

## **Aaron C. Foote**

Grinnell College  
Department of Sociology  
Humanities and Social Studies Center, Room S2346  
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### EDUCATION

**Ph.D.**            **University of Massachusetts Amherst, Sociology (2021)**  
**M.A.**            **University of Massachusetts Amherst, Sociology (2016)**  
**B.A.**            **Michigan State University, Social Relations and Policy (2012)**

### AREAS OF INTEREST

- Race and Racism
- Urban Sociology
- Environmental Sociology
- Black Feminism
- Neocolonialism/Settler Colonialism
- Social Theory

### EMPLOYMENT

- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Grinnell College (August 2025-Present)
- Assistant Professor of Sociology, School of Politics, Society, Justice and Public Service, Central Michigan University (August 2023-August 2025)
- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, West Virginia University (June 2022-May 2023)
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Trinity College, (July 2021-June 2022)
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, (September 2012-May 2021)
- Lecturer I, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice, University of Michigan-Flint (September 2018-September 2019)
- Instructor, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (Fall 2017-May 2021)
- Instructor, Fine Arts and Social Sciences Division, Mott Community College (November 2016-May 2021)

### RELATED EMPLOYMENT

- Project Manager, Michigan State University Center for Regional Economic Innovation (July 2016-July 2017)
- TRIO Upward Bound, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (Summer 2015)
- Inter-cultural Aide, Office of Cultural and Academic Transitions, Michigan State University (August 2010-May 2011)

### JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- "Origins of the Flint Water Crisis: Uneven Development, Urban Politics, and Racial Capitalism" with Cedric de Leon (Special Issue on Environmentalizing Urban Sociology in *City and Community*)

### ARTICLES IN DEVELOPMENT

- "Black Skin, White Asks: Why the Flint Water Crisis is a Neo-colonial Project" (for submission in *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*)
- "Why Water, Why Now?: How the Great Recession Reshaped Black Urban Space"
- "On Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics and Organizing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" with Destiney Linker and Taure Brown

#### BOOK MANUSCRIPTS

- “Colonialism by Another Name: Regionalization and the Origins of the Flint Water Crisis” (book manuscript in development)

#### PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY ARTICLES AND OP-EDS

- “Flint PD Owes Residents an Apology for Abusive Behavior Displayed in Documentary”, Flint Beat (March 2018)
- “Holy Water? City’s water crisis leads to suppression of Flint voices”, Flint Beat (August 2017)

#### POLICY RESEARCH

- Civic Park Neighborhood Engagement and Community Development in Flint, Michigan (August 2017)
- “Determining the Talent Needs of High Growth Businesses in Michigan”, Michigan State University (May 2011)
- Spotlight Michigan Report: “Getting Jobs in Michigan” (December 2011)

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Black Skin, White Asks: The Role of Emergency Managers in Implementing the Flint Water Crisis”, CUSS Roundtables, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (August 2025)
- “Black Skin, White Asks: The Role of Emergency Managers in Implementing the Flint Water Crisis”, 2024 SSSP Annual Conference, Montreal, QC (August 2024)
- “Black Skin, White Asks: The Role of Emergency Managers in Implementing the Flint Water Crisis”, 2024 Southern Sociological Society Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA (April 2024)
- “Origins of the Flint Water Crisis: Uneven Development, Urban Politics, and Racial Capitalism” 2023 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (—withdrawn due to COVID-19)
- “Origins of the Flint Water Crisis: Uneven Development, Urban Politics, and Racial Capitalism”, Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Myrtle Beach, SC (paper accepted)
- “Colonialism by Another Name: Regionalization and the Origins of the Flint Water Crisis” 2022 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA (withdrawn due to COVID-19)
- “Colonialism by Another Name: Regionalization and the Origins of the Flint Water Crisis” Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (April 2022)
- “Living in Disaster: The Perils of Navigating Life in Flint, Michigan Post Man-Made Water Crisis”, Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (April 2020) (Cancelled)
- “Living in Disaster: The Perils of Navigating Life in Flint, Michigan Post Man-Made Water Crisis”, Department of Sociology Fall Research Conference, Amherst, MA (October 2019)
- Louise Jezierski, Aaron Foote, and Mary Herman, “Civic Park Neighborhood Economic Development in Flint, MI”, Midwest Political Science Association Meetings, Chicago, IL (April 2017)
- “Student Entrepreneurship”, Urban Entrepreneurship Initiative Symposium, Flint, MI (October 2016)
- “The Radicalism Plateau: Working Class Transformation, Housing Foreclosure, and the Hegemony of the American Dream”, Eastern Sociological Society Meetings, Boston, MA (March 2016)
- “Housing Foreclosure, Big Banks and Main Street Militancy”, MASSCONN Symposium for Qualitative Research, Chestnut Hill, MA (May 2015)
- “Getting Jobs in Michigan”, 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Ronald E. McNair Research Conference and Graduate Fair, Lake Geneva, WI (November 2011)

#### DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Undergraduate Program Committee, West Virginia University (June 2022-May 2023)
- Faculty Personnel Committee, Central Michigan University (August 2023-September 2024)
- Sociology Council, Central Michigan University (August 2023-Present)
- Faculty Association Treasurer, Central Michigan University (April-2024-March 2025)

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

##### Grinnell College

- SOC 295: Black Politics
- SOC 390: Urban Crisis Seminar

Central Michigan University, Assistant Professor

- SOC 100: Introduction to Sociology
- PSC 125: African American Politics
- PSC 261WI: State and Local Governance

West Virginia University, Assistant Professor

- SOCA 393: Northern Apartheid
- SOCA 470: Cities and Urban Life

Trinity College, Visiting Assistant Professor

- SOCL 101: Principles of Sociology
- SOCL 249/URST 248: Northern Apartheid
- SOCL 320/URST 322: Urban Crisis

University of Michigan-Flint, Lecturer I

- SOC 100: Introduction to Sociology

Mott Community College, Instructor

- SOCY 191: Introduction to Sociology

University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Instructor

- SOC 328 Introduction to Social Work (Online)
- SOC 103 Social Problems (Online)
- SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology (Online)
- SOC 302: Foundations of Sociological Theory (Online)

University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Teaching Assistant

- SOC 213: Data Collection and Analysis (with Sanjiv Gupta)
- SOC 401: Foundations of Sociological Theory (with Sanjiv Gupta)
- SOC 302: Foundations of Sociological Theory (with Tony Paik)
- SOC 302: Foundations of Sociological Theory (with Agustin Lao-Montes)
- SOC 103: Social Problems (with Jeff Beamer)
- SOC 110: Introduction to Sociology (with Kathleen Hulton)
- SOC 107: Contemporary American Sociology (with Ofer Sharone)

#### GUEST LECTURES

- “Colonialism by Another Name: Regionalization and the Origins of the Flint Water Crisis”, Center for Urban and Global Studies, Trinity College (Spring 2022)
- “Suburban Revanche: The Colonial Politics of Regionalization in Southeast Michigan”, James Madison College (March 2021)
- “Flint as Collateral Damage in the War for Detroit Water, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (March 2021)
- From JMC to PHD”, Michigan State University (April 2016)
- “The Flint Water Crisis”, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (November 2015; March 2016)
- “Housing Discrimination in the United States”, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (October 2015)

#### AWARDS

- Department of Sociology Summer Dissertation Fellowship (Summer 2019)
- Department of Sociology Summer GAP Fellowship (Summer 2018)
- UMass Center for Research on Families Dissertation Award (Fall 2018)
- University of Massachusetts-Amherst Graduate School Pre-Dissertation Fellowship (Summer 2017)
- Graduate Diversity Fellowship, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (Fall 2012 -Spring 2013)
- Ronald E. McNair Scholar, Michigan State University

- Dean's List, Mott Community College
- Dean's List, Wayne State University

#### UNDERGRADUATE THESIS ADVISEMENT

- Ashley Cruz, Department of Environmental Studies, Trinity College (Spring 2022)

#### GRADUATE THESIS ADVISEMENT

- Whitney Tyree, Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Anthropology, West Virginia University (December 2024)

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Association of University Professors, Grinnell Chapter Member (August 2025-Present)
- American Sociological Association, Member (September 2019-Present)
- Association for Black Sociologists, Member (August 2022-Present)
- Southern Sociological Society, Member (August 2022-Present)
- The Society for the Study of Social Problems, Member (August 2022-Present)
- Central Michigan University Faculty Association, Treasurer (April 2024-Present)
- Eastern Sociological Society, Member (August 2014- August 2023)
- Sociology Graduate Student Association, President (August 2014-May 2015)
- GEO-UAW Local 2322, Union Member (August 2012-August 2021)

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- W.E.B. Du Bois Society, President and Vice President (August 2010-May 2012)
- Black Student Alliance, Student Leader (August 2009-May 2012)
- Case Hall Black Caucus, Member (August 2009-May 2010)
- Students for Barack Obama, Community Organizer (August 2008-January 2009)
- Edible Flint, Co-President (April 2017-March 2018)
- Healthy Flint Research Coordinating Center (June 2016-Present)

#### REFERENCES

- Cedric de Leon, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
- Mary Ann Clawson, Department of Sociology, Wesleyan University
- Agustin Lao-Montes, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
- Louise Jezierski, James Madison College. Michigan State University
- Sancha Medwinter, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts
- John Bracey Jr., Department of Afro-American Studies, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (in memoriam)
- Dan Clawson, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (in memoriam)