Northern Illinois University Department of Sociology cantonwiner.com cwiner@niu.edu

2023

Canton Winer

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Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Sociology and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Northern Illinois University	2023-present
EDUCATION	

Dissertation

Title: "Compulsory Categories: How Asexuality Disrupts Normative Assumptions About Sexuality and Gender." (Chair: David John Frank; Committee: Sabrina Strings, Tristan Bridges, Francesca Polletta, Catherine Bolzendahl)

M.A. University of California, Irvine | Sociology 2019

B.A. Fordham University | Sociology and American Studies 2015

Areas of Specialization: gender, sexuality, culture, masculinity, feminist/queer theory, inclusion/exclusion, intersectionality

PUBLICATIONS (* = Graduate student co-author)

University of California, Irvine | Sociology

Journal Articles		
Forthcoming	Canton Winer. "Is Asexuality Queer?" Contexts.	
2025	Canton Winer. "Does Everyone Have a Gender? Compulsory Gender, Gender Detachment, and Asexuality." <i>Socius:</i> 11.	
2025	Canton Winer. "The Freedom Not to be Sexual: Asexuality, Compulsory Sexuality, and Sex Positivity." <i>Journal of Positive Sexuality</i> : 11(1), 53-65.	
2025	Canton Winer. "Uncertain Belonging: Asexuality and Queer Nightlife." <i>The Sociological Quarterly</i> , Online First.	
2025	Canton Winer. "Splitting Attraction: Differentiating Romantic and Sexual Orientations Among Asexual Individuals." <i>Social Currents:</i> 12(3), 215-230.	
2024	Canton Winer. "Understanding asexuality: A sociological review." <i>Sociology Compass</i> : 18(6), e13240.	
2024	Canton Winer, Megan Carroll, Yuchen Yang, Katherine Linder, Brittney Miles. "I Didn't Know Ace Was a Thing": Bisexuality and pansexuality as identity pathways in asexual identity formation. <i>Sexualities</i> : <i>27</i> (1-2), 267-289.	

Distinguished Article Award 2024 Canton Winer. "The queers hate me because I'm too butch": Goldilocks masculinity among non-heterosexual men. Sexualities: 27(4), 1053-1073. 2023* Hannah Tessler and Canton Winer. "Sexuality, Romantic Orientation, and Masculinity: Men as Underrepresented in Asexual and Aromantic Communities." Sociology Compass: 17(11), e13141. Top 10 Cited Article Award for Papers Published in 2023, Sociology Compass 2023 Canton Winer. "Inequality and the 'Universal' Gay Male Experience: Developing the Concept of Gay Essentialism." Journal of Homosexuality: 70(12), 2978-2996. 2023 Canton Winer. "Undoing the Absence of Asexuality in the Classroom." Feminist Pedagogy: 4(1), 9. 2022 Canton Winer. "Solidarity, Disdain, and the Imagined Center of the Gay Imagined Community." *Sociological Inquiry*: 92, 710-732. 2021 Canton Winer and Catherine Bolzendahl. "Conceptualizing homonationalism: (Re-) Formulation, application, and debates of expansion." Sociology Compass: e12853. 2021 Canton Winer. "Sex Roles and the Erasure of Women from Conversations About Gender Oppression: The Case of #BoysDanceToo." Men and Masculinities: 24(5), 842— 861. **Book Chapters** († = Peer Reviewed) Forthcoming† Canton Winer. "Asexuality: Lessons for Gender Activism." in J. Reger, K. Kretschmer and R. Einwohner (Eds.), Handbook of Gender and Activism. Elgar Press. 2025+ Catherine Bolzendahl, Canton Winer, and Tara Warner. "Masculinities and Political Ideology in the U.S." in M. McDermott and D. Cassino (Eds.), Politics & Masculinity (pp. 108-125). NYU Press. 2024† Canton Winer. "Erasure, Camouflage, Exceptionalism, and Cultural Criticism" in K.J. Cerankowski and M. Milks (Eds.), Asexualities: Feminist and Queer Perspectives, Revised and Expanded Ten-Year Anniversary Edition (pp. 208-225). Routledge. 2024* Emily Fox and Canton Winer. "What is friendship? Learning from Asexual and Aromantic Perspectives" in V.E. Rutter, K. Williams, & B.J. Risman (Eds.), Families As They Really Are (3rd ed. pp. 293-295) Norton. (Reprinted from The Society Pages.)

