

CHRISTIAN MICHAEL SMITH

Louise McBee Institute of Higher Education
University of Georgia

ChristianSmith@uga.edu
September 2024

EDUCATION

PhD	University of Wisconsin-Madison Sociology	2020
MS	University of Wisconsin-Madison Sociology	2018
BA	Macalester College Applied Mathematics and Statistics major, Educational Studies major, Magna Cum Laude	2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia	Assistant Professor of Higher Education	2024–
University of California, Merced	Postdoctoral Fellow	2021-2024
Berea College	Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology	2020-2021
Cornell University Dept. of Mathematics	NSF-Funded Research Assistant in High-Dimensional Data Analysis	2013

INTERESTS

Stratification, higher education, education policy, poverty, racial inequity, quantitative methods

PUBLICATIONS (*UGS/GS* = undergraduate student/graduate student)

Refereed Journal Articles

Topaz, C., H. Brooks, U. Kan^{GS}, B. Sandstede, and C.M. Smith. “Diversity, Identity, and Data.” *American Mathematical Monthly* (forthcoming), data science special issue. ([preprint](#)).

Smith, C.M., A.D. Villalobos (equal authors), L.T. Hamilton, C. Eaton. 2024. “Promising or Predatory? Online Education in Non-Profit and For-Profit Universities.” *Social Forces*, 102(3):952-977.

Hamilton, L.T., H. Daniels^{GS}, C.M. Smith, and C. Eaton. 2024. “The Private Side of Public Universities: Third-Party Providers and Platform Capitalism.” *Socius* 10:23780231231214952. (policy editorial [here](#)).

Hirschl^{GS}, N. and C.M. Smith. 2023. “Advanced Placement Gatekeeping and Racialized Tracking.” [*Sociology of Education*](#) 96(3):190-210.

Smith, C.M. and N. Hirschl^{GS}. 2023 “Mixed Signals? Economically (Dis)advantaged Students’ College Attendance under Mandatory College and Career Readiness Assessments.” [*Educational Researcher*](#) 52(3):131-143. (Lead article).

Goldrosen^{GS}, N., Smith, C.M., M.V. Ciocanel, R. Santorella^{GS}, C.M. Topaz, and S. Sen. 2023. “Racial Disparities in Criminal Sentencing Vary Considerably across Federal Judges.” [*Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*](#) 179(1):92-113.

Smith, C.M. 2022. “Does State Allocation of University Funding Moderate Effectively Maintained Inequality?” [*Social Currents*](#) 9(3):245-264.

Smith, C.M. and N. Hirschl^{GS}. 2022. “College Attendance among Low-Income Youth: Explaining Differences across Wisconsin High Schools.” Online first at [*Center for Educational Policy Studies Journal*](#) 12(3):33-57.

Smith, C.M. 2020. “In the Footsteps of Siblings: College Attendance Disparities and the Intragenerational Transmission of Educational Advantage.” [*Socius*](#) 6:2378023120921633.

(equal first authorship) Hirschl^{GS}, N. and C.M. Smith. 2020. “Well-Placed: The Geography of Opportunity and High School Effects on College Attendance.” [*Research in Higher Education*](#) 61(5):567-587. (Lead article).

Ciocanel, M.V., C.M. Topaz, R. Santorella^{GS}, S. Sen, C.M. Smith, and A. Hufstetler^{UGS}. 2020. “JUSTFAIR: Judicial System Transparency Through Federal Archive Inferred Records.” [*PLoS One*](#) 15(10):e0241381.

Topaz, C.M., J. Cart, C.D. Eaton, A.H. Shrout, J.A. Higdon, K. Ince, B. Katz, D. Lewis, J. Libertini, and C.M. Smith. 2020. “Comparing Demographics of Signatories to Public Letters on Diversity in the Mathematical Sciences.” [*PLoS One*](#) 15(4):e0232075.

Smith, C.M., E. Grodsky, and J.R. Warren. 2019. “Late-Stage Educational Inequality: Can Selection on Noncognitive Skills Explain Waning Social Background Effects?” [*Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*](#) 63:100424.

Policy Reports, Op-Eds, and Other Publications

Smith, C.M. L.T. Hamilton, and C. Eaton (equal authors). 2024. “A Supplemental Wealth-Based Pell Grant: How to Meet Unaddressed Need and Close Racial Gaps in Student Loan Borrowing.”

[*The Institute for College Access and Success*](#), September 2024 policy report.

*Covered in [*Inside Higher Ed*](#), [*DIVERSE: Issues in Higher Education*](#), and [*Higher Ed Dive*](#)

Hamilton, L.T., C.M. Smith, and C. Eaton. Sept. 24, 2024. "It's Time for a New Pell Grant."
[The Chronicle of Higher Education](#).

Smith, C.M. and E. Grodsky. 2016. "Stratification in Higher Education."
[International Encyclopedia of Higher Education Systems and Institutions](#).

UNDER REVIEW

Smith, C.M. "The Psychic Long Arm of Childhood: Psychological Stratification from Adolescence to Midlife."

Smith, C.M., L.T. Hamilton, and C. Eaton. "Wealth, Race, and Under-Addressed Financial Need in Federal Student Aid Policy."

FELLOWSHIPS AND ENDOWED AWARDS

Institute of Education Sciences Predoctoral Fellowship (\$100,000) 2016-2019
U.S. Department of Education

University Fellowship (\$40,000) 2019-2020
University of Wisconsin-Madison

A. Wayne Roberts Prize for Excellence in Mathematics Education 2015
Macalester College

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Wealth, Race, and Under-Addressed Financial Need in Federal Student Aid Policy."

- *Association for the Study of Higher Education*. Minneapolis, MN. November 2024.

