

LAURA T. HAMILTON

School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts
University of California, Merced
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2019- Chair of Sociology
- 2019- Professor of Sociology
- 2014-2019 Associate Professor of Sociology
University of California, Merced
- 2010-2014 Assistant Professor of Sociology
University of California, Merced

EDUCATION

- 2010 Ph.D. Sociology, Indiana University, Bloomington
Minor in Gender
- Thesis: *Strategies for Success: Parental Funding, College Achievement, and the Transition to Adulthood*
Committee: Brian Powell and Elizabeth A. Armstrong (Co-Chairs),
Robert Robinson, and Eliza Pavalko
- Award:**
2011 American Sociological Association Dissertation Award Honorable Mention
- Qualifying Exam: *Sociology of Gender*, Passed with Honors
Committee: Brian Powell (Chair), Elizabeth A. Armstrong, and Martin Weinberg
- 2003 M.A. Sociology, Indiana University, Bloomington
- Thesis: *The Division of Household Labor in Adoptive Households: More Traditional or More Egalitarian?*
Committee: Brian Powell (Chair) and Eliza Pavalko
- 2001 B.A. Magna cum Laude in Sociology, DePauw University
Minors: Women's Studies and Classical Studies

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Education	Gender	Social Inequality
Family	Sexuality	Mixed Methods

BOOKS

2021 Hamilton, Laura, and Kelly Nielsen. *Broke: The Racial Consequences of Defunding Public Universities*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

2016 Hamilton, Laura. *Parenting to a Degree: How Family Matters for College Women's Success*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Award:

2018 American Sociological Association Sociology of Education Section Pierre Bourdieu Award for Outstanding Book

2013 Armstrong, Elizabeth A. and Laura Hamilton (equal authorship). *Paying for the Party: How College Maintains Inequality*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Awards:

2015 American Sociological Association Distinguished Book Award

2015 American Sociological Association Sociology of Education Section Pierre Bourdieu Award for Outstanding Book

2014 American Educational Research Association Division J—Postsecondary Education Publication Award

2014 North Central Sociological Association Scholarly Achievement Award

2014 Honorable mention for the American Sociological Association's section on Organizations, Occupations, and Work Max Weber Book Award

2014 Runner-up for the American Sociological Association's section on Children and Youth Section's Distinguished Scholarly Contribution Award

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

Forthcoming Hamilton, Laura T., and Elizabeth A. Armstrong. "Parents, Partners, and Professions: Reproduction and Mobility in a Cohort of College Women." *American Journal of Sociology*.

2021 Armstrong, Elizabeth A., and Laura T. Hamilton. "Classed Pathways to Marriage: Hometown Ties, College Networks, and Life after Graduation." *Journal of Marriage and Family*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jomf.12747>.

2020 Metzger, Ashley, and Laura Hamilton. "The Stigma of ADHD: Teacher Ratings of Labeled Students." *Sociological Perspectives*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0731121420937739>.

2019 Hamilton, Laura, Armstrong, Elizabeth A., Seeley, J. Lotus, and Elizabeth M. Armstrong. "Hegemonic Femininities and Intersectional Domination." *Sociological Theory* 37: 315-341.

Award:

2020 Distinguished Article Award from the American Sociological Association Sex & Gender Section

2019 Lerma, Veronica, Hamilton, Laura, and Kelly Nielsen. "Racialized Equity Labor, University Appropriation, and Student Resistance." *Social Problems* 67: 286-303.

2018 Hamilton, Laura, Roksa, Josipa, and Kelly Nielsen. "Providing a "Leg Up": Parental Involvement and Opportunity Hoarding in College." *Sociology of Education* 91: 111-131.

2018 Hamilton, Laura, and Simon Cheng. "Going Greek: The Organization of Campus Life and Class-Based Graduation Gaps." *Social Forces* 96: 977-1008.

2016 Powell, Brian, Hamilton, Laura, Manago, Bianca, and Simon Cheng. "Implications of Changing Family Forms for Children." *Annual Review of Sociology* 42: 10.1-10.22.