Atiya McGhee and Canton Winer. "Allosexism" in A.E. Goldberg (Ed.), The Sage

Encyclopedia of LGBTQ+ Studies (2nd ed). Sage.

Winner, American Sociological Association's Section on Sexualities 2025

Book Reviews

2024*

- 2024 Canton Winer. "Book Review: Daddies of a Different Kind: Sex and Romance Between Older and Younger Adult Gay Men by Tony Silva." *Gender & Society*.
- Canton Winer. "Book Review: Diagnosing Desire: Biopolitics and Femininity into the Twenty-First Century by Alyson Spurgas." *Sexualities*.

Public Sociology/News Media/Teaching Publications

- 2025 Canton Winer. "When Sexual and Romantic Orientation Diverge," The Society Pages.
- 2024* Hannah Tessler and Canton Winer. "Why are men a minority in asexual and aromantic communities?" The Society Pages.
- 2022 Canton Winer. "Counting Your Hens," NPR's The Loh Down on Science.
- 2022 Canton Winer. "Adulting Is a Mess!" NPR's The Loh Down on Science.
- 2022 Canton Winer. "Solar Peer Pressure," NPR's The Loh Down on Science.
- 2022 Canton Winer. "Trust Me?" NPR's The Loh Down on Science.
- Canton Winer and Catherine Bolzendahl. "Teaching and learning guide for: Conceptualizing homonationalism: (Re-) formulation, application, and debates of expansion." *Sociology Compass*, 15(5), e12872.
- Canton Winer. "What About Femininity? Unpacking the Relationship Between Masculinity and Asexuality." *AZE Journal*, 4(4).
- 2021 Canton Winer. "The Trouble with 'Intersectional Identities." *Academia Letters*. https://doi.org/10.20935/AL819
- 2017 Canton Winer. "Oppose the NFL Protests? You Probably Also Would've Opposed MLK" Huffington Post.
- 2015 Canton Winer. "Silence of the Rams: Fordham's Free Speech Problem," The Fordham Ram.
- 2015 Canton Winer. "New Atheism: Constructing a New Nonbelieving Identity," *The Stanford Undergraduate Research Journal*.
- 2015 Canton Winer. "Atheist Identity: Through the Lens of Goffman, Du Bois, and Collins," *The Fordham Undergraduate Research Journal*.
- 2014 Canton Winer. "This is What It Takes for the World's Largest Retailer to Change," *Groundswell*.
- 2014 Canton Winer. "FSU President Search Sparks Student Outcry," USA Today.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

[&]quot;Spoiler: I'm Asexual." 2025. The Writing Disorder.

