

## CASSIDY PUCKETT

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Department of Sociology  
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### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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2016-Present     Assistant Professor of Sociology, Emory University.  
2015-2016       Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Engineering Ed Outreach, Tufts University.

### EDUCATION

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#### Northwestern University

2015 Ph.D.       Sociology  
Dissertation: *The Geek Instinct: Technological Change, Digital Adaptability, and Social Inequality*     Dissertation Committee: Jeremy Freese (*Chair*), Leslie McCall, Brian Powell (Indiana)  
2010 M.A.       Sociology  
Master's paper: *Defining and Measuring Digital Adaptability*     Committee: Jeremy Freese, Eszter Hargittai

#### Stanford University

2004 M.A.       Education (Learning, Design and Technology)     Advisor: Brigid Barron

#### Brown University

2000 B.A.       American Civilization (with honors)  
Latin American Studies  
Honors thesis: *A Battle of Representation: U.S. Documentary Films and the Contra War* (Finalist for University Publication)     Advisor: Susan Smulyan

### RESEARCH AREAS

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I study the relationship between technological change, education, and inequality (including educational, occupational, and health inequalities). Subfields: Communication and Information Technology/Digital Media, Culture, Education, Inequality, Health, Children and Youth

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### *Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications:*

Puckett, Cassidy and Eszter Hargittai. 2012. "From Dot-Edu to Dot-Com: Predictors of College Students' Job and Career Information Seeking." *Sociological Focus* 45(1): 85-102.

Bass, Kristin, Cassidy Puckett, and Saul Rockman. 2008. "Models of Digital Collections Use in a University Community." *Educational Technology*, 48(1): 44-49.

*Other Publications:*

Puckett, Cassidy. 2013. "Technology Education." Book Section in *Sociology of Education: An A-to-Z Guide*, edited by James Ainsworth. Sage Publications.

Puckett, Cassidy. 2012. "[Review of Matrix Multiplication and the Digital Divide by Oscar H. Gandy, Jr. in Race After the Internet](#)" In HASTAC Crowd-sourced Book Review, Duke University.

Puckett, Cassidy. 2007. "The Goal: Equity; The Approach: Fun, Real Work." Pp. 132-133 in *The Computer as an Educational Tool: Productivity and Problem Solving (4th ed.)*, edited by R. Forcier & D. Descy. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

*Reports:*

Austin, Kimberly, Stacy Ehrlich, Cassidy Puckett, and Judi Singleton with Sue Sparte, Penny Bender Sebring, Denise C. Nacu and Eric Brown. 2011. "YOUmedia Chicago: Reimagining Learning, Literacies, and Libraries: A Snapshot of Year 1." Chicago, IL: Consortium on Chicago School Research.

*Manuscripts Under Review:*

Puckett, Cassidy. "*The Geek Instinct: Technological Competence and Cultural Alignment in Disadvantaged Contexts.*" *Revise and Resubmit at Poetics.*

Received Honorable Mention for Best Student Paper Award, Communication and Information Technology Section of the American Sociological Association, 2014.

Puckett, Cassidy. "Measuring Digital Adaptability: Scale Development and Validation" *Under Review.*

*Publications in Preparation:*

Puckett, Cassidy. "How Culture Structures Opportunity: Explaining Differences in Adolescents Approach to Learning Technology" *In Preparation.*

Puckett, Cassidy. "Cultural Practice and Differences in the Acquisition of (Technological) Human Capital" *In Preparation.*

Puckett, Cassidy, Brian Gravel, and Michael Vizner. "Vocational Vestiges: Detracking, Choice, and STEM Education in the New Comprehensive High School" *In Preparation.*

## **GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

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2015-2016 NSF Postdoctoral Fellowship with the Center for Engineering Education Outreach at Tufts University (\$55,000)

2014-2015 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$33,000)

2013-2014 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (\$12,000)

2013-2014 Emerging Scholars' Group Dissertation Grant (\$20,000)

2012-2013 Northwestern Information Technology Grant for dissertation research (\$2,000)

2012-2013 Northwestern Graduate Research Grant in support of dissertation research (\$3,000)

2008-2014 Northwestern University Fellowship (\$40,000)