2014 Cheng, Simon, Hamilton, Laura, Stacey Missari, and Josef Ma. "Sexual Subjectivity among Adolescent Girls: Social Disadvantage and Young Adult Outcomes." *Social Forces* 93: 515-544.

2014 Hamilton, Laura. "The Revised MRS: Gender Complementarity at College." *Gender & Society* 28: 236-264.

2014 Armstrong, Elizabeth A., Hamilton, Laura, Armstrong, Elizabeth M., and Lotus J. Seeley. "'Good Girls': Social Class and Sexual Privilege." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 77: 100-122.

2013 Hamilton, Laura. "More is More or More is Less? Parental Financial Investments during College." *American Sociological Review* 78: 70-95.

2012 Hamilton, Laura and Elizabeth A. Armstrong. "The (Mis)Education of Monica and Karen." *Contexts* 11: 22-27.

2011 Hamilton, Laura, Geist, Claudia, and Brian Powell. "Marital Name Change as a Window into Gender Attitudes." *Gender & Society* 25: 145-175.

Award:

2013 Distinguished Article Award from the American Sociological Association Sex & Gender Section

2011 Hamilton, Laura, Werum, Regina, Steelman, Lala Carr, and Brian Powell. "Changing Families, Changing Education." In *Frontiers in Sociology of Education*. Edited by Maureen Hallinan. New York: Springer.

2010 Hamilton, Laura. "Family Names Count." In *Counted Out: Same-Sex Relations and Americans' Definitions of Family*. By Brian Powell, Catherine Bolzendahl, Claudia Geist, and Lala Carr Steelman. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

2010 Armstrong, Elizabeth A., Hamilton, Laura, and Paula England. "Is Hooking up Bad for Young Women? Compared to What?" *Contexts* 9: 22-27.

Reprinted in:

The Contexts Reader, Second Edition. 2012. Edited by Douglass Hartmann and Christopher Uggen. W.W. Norton & Company.

Feminist Frontiers, Eighth Edition. 2012. Edited by Verta Taylor, Nancy Whittier, and Leila J. Rupp. McGraw Hill.

Award:

2011 Claude S. Fischer Award for Excellence in *Contexts*

2009 Hamilton, Laura and Elizabeth A. Armstrong. "Gendered Sexuality in Young Adulthood: Double Binds and Flawed Options." *Gender & Society* 23:589-616.

Reprinted in:

Shifting the Center: Understanding Contemporary Families, Fourth Edition. 2010. Edited by Susan Fergusson. McGraw Hill.

Understanding Society: An Introductory Reader, Fourth Edition. 2012. Edited by Margaret L. Andersen, Kim A. Logio, and Howard F. Taylor. Cengage Learning.

2007 Hamilton, Laura. "Trading on Heterosexuality: College Women's Gender Strategies and Homophobia." *Gender & Society* 21: 145-72.

Reprinted in:

Understanding Society: An Introductory Reader, Fourth Edition. 2012. Edited by Margaret L. Andersen, Kim A. Logio, and Howard F. Taylor. Cengage Learning.

Feminist Frontiers, Eighth Edition. 2009. Edited by Verta Taylor, Nancy Whittier, and Leila J. Rupp. McGraw Hill.

Awards:

2008 American Sociological Association Sex and Gender Section Sally Hacker Graduate Student Paper Award

2008 American Sociological Association Sociology of Sexualities Section Graduate Student Paper Award

2007 Hamilton, Laura, Cheng, Simon, and Brian Powell. "Adoptive Parents, Adaptive Parents: Evaluating the Importance of Biological Ties for Parental Investment." *American Sociological Review* 72: 95-116.

2006 Armstrong, Elizabeth A., Hamilton, Laura, and Brian Sweeney. "Sexual Assault on Campus: A Multilevel, Integrative Approach to Party Rape." *Social Problems* 53: 483-99.

Reprinted in:

The Kaleidoscope of Gender: Prisms, Patterns, and Possibilities, Fourth Edition. 2013. Edited by Joan Z. Spade and Catherine G. Valentine. Sage Publications.

Constructions of Deviance: Social Power, Context, and Interaction, Seventh Edition. 2012. Edited by Peter Adler and Patti Adler. Cengage Learning.