- "No Sex in the City." 2025. Universitas Magasinet.
- "9 Books That Center Asexuality." 2025. Electric Literature.
- "Asexual Culture Is All About Pleasure, Actually." 2025. Medium.
- Blog post translated into Mandarin Chinese for Queer Margins. 2025. "J·K·羅琳對無性戀的攻擊: 恐跨與無性戀敵對主義的關聯"
- "From Toxically Male to Asexual: Unlearning Patriarchal Maleness." 2025. AZE.
- "A platonic Valentine's Day: How the aroace community celebrates." 2025. The Arbiter.
- "On the Discomfort of Inhabiting Gender and Sexuality." 2025. AZE.
- "postscript: an interview with Canton Winer." 2025. saveasdoc.
- "Thoughts on Counterintuitive Words." 2024. Medium.
- "The Story We Tell of Asexuality: 'Safe, Legal and Rare'?" 2024. Medium.
- "Reframing Sexual Expectations." 2024. Sexvangelicals.
- "The Chronically Online State of Asexual Discourse." 2024. Rowan Ellis (YouTube).
- "Celebrating International Asexuality Day: There is Power in Knowing and Accepting Who You Are." 2024. SAGE Advocacy & Services for LGBTQ+ Elders.
- "Asexual Representation: Florence from On Chesil Beach by Ian McEwan." 2024. Medium.
- "<u>Murray Scholar Delivers Second Talk About Borderlands of Sexuality</u>." 2024. *James Madison College News* (Michigan State University).
- "Seeing Sex Via Asexual Lens." 2024. Northern Star.
- "Why I Love Love But Not Valentine's Day." 2024. OMG Chronicles/Medium.
- "Celebrating Asexuality's Glorious Queerness This Ace Week." 2023. Autostraddle.
- "Queering Queerness." 2023. Authentically, Queerly Us.
- "Is 'No Sex' Okay?" 2023. Sojourners.
- "Murray Scholar's Research Resonates with MSU Students." 2023. James Madison College News (Michigan State University).

Blog post translated into Mandarin Chinese for Queer Margins. 2023. "性別是否人人皆有?."

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

2024	Invited Panelist, "Asexuality Research in the Social Sciences," Asexual Visibility & Education Network Mini Conference Virtual
2024	Organizer and Presider, "Asexual and Aromantic Perspectives in Society" (with Brittney Miles), American Sociological Association Montreal, Canada
2024	Presenter, "Examining the Intersection of Asexuality, Disability, Health, and Medicine," American Sociological Association Montreal, Canada
2024	Presenter, "Asexuality, Aromanticism, and the Spectrum of Relationship Desires" (with Hannah Tessler and Emily Fox), American Sociological Association Montreal, Canada
2024	Presenter, "Splitting Attraction: Differentiating Romantic and Sexual Orientations Among Asexual Individuals," Return to the Roots Conference Tampere University (Finland)
2023	Presenter, "A Very Queer Hetero: Exploring the Sexual Borderlands of Asexuality," American Sociological Association Philadelphia, PA
2023	Panelist, "More than a Line on Your CV: Engaging in Public Sociology as Students," American Sociological Association Philadelphia, PA
2022	Presenter, "'I Didn't Know Ace Was a Thing': Bisexuality and Pansexuality as Identity Pathways in Asexual Identity Formation" (With Megan Carroll), American Sociological Association Los Angeles, CA
2021	Presenter, "Embrace, Rejection, and Gender Detachment: Framings of Femininity in Online Asexual Spaces" American Sociological Association (online due to COVID-19)
2021	Presenter, "Research on Gender, Race, and Asexuality." International Asexuality Conference (online)

[&]quot;Murray Scholar in Residence to Focus on Intersection of Asexuality and Gender." 2023. *James Madison College News* (Michigan State University).

[&]quot;Asexuality Is So Much More Than 'Not Having Sex." 2023. Refinery29.

[&]quot;Gender Detachment." 2023. Sounds Fake But Okay (episode 263).

[&]quot;<u>Winer Receives Social Sciences Alberti Prize</u>." 2023. *University of California, Irvine Social Sciences News*.

[&]quot;Asexuality (with Canton Winer & Sarah Costello)." 2023. Taboo Science, Season 3 Episode 2.

- 2021 Presenter, "Erasure, Camouflage, Exceptionalism, and Cultural Criticism: Asexuality and Masculinity Threat." Sociologists for Women in Society, winter meeting (online due to COVID-19)
- 2019 Presenter, "Gender as Boundary: Goldilocks Masculinity in the Gay Community." Society for the Study of Social Problems | New York, NY