2010 Clogg Fellowship to attend Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research (\$3,000)

2009-2014 Northwestern University Graduate School Conference Travel Grants for presentation at Games Learning + Society Conference, World Educational Research Association Conference, and American Sociological Association Meetings (multiple) (\$2,000)

2009-2013 MacArthur Summer Research Grants, Northwestern University Sociology Department (multiple) (\$3,600)

2001-2002 Digital Bridge Award for Community Service, Center for Electronic Art (\$2,000)

2000 Lydia Carpenter Premium (Senior Scholar Award), Brown University (\$1,000)

### **AWARDS & HONORS (NOT INCLUDING GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS)**

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2014	Honorable Mention	Ford Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2010 – 2015	Graduate Fellow	Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences (funded by US Dept of Ed)
2009 – 2015	Graduate Fellow	Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University
2009 – 2015	Science Studies Affiliate	Science in Human Culture Cluster, Northwestern University
2009	Honorable Mention	National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship
2009	Honorable Mention	Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowship
2000	Phi Beta Kappa	Brown University
1996	Upward Bound Graduate (federal TRIO program for low-income and/or first-generation college bound students)	Northfield Mount Hermon

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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July 2015-July 2016

Postdoctoral Fellow, Tufts University Center for Engineering Education Outreach (CEEEO), funded by the National Science Foundation

- One-year postdoctoral fellowship to do mixed-methods study of technology education at a large, diverse high school outside of Boston, including understanding how a new makerspace introduced by CEEEO fits in to the school's overall approach to technology education.

January 2011-June 2015

Researcher, Emerging Scholars Group (with James Gee) supported by the MacArthur Foundation

- Small interdisciplinary group of Ph.D. students working on digital media and learning research projects to shape scholarship in this area.

September 2009-June 2012

Research Assistant, University of Chicago Urban Education Institute/Consortium on Chicago School Research, and the University of California Digital Media and Learning Research Hub

- Conducted research through a national effort to collect and analyze data on distributed digital learning; research based in Chicago's YOUmedia Center.

September 2009-2010

Research Assistant, Web Use Project (with Eszter Hargittai) at Northwestern University

- Worked collaboratively to collect and analyze data on Internet use with Hargittai's Web Use project team. Research included statistical analysis of 1) Internet job seeking behaviors and 2) creative digital production and sharing, resulting in presentations and a publication.

August 2004-August 2008

Research Associate, *ROCKMAN ET AL*, San Francisco, CA

- Managed and/or project staff on projects from conception to completion for short-term and long-term (multi-year) projects up to \$200k: Developed proposals for private and public funding agencies, developed data collection instruments and collected qualitative and quantitative data, analyzed data, wrote and edited reports, facilitated relationships/projects with clients.
- Mentored high school and college interns at Rockman et al.
- Select clients and projects included:
  - CA Dept of Education *Brokers of Expertise*. Needs assessment for teacher professional development (PD) and instructional resources, collaboration with WestEd and AIR.
  - Lawrence Hall of Science at UC Berkeley, *Spanish Media Project*. Evaluation of family mathematics program, funded by the NSF.
  - KQED *QUEST* and *Cousteau's Ocean Adventures*. Evaluation of teacher professional development and instructional resources, funded by Moore Fdn & Dow Chemical Corp.
  - George Lucas Educational Foundation *A New Day for Learning*. Evaluation of school reform resources, funded by the Mott Foundation.
  - National Endowment for the Arts *Teacher Institutes*. Evaluation of implementation.
  - WestEd *Quality Teachers of English Learners (QTEL)* Teacher PD. Evaluation of program implementation in NYC public schools.
  - CA Commission on Teacher Credentialing *Cultural Competency Training Study*. Study of availability and effectiveness of teacher training programs in CA.
  - Bay Area Video Coalition *myJobPath* and One Economy's *Beehive* project. Formative evaluation of job training program and online job preparation and application tools.
  - UC Intersegmental Coordinating Council *CaliforniaColleges.edu*. Formative evaluation of online college and university preparation and admissions tools.
  - Catapult Learning *Student Supplementary Services*. Evaluation of online tutoring.

June 2003-June 2004

Research Assistant, WestEd, Applications Development Group, San Francisco, CA

- Conducted needs assessment with school reform organizations (Coalition of Essential Schools, School Redesign Network) and created online collaborative interfaces (using MySQL).

