

# RICARDA HAMMER

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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- 2023-present Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of California, Berkeley
- 2021-2023 Postdoctoral Fellow, Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

## EDUCATION

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- 2021 **Brown University**  
Ph.D. in Sociology  
Dissertation: "Citizenship and Colonial Difference: The Racial Politics of Rights and Rule across the Black Atlantic"  
  
*\*Winner of 2022 American Sociological Association Best Dissertation Award*
- 2014 **Brown University**  
M.A. in Sociology
- 2011 **School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London**  
Graduate Diploma in Economics, *Distinction*
- 2010 **University of Cambridge**  
B.A. in Social & Political Sciences

## RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

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Global and Transnational Sociology, Sociology of Race & Ethnicity, Political Sociology, Historical Sociology, Cultural Sociology, Colonialism & Postcolonialism, Social Theory

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & PAPERS

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### Peer-reviewed:

- 2022 **Hammer, Ricarda** and Tina M. Park. "The Ghost in the Algorithm: Racial Colonial Capitalism and the Digital Age," *Political Power and Social Theory*. Emerald Publishing Limited.

*\* 2022 Honorable Mention American Sociological Association Science, Knowledge & Technology Section Star-Nelkin Best Paper Award*

- 2020 **Hammer, Ricarda.** “Decolonizing the Civil Sphere: The Politics of Difference, Imperial Erasures, and Theorizing from History,” *Sociological Theory* 38(2): 101-121 [↗](#)
- 2019 **Hammer, Ricarda** and Alexandre I.R. White. “Towards a Sociology of Colonial Subjectivity: Political Agency in Haiti and Liberia,” *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 5(2): 215-228. [↗](#)
- \* 2018 American Sociological Association Political Economy and the World-System Terence K. Hopkins Best Graduate Student Paper Award
- \* 2018 American Sociological Association Peace, War and Social Conflict Section Elise Boulding Best Graduate Student Paper Award
- 2018 **Hammer, Ricarda.** “Bringing the Global Home: Students Research Local Areas through Postcolonial Perspectives,” *Teaching Sociology* 46(2): 135-147. [↗](#)
- 2017 **Hammer, Ricarda.** “Epistemic Ruptures: History, Practice and the Anticolonial Imagination,” *Political Power and Social Theory* 32: 153-180. [↗](#)

#### Book Reviews, Newsletters & Podcasts:

- 2023 **Hammer, Ricarda.** Book review for “Rituals, Runaways, and the Haitian Revolution: Collective Action in the African Diaspora,” *British Journal of Sociology*, 6 April 2023, DOI: 10.1111/1468-4446.13018 [↗](#)
- 2023 **Hammer, Ricarda.** “Between Stuart Hall and Cedric Robinson: Capturing Imaginaries of Racial Capitalism,” Review Symposium for Jordanna Matlon “A Man among Other Men,” *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, 9(2): 225-250. [↗](#)
- 2022 **Hammer, Ricarda.** “Occlusions of Racecraft: Capitalism, Empire, and the Democracy Debate Revisited,” *Democracy and Autocracy*, 20(3):21-25, Published by Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies (WCED), University of Michigan, December 2022.
- 2022 **Hammer, Ricarda.** “Rethinking the Political Community: Violence and the Colonial Making of the Modern Nation State,” Review for Mahmood Mamdani “Neither Settler nor Native: The Making and Unmaking of Permanent Minorities,” *European Journal of Sociology*, 62(3): 536-544. [↗](#)
- 2020 **Hammer, Ricarda.** “Thinking with Stuart Hall,” *Give Theory a Chance Podcast*, Spring 2020. [↗](#)
- 2019 **Hammer, Ricarda.** “We who? Colonialism, Silences in our Narrative of Self and the Anticolonial Imagination,” *PEWS Newsletter* [↗](#)
- 2017 **Hammer, Ricarda** and Alexandre White. “Decolonizing the Social: A Junior Scholars’ Workshop”, *Perspectives: Theory Section Newsletter*, 39(1): 24-27. [↗](#)
- 2015 Bustos, Camila, **Ricarda Hammer**, Chris Kelly, Michael Murphy, Apollonya Porcelli. “Raising the Curtain on Pseudoscientific Racism”, *Brown Daily Herald*, 30 October 2015.

