

◆ **RACHEL E. NICKENS, Ph.D.** ◆

Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology
Whitman College

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology with Designated Graduate Emphasis in Feminist Theory and Research

University of California, Davis (December 2020)

- Dissertation: The “Girl Scout Advantage”: Families, Troops, and Inequality
- Qualifying exam areas: Gender, Culture
- Qualifying paper: “A Little More Majestic: Institutionalized Gender Difference in Youth Gymnastics”

M.A. Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

University of Cincinnati (June 2012)

- Master’s project: “Roller Derby Beyond the Track: The Potential for Empowerment in Women’s Roller Derby”
- Honors Graduate

B.A. Humanities and International Affairs

Florida State University (December 2009)

- Humanities major: Women’s Studies; International Affairs concentrations: Sociology and Political Science
- Honor’s Certificate in Human Rights
- *Summa cum laude* graduate

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERTISE

Childhood and Adolescence
Cultural Sociology
Education
Family
Gender
Popular Culture

Qualitative Methods
Sexuality Studies
Social Interactions
Social Movements
Sociology of Everyday Life
Sport

ACADEMIC AND RELATED EMPLOYMENT

Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology

Whitman College (August 2022 – Present)

Lecturer of Sociology and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies

University of California, Davis (January 2021 – July 2022)

Grant Writing Associate

Memcott Consulting (January 2020- June 2021)

Project Leader for High School 2.0

Uncommon Preparatory Charter High School in Brooklyn, NY (October 2020 – January 2021)

Teaching Assistant Consulting (TAC) Program Coordinator

Center for Educational Effectiveness at University of California, Davis (April 2019 – September 2020)

Associate Instructor of Sociology

University of California, Davis (2015-2020)

Teaching Assistant Consultant

Center for Educational Effectiveness at University of California, Davis (April 2018-March 2019)

Graduate Instructor of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

University of Cincinnati (2011-2012)

PUBLICATIONS

Nickens, Rachel E. Preparing requested revisions. "Not so Girl Led: Collective Concerted Cultivation in Girl Scouts of the United States of America." *Childhood*.

Nickens, Rachel E. 2021. "Demystifying Expectations and Creating Structure: Weekly Overviews for Pandemic & Post Pandemic Learning." *Teaching/Learning Matters* 50(3).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**Pacific Sociology Association 94th Annual Conference**

Bellevue, Washington (March 2023)

- "Building 21st Century Girls: Programmatic Priorities in the Girl Scouts of the United States of America" as part of "Peer, Family, and Community Contexts in Education" paper session
- With Lindsey Finocchio (Whitman student)

Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference

Virtual (November 2021)

- "Leveraging Tech to Prepare for the Future: An Online Module on Writing a Statement of Teaching Philosophy" as part of Graduate and Postdoc Development showcase
- With Rachel Stumpf

Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference

Pittsburg, Pennsylvania (November 2019)

- "Teaching and Learning in E-Learning Spaces: A Graduate Student Workshop Series" as part of the Graduate and Postdoc Development showcase

American Sociology Association Annual Meeting

New York City, New York (August 2019)

- "Girl Scouts, Community Practices, and the Reproduction of Inequality" in a Sociology of Childhood roundtable

Sociology Graduate Student Research and Development Conference

Davis, California (May 2019)

- "The Girl Scout Advantage: Molding Childhood and Creating Webs of Opportunity"
- Also served as a discussant

American Sociology Association Annual Meeting

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (August 2018)

- "More than "Little Girls in Pretty Boxes": Reconsidering the Experiences of Adolescent Female Gymnasts" in Sociology of Sports paper session

Sociology Graduate Student Research and Development Conference

Davis, California (June 2018)

- "Girl Scouts, Community Practices, and the Reproduction of Inequality"

Emergent Feminisms of the 21st Century: UC Davis Graduate Student Symposium for the Designated Emphasis in Feminist Theory and Research

Davis, California (May 2015)

- "A Little More Majestic: Institutionalized Gender Difference in Youth Gymnastics and Possibilities for Transformations"

Sociology Graduate Student Research and Development Conference

Davis, California (March 2015)

- "A Little More Majestic: Institutionalized Gender Difference in Youth Gymnastics"

National Women's Studies Association

Atlanta, Georgia (November 2011)

- "Creating Oneself: The Feminist Potential in Assuming a Roller Derby Identity."

Pop Praxis: Social Justice and the Media

University of Cincinnati (April 2011)

- "Making It or Breaking Down: Eating Disorders and Body Image in a Teen Gymnastics Drama."