Sex Matters: The Sexuality and Society Reader, Third Edition. 2009. Edited by Mindy Stompler, Dawn M. Baunauch, Elisabeth O. Burgess, Denise Donnelly, Wendy Simmonds, and Elroi J. Windsor. Pearson.

Understanding Society: An Introductory Reader, Third Edition. 2009. Edited by Margaret L. Andersen, Kim A. Logio, and Howard F. Taylor. Cengage Learning.

PAPERS IN PROGRESS

Hamilton, Laura T., Nielsen, Kelly, and Veronica Lerma. "Tolerable Suboptimization: The Racial Consequences of Defunding Higher Education." *Re&R at Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*.

Hamilton, Laura T., Nielsen, Kelly, and Veronica Lerma. "Diversity is a Corporate Plan: Racialized Equity Labor among University Employees." Under consideration for special issue at *Ethnic and Racial Studies*.

Hamilton, Laura, Eaton, Charlie, and Simon Cheng. "White Flight in Higher Education."

Quadlin, Natasha, Hamilton, Laura T., and Brian Powell. "Whom Do You Believe? Assessing Credibility of the Accuser and Accused in Sexual Assault." *In progress*.

HONORS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

2020 Distinguished Article Award from the American Sociological Association Sex & Gender Section

2018` Pierre Bourdieu Award for Outstanding Book in Sociology of Education

2017-2020 William T. Grant Mentoring Award (\$60,000)

2016-2021 William T. Grant Scholar Grant (\$350,000)

2015 American Sociological Association Sociology of Education Section Doris Entwisle Early Career Award

2015 American Sociological Association Distinguished Book Award

- 2015` Pierre Bourdieu Award for Outstanding Book in Sociology of Education
- 2014 American Educational Research Association Division J—Postsecondary Education
Publication Award
- 2014 North Central Sociological Association Scholarly Achievement Award
- 2014 Honorable mention for the American Sociological Association’s section on
Organizations, Occupations, and Work Max Weber Book Award
- 2014 Runner-up for the American Sociological Association’s section on Children and Youth
Section’s Distinguished Scholarly Contribution Award
- 2014 Spencer Foundation Small Grant (\$49,955)
- 2013 Distinguished Article Award from the American Sociological Association Sex & Gender
Section
- 2013 University of California-Merced Senate Award for Early Career Research
- 2011 National Academy of Education Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship Finalist
- 2011 Claude S. Fischer Award for Excellence in *Contexts*
- 2011 Honorable Mention for American Sociological Association Dissertation Award
- 2010 Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Research Finalist
- 2009-2010 American Educational Research Association Dissertation Grant
- 2008 American Sociological Association Sex & Gender Section Sally Hacker Graduate Student
Paper Award
- 2008 American Sociological Association Sociology of Sexualities Section Graduate Student
Paper Award
- 2008 Department of Sociology, Indiana University
Lindesmith-Mullins Fellowship
- 2007 Department of Sociology, Indiana University
Schuessler Graduate Student Paper Award
- 2007 Kinsey Institute Research Grant
- 2006-2008 Discipline Based Scholarship in Education Associates Award
Spencer Foundation

- 2006 Midwest Sociological Association Women in Society
First Place Graduate Student Paper Award
- 2006 North Central Sociological Association
First Place Graduate Student Paper Award
- 2005-2007 Department of Sociology, Indiana University
Advanced Departmental Fellowship
- 2003 Society for the Study of Social Problems Family Division
Graduate Student Paper Award

