

ELIZABETH M. JACOBS

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EMPLOYMENT

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT	2024-
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology Population Studies and Training Center Affiliate, Brown University Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research Guest Researcher Population Studies Center Affiliate, University of Pennsylvania	
MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH	2022-2023
Postdoctoral Fellow, Digital and Computational Demography Lab	
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY	
Research Affiliate, Institute for the Study of International Migration	2022
Postdoctoral Fellow	2021-2022
Massive Data Institute, McCourt School of Public Policy Institute for the Study of International Migration, Walsh School of Foreign Service Postdoctoral Affiliate, Department of Sociology	

EDUCATION

PH.D. UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, SOCIOLOGY	2021
M.A. COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, SOCIOLOGY	2015
B. A. UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, ANTHROPOLOGY	2013
Magna cum laude; Dean's list; Minors: Urban Studies, Hispanic Studies	

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Migration, Globalization, Race, Gender, Work, Policy, Demography, Stratification, Computational Methods

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- Jacobs, Elizabeth. 2024. "On the Up and Up: The Job Mobility of Skilled Return Migrants." *Social Forces*. 00:1-22. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soae132>
- Jacobs, Elizabeth. 2024. "Greener Pastures: Why Indian International Students Leave the U.S. Labor Market." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. 1-25. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2024.2397426>
- Donato, Katharine, Elizabeth Jacobs, Lisa Singh, Ali Arab and Nathan Wycoff. "Using Organic Data in Migration Research." *International Migration Review*. Forthcoming.
- Wycoff, Nathan, Ali Arab, Katharine Donato, Lisa Singh, Elizabeth Jacobs, Kornarphop Kawintiranon, and Yaguang Liu. 2023. "Forecasting Ukrainian Refugee Flows With Organic Data Sources." *International Migration Review*. Online first.
- Agrawal, Ameeta, Lisa Singh, Elizabeth Jacobs, Yaguang Liu, Gwyneth Dunlevy and Varun Uppala. 2023. "All Translation Tools Are Not Equal: Investigating the Quality of Language Translation for Forced Migration." *Proceedings of 10th IEEE International Conference on Data Science and Advanced Analytics*.
- Jacobs, Elizabeth. 2022. "Work Visas and Return Migration: How Migration Policy Shapes Global Talent." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. 48(7): 1647-1668.
- Jacobs, Elizabeth. 2022. "The Homogenizing and Diversifying Effects of Migration Policy in the Internationalization of Higher Education." *Higher Education*. 83: 339-355.

- Jacobs, Elizabeth and A. Nicole Kreisberg. 2022. "The Gendered Occupational Value of a U.S. Education for Indian Immigrants." *International Migration*. 60(6): 148-166.
- Donato, Katharine, Lisa Singh, Ali Arab, Elizabeth Jacobs and Douglas Post. 2022. "Migration, Misinformation and the Venezuelan Refugee Crisis." *Harvard Data Science Review*. 4(1).
- Donato, Katharine, Lisa Singh, Ali Arab, Elizabeth Jacobs and Douglas Post. 2021. "Migration Misinformation in Spanish-language Tweets During a Pandemic." *International Organization for Migration Research Series*.
- Jacobs, Elizabeth. 2019. "Pathways to Permanence: Legal Status Transitions as a Key Mechanism in Skilled Migrant Selection and Settlement," in "Immigration in the Global Era: Migrants and the People and Laws at Origin and Destination," ed. Guillermina Jasso and Moshe Semyonov. *Frontiers in Sociology*. 4(44).

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

- Jacobs, Elizabeth. "Fainter Praise: Professional Recommendations and the Immigrant Glass Ceiling."
- Jacobs, Elizabeth, Tom Theile, Daniela Perrotta, Xinyi Zhao, Athina Anastasiadou and Emilio Zagheni. "Global Gender Gaps in the International Migration of Professionals on LinkedIn."

