

CURRICULUM VITAE
UPDATED 2017-10-31

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate, Sociology. *The Pennsylvania State University*.

Doctoral Minor in Social Thought

Certificate in Quantitative Methodology

Dissertation: Religious islands, partners, and bridges: Studying cross-denominational shared ideas using book co-purchase networks

Committee: *Roger Finke*, Diane Felmlee, Alan Sica, Stephen Browne

MA, Sociology. *The Pennsylvania State University*. May 2013.

Thesis: Social Networks and Religious Identity Salience in Adolescence: A New Baseline for Peer Networks and Religious Development

Committee: *Roger Finke*, Diane Felmlee, Derek Kreager

MA, Systematic Theology & Ministry in Daily Life. *Luther Seminary*. May 2009.

Thesis: Imago Christi and the Japanese Imagination: Toward a Narrative Contextual Theology of Vocation

BS, Sociology, Minor in Music. *Western Washington University*. June 2005.

BA, East Asian Studies, Minor in Japanese. *Western Washington University*. June 2005.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Complex Data Collection and Management, Quantitative Methods, Social Network Analysis, Data Science, Data Visualization, Sociology of Religion, Social Theory

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Outstanding Paper Award. Penn State Social Thought Conference. 2015. "Mix, Match, and Split: Accidental Algorithmic Intrusions on the Democratizing Premise of the Internet." Award amount: \$250.

Runner-up, Working Paper Award. Penn State Sociology Graduate Student Paper Competition. 2017. "Big Data's Little Brother: Enhancing Sociological Data through Crowdsourcing."

Runner-up, Working Paper Award. Penn State Sociology Graduate Student Paper Competition. 2015. "Understanding Religion through Book Co-Purchasing Networks: A Pilot Study."

QuaSSI (Quantitative Social Science Initiative) Graduate Research Predoctoral Fellow, Penn State Big Data Social Science Program, 2013-2014.

University Graduate Fellowship. The Pennsylvania State University. 2011.

Research and Creative Opportunities for Undergraduates Grant. Western Washington University Bureau for Faculty Research. 2004. Award amount: \$500.

Carl H. Simpson Memorial Scholarship in Sociology. Western Washington University. 2004-2005.

Language and Culture Exchange Scholarship, Nagoya University of Foreign Studies and Western Washington University. 2001-2002.

Invent the Future

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Porter, Nathaniel D. 2016. "Preparation in Context: Comparative Outcomes of Alternative Clergy Training in the ELCA." *Review of Religious Research* 58(2):319-338. DOI: 10.1007/s13644-016-0246-5.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Porter, Nathaniel D. and Christopher D. Bader. 2017. "Pathways to Discovery and Enlightenment: Amazon's Recommendation System as a Source of Information on Religious and Paranormal Consumption Patterns." Chapter 10 in *Faithful Measures: Applications in the Art and Science of Measuring Religion*, ed. Roger Finke and Christopher D. Bader. NYU Press.
- Baker, Joseph O., Jonathan P. Hill and Nathaniel D. Porter. 2017. "Using Mechanical Turk and Quasi-experimental Designs to Test and Evaluate New Measures." Chapter 3 in *Faithful Measures: Applications in the Art and Science of Measuring Religion*, ed. Roger Finke and Christopher D. Bader. NYU Press.

UNDER REVIEW

Porter, Nathaniel D., Ashton M. Verdery and S. Michael Gaddis. "Enhancing Big Data in the Social Sciences with Crowdsourcing: Data Augmentation Practices, Techniques, and Opportunities." Preprint working paper: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1609.08437>.

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS IN PREPARATION

- Daw, J.D., Ashton M. Verdery and Nathaniel D. Porter. "Factors of Willingness to Volunteer as a Live Organ Donor: An Exploratory Quasi-Experimental Study."
- Stroope, Samuel, Hyojung Kim, Nathaniel Porter and Jeremy E. Uecker. "Social Patterns of Religious Involvement in India: A National Study."
- Porter, Nathaniel D. "Family, Peers and Religious Communities in the Formation of Adolescent Religious Identity."

ADDITIONAL ESSAYS, BRIEFS AND REVIEWS

- "Flipping the Social Statistics Classroom." 2017. In special section "Essays on Teaching" in *Methodology Section Newsletter* 2(1):5-10. American Sociological Association Section on Methodology.
- China House Church Methodology Brief. August 2014 (unpublished). Prepared for Fenggang Yang, Purdue University. Described possible approaches and limitations to integrating network data in a referral-sample study of Chinese Christians.
- Review of *Secularization and its Discontents*, by Rob Warner. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 2013, 52(1):229-230.
- "Briefly Noted" contributor, *Contemporary Sociology*. 2012-2014 (titles follow).
- Café Society*, by Aksel Tjora and Graham Scambler.
- God Talk: Experimenting with the Religious Causes of Public Opinion*, by Paul A. Djupe and Brian R. Calfano.
- Fashioning Japanese Subcultures*, by Yuniya Kawamura.
- The Emerging Church: Religion at the Margins*, by Josh Packard.
- Sociologists and Social Progress: How Defeating Narratives Affect U.S. and Caribbean Sociological Academies*, by O. Alexander Miller.
- The Pursuit of Happiness: An Economy of Well-being*, by Carol Graham.