The Reinvention Center Conference on "Education, Innovation and Discovery: The Distinctive Promise of the American Research University"

Washington, D.C. (November 2008)

- "Teaching International Human Rights: Human Rights Courses at Florida State University"
- With Daniel Maier-Katkin and Chelsea Brint

INVITED TALKS

Not so Girl-Led: Concerted Cultivation in Girl Scouts of the United States of America

Whitman College Sociology Series (April 2023)

When are We Getting Out? The Ripple Effects of the Pandemic: Conversations about Teaching, Research, and Employment

UC Davis Sociology Graduate Student Association (March 2022)

- Invited as one of two alumni panelists for the "Teaching and Learning" segment

Sexual Freedom and Alternative Relationships

University of Cincinnati (April 2011)

- Presented on alternative relationships and sexual freedom as part of UC's Reel Sex Film Festival and Sexual Health Week
- Facilitated a post-screening discussion

Transgender 101

Miami University (November 2010)

- Presented to "Spectrum," Miami University's Undergraduate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight alliance on transgender issues with K.D. Miller

WORKSHOPS

Power and Inequalities Workshop

UC Davis Sociology Department (May 2019)

- Discussant for “To Be Equals: Gay Men, Misogyny, and Fascism”

Feminist Research Institute Graduate Student Workshop on Gender and Adolescence

UC Davis (April 2018)

- Presented chapter in progress “Competing Visions of Girlhood: Girl Scouts of the United States of America’s Organizational Priorities, Parents’ Hopes, and Girls’ Wishes”

Power and Inequalities Workshop

UC Davis Sociology Department (February 2016)

- Discussant for “Producing Virtuosity: A Tale of Two Performance Economies “

RECENT AWARDS, HONORS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Spring 2023 Hubbard Research Award, Whitman College (Spring 2023)
- Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Graduate, Professional Student, and Post-Doctoral Career Development Grant (November 2019)
- UC Davis Sociology Department, Travel Grant (2019)
- Teaching Assistant Consultant Fellow (April 2018-March 2019)
- UC Davis Institute for Social Science, Summer Dissertation Research Grant (2018)
- UC Davis Sociology Department Dissertation Fellowship (Winter 2017, Winter 2018)

RECENT PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

- Workshop: “Effective Advising and Mentoring,” Whitman College (April 2023)
- Workshop: “Collaborating with the Career and Community Engagement Center” (February 2023)
- Workshop: “AI-Generated Writing,” Whitman College (January 2023)
- Workshop: “Interpreting Course Evaluations,” Whitman College (December 2022)
- Workshop: “Assessment and Mid-Semester Feedback,” Whitman College (October 2022)
- Training: New Faculty Orientation including sessions on “Course Management: Teaching with Canvas,” “Teaching Inclusively,” and “Student Support,” Whitman College (August 2022)
- “Two-day Symposium on Assessment of Learning: “Save the Best and Get Rid of the Rest: Lessons from Assessing Learning in Turbulent Times” UC Davis Center for Educational Effectiveness (September 2021)
- Webinar: “Simple Strategies for Teaching First Year Students,” UC Davis Center for Educational Effectiveness (May 2021)
- Training: “UndocuAdvocate Program for Educators,” UC Davis AB540 and Undocumented Student Center (April 2021)
- Webinar: “Foundations of an Anti-Racist Pedagogy,” UC Davis Center for Educational Effectiveness (April 2021)
- Webinar: “Inclusive Teaching Practices for Linguistically-diverse Learners,” UC Davis Center for Educational Effectiveness (February 2021)
- Webinar: “How is the Academic Environment Impacting Student Well-Being?” UC Davis Office of Health Education & Promotion (February 2021)
- Webinar: “Confronting the Canon: Decolonizing and Diversifying Your Departments’ Curriculum,” American Sociological Association (October 2020)
- Training: “Mental Health Gatekeeper Training,” UC Davis Division of Student Affairs (February 2020)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Whitman College David Nord Award Selection Committee (2023)
 - Supporting scholarly projects on issues facing the LGBTQ+ community
- Whitman College Sociology Department Pacific Sociology Association Conference Travel Coordinator (2023)
- Whitman College Sociology Department “Coffee and Co-Work” Coordinator (2022-2023)
- UC Davis Sociology Graduate Mentorship Program (2017-2019)
- UC Davis Sociology Graduate Student Research and Development Conference; organizing committee (2016-2017)
- Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Faculty Search Committee; graduate student representative, University of Cincinnati (2011-2012)