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

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2025	Guest Lecture. "Does Everyone Have a Gender? Examining the Intersection of Asexuality and Gender." University of Houston.
2024	Invited Lecture. "Asexuality and Health." University of California, Irvine School of Medicine.
2024	Guest Lecture. "Asexuality, Disability, Health, and Wellness." Johns Hopkins University.
2024	Discussant. "The Politics of Perverts" (with Connor Strobel). Seminary Co-op Bookstores (Chicago, IL.)
2024	Brownbag Presentation. "Asexuality and Detachment from Gender." Northern Illinois University.
2024	Invited Panelist. "Asexualities: Feminist and Queer Perspectives." A Room of One's Own (Madison, WI)
2024	Invited Lecture. "A Very Queer Hetero: Exploring the Sexual Borderlands of Asexuality." Michigan State University.
2024	Invited Lecture. "Does Everyone Have a Gender? Asexual Lessons for the Study of Gender." Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health, Michigan State University.
2023	Guest Lecture. "Intersectional Asexualities." University of California, Riverside.
2023	Invited Lecture. "Does Everyone Have a Gender? Examining the Intersection of Asexuality and Gender." Michigan State University.
2023	Invited Lecture. "Asexuality and Aromanticism: An Introduction." Uppsala University (Sweden).
2023	Invited Presentation. "Gender and Asexuality." Utah Asexual Social Club.
2023	Invited Lecture. "My Gender Is Like an Empty Lot: Gender Detachment and Ungendering Among Asexual Individuals." University of Virginia.
2023	Invited Lecture. "My Gender Is Like an Empty Lot: Gender Detachment and Ungendering Among Asexual Individuals." University of Nevada, Las Vegas.
2023	Invited Lecture. "My Gender Is Like an Empty Lot: Gender Detachment and Ungendering Among Asexual Individuals." Appalachian State University.

2022	Invited Lecture. "My Gender Is Like an Empty Lot: Gender Detachment and Ungendering Among Asexual Individuals." University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
2022	Invited Presentation. "Exploring the Connections Between Asexuality and Bisexuality." University of California, Santa Cruz.
2022	Invited Panelist. "Research Methods in Sociology." University of California, Irvine.
2022	Invited Panelist. "Sexual Health and Sexual Diversity." University of California, Irvine.
2021	Invited Speaker. "The Intersection of Asexuality with Gender and Race." Slice of Ace (YouTube).
2020	Invited Lecture. "Is Bureaucracy a 'Social Problem?" University of California, Irvine.
2020	Invited Panelist. "Being LGBTQIA+ in Graduate School." University of California, Irvine LGBT Resource Center.
2020	Invited Lecture. "Masculinities in Marginalized Spaces." University of California, Irvine.

TEACHING

Northern Illinois University

2023 - Present Instructor of Record

Contemporary Social Institutions Introduction to LGBTQ+ Studies

Feminist and Queer Theories (graduate and undergraduate)

Margins of Queerness Introduction to Sociology Sociology of Sexualities

Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Fullerton College

2020 – 2021 Instructor of Record

Introduction to Sociology Sociology of Gender

University of California, Irvine

2021 – 2022 Instructor of Record

Introduction to Sociology Introduction to Sociology

2020 Instructor and Co-Creator

Teaching Assistant Diversity Training (School of Social Sciences)

2019 Lab Instructor

Computer-Based Research in the Social Sciences

2017 – 2023 Teaching Assistant, School of Social Sciences

Social Problems (3 quarters)
Sociology of Sexuality (1 quarter)

Introduction to Sociology (1 quarter)
Prison Gangs (2 quarters)
Race and Ethnic Relations (1 quarter)
Research Computing in the Social Sciences (1 quarter)
Medical Sociology (1 quarter)

