

Ryan Light

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Department of Sociology
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Academic Positions

2017-present. Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon.

2009-2017. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon.

Education

Ph.D. Sociology, The Ohio State University, 2009.

M.A. Sociology, The Ohio State University, 2004.

B.A. Sociology and English, Kenyon College, 2000.

Research Interests

Social Networks, Culture & Science, Inequality, Computational Sociology

Publications

Refereed Articles

(Note: Authors listed in order of authorship)

Light, Ryan and Colin Odden. Forthcoming. "Managing the Boundaries of Taste: Culture, Valuation, and Computational Social Science." *Social Forces*.

Edelmann, Achim, Moody, James and Ryan Light. 2017. "Disparate Foundations of Scientists' Policy Positions on Contentious Biomedical Research." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 114:6262-6267.

York, Richard and Ryan Light. 2017. "Directional Asymmetry in Sociological Analysis." *Socius* 3:1-13.

Light, Ryan and Jeanine Cunningham. 2016. "Oracles of Peace: Topic Modeling, Cultural Opportunity, and the Nobel Peace Prize, 1902-2012." *Mobilization* 21:43:64.

Light, Ryan and jimi adams. 2016. "Knowledge in Motion: The Evolution of HIV/AIDS Research" *Scientometrics*. 107:1227-1248.

adams, jimi and Ryan Light. 2015. "Scientific Consensus, the Law, and Same Sex Parenting Outcomes." *Social Science Research*. 53:300-310.

Media coverage by Reuters, Think Progress, BuzzFeed, HRC, Science Daily and more.

- Light, Ryan. 2015. "Like Strangers We Trust: Identity and Generic Affiliation Networks." *Social Science Research* 51:132-144.
- adams, jimi and Ryan Light. 2014. "Mapping Interdisciplinary Fields: Efficiencies, Gaps & Redundancies in HIV/AIDS Research." *PLoS ONE* 9(12): e115092
- Light, Ryan. 2014. "From Words to Networks and Back: Digital Text, Computational Social Science, and the Case of Presidential Inaugural Addresses." *Social Currents* 1(2):111-129.
- Saperstein, Aliya, Andrew M. Penner and Ryan Light. 2013. "Racial Formation in Perspective: Connecting Individuals, Institutions and Power Relations." *Annual Review of Sociology* 39:359-378.
- Light, Ryan. 2013. "Gender Inequality and the Structure of Occupational Identity: The Case of Elite Sociological Publication." *Research in the Sociology of Work* 24:239-268.
- Sutton, James E, Bellair, Paul E., Kowalski, Brian R. Light, Ryan and Donald T. Hutcherson. 2011. "Reliability and Validity of Prisoner Self-Reports Gathered Using the Life Event Calendar Method." *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 27:151-171.
- Light, Ryan, Vincent J. Roscigno, and Alexandra Kalev. 2011. "Racial Discrimination, Interpretation, and Legitimation at Work." *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 634:39-59.
- Light, Ryan. 2009. "Gender Stratification and Publication in American Science: Turning the Tools of Science Inward." *Sociology Compass* 3:721-33.
- Moody, James and Ryan Light. 2006. "A View From Above: The Evolving Sociological Landscape." *The American Sociologist* 37:67-86.

Comments, Book Chapters, and Reviews

- Light, Ryan and jimi adams. 2016. "A Dynamic Multidimensional Approach to Knowledge Production." Pp. 127-147 in *Investigating Interdisciplinary Research*. Edited by Scott Frickel, Mathieu Albert, and Barbara Prainsack. Rutgers University Press.
- Cunningham, Jeanine and Ryan Light. 2016. "Institutional Discrimination." *Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*. 2nd edition. Edited by George Ritzer.
- Light, Ryan. 2014. Book Review: *Black Citymakers: How the Philadelphia Negro Changed Urban America*. *American Journal of Sociology* 120:286-88.
- Light, Ryan and James Moody. 2011. "Dynamic Building Blocks for Science: Comment on Kronegger, Ferligoj, and Doreian." *Quality and Quantity* 45:1017-1022.
- Light, Ryan and Vincent J. Roscigno. 2007. "Race Attitudes and the Alternative Realities of Workers and Bosses" Pp. 39-55 in *The Face of Discrimination* by Vincent J. Roscigno. New York: Rowman & Littlefield.