INVITED TALKS

- 2019 Franklin & Marshall College, University-Wide Common Hour Speaker: "Providing a 'Leg Up': Parental Involvement and Opportunity Hoarding in College."
- 2019 Pomona College, "Paying for the Party: How College Maintains Inequality."
- 2018 University of California-Berkeley, "Running Political Cover: Institutional Diversity Work in the UC."
- 2018 University of British Columbia, "College Outsourced? The Family-University Partnership and Its Costs."
- 2018 Center for Ethics and Education, Annual Meeting. Keynote panel on College Completion.
- 2017 UC-Berkeley. Panelist for the "Future of Higher Education: Creating Opportunity, Assessing Value."
- 2017 Vanderbilt University. "College Outsourced? The Family-University Partnership and Its Costs."
- 2017 UC-Davis. "College Outsourced? The Family-University Partnership and Its Costs."
- 2017 UCLA. "College Outsourced? The Family-University Partnership and Its Costs."
- 2016 Stanford University. "College in Context: A Multi-Institutional Theory of Higher Education and Inequality."
- 2016 UC-Berkeley, Center for Studies in Higher Education. "College Outsourced? The Family-University Partnership and Its Costs."
- 2016 Indiana University. "College Outsourced? The Family-University Partnership and Its Costs."

- 2016 Emory University. “College Outsourced? The Family-University Partnership and Its Costs.”
- 2015 University of California System Academic Advisors Conference: Keynote Speaker, UCLA.
- 2015 UC-Berkeley. “Paying for the Party.”
- 2015 Denison University. “Peer Cultures on Campus: Drinking, Hooking up, and Sexual Assault.”
- 2015 Cornell University. “Paying for the Party.”
- 2015 University of California, Los Angeles. “Meeting the Needs of Less Privileged Students: The Role of Academic Advisors.” Keynote at the UC system-wide Academic Advisors’ Conference.
- 2015 University of California, Berkeley. “How Peer Cultures and Status Anxiety Influence Drinking, Sexual Assault, and Mental Health in College.”
- 2013 Stanford University. “Education’s Digital Future: The View from Midwest U.”
- 2013 University of California, San Diego. “Paying for the Party: How College Maintains Inequality.”
- 2013 DePauw University. “‘Good Girls’: Social Class and Sexual Privilege.”

MEDIA

Appeared in the documentary *The Ivory Tower* and has made several appearances on National Public Radio.

Work has been discussed in: *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Atlantic*, *The Guardian*, *NBC News*, *TIME*, *Forbes Magazine*, *Slate Magazine*, *Inside Higher Education*, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Aljazeera*, *Desert News*—among other outlets.

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

- 2017 Hamilton, Laura. Author Meets Critics for *Parenting to a Degree: How Family Matters for College Women’s Success*. American Sociological Association, Toronto, Canada.
- 2016 Hamilton, Laura. “College Outsourced: The New Family-University Partnership.” The Right to a Quality Public College Education Conference, held by the Center for Ethics & Education, Chicago, IL.
- 2015 Hamilton, Laura. Invited Panelist on “Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality in College.” American Sociological Association Meetings, Chicago, IL.

- 2014 Hamilton, Laura, and Elizabeth A. Armstrong. Author Meets Critics for *Paying for the Party: How College Maintains Inequality*. American Sociological Association Meetings, San Francisco, CA.
- 2014 Hamilton, Laura. "Class Dynamics of Affordability." Invited Panelist on "Conflicting Visions of Affordable Postsecondary Education." American Sociological Association Meetings, San Francisco, CA.
- 2011 Hamilton, Laura. "Gender Strategies and College Major: Understanding Horizontal Segregation." American Sociological Association Meetings, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2009 Hamilton, Laura, Claudia Geist, and Brian Powell. "Mapping Gender Attitudes with Views toward Marital Name Change." American Sociological Association Meetings, San Francisco, CA.
- 2009 Hamilton, Laura and Elizabeth A. Armstrong. "Gendered Sexuality in Emerging Adulthood: Double Binds and Flawed Options." Pacific Sociological Association Meetings, San Diego, CA.
- 2008 Hamilton, Laura and Elizabeth A. Armstrong. "Gendered Sexuality in Emerging Adulthood: Double Binds and Flawed Options." American Sociological Association Meetings, Boston, MA.
- 2007 Hamilton, Laura. "Exploring Sexual Meaning-Making in a Longitudinal Ethnographic and Interview Project." American Sociological Association Meetings, New York, NY.
- 2006 Hamilton, Laura. "Sexual Assault on Campus: A Multilevel, Integrative Approach to Party Rape." Society for the Study of Social Problems Meetings, Montreal, Quebec.
- 2006 Hamilton, Laura. "Trading on Heterosexuality: College Women's Gender Strategies and Anti-Lesbian Discrimination." American Sociological Association Meetings, Montreal, Quebec.
- 2006 Hamilton, Laura. "Trading on Heterosexuality: College Women's Gender Strategies and Anti-Lesbian Discrimination." Midwest Sociological Society Meetings, Omaha, NE.
- 2006 Hamilton, Laura. "Trading on Heterosexuality: College Women's Gender Strategies and Anti-Lesbian Discrimination." North Central Sociological Association Meetings, Indianapolis, IN.
- 2005 Hamilton, Laura. "Sexual Assault on Campus: A Gender Structure Explanation of Party Rape." American Sociological Association Meetings, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2004 Hamilton, Laura. "Family Structure and the Division of Household Labor: Taking the Case of Adoptive Families." North Central Sociological Association, Cleveland, OH.
- 2004 Hamilton, Laura. "Family Structure and the Division of Household Labor:

Taking the Case of Adoptive Families.” Society for the Study of Social Problems Meetings, San Francisco, CA.

- 2004 Hamilton, Laura. “The Division of Household Labor in Adoptive Families: More Traditional or More Egalitarian?” American Sociological Association Meetings, San Francisco, CA.
- 2002 Hamilton, Laura. “Over 100 Years of Childbirth: Doctors Deliver Babies.” American Sociological Association Meetings, Chicago, IL.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Level: Qualitative Research Methods, Sociology of Education

Undergraduate Level: Introduction to Sociology, Sociology of Education, Sociology of Family

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2016-2017 Co-director/Co-investigator
Postsecondary Institutional Contexts Study (PICS)
UC-Merced and UC-Riverside, with Kelly Nielsen
- 2015-2017 Creator of the Postsecondary Institutional Features database
- 2004-2009 Co-director/Co-investigator
College Social Life Longitudinal Ethnographic and Interview Study
Indiana University, with Elizabeth A. Armstrong
- 2005-2006 Project Manager/Co-investigator/Interview Supervisor
National Telephone Survey: *Constructing the Family in the 21st Century II*
Indiana University; Brian Powell, Project Director
- 2002-2003 Research Assistant
National Telephone Survey: *Constructing the Family in the 21st Century I*
Indiana University; Brian Powell, Project Director

STUDENTS

Dissertation or Masters Chair

Hala Alnagar, Natasha Hagaman-Cummins, Ashley Metzger, Houa Vang, Amy Vasconcellos

Dissertation or Masters Committee

Maria Duenas, Veronica Lerma, Amy Moffat

UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2019- Department of Sociology Chair

- 2018-2019 Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom Senate Chair
- 2016-2018 American Sociological Review Deputy Editor
- 2016-2018 Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom Committee Member
- 2016-2018 Sociology of Education Council Member
- 2015-2017 Undergraduate Chair for Sociology and Faculty Assessment Organizer
- 2015-2016 Executive Steering Committee Member for Inequality, Power, and Social Justice Pillar
- 2015-2016 Sociology of Education Journal Editorial Board Member
- 2014-2015 Sociology of Education Section Session Organizer
- 2014-2015 Social of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts Curriculum Committee Member
- 2013-2015 Sociology Department Newsletter Coordinator
- 2011-2014 Planning Committee Member for the Qualitative/Historical Archives Laboratory
- 2012-2013 School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts Executive Committee Member
- 2011-2012 Sociology Job Search Committee Member
- 2011-2012 WASC Program Assessment Committee Member
- Reviewer *American Sociological Review, American Journal of Sociology, Contexts, Social Forces, Sociology of Education, Social Problems, Gender & Society, Sociological Theory*
- Reviewer University of California Press, University of Chicago Press, Harvard University Press, Oxford Press
- 2004-2005 Sociology Representative, Graduate and Professional Student Organization, Indiana University
- 2004-2005 Graduate Student Mentor, Department of Sociology, Indiana University

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- 2002- American Sociological Association
Sections: Sociology of Education, Sex and Gender, Family, Sexualities, Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility
- 2004- Midwest Sociological Society

- 2004- North Central Sociological Association
- 2004- Society for the Study of Social Problems