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

2022-Present	Fellow, Institute for Research on Male Supremacism
2025	ASA Section on Sexualities Distinguished Article Award Winer, Canton, et al. ""I Didn't Know Ace Was a Thing": Bisexuality and pansexuality as identity pathways in asexual identity formation." Sexualities 27.1-2 (2024): 267-289.
2025	Top Cited Article Award, Sociology Compass Tessler, Hannah, and Canton Winer. "Sexuality, romantic orientation, and masculinity: Men as underrepresented in asexual and aromantic communities." Sociology Compass 17.11 (2023): e13141.
2024	Curricular Innovation Grant, Northern Illinois University (\$5,000)
2023-24	Stephen O. Murray Visiting Scholar-in-Residence, Michigan State University (\$11,000)
2023	ASA Sex and Gender Section Sally Hacker Graduate Student Paper Award "'My Gender Is Like an Empty Lot': Gender Detachment and Ungendering Among Asexual Individuals"
2023	Kathy Alberti Prize for Promise as a Future Professor, UCI School of Social Sciences
2023	Sociologists for Women in Society-South's Graduate Student Paper Award "'My Gender Is Like an Empty Lot': Gender Detachment and Ungendering Among Asexual Individuals"
2022	Honorable Mention, ASA Sexualities Section's Best Graduate Student Paper Award "'My Gender Is Like an Empty Lot': Gender Detachment and Ungendering Among Asexual Individuals"
2022	Inclusive Excellence Fellowship, UC Irvine (\$5,000)
2022	Summer Teaching Apprentice Fellowship, UCI Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation (\$5,000)
2022	Justice and Equity Research Paper Award, UC Irvine School of Social Sciences (\$1,000). "'This Isn't My Place to Talk About It:' Interwovenality and the Invisible Power of Whiteness Among Asexual Individuals"
2022	James Harvey Scholar Award, UC Irvine Graduate Division (\$7,000)

2021	Winner, Robin M. Williams, Jr., Student Paper Competition, UC Irvine Dept. of Sociology (\$500). "Embrace, Rejection, and Gender Detachment: Framings of Femininity in Online Asexual Spaces."
2021	Social Science Communication Fellowship in Public Writing, UCI School of Social Sciences (\$7,000)
2021	LGBTQ+ Studies Fellowship, UC Irvine Graduate Division (\$5,000)
2020	Associate Dean Fellowship, UCI School of Social Sciences (\$7,000)
2020	Diversity & Equitable Inclusion Graduate Student Award, UCI School of Social Sciences
2020	Outstanding Service Award, UC Irvine School of Social Sciences
2020	Inclusive Excellence Ambassador Fellowship, UC Irvine (\$5,000)
2020	Semi-Finalist, Point Foundation Scholarship
2019	Lee Student Support Grant, Society for the Study of Social Problems (\$282)
2019	Bruce Wade Memorial Scholarship, UC Irvine LGBT Resource Center (\$3,000)
2019	Honorable Mention, NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
2018-21	Summer Research Fellowship, UC Irvine (\$3,600)
2017	UC Irvine Recruitment Fellowship (\$10,000)
2015	Undergraduate Research Grant, Fordham University (\$3,800)
2015	Rev. Joseph P. Fitzpatrick, SJ, Memorial Award for best paper in sociology by a senior

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer

Gender & Society
American Journal of Sociology
Sociological Perspectives
Archives of Sexual Behavior
Feminist Theory
Psychology & Sexuality
Sexualities
Men and Masculinities

LGBTQ+ Family: An Interdisciplinary Journal

Feminist Pedagogy

Sexuality Research and Social Policy

Book Prospectus Reviewer

Routledge Springer Sociology Compass

Sexes

Culture, Health & Sexuality

Norton

2023 - Present Publications Committee, American Sociological Association Section on Sexualities

2021 - 2023 Co-Chair, Asexuality Studies Interest Group, National Women's Studies

Association

COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2025 – Present	DEI Committee Chair, NIU Department of Sociology
2025 – Present	Department Council, NIU Department of Sociology
2023 – Present	Governance Council, NIU Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
2023 – Present	Steering Committee Member, NIU Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
2023 – 2025	Development Committee Member, NIU Department of Sociology
2024	Selection Committee, Research & Artistry Symposium, NIU Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
2021 – 2023	Vice President of Financial Affairs, UCI Associate Graduate Student Government
2020 – 2023	Chair, Gender Reading Group, UC Irvine Dept. of Sociology
2020 – 2023	Social Sciences Representative, UCI Associate Graduate Student Government
2019 – 2023	Member, Dean's Fellowship Advisory Committee, UC Irvine School of Social Sciences
2018 – 2023	Graduate Student Mentor, Department of Sociology, UC Irvine 2 undergraduate, 3 graduate students for 3+ years each
2018 – 2023	President, Queer Graduate Caucus, UC Irvine
2020 – 2022	Co-Chair, Sociology Graduate Student Association, UC Irvine
2020 – 2021	Vice President of Social Affairs, UCI Associate Graduate Student Government
2018 – 2020	LGBTQ Mentor, UC Irvine Counseling Center
2020 – 2021	Competitive Edge Peer Mentor, UC Irvine