Papers Under Review

- Light, Ryan and Vincent J. Roscigno. "Power, Resistance and American Slavery." (Revise and Resubmit)

Works in Progress - Drafts Available

Light, Ryan. "Preferences in Health Care Communication: Trust in Information about Cancer."

Bellair, Paul E. and Ryan Light. "Negative social capital in prisoner personal networks and its age-graded effect on recidivism."

Light, Ryan and James Moody. *Handbook of Social Networks*. (Edited volume under contract at Oxford University Press)

Presentations

2017. Fielding, Dan and Ryan Light. "Thirty Years of 'Doing Gender:' Mapping the Sociology of Gender." Presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Meetings, Portland, OR.

2016. adams, jimi and Ryan Light. "Dissolution and Re-Activation in Collaboration Networks." Presented at the International Network of Social Network Analysis Sunbelt Meetings, CA.

2015. Light, Ryan. "Building a Contextualized Understanding of Healthcare Communication: Determinants of Trust in Information about Cancer." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.

2015. Light, Ryan. "Building a Contextualized Understanding of Healthcare Communication: Determinants of Trust in Information about Cancer." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, LA.

2015. adams, jimi and Ryan Light. "A Multilevel, Life Course Model of Boundaries in Knowledge Production." Presented at the International Network of Social Network Analysis Sunbelt Meetings, Brighton, UK.

-Revised version at Conference on Complex Systems - Quantifying Science. Tempe, AZ. (2015)

-Revised version at Society for Social Studies of Science. Denver, CO. (2015)

2014. Light, Ryan and Jeanine Cunningham. "Oracles of Peace: An Emergent, Longitudinal Frame Analysis of the Nobel Prize for Peace, 1902-2012. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.

2014. Light, Ryan and Jeanine Cunningham. "Oracles of Peace: An Emergent, Longitudinal Frame Analysis of the Nobel Prize for Peace, 1902-2012. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association, Portland, OR.

2013. Light, Ryan and Colin Odden. "Genre Regulating Organizations and the Process of Consecration in Popular Music Criticism." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY.

2012. adams, jimi and Ryan Light. "The Segregation of HIV/AIDS Research." Presented at the NIH Summit on Eliminating Health Disparities. Washington, DC.

2012. Light, Ryan and jimi adams. "Interdisciplinarity as a Dynamic Process in the Case of HIV/AIDS Research." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Denver, CO.

2012. Light, Ryan and Colin Odden. "Mapping Genre Formation in the Digital Age: Art Worlds, Artistic Reviews, and the Case of Pitchfork.com." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society Meetings, New Orleans, LA.