June 2000-June 2001

AmericorpsVISTA, Educational Programs & Community Building, Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, Oakland, CA

- Developed educational programs with local schools, including oral history project. Helped establish management systems for programs and wrote grants up to \$50,000.

## TEACHING

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### *UNIVERSITY TEACHING*

August 2016-

Assistant Professor, Emory University, Atlanta, GA

- *Society and Culture, Undergraduate (Fall & Spring)*
- *Qualitative Methods, Graduate (Spring)*

March 2009-June 2010

Teaching Assistantships, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

- *Youth and Society*, Course taught by Dr. Karrie Snyder
- *Research Methodology for the Social Sciences*, Course taught by Dr. Albert Hunter
- *Introduction to Sociology*, Course taught by Dr. Karrie Snyder

### *OTHER TEACHING*

September 2012-August 2015

Volunteer Teacher, YOUmedia Chicago, Harold Washington Public Library, Chicago, IL

- Teach arts and technology workshops to high school teens

September 2008-September 2012

Volunteer Tutor, Rogers Park Library, Chicago, IL

- Tutored grammar-school aged children in a variety of subject areas

September 2005-June 2008

Internship Mentor, MetWest High School, OUSD, Oakland, CA

- Developed students' research and writing skills, facilitated their involvement at Rockman et al, including tutorial in statistical trainings for social science research. Was an internship "demonstration site" for MetWest's University of California accreditation.

September 2001-August 2008

Instructor & Instructional Coach, Urban Promise Academy, OUSD, Oakland, CA

- Coached teachers to support integration of arts in Math and Science courses (1 year coaching position 2007-2008). Culminating projects included parent night and year-end Expo.
- Developed curriculum and taught technology (robotics and web design, 6 years), Strategic Literacy Initiative/Reading for Understanding skills, and leadership workshops (2 years)
- Participated in Intel Teach for the Future Teacher Professional Development and VALUES arts integration project with the California College of the Arts and Harvard University.
- Developed school-wide technology plan based on ISTE NETS for teachers and students.

## PRESENTATIONS

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- Puckett, Cassidy. 2016. "Vocational Vestiges: Technology Education and the Reorganization of the Comprehensive High School." American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2015. "Technological Change, Digital Adaptability, and Social Inequality." Invited Talk at Emory University, Atlanta, GA.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2014. "Measuring Digital Adaptability: Scale Development and Validation." Roundtable on Research in Progress session NCA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2014. "The Geek Instinct: Technological Competence and Cultural Alignment in Disadvantaged Contexts." Panel Presentation on "New Directions for Social Problems Theory" at the Social Problems Theory Section Regular session SSSP Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2014. "How Culture Structures Opportunity: Explaining Differences in Adolescents Approach to Learning."
- Roundtable at the Sociology of Education Section session ASA Annual Meeting, San Francisco.
  - Presentation at the Northwestern Applied Quantitative Methods Workshop meeting, Evanston.
  - Presentation at the Northwestern Culture Workshop meeting, Evanston.
  - Presentation at the Social Interaction and Organizing at Northwestern (SION) meeting, Evanston.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2014. "How Learning Ecologies Shape Adolescents' Digital Adaptability." Presentation at the Digital Media and Learning Conference, Boston.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2014. Invited Discussant, *Education Panel*. Presentation at the Chicago Ethnography Conference.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2014. "How School and Home Shape Adolescents' Approach to Learning Technology." Poster presentation at the SEA Conference, Pacific Grove, CA.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2013. "Habitus, Habit, and the Case of Technological Competence." Theory Section roundtable presentation at the ASA Annual Meeting, New York City.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2013. "Body and Circuits: Bourdieu, Dewey, and the Habitus of Technological Competence."
- Theory Section panel presentation at the ESS Annual Meeting, Boston.
  - Theory Section roundtable presentation at the ASA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2013. "Digital Adaptability Survey." Roundtable on Measurement. Digital Media and Learning Conference (DML). Chicago, IL.
- Hargittai, Eszter and Cassidy Puckett. 2012. "Job Search 2.0: Explaining Differences in Young Adults' Online Job-Seeking Practices." Communication and Information Technology Section session paper presentation at the ASA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- Puckett, Cassidy, James Gee, Adam Ingram-Goble, Jennifer Conner-Zachocki, Jenna McWilliams, Benjamin Shapiro. 2012. "Thoughts From Digital Media and Learning Emerging Scholars: Findings and Insights from Early Career Researchers, Developers, and Practitioners." Regular session panel presentation at DML Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2011. "The 'Disposition' of Digital Adaptability: Using Empirical Research to Ground Theoretical Concepts." Regular session paper presentation at the World Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

