

Zachary Webster Griffen
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EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles

Ph.D., Sociology (*expected*) 2023

Dissertation: "Expertise and the Enigma of Policy Influence:
How Interventions in Healthcare and Education Changed
Economics, 1950-2022"

Committee: Aaron Panofsky and Hannah Landecker (Co-Chairs),
Stefan Timmermans, Theodore M. Porter (History), Elizabeth
Popp Berman (Organizational Studies, University of Michigan)

M.A., Sociology 2015

Washington University in St. Louis

M.A., International Affairs 2013

B.A., Economics and Anthropology 2010

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Economic Sociology; Sociology of Knowledge, Science, and Expertise; Organizational Theory; Comparative Historical Sociology; Social Policy; Sociology of Health and Biomedicine; Sociology of Education; Society and Genetics

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Griffen, Zachary. Forthcoming. "The Economization of Early Life: Human Capital Theory, Biology, and Social Policy." *Science, Technology, and Human Values*.

Griffen, Zachary. 2022. "The 'Production' of Education: The Turn from Equity to Efficiency in U.S. Federal Education Policy." *Journal of Education Policy* 37(1): 69-87.

Griffen, Zachary and Aaron Panofsky. 2021. "Ambivalent Economizations: The Case of Value Added Modeling in Teacher Evaluation." *Theory and Society* 50(3): 515-539.

Griffen, Zachary and Stefan Timmermans. 2020. "The Cost of Saving Babies: How Economists Justify Policies." *Economy and Society* 49(2): 265-286.

Griffen, Zachary and Aaron Panofsky, 2020. "VAM on Trial: Judging Science in Teacher Evaluation Lawsuits." *Journal of Cultural Economy* 13(4): 444-460.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Griffen, Zachary and Aaron Panofsky, Forthcoming. "Fields of Expertise: Analytical Approaches and the Question of Autonomy." *The Oxford Handbook of Expertise and Democratic Politics*, eds. Gil Eyal and Thomas Medvetz. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

BOOK REVIEWS

Griffen, Zachary. 2022. "The Organizational Character of Statistical Expertise," Review symposium for Emmanuel Didier, *America by the Numbers: Quantification, Democracy, and the Birth of National Statistics* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2020), *Journal of Cultural Economy* 15(1): 130-132.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Griffen, Zachary. "'The Golden Chalice, but also Fetishized': Causal Inference and the Emergence of Policy-Based Evidence in Economics."

Griffen, Zachary. "RANDOMIZED STARS: Experimental Knowledge in the Economics of Social Policy."

Griffen, Zachary. "Economizing the Social: Subfield Formation and Policy Influence in Economics."

Griffen, Zachary. "The Expertise of Crisis: Jurisdictional Disputes in School Reopening and Police Reform Debates."

PUBLIC WRITING

Griffen, Zachary. "Testing Amid Turmoil." Guest blog post for *Scatterplot* <https://scatter.wordpress.com/2020/05/15/testing-amid-turmoil/>.

HONORS/AWARDS

Meier Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Sociology, UCLA, 2022-2023

Department of Sociology Fellowship, UCLA, 2021-2022

Student Travel Award, Education/Knowledge/Science Network of the Social Science History Association, 2019

Moody Research Grant, "Economizing the Social: Changing U.S. Policy Expertise in Education and Health Since the 1950s," LBJ Foundation, 2018.

Graduate Research Mentorship, UCLA, 2016-2017

Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship, Social Science Research Council, 2016

Marvin Hoffenberg Fellowship, UCLA Center for American Politics and Public Policy, 2014-2015

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA, 2015

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA, 2014

Department of Sociology Fellowship, UCLA, 2013-2014

University College Dean's Scholarship, Washington University in St. Louis, 2012

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Editorial Assistant, Sociology Office, *Social Science and Medicine* (Senior Editor Stefan Timmermans), 2017-2021

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, "'Value Added Modeling' and Teacher Evaluation: Ambiguous Expertise and Policy Making," UCLA Center for American Politics and Public Policy (PI Aaron Panofsky), 2015.

Research Assistant, "Newborn Screening in the U.S. and Israel," Binational Science Foundation (PI Stefan Timmermans), 2015.

Research Assistant, "Public Engagement in Networked Virtual Organizations and Its Effects on Discovery and Innovation," NSF (PI Christopher Kelty), 2014.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Primary Course Instructor

Integrative Approaches to Human Biology and Society, UCLA Institute for Society and Genetics, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

Sociology of Education, UCLA Department of Sociology, 2017

Teaching Assistant

Capstone Seminar: Human Biology and Society, UCLA Institute for Society and Genetics, 2015, 2016

Problems of Identity at the Biology/Society Interface: What is Race?, 2016

Integrative Approaches to Human Biology and Society, 2014, 2015

Introductory Sociology, 2015

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

“The Economist’s New Clothes: ‘Rigorous Capital’ and the Enigma of Policy Influence.” To be presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Chicago, November 2022.

“The Golden Chalice but also Fetishized: Causal Inference and the Rise of Policy-Based Evidence in Economics.” To be presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Social Studies of Quantification, Los Angeles, September 2022.

“RANDOMized STARS: Experimental Knowledge in the Economics of Social Policy.” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, August 2022.