2011. Light, Ryan. "Words to Networks: Digital Text, Computational Social Science, and the Case of Presidential Inaugural Speeches." Presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Las Vegas, NV.
2011. Light, Ryan, Paul Bellair, and Dana L. Haynie. "Inmate Social Support Networks." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, Jacksonville, FL.
2010. Light, Ryan and jimi adams. "The Spread of HIV/AIDS Research: Topic Structures in AIDS and JAIDS, 1988-2008." Presented at the International Network of Social Network Analysis Sunbelt Meetings, Riva del Garda, Italy.
2009. Roscigno, Vincent J. and Ryan Light. "Racial Discrimination and Interpretation at Work." Presented at the Law and Society Association Meetings, Denver, CO.
2008. Light, Ryan. "Social Problems in American Sociology, 1963-1999." Presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Boston, MA.
2008. Light, Ryan. "Narrative Networks and Culture: Structure in the Service of Action." Presented at the International Network of Social Network Analysis Sunbelt Meetings, St. Petersburg, FL.
2007. Light, Ryan. "Like Strangers We Trust: Identity, Fields, and Latent Affiliation Networks." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY.
2006. Light, Ryan and Jill Harrison. "Measuring Meaning Structures: A Structural Approach to the Sociology of Culture." Presented at Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, LA.
2005. Light, Ryan. "Gender Stratification and Scientific Publication: Piecing Together the Productivity Puzzle." Presented at Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.
2005. Light, Ryan and Vincent J. Roscigno. "Discrimination and Interpretation at Work: The Alternative Realities of Workers and Bosses." Presented at Annual Meetings of the Southern Sociological Society, Charlotte, NC.
2004. Light, Ryan and Josh Dubrow. "Don DeLillo's White Noise and 9/11: Interpreting Tragedy and Bridging Distance in a Postmodern Framework." Presented at the '80s in Literature and Culture Conference, Cincinnati, OH.

Invited Presentations

2015. Light, Ryan. "The Challenge of Computational Social Science." Invited Presentation to the University of Washington Information School and the Department of Sociology, Seattle, WA.
2015. Light, Ryan and Colin Odden. "Establishing the Boundaries of Taste: Consecration, Denunciation, and the Case of Pitchfork.com." Invited Presentation to the University of Oregon, Department of Management, Eugene, OR.
2014. Light, Ryan and Colin Odden. "Judgment Devices and the Boundaries of Taste." Invited presentation to the North Carolina State University, Department of Sociology, Raleigh, NC.
2014. Light, Ryan and Colin Odden. "Judgment Devices and the Boundaries of Taste." Invited presentation to the University of Oregon, Department of Sociology, Eugene, OR.
2011. Light, Ryan and jimi adams. "Modeling the Content of Science: The Case of HIV/AIDS Research, 1990-2008." Invited presentation to Duke Network Analysis Center, Durham, NC.

2011. Light, Ryan and jimi adams "Modeling the Content of Science: The Case of HIV/AIDS Research, 1990-2008." Invited Presentation to the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Internal Research Workshop 2011, Lundquist College of Business, Eugene, OR.

2008. Light, Ryan. "Structure, Culture, and Meaning in the American Slave Narrative." Invited presentation to the Networks Research Group at Duke University, Durham, NC.

Grants

2017. Interdisciplinary Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences. University of Oregon. Principal Investigator. \$25,000.

2016-2017. Junior Professor Development Award, University of Oregon.

2016. Marquina Award, University of Oregon. \$2,500.

2012-2013. Junior Professorship Development Award, University of Oregon.

2013. Marquina Award, University of Oregon. \$2,500

2010-2011. Junior Professorship Development Award, University of Oregon.

2008-2009. jimi adams and Ryan Light. "The Organization of AIDS Research." Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholars Seed Grant. \$11,000.

Scholarly Awards and Honors

2013. Outstanding Author Contribution Award Winner, Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2013. For "Gender Inequality and the Structure of Occupational Identity: The Case of Elite Sociological Publication."

2008. Presidential Fellowship, Ohio State University.

2007. Candace Rogers Award for Best Graduate Student Paper, Eastern Sociological Society.

2006. Honorable Mention, Cambridge Sociological Abstracts Discovery Prize.

2005. Outstanding Master's Student Award, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University.

2005. Summer Publishing Fellowship, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University.

2005. Graduate Student Paper of the Year, History of Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association.

2002. University Fellowship, Ohio State University.

Courses Taught

Introduction to Social Research (Undergraduate)

Sociological Theory (Undergraduate)

Social Network Analysis (Graduate)

Sociology of Culture (Undergraduate)

Science & Society (Undergraduate)

Digital Social Life (Undergraduate)

Research Methods (Graduate)

Advising

Dissertation Committee Chair:

Ongoing. Jeanine Cunningham, Sociology

Ongoing. Michelle Alexander, Sociology

Dissertation Committee Member:

Stephanie Kramer, Psychology (2017); Rebekah Selby, Economics (2017); Sierra Deutsch, Environmental Studies (2017); Brian Clark, Psychology (2016); Julius McGee, Sociology (2016); Jeff Gunn, Sociology (2015); Matthew Friesen, Sociology (2014); Jacob Dittmer, Communications (2013); Randall Livingstone, Communications (2012); Allison Ford, Sociology (Ongoing); Christine Pitts, Education (Ongoing); Lucas Nebert, Biology (Ongoing); J.M. Bacon, Sociology (Ongoing)

Comprehensive Examination Committee Chair:

2017. Michelle Alexander, Sociology

2016. Allison Ford, Sociology

Comprehensive Examination Committee Member:

Dan Fielding, Sociology (2017); Larissa Petrucci, Sociology(2017); Jeanine Cunningham, Sociology (2016); J.M. Bacon, Environmental Studies (2015); Jordan Besek, Sociology (2015); Cassie Comley, Sociology (2014); David Martin, Sociology (2012); Jacob Dittmer, Communications (2011)

Masters Paper Chair:

2014. Jeanine Cunningham, Sociology

2012. Jeff Ewing, Sociology

Ongoing. Andrew Labuza, Sociology

Masters Paper Reviewer/Committee Member:

Dan Fielding, Sociology (2016); Larissa Petrucci, Sociology (2016); Michelle Alexander, Sociology (2015); Allison Ford, Sociology (2015); Kathryn Warden, Sociology (2014); J.M. Bacon, Environmental Studies (2014); Michael Tran, Sociology (2013); Sara Nienaber, Environmental Studies (2013); Robert McDonough, Sociology (2012); Kathy Thomas, Sociology (2010)

Undergraduate Thesis Advisor:

2015. Adrian Robins, Environmental Studies

2013. Xiaoying Chen, Sociology

2013. Julian Master, Clark Honors College, UO

2012. Kris Kimberling, Sociology

2012. Derrick Smith, Sociology

Professional Service

Ad hoc Reviewer for:

American Sociological Review; American Journal of Sociology; PNAS; Social Forces; Sociological Theory; British Journal of Sociology; Management Science; Theory, Culture and Society; Environment and Planning B; Minerva; Mobilization; Journal of Social Structure; Current Sociology; Human Relations; Research in the Sociology of Work; Sociological Perspectives; Poetics; Social Problems; Social Currents; Social Science Research; Sage; Polity Press; Routledge; The National Science Foundation

2017. Program Committee Member, 3rd International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2 2017)
- 2017-2019. Editorial Board Member, *Social Currents*.
- 2011-present. Advisory Editor, *Sociological Perspectives*.
2016. Panel Organizer. "Sociology of Science," Regular Session. American Sociological Association, Seattle.
2014. Program Committee Member, Annual Meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association.
2013. Discussant. "Social Networks and Inequality," Thematic Session. American Sociological Association. New York.
2013. Panel Organizer. "Social Networks I and II," Regular Session. American Sociological Association, New York.
- 2009-2010. Advisory Panel Member. NSF/REESE-funded project for the American Sociological Association.
- 2006-2008. Editorial Associate, *American Sociological Review*.

University and Departmental Service

- 2016-2017. Executive Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon
- 2016-2017. Curriculum Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon
- 2015-2016. Staff Development Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon
- 2014-2015. Development and Publicity Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon
- 2012-2014. Colloquium Series Co-organizer, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon
2014. Member, Selection Committee for International Endowed Scholarships, University of Oregon
- 2012-2013. Executive Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon
- 2010-2012. Admissions and Awards Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon
- 2011-2012. Ad-hoc Committee on Departmental Endowment, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon

Membership in Professional Societies

American Sociological Association (Culture, Theory, Mathematical Sociology sections)
INSNA
Pacific Sociological Association
Southern Sociological Society