"The Psychic Long Arm of Childhood: Psychological Stratification from Adolescence to Midlife."

- *American Sociological Association*. Philadelphia, PA. August 2023.
- *ISA Research Committee on Social Stratification and Mobility*. Ann Arbor, MI. August 2023.

"Predatory Inclusion in Non-Profit and For-Profit Online Education."

- *American Sociological Association*. Los Angeles, CA. August 2022.
- *ISA Research Committee on Social Stratification and Mobility*. South Bend, IN. August 2022.
- *Sociology of Education Association*. Virtual. February 2022.

"Mixed Signals? Economically (Dis)advantaged Students' College Attendance under Mandatory College and Career Readiness Assessments."

- *American Sociological Association*. Virtual. August 2021.
- *American Educational Research Association*. Virtual. April 2021.
- *Association for the Study of Higher Education*. Virtual. November 2020.

“State-Sponsored Stratification: Effectively Maintained Inequality and State Funding of Public Universities.”

- *American Educational Research Association*. Virtual. April 2021.
- *Midwest Sociological Society*. Chicago, IL. April 2019.
- *Eastern Sociological Society*. Boston, MA. March 2019.

“Advanced Placement Gatekeeping and Racialized Tracking.” With Noah Hirschl.

- *American Sociological Association*. Virtual. August 2020.

“Well-Placed: The Geography of Opportunity and School Effects on College Attendance.” With Noah Hirschl.

- *American Sociological Association*. Virtual. August 2020
- *Midwest Sociology of Education*. Columbus, OH. October 2018.

“In the Footsteps of Siblings: College Attendance Disparities and the Intragenerational Transmission of Educational Advantage.”

- *Midwest Sociology of Education*. Evanston, IL. October 2019.
- *American Sociological Association*. New York, NY. August 2019.
- *ISA Research Committee on Social Stratification and Mobility*. Princeton, NJ. August 2019.

“Interrogating Causation with Screencasts, a ‘Clickbait’ News Activity, and Short Essays.”

- *Midwest Sociological Society*. Omaha, NE. April 2020 (Cancelled due to COVID-19).

“Late-Stage Educational Inequality: Can Selection on Academic and Noncognitive Skills Explain Waning Social Background Effects?”

- *Midwest Sociology of Education*. West Lafayette, IN. October 2017.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Advanced Placement Gatekeeping and Racialized Tracking.”

- *University of Toronto*, presentation to *Issues of Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education* graduate seminar. Virtual. February 2022.

“In the Footsteps of Siblings: College Attendance Disparities and the Intragenerational Transmission of Educational Advantage.”

- *Macalester College, Department of Sociology*. Saint Paul, MN. February 2022.
- *Down The Research Rabbit Hole* podcast. Virtual. December 2021.

“Redundant or Complementary? Mechanisms of Intergenerational Educational Transmission among One's Less- vs. More-Educated Parent.”

- *University of Oxford, Nuffield College*. Oxford, United Kingdom. November 2020.

“Well-Placed: The Geography of Opportunity and High School Effects on College Attendance.”

- *Macalester College, Department of Sociology*. Saint Paul, MN. March 2020.

“High Schools Helping Economically Disadvantaged Students Get to College.” With Noah Hirschl.

- *Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction*. Madison, WI. October 2018.
- *Wisconsin Center for the Advancement of Postsecondary Education*. Madison, WI. Nov. 2017.

“College Attendance among Low-Income Youth: Explaining Differences across Wisconsin High Schools.” With Noah Hirschl.

- *Office of Financial Aid at University of Wisconsin-Madison*. Madison, WI. December 2017.

“Visualizing Bifurcations in the Three-Dimensional Lotka-Volterra Equation.”

- *Cornell University Department of Mathematics*. Ithaca, NY. August 2013.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia, Louise McBee Institute of Higher Education 2024–
Quantitative Methods I

Berea College 2020-2021
Social Statistics, Research Methods, Social Class and Education,
Introduction to Sociology

Ripon College 2019
Introduction to Sociology

University of Wisconsin-Madison 2019
Statistics Short Course (co-taught with Morgan Matthews)

Macalester College (as Teaching Assistant) 2012-2015
Differential Equations (3 semesters), Linear Algebra,
Discrete Mathematics, Applied Multivariable Calculus III

Professional Development and Graduate Coursework in Teaching and Learning
Pedagogy Certificate (UC Merced) 2021

Student-Faculty Partnership Program (Berea College) 2021

Inclusive Pedagogy (American Sociological Association) 2019

Teaching Statistics (UW Madison) 2019

The College Classroom (UW Madison) 2018

Teaching Sociology (UW Madison) 2017

Peer-Reviewed Teaching Resource

Smith, C.M. 2020. “Interrogating Causation with Screencasts, a ‘Clickbait’ News Activity, and Short Essays.” [*Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology*](#).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Member of Graduate Studies & Professional Development Committee 2024–
University of Georgia, Louise McBee Institute of Higher Education

Manuscript Reviewer	2017–
<i>American Sociological Review, American Journal of Sociology, Social Forces, Social Problems, Research in Higher Education, Research in Social Stratification and Mobility, Social Currents, Social Science Research, American Educational Research Journal, Journal of Mathematical Sociology</i>	
Graduate Student Mentor	2024
American Sociological Association, Sociology of Education Section	
Paper Session Chair	2019
Summer Meeting of ISA Research Committee on Social Stratification & Mobility	
Chair of Sociology Graduate Mentoring Committee	2018–2019
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dept. of Sociology	
Mentor for Students Applying to Graduate School	2019
Eastern Sociological Society Mentoring Program	
Graduate Student Mentor	2017-2018
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dept. of Sociology	