#### In preparation:

Accepted	<b>Hammer, Ricarda.</b> “Postcolonialism” (invited submission for <i>Routledge Encyclopedia of Race and Racism</i> )
Revise & Resubmit	<b>Hammer, Ricarda.</b> “Discipline and Tutelage: How Liberal Democratization Reconstituted Race”
Under Review	<b>Hammer, Ricarda</b> and José Itzigsohn. “The Racial Structure of Comparative Historical Sociology.”

## FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS & AWARDS

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2023	University of Michigan Postdoctoral Association Travel Fund, \$500
2022	American Sociological Association Best Dissertation Award
2022	Honorable Mention American Sociological Association Science, Knowledge & Technology Section Star-Nelkin Best Paper Award
2020	Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency Travel Grant, \$1100
2018	American Sociological Association PEWS Section Terence K. Hopkins Best Graduate Student Paper Award
2018	American Sociological Association Peace, War and Social Conflict Section Elise Boulding Best Graduate Student Paper Award
2017-2018	Brown University Interdisciplinary Opportunity Fellowship, Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice (CSSJ), \$25,500
2017-2019	NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Award, \$11,997
2016-2017	Brown University International Humanities Travel Award, \$5,000
2016-2017	Brown University Dissertation Fellowship
2016	Joukowsky Summer Grant, \$1,500
2015-2016	Mellon Graduate Student Workshop, \$5,500
2013-2015	Graduate Program in Development Fellowship, \$22,500
2015	Joukowsky Summer Grant, \$2,000
2013-2014	Pembroke Center Graduate Fellow, \$1,000
2012	Joukowsky Summer Grant, \$2,500
2012	GPD Fieldwork Grant, \$2,500
2011	SOAS Graduate Diploma in Economics Prize for Outstanding Performance
2007-2010	Cambridge European Trust Scholarship

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

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- 2023  
*Invited Talk* “From Tutelage to Suppression: A Du Boisian Theory of Democratization,” Culture & Politics Workshop, **UNC-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, USA**
- 2023 “The Racial Politics of Citizenship, Anticolonial Imaginaries and the Struggle for the Human,” **British Sociological Association Conference, Manchester, UK**
- 2023  
*Invited Talk* “The Racial Politics of Citizenship,” **WCED Lecture Series, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA**
- 2023 “Thinking from Haiti: Second Sight and Knowing the World from the Margins,” **Eastern Sociological Society Conference, Baltimore, USA**
- 2022 “Thinking from Haiti: Second Sight and Knowing the World from the Margins,” **Social Science History Association Conference, Chicago, USA**
- 2022 “The Haitian Revolution and the Struggle for the Human in Racial Capitalism,” **American Sociological Association Conference, Los Angeles, USA**
- 2022 “Decolonization Beyond Political Independence: Departmentalization, the Politics of Articulation, and Anticolonial Imaginaries from Martinique,” **ASA Comparative-Historical Mini-Conference, Los Angeles, USA**
- 2021  
*Invited Talk* “Recognition and Redistribution: Departmentalization and Anticolonial Imaginaries from Martinique,” **University of Chicago, Chicago, USA**
- 2021 “Producing Racial Difference: Liberal Democracy and the question of “Black Freedom” after Racial Slavery,” **Social Science History Association Conference** [online]
- 2021 “Thinking from the Caribbean: Racialized Modernity, Historicity, Relationality,” **Social Science History Association Conference** [online]
- 2021  
*Invited Talk* “Discipline and Tutelage: How Liberal Democratization Reconstituted Race,” UT Social Research Workshop, **University of Tennessee-Knoxville** [online]
- 2021 “Sylvia Wynter and Sociology: On Colonial Modernity, Race, and the Overrepresentation of Man,” **American Sociological Association Conference** [online]
- 2021 “The Haitian Revolution, Black Freedom, and the Pitfalls of National Independence,” **Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands** [online]
- 2021  
*Invited Talk* “Predicaments of Citizenship: Racecraft, Colonialism, and the Making of Political Modernity,” **University of Chicago** [online]
- 2021  
*Invited Talk* “The Unthinkable Revolution: Haiti and the Struggle against Racialized Modernity,” **American University** [online]
- 2020 “Discipline and Tutelage: How Modern Rights Made Race,” **American Sociological Association Conference** [online]
- 2020 “Thinking with W.E.B. Du Bois: Commodifying Labor and the Global Veil from Slavery to the Digital Age,” **Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics** [online] (with Tina Park)

