMOs; intellectual property; the financial crisis of 2008; and internet regulation, among others.

COURSES IN DEVELOPMENT

- N/A** Social Networks
This course (currently in development) aims to reinforce core sociological concepts while introducing the social networks perspective. By the end of the course, students should understand how to identify the influence of social networks on individual experience, how to interpret the results of mathematical models, and how to think critically - and creatively - about research design. [Syllabus](#)

TEACHING (OTHER)

- 2023** Try API Design, The MathWorks
This course introduces software developers to the basics of design (UX) research for programming interfaces (APIs). Students learn how to uncover user needs through research methods such as interviews and usability tests, and apply their learnings to design a programmatic software solution.
- 2018-2019** Global Seminars Study Abroad Assistant, Princeton University
As a summer study abroad assistant for Mitchell Duneier’s course “The Global Ghetto” in Warsaw and Krakow, Poland (2019), as well as in Rome and Venice, Italy (2018), I served as an occasional discussion facilitator in the classroom and an informal advisor on students’ research papers.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2021** **Pangborn, Nicole.** “The whole of the bond: the case for ethnographic social network analysis.” *Etnografia e Ricerca Qualitativa* 14, no. 2 (2021):201-210; Available at <https://www.rivisteweb.it/doi/10.3240/101568>.
- 2020** **Pangborn, Nicole** and Christopher Rea. “Race, gender, and new essential workers during COVID-19.” *Contexts* (2020); Available at <https://contexts.org/blog/inequality-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>.
- 2014** Chollet, Madeleine B., Kristina Aldridge, **Nicole Pangborn**, Seth M. Weinberg, and Valerie B. DeLeon. “Landmarking the brain for geometric morphometric analysis: an error study.” *PLoS ONE* 9, no. 1 (2014); Available at <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0086005>.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019** **Pangborn, Nicole.** “The construction and reproduction of network density in everyday life.” Italian Association for Applied Anthropology (SIAA), Ferrara, Italy. December 12.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2020** ACLS Emerging Voices Fellowship, Princeton University (*finalist*)
- 2018-2019** Dean’s Completion Fellowship, Princeton University (*awarded; \$16,682*)
- 2012** Distinction in the M.Phil degree, University of Cambridge (*awarded*)

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- 2014-2016** Resident Graduate Student at Mathey College, Princeton University
For two years, I was in residence at Mathey, one of Princeton’s residential colleges. I held monthly academic advising meetings and social gatherings with undergraduate students in my apartment.
- 2013-2014** GSAC Representative, Department of Sociology, Princeton University
First year representative, Princeton Graduate Advisory Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS

2015-2016 Co-host, Rocky-Mathey Trivia Night, Rockefeller College, Princeton University.

2014 Coach of Princeton Sociology's interdepartmental softball team, the "Red Socs."

2013-2014 Keyboard player in (unofficial) Princeton Sociology band.

2009 4K for Cancer trip leader. Cross country bicycle tour, Baltimore to San Francisco.

2006-2007 Euphonium player, JHU marching band.