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND TOOLS

Primary languages:

Python (data management, web/text analysis, machine learning, social network analysis, data visualization)

Stata (multilevel and longitudinal models, complex weighting, event history, propensity score, multiple imputation, data management)

SPSS (descriptive statistics, data checking and regression, 3 lab courses taught in SPSS)

Html/CSS/JavaScript (online data collection and experiments, visualization with d3.js)

Secondary languages and tools: SAS, R, HLM, SQL, Gephi, MPlus, NVIVO

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, JD Daw. 2016.

Coordinated design and implemented experimental multifactor online vignette study of willingness to volunteer as a living organ donor. Contributions include review of past volunteerism experiments, collaborative experiment design, creation of original html instrument with multifactor experiment, implementation on Amazon Mechanical Turk (AMT), and methodology writeup for NIH grant proposal.

Research Assistant, Ashton Verdery. 2015-2016.

Provided support for kin network projections (Verdery, Ashton M. and Rachel Margolis. "Aging without kin: Projections of black and white older adults without living kin in the United States, 2015-2060;" Built web-ready interactive population pyramids in d3.js (JavaScript); Collected crowdsourced data using AMT platform, including survey and HTML/Javascript design, designed randomized survey experiment, implementation, and worker evaluation; lead author of methodology paper on using AMT to augment big data for open and replicable research; programmed suite of Stata tools to automatically process raw AMT data.

Research Associate, The Association of Religion Data Archives. 2011-Present.

Assisted in management and expansion of premier religious social science data archive; solicited dataset from investigators; prepared codebooks and data for publication; responded to public inquiries; presented on teaching and research with the archive at professional conferences (ASA, SSSR); participated in collaborative research on measurement; collected and enhanced original data

Respondent-Driven Sampling (RDS) Consultant, *Faith Between Cultures: Exploring Latina Women's Conversion to Islam in South Texas*. 2013-2014. Principal Investigator: Gabriel Acevedo, University of Texas at San Antonio.

OPEN ACCESS DATASETS COLLECTED

"Religion and Spirituality Book Co-Purchasing." Principal Investigators: The Association of Religion Data Archives, Nathaniel D. Porter, Chris Bader and Muhammed Idris. Funded by the John Templeton Foundation. Forthcoming at The Association of Religion Data Archives.

"Religious and Irreligious Identity Quasi-Experimental Data." Principal Investigators: The Association of Religion Data Archives, Joseph O. Baker, Jonathan P. Hill, and Nathaniel D. Porter. Funded by the John Templeton Foundation. Forthcoming at The Association of Religion Data Archives.

"Book Co-Purchase Network Samples." Principal Investigators: Nathaniel D. Porter and Muhammed Idris. Files at <http://github.com/ndporter/bens>.

"Google Ngrams Data, 1800-2000." Principal Investigators: The Association of Religion Data Archives, Roger Finke, Jennifer M. McClure, and Nathaniel D. Porter. Funded by the John Templeton Foundation. Available at <http://thearda.com/Archive/Files/Descriptions/NGRAMS.asp>.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

"Enhancing Big Data in the Social Sciences with Crowdsourcing: Data Augmentation Practices, Techniques, and Opportunities." Nathaniel D. Porter, Ashton Verdery and S. Michael Gaddis. Open Source Social Science Symposium. College Park, MD. October 26, 2017.

"Studying Paranormal Beliefs through Book Networks." Nathaniel D. Porter and Chris Bader. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR). Atlanta, GA. October 2016.