- 2020 “From Colonial Subject to Immigrant: Nation-Making, Claudia Jones and the Coloniality of Rights,” **Racism, Immigration and Citizenship Conference, Johns Hopkins University, USA** [cancelled]
- 2019 “Decolonizing Citizenship,” **Decolonizing Political Concepts Conference, University of Aberdeen, UK**
- 2019 “The Coloniality of Rights: The Cultural Politics of the Rights-bearing Individual, the Citizen and Colonial Technologies of Rule,” **American Sociological Association Conference, New York, USA**
- 2019 “Rethinking Subjectivity, Complicity and Sociology through Stuart Hall and James Baldwin,” **American Sociological Association Conference, New York, USA**
- 2019 *Invited talk* “Thinking against Empire and Cultivating an Anticolonial Imagination,” **Du Boisian Scholar National Convening, Providence, USA**
- 2018 “Seeing like a Colonial State and Failures of Recognition,” **Social Science History Association Conference, Phoenix, USA**
- 2018 “Decolonizing the Civil Sphere,” **Social Science History Association Conference, Phoenix, USA**
- 2018 “Decolonizing the Nation: Race, Twoness, and Re-Imagining the Community,” **American Sociological Association Conference, Philadelphia, USA**
- 2018 “Racializing Welfare: Constructing the Black Worker in Colonial Jamaica,” **American Sociological Association Conference, Philadelphia, USA**
- 2018 *Invited talk* “How to Mentor the Next Generation of Du Boisian Sociologists,” **Du Boisian Scholar Network Conference, Evanston, USA**
- 2018 *Invited talk* “Liberalism and the Colonial Construction of Difference in the British Empire: The Jamaican Morant Bay Rebellion Debate and its Implications,” **Harvard University, Cambridge, USA**
- 2018 *Invited talk* “Local-Global Afterlives: Thinking through the Legacies of the Slave Trade in Rhode Island,” **Providence College, Providence, USA**
- 2017 *Invited talk* “Civil Construction: Colonial Histories and the Civil Sphere in France,” **Constellations of Empire, Nationalism and Revolution in 1917 and 2017, Brown University, Providence, USA**
- 2017 “Temporality, Tutelage and the Politics of Difference,” **Social Science History Association Conference, Montreal, Canada**
- 2017 “Black Revolutions, Black Republics: Global Political Imaginaries,” **Social Science History Association Conference, Montreal, Canada** (with Alexandre White)
- 2017 “Decolonizing the Civil Sphere: Race, Colonial Difference and Claims for Inclusion in France,” **ASA Junior Theorists Symposium, Montreal, Canada**
- 2017 “Displacement and Race-Making in the British West Indies,” **American Sociological Association Conference, Montreal, Canada**

- 2017 “Black Revolutions, Black Republics: Inventing the Political in Haiti and Liberia,”  
**American Sociological Association Conference, Montreal, Canada** (with Alexandre White)
- 2017 “Global Rhode Island: How Rhode Island became involved in the Business of Slavery,”  
*Invited talk* **Providence College, Providence, USA**
- 2017 “Revolutions of Colonial Subjects: Struggles for Freedom in Haiti and Liberia,”  
**Decolonizing the Social Conference, Boston University, Boston, USA** (with Alexandre White)
- 2017 “Black Revolutions, Black Republics: Resistance in Haiti and Liberia,” **Social Theory Forum, University of Massachusetts-Boston, Boston, USA** (with Alexandre White)
- 2016 “The Public Sphere in Global Context: Civil Codes and Encounters with Empire,”  
**Workshop on The International Origins of Theory, London School of Economics, London, UK**
- 2016 “Civil Codes, Encounters with Empire and the Possibilities of Connected Sociologies,”  
**Eastern Sociological Society Conference, Boston, USA**
- 2016 “Establishing Sovereignty: Dispossession, Slavery and Plantation Labor in the Americas,” **Eastern Sociological Society Conference, Boston, USA** (with Michael Murphy)
- 2015 “Global Sociology and the Challenge of Difference: Empire, Nation and the Colonial Difference,” **Social Science History Association Conference, Baltimore, USA**
- 2015 “Learning to Listen: Colonial Modernity and its Epistemic Effects,” **Decolonizing Europe Summer School, Amsterdam, Netherlands** (group presentation)
- 2015 “Silences in History: A Cosmopolitan Genealogy of Political Modernity,” **ASA Comparative-Historical Mini-Conference, Chicago, USA**

