

Aaron C. Foote

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EDUCATION

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

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)
- 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)

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- "Origins of the Flint Water Crisis: Uneven Development, Urban Politics, and Racial Capitalism" **Aaron C. Foote** and Cedric de Leon (Special Issue: Environmentalizing Urban Sociology at *City and Community*) <https://doi.org/10.1177/15356841231207626> (December 2023)
- "Black Skin, White Asks: What is Colonial about the Flint Water Crisis", **Aaron C. Foote** (for submission in *Critical Sociology*)

ARTICLES IN DEVELOPMENT

- Same Old Shit, Just a Different Day: Racial Capitalism, DEI, and the Case of Nathan Cofnas, **Aaron C. Foote**, Johnny E. Williams, and David Embrick (for submission in *Critical Sociology*)
- On Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics and Organizing in the 21st Century", **Aaron C. Foote**, Destiney Linker and Taure Brown (for submission in the *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*)

BOOK MANUSCRIPTS

- "Colonialism by Another Name: Regionalization and the Origins of the Flint Water Crisis", **Aaron C. Foote** (targeting the *University of California Press*)

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY ARTICLES, OP-EDS, AND DIGITAL MEDIA

- Black Skin, White Asks: Why the Flint Water Crisis Is a Colonial Situation, Aaron C. Foote, Sage Publishing <https://sk.sagepub.com/video/skpromo/oetOti/black-skin-white-asks-why-the-flint-water-crisis-colonial-situation#> (February 2026)
- "Flint PD Owes Residents an Apology for Abusive Behavior Displayed in Documentary", **Aaron C. Foote**, The Flint Beat (March 2018)
- "Holy Water? City's water crisis leads to suppression of Flint voices", The 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” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (—withdrawn due to COVID-19) (August 2023)
- “Origins of the Flint Water Crisis: Uneven Development, Urban Politics, and Racial Capitalism”, Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Myrtle Beach, SC (April 2023)
- “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)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Grinnell College

- SOC 390 ST: Urban Crisis Seminar
- SOC 295 ST: Black Politics
- SOC 285 Contemporary Sociological Theory
- SOC 111 Introduction to Sociology

Central Michigan University, Assistant Professor

- PSC 261WI: State and Local Governance (online/face-to-face)
- PSC 125: African American Politics
- SOC 100: Introduction to Sociology

West Virginia University, Assistant Professor

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

Trinity College, Visiting Assistant Professor

- SOCL 320/URST 322: Urban Crisis
- SOCL 249/URST 248: Northern Apartheid
- SOCL 101: Principles of Sociology (online/face-to face)

University of Michigan-Flint, LEO 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 302: Foundations of Sociological Theory (online)
- SOC 103 Social Problems (online)
- SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology (online)

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISEMENT

- Akira Teotrakool, Mohrman Fellowship, Grinnell College (September 2025-Present)
- Ashley Cruz, Undergraduate Thesis, Department of Environmental Studies, Trinity College (January-May 2022)

GRADUATE ADVISEMENT

- Whitney Tyree, Thesis Committee Member, Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Anthropology, West Virginia University (December 2022-December 2024)

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- "Colonialism by Another Name: Regionalization and the Origins of the Flint Water Crisis", Department of Sociology Colloquium, University of Iowa (November 2026)
- "Black Skin, White Asks: What is Colonial about the Flint Water Crisis", African Diaspora Studies Brown Bag, Grinnell College (May 2026)
- "Colonialism by Another Name: Regionalization and the Origins of the Flint Water Crisis", Center for Urban and Global Studies, Trinity College (April 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)

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Faculty Liaison, Conney N. Kimbo Black Cultural Center, (August 2026-Present)
- 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)
- CMU Faculty Association, Treasurer, Central Michigan University (April-2024-March 2025)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Conference Program Committee Member, *The Society for the Study of Social Problems* (August 2026-Present)
- Chair, Lee Scholar Support Fund 2026-2027, *The Society for the Study of Social Problems* (August 2026-Present)
- Associate Editor, *Critical Sociology Journal*, Sage Publications (January 2026-Present)

ACADEMIC JOURNAL REVIEW CONTRIBUTIONS

- American Sociological Review
- American Journal of Sociology
- Critical Sociology
- Urban Studies

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Edible Flint, Co-President (April 2017-March 2018)

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, Member (August 2023-August 2025)
- 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)

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND 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 (September 2012 -May 2013)
- Ronald E. McNair Scholar, Michigan State University (Summer 2011-Spring 2012)

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
- Sancha Medwinter, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts
- Louise Jezierski, James Madison College. Michigan State University
- Johnny E. Williams, Department of Sociology, Trinity College