- Puckett, Cassidy. 2011. "(Tech) Culture in Action: Using a Cultural Framework to Describe and Explain Differences in Technological Competence." Regular session paper presentation at the ASA Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2011. "Digital Inequality: New Constructs and Measures." Information Technology Section poster presentation at the AERA Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- Puckett, Cassidy, Mike Hawkins, Barry Joseph, Taylor Bayless, Audrey Aronowsky. 2011. "Unlikely partnerships? Youth Organizations and Institutions Collaborating for Future Learning." Regular session panel presentation at DML Conference, Long Beach, CA.
- Puckett, Cassidy, Ugochi Acholonu, Rafi Santo, and Jenna McWilliams. 2011. "Participatory Culture Reconsidered: Moving Beyond Rainbows, Unicorns and Butterflies." Regular session panel presentation at DML Conference, Long Beach, CA.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2010. "Digital Inequality: New Constructs and Measures." Communication and Information Technology Section roundtable presentation at the ASA Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2010. "Digital inequality: New Constructs and Measures." Regular session paper presentation at the MSS Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Puckett, Cassidy and Eszter Hargittai. 2010. "Mechanisms of Stratification in Job Market Entry: Predictors of College Students' Job/Career Information Seeking Behaviors." Regular session paper presentation at the MSS Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Puckett, Cassidy, Bill Tally, Cindy Char, Jeff Sun, and Andy Hoffman. 2009. "History Games Go To School: Research Insights From the American History and Civics Initiative." Regular session paper presentation at the Games, Learning + Society Conference, Madison, WI.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2007. "Using handhelds to promote environmental stewardship." Poster paper, International Conference on Interaction Design and Children, Aalborg, Denmark.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2006. "An Evaluation of NEA Teacher Professional Development in the Arts." Regular session presentation at the American Evaluation Association Conference, Portland, OR.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2006. "Developing Students' 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills." Regular session panel discussion at the National Educational Computing Conference (NECC), San Diego, CA.
- Puckett, Cassidy. 2005. "How to Talk in Tags: Creating a Successful Computer Learning Environment for Adolescent Girls." Roundtable paper presentation at NECC, Philadelphia, PA.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & SERVICE**

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American Sociological Association Member

- Sociology of Education, Sociology of Communication and Information Technology, Inequality, Theory, and Sociology of Culture

Sociology of Education Association Member

Society for the Study of Social Problems Member

Eastern Sociological Society Member

Midwest Sociological Society Member

American Educational Research Association Member

World Educational Research Association Member

National Communications Association Member

International Communications Association Member

Graduate Student Association (GSA), Sociology Department, Northwestern University

- Graduate Student Writing Group Coordinator, 2011-2015

- Graduate Student Reading Group Member, 2011-2015
- GSA Co-President, 2010-2011
- GSA Grad Affairs Committee Member, 2010-2011
- Co-organizer, Responsible Conduct of Research training for post docs, grad students, and undergraduates, 2010-2011.

Reviewer, *New Media and Society*

Reviewer, *Information, Communication and Society*

## **TECHNOLOGY AND LANGUAGE SKILLS**

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### *Statistical software*

- Stata
- HLM
- MPlus
- UCINet
- R
- SPSS

### *Qualitative data analysis software*

- Atlas.ti
- NVivo
- HyperResearch

### *Productivity*

- OmniGraffle (flow charts)
- FileMaker databases (setting up online surveys using FileMaker)

### *Programming*

- Python
- Lego Mindstorm (RCX and NXT) software
- Handcoding HTML, CSS, MySQL database development and queries

### *Multi-media*

- Dreamweaver
- Photoshop
- iMovie
- Adobe InDesign
- Hypercard (handcoding in Hypercard)

### *Languages*

- Intermediate proficiency in Spanish (reading, writing, and listening stronger than speaking)