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- 2019 “Thinking Globally: Colonialism and the Making of the Modern World, Brown University, Summer Pre-College Program, **Course Instructor**
- 2016 “Global Sociology: Capitalism, Colonialism and the Making of the Modern World”, Brown University, **Course Instructor**
- 2013 “Social Theory: Understanding Everyday Life”, Brown University, Summer Pre-College Program, **Course Instructor**
- 2012 “Micro-organizational Theory”, Brown University, **Teaching Assistant**
- 2012 “Reflective Teaching Certificate”, Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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- 2023 “Making Space: Thinking Against the Grain in Historical Sociology,” Comparative Historical Mini-Conference, **Conference Organizer**
- 2023 “Racial Capitalism and Emancipation,” American Sociological Association, **Panel Organizer**
- 2023 “A Conversation on Freedom with Orlando Patterson,” Social Science Matrix, UC-Berkeley, **Discussant**
- 2022 “Anticolonial Imaginaries and the Politics of Decolonization,” Social Science History Association, **Panel Organizer**
- 2022 “New Research in Comparative Historical Sociology,” American Sociological Association Conference, **Discussant**
- 2022 “Empire, Colonialism, and Anticolonial Struggles,” American Sociological Association Conference, **Panel Organizer**
- 2022 Best Graduate Student Award Committee, ASA Global and Transnational Section, **Committee Chair**
- 2021 “Democratic Ceilings” Roundtable, Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, **Discussant**
- 2021- Present ASA Global and Transnational Section, **Council Member**
- 2020 “Nation & Nationalism,” ASA Conference, **Panel Chair & Discussant**
- 2020 ASA Global and Transnational Section, Best Graduate Student Paper Award, **Committee Member**
- 2019-Present “Empire and its Legacies,” Research Cluster, ASA Global and Transnational Section, **Research Cluster Leader**
- 2019-2020 ASA Global and Transnational Section, **Student Representative**
- 2019-2021 Studies in Comparative International Development (SCID), Brown University, **Managing Editor**
- 2019 “Second National Convening of Du Boisian Scholar Network,” Brown University, **Conference Organizer**
- 2018 “Comparative Historical and Global Sociology Mentoring Event,” ASA Conference, **Workshop Organizer**
- 2017-2019 “The Transatlantic Slave Trade and the Making of the Modern World,” Director Stanley Nelson, **PBS Documentary Film Researcher**
- 2017 “Decolonizing the Social - A Junior Scholar Conference,” Boston University, **Conference Organizer**
- 2017 “The Wretched of the Earth: Revolution, Resistance and Social Change from a Postcolonial Perspective,” SSHA Conference, **Panel Organizer**
- 2016-2019 “Du Boisian Collective,” Brown University, **Founding Member**

- 2015-2016 “Silences in History: Modernity, Empire and the Colonial Difference,” Mellon Graduate Student Workshop, Brown University, **Workshop Founder**
- 2013-2018 “Brown International Advanced Research Institutes,” Brown University, **Graduate Coordinator**
- 2015 “ASA Sociology of Development Section Conference,” Brown University, **Conference Coordinator**
- 2015 “What is to be Done? The State of Development Research,” ASA Sociology of Development Section Conference, Brown University, **Panel Organizer**

#### **MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

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American Sociological Association (ASA)	Eastern Sociological Society (ESS)
Social Science History Association (SSHA)	Du Boisian Scholars Network (DBSN)

#### **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

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<b>English</b> (Fluent)	<b>Spanish</b> (Proficient)	<b>Farsi</b> (Beginner)
<b>German</b> (Native)	<b>French</b> (Intermediate)	