“RANDOMized STARS: The Role of Experimental Research in Education and Health Economics.” Presented at the “Recent Shifts in the Boundaries of Economics: Philosophy and History” conference, Maison des Sciences Economiques, Paris, May 2022.

“The Expertise of Crisis: Jurisdictional Disputes in School Reopening and Police Reform Debates.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, March 2022.

“The Economization of Early Life: Human Capital Theory, Genetics, and Social Policy.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Philadelphia, November 2021.

“Policy-Based Evidence: Economic Expertise in the Fragmented Welfare State.”

Presented “Contentious Politics, Tricky Science: Experts and Scientists in Controversial Policy Debates in Europe and North America” conference, Bordeaux, France, October 2021.

“The Economization of Early Life: Human Capital Theory and the Politics of Evaluation,” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Social Studies of Science, Toronto, October 2021.

“The Expertise of Crisis: Economists and the Temporality of Policy Response.” Presented at the virtual annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, August 2021.

“The Economization of Early Life: Human Capital Theory, Genetics, and Social Policy.” Presented at the “Inventing Human Capital Theory: Historical Perspectives on Work, Education, and the Labor Market” workshop, University of California, Santa Barbara, April 2021.

“The Economization of Early Life: Human Capital Theory Meets Genetics.” Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association (canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic), October 2020.

“Whither Universality? Single-Payer Healthcare and the Transformation of U.S. Policy Debate.” Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association (canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic), August 2020.

“Charter, Teacher, Doctor, Match: Economics and Social Policy in the 21st Century.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Chicago, November 2019.

“RANDOMizing the Cost of Healthcare: Economics, ‘Health Status, and U.S. Federal Policy.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Social Studies of Science, New Orleans, September 2019.

“Whither Universality? Single-Payer Healthcare and the Transformation of U.S. Policy Debate.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, New York, June 2019.

“RANDOMizing the Cost of Healthcare: The RAND Health Insurance Experiment and the Idea of Medical Cost Sharing.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Phoenix, November 2018.

“Economizing the Social: The Institutionalization of Education and Health Economics.” Presented at the Center for the History of Political Economy Summer Institute, Durham, North Carolina, June 2018.

“Economizing the Social: The Midcentury Emergence of Education and Health Economics.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Montreal, November 2017.

“Economizing the Social: The Midcentury Emergence of Education and Health Economics.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science, Boston, September 2017.

“The Cost of Saving Babies: Calculations and Consequences” (with Stefan Timmermans). Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, August 2017.

“Economizing the Social: The Emergence of Education and Health Economics in the Middle of the Twentieth Century.” Presented at the 14th “History of Economics as History of Science” workshop, École Normale Supérieure Paris-Saclay, Paris, June 2017.

“Economic Justice: from Economic Model to Legal Decision” (with Aaron Panofsky). Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Chicago, November 2016.

“The Cost of Saving Babies: Calculations and Consequences” (with Stefan Timmermans). Presented at the “Labeling and the Politics of Markets” workshop, Ecole des Mines des Paris, Paris, October 2016.

“The Cost of Saving Babies: Calculations and Consequences” (with Stefan Timmermans). Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Berkeley, June 2016.

“Seeing Like a Firm: Educational Production and the Politics of Economic Expertise.” Presented at the “Expertise from Margin to Center” workshop, Columbia University, New York City, April 2016.

“Standardizing the Cost of Saving Babies” (with Stefan Timmermans). Presented at the “Making Standards” workshop, Dalhousie University, January 2016.

“Value-Added Modeling in Teacher Evaluation: A Case Study in Economic Imperialism?” (with Aaron Panofsky). Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Baltimore, November 2016.

“Value-Added Modeling in Teacher Evaluation: A Case Study in Economic Imperialism?” (with Aaron Panofsky). Presented at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, August 2015.

“Historicizing Human Capital: Economic Knowledge and the Instability of Categories.”
Presented at the SKAT25 Mini-Conference of the American Sociological Association’s
Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section, Chicago, August 2015.

“Seeing Like a Firm: Educational Production and the Politics of Economic Expertise.”
Presented at the annual meetings of the History of Economics Society, East Lansing,
June 2015.

WORKSHOPS

Introduction to Multilevel Modeling, UCLA, 2014

Critical Theory Summer School, Birkbeck Institute for the Humanities, University College
London, 2011

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Co-Coordinator of the UCLA Sociology of Health Working Group, 2018-2019

Student Member, UCLA Sociology Graduate Student Admissions Committee, 2019

Co-President, UCLA Sociology Graduate Student Association, 2015-2016

Co-Founder and Co-Coordinator, UCLA Sociology Theory Working Group, 2014-2016

UCLA Sociology Graduate Student Mentor Undergraduate Honors Thesis Program, 2014-
Present

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Elected Student Representative of the Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section,
American Sociological Association, 2021-2022.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for the Social Studies of Science, 2017-Present.

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 2016-Present.

Social Science History Association, 2015-Present.

American Sociological Association, 2013-Present.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES AND OTHER SKILLS

Proficient in Japanese

Proficient with *R* and *STATA* statistical computing software

Familiar with *HLM* and *SAS* statistical computing software

References available upon request