2018 – 2021	Graduate Representative, Committee on Graduate Student Diversity, Inclusion, and Development, UC Irvine School of Social Sciences
2019 – 2020	LGBTQ Engagement Chair, UC Irvine Associated Graduate Students
2019 – 2020	Faculty Representative, Sociology Graduate Student Association, UC Irvine
2019 – 2020	Graduate Interconnect Peer Mentor, UC Irvine Graduate Division

GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING

MA Thesis Committee Member:

Haven Dubeck (Northern Illinois University, ongoing) Lily Malekfar (Northern Illinois University, ongoing)

PhD Dissertation Committee Member:

Lindsay Carson (Northern Illinois University, Dean's Designee, 2025)

TRAININGS & CERTIFICATES

2025	Maximizing the Benefits of Diversity Through Culturally Responsive Teaching (NIU Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning)
2025	Equitable Grading - Reducing Biases and Increasing Student Success (NIU Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning)
2024	Meeting the Needs of Students with Disabilities (NIU Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning)
2024	Online Course Design Academy (NIU Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning)
2024	Certificate, Quality Essentials Online Course Design (NIU Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning)
2024	Facilitating Group Work Online (NIU Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning)
2023	Implementing Linguistic Justice in Writing Assessment (NIU Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning)
2021	Certificate in Teaching Excellence (UCI Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation)
2021	Conflict De-escalation Training (Hollaback! And Asian Americans Advancing Justice)
2021	Effective Responses to Student Writing (UCI Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation)
2021	Bystander Intervention to Stop Anti-Asian/American and Xenophobic Harassment (Hollaback! And Asian Americans Advancing Justice)

2020	Certificate, Diversity Education (UCI Office of Faculty Development & Diversity)
2020	Zot Ability Ally Training (UCI Disability Services Center)
2020	Certificate, Inclusive Excellence (UCI Office of Inclusive Excellence)
2020	Anti-Racist Grading and Assessment (Fullerton College)
2019	Certificate, Course Design (UCI Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation)
2019	Certificate, Breaking the Bias Habit: Creating Inclusion and Reducing Bias (UCI)
2019	Certificate, UCI Mentoring Excellence Program

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Women Studies Association

American Sociological Association

Sociologists for Women in Society

Founding Member, Ace/Aro Scholars Support Network

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

2021 – 2022	NPR's The Loh Down on Science, Writer
2016 – 2017	The Huffington Post, Contributing Writer
2014 – 2015	Fordham Undergraduate Research Journal, Editorial Board Member
2014 – 2015	USA Today, Collegiate Correspondent
2014 – 2015	Groundswell Magazine, Contributing Writer
2014 – 2015	The Fordham Ram, Columnist
2013 – 2014	The Fordham Ram, Managing Editor
2012 – 2013	The Fordham Ram, Assistant Opinions Editor

REFERENCES

- Dr. David John Frank, Professor of Sociology and Chair, UC Irvine (frankd@uci.edu)
- Dr. Tristan Bridges, Associate Professor of Sociology and Feminist Studies, UC Santa Barbara (<u>tbridges@soc.ucsb.edu</u>)
- Dr. Catherine Bolzendahl, Director of the School of Public Policy and Professor of Sociology, Oregon State University (<u>catherine.bolzendahl@oregonstate.edu</u>)
- Dr. Francesca Polletta, Chancellor's Professor of Sociology, UC Irvine (polletta@uci.edu)