- “Using Mechanical Turk for Big Data.” Nathaniel D. Porter, Ashton Verdery and S. Michael Gaddis. American Sociological Association (ASA). Methodology Section paper session. Seattle, WA. August 2016.
- “Reading the Christian family: What book-buying patterns reveal about how Americans define “Christian Families.” Convocation of Teaching Theologians. Saint Peter, MN. August 2016.
- “Inter-denominational Shared Knowledge: Christian Book Co-Purchase Networks.” SSSR. Newport Beach, CA. October 25, 2015.
- “Understanding Religion through Book Co-Purchasing Networks: A Pilot Study.” (Religion Section Roundtable). ASA. Chicago, IL. August 23, 2015.
- “Facebook, Twitter, and Polarization: The Implications of Content Personalization for Religiously-Charged Online Conversation.” Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR). Chicago, IL. August 22, 2015.
- “Mix, match, and split: Accidental algorithm intrusions on the democratizing premise of the internet.” Penn State Social Thought Conference (STC). April 11, 2015.
- “Differentiating Irreligious Subcultures through Cultural Consumption Networks.” SSSR. Indianapolis, IN. October 31, 2014.
- “Bits and Cites: Scholarly Memory in Pre- and Early-Digital Research.” STC. April 5, 2014.
- “Adapting RDS to Big Data: Known Dependent Sampling in Online Recommender Data.” Sunbelt XXXIV (International Network for Social Network Analysis), Saint Petersburg, FL. February 22, 2014. With Muhammed Idris.
- “Popularity, Autonomy and Moral Communities: School Friendship Networks and Religious Change.” SSSR. Boston, MA, November 9, 2013.
- “Through the Lens of 8 Million Books: Religious Trends from 1800 to 2009.” Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, & Culture. Washington, DC, April 13, 2013. Roger Finke, Laurence Iannaccone, and Nathaniel Porter.
- “When is a Change not a Change? Improving the Measurement of Liminal Religious Identity.” SSSR. Phoenix, AZ, November 9, 2012.
- “Second-Career Spiritual Capital: Evaluating the Success and Shortcomings of an Alternative Ministry Preparation Program.” Religious Research Association (RRA). Phoenix, AZ, November 10, 2012.
- “Ethics and its Sources: Considering Religious and Irreligious Vocational Ideology.” ASR. Denver, CO, August 17, 2012.
- “Obeying Our Demon: Enriching the Understanding of Community and Obligation Using Weber’s Secularized Philosophy of Vocation.” STC, April 7, 2012.

TEACHING PORTFOLIO AND EVALUATIONS

Syllabi, evaluations and sample assignments and activities can be found at:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0Bw2vGa_B9ngpbUdtT3hKSTdyNnc

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Instructor. Intermediate Social Statistics (SOC 470). Penn State University. Spring 2017.
- Instructor. Capstone Writing Seminar in Sociology (SOC 400W). Penn State University. Summer 2015.
- Teaching Assistant (lab instructor and student evaluation). Intermediate Social Statistics (SOC 470). Penn State University. Fall 2016.
- Teaching Assistant (student evaluation). Research Methods in Sociology (SOC 207). Penn State University. Fall 2016.
- Teaching Assistant (responsible for all quantitative aspects of course). Introduction to Mixed Methods Research (LD 4520). Summer 2008, Summer 2007. Luther Seminary.
- Guest Lecture. “Demographic Data” in Population and Policy Issues (SOC 023). Penn State University. Spring 2017, Fall 2016.
- Guest Lecture. “Vocation and Economic Life” in Introduction to Sociology (SOC 003). Penn State University. March 26, 2014.
- On-call Statistics Tutor. D.Min. and Ph.D. Programs. Luther Seminary. 2007-2008.
- Presenter, Special session on teaching with data from The Association of Religion Data Archives (thearda.com).

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2015

“A Beginner’s Guide to Building D3 Network Diagrams with Real-life Data.” Virginia Tech University Libraries. July 21, 2017. Web version at <http://wp.me/p6XXSL-21>.
“Choosing a Social Network Tool: An Introduction for Non-specialists.” Penn State University Quantitative Social Science Initiative. December 5, 2013. Hands-on workshop. Archive at <http://github.com/ndporter/snademo>.

Director of Youth and Family Ministries, St. Mark Lutheran Church, Lacey, WA. 2008-2009.

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Designated Representative to ICPSR: Virginia Tech. 2017-Present

Treasurer: Penn State Social Thought Student Group. 2013-15.

Conference Co-organizer: Penn State Social Thought Conference. April 2014, April 2015.

Creator and Organizer: Social Thought Writing Month. 2014-2015.

Voting Delegate: Penn State University Graduate Council (Committee on Programs and Courses). 2014-15.

Co-Chair: Graduate and Professional Student Association Student Health Insurance Committee. 2014-15.

Chair: Graduate and Professional Student Association Parents and Committed Couples Committee. 2014-15.

Treasurer: Penn State Progressive Student Coalition. 2014-15.

Ad-hoc reviewer, convener, and discussant. American Sociological Association, Association for the Sociology of Religion, Religious Research Association, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. 2011-Present.

Coordinator: Thurston County Faith-Based Youth Development Coalition. 2008-2009.

Director of Youth & Family Ministries: Saint Mark Lutheran Church, Lacey, WA. 2008-2009.

President: Western Washington University Demography Club. 2004-2005.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Japanese (college minor), German (intermediate)