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS (AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

- Jacobs, Elizabeth. *Luck of the Draw: Who Wins and Loses in the H-1B Visa Lottery and the U.S. Skilled Migration System* (Book Manuscript)
- Jacobs, Elizabeth. "We Are What We Eat: The Social Incorporation of Immigrant Food."
- Jacobs, Elizabeth and Katharine Donato. "The Gendered Career Trajectories of Skilled Migrants."
- Jacobs, Elizabeth, Tom Theile, Daniela Perrotta and Emilio Zagheni. "Place of Education and Return Migration Among Professional Migrants."
- Perrotta, Daniela, Elizabeth Jacobs and Emilio Zagheni. "Gender Differentials in High-Skilled Mobility in Europe via LinkedIn."
- Kotov, Egor, Tom Theile, Ole Hexel, Elizabeth Jacobs, Jisu Kim, Daniela Perrotta and Emilio Zagheni. "Mobile apps usage patterns unveil the role of temporary visitors and accessibility in France." *NetMob Data Challenge*.
- Kotov, Egor, Tom Theile, Ole Hexel, Elizabeth Jacobs, Jisu Kim, Daniela Perrotta and Emilio Zagheni. "Seasonal Shifts in Mobile Data Consumption: Investigating the Effect of Daylight Variation on Application Usage Patterns." *NetMob Data Challenge*.

BOOK REVIEWS

- Jacobs, Elizabeth. 2022. "Review of 'The Opportunity Trap: High-Skilled Workers, Indian Families, and the Failures of the Dependent Visa Program'." *Social Forces*. DOI: soac127.

PUBLIC WRITING & ENGAGEMENT

- Jacobs, Elizabeth and Ellen Bryer. 2023. "Regional Spotlight: A Park Sparks Debate about Climate-Sustainable Planning, Community Spaces, and Mega Sports Events." *ASA Footnotes*.
- Jacobs, Liz. 2020. "How to Become an International Pop Star." January 2020. *The B-Sides*.
- Jacobs, Liz. "Bollywood's Demographic Transition: Fertility on the Big Screen." *The B-Sides*. (In progress)

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

University of Pennsylvania Population Studies Center Research Affiliate	2023-
Center for the Advanced Study of India Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania	2020
Selected participant. Summer Institute in Migration Research Methods, Russell Sage Foundation	2019
Center for the Study of Ethnicity, Race and Immigration Grant, University of Pennsylvania	2019
Gertrude and Otto Pollak Summer Research Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania	2019
School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania	2019-2020
Benjamin Franklin Graduate Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania	2015-2020

DATASETS DESIGNED

Global Mobility Database (GMD). 2019.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- “Digital Data for Social Science Research.” *Bundesinstitut für Bevölkerungsforschung (BiB) (German Federal Institute for Population Research)*. Wiesbaden, Germany. May 2025.
- “Labor Market Inequality and Return Migration.” Canadian Population Society session on “The Cross-National Comparisons of the Social and Economic Inequality of Immigrants.” *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C. April 2025.
- “Occupational Upgrades and Return Migration of Skilled Workers.” *Bundesinstitut für Bevölkerungsforschung (BiB) (German Federal Institute for Population Research)*. Wiesbaden, Germany. July 2024.
- “The Job Mobility of Return Migrants.” *Institut National d’Etudes Démographiques (INED) (French National Institute for Demographic Studies)*. Paris, France. October 2023.
- “Migrant Labor Market Mobility in India.” *Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research*. Rostock, Germany. September 2023.
- “Skilled Migrant Labor Market Pathways.” *Georgetown University*. Washington, D.C. October 2021.
- “Organic Data for Refugee Flows.” *United Nations High Commission for Refugees*. Geneva, Switzerland (virtual presentation). November 2021.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Fainter Praise: The Immigrant Glass Ceiling and Professional Recommendations.” *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C. April 2025.
- “Gender Inequality in the International Migration of Professionals.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Montreal, Québec. August 2024.
- “Skill Remittances and Return Migration to India.” *MIGNEX Conference*. Oxford, England. June, 2024.
- “Global Gender Gaps in the International Migration of Professionals.” *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*. Columbus, Ohio. April 2024.
- “On the Up and Up: Occupational Upgrades and Return Migration of Skilled Workers.” *British Society for Population Studies*. Keele, England. September 2023.
- “The Labor Market Incorporation of Return Migrants.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. August 2023.

- “Legal Status Legacies: The Labor Market Incorporation of Return Migrants.” *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*. New Orleans, Louisiana. April 2023. *Winner, Best Poster
- “Fainter Praise: The Immigrant Glass Ceiling and Gender and Racial Inequality in Professional Recommendations.” *Eastern Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Baltimore, Maryland. February 2023.
- “Return Migration and Labor Market Outcomes.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Los Angeles, California. August 2022.
- “Transnational, Longitudinal Perspectives on the Role of Institutions in Skilled Migration.” *Eastern Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Boston, Massachusetts. February 2022.
- “How Indian Migrants Enter and Stay in the U.S. Labor Market.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Chicago, Illinois (Virtual conference). August 2021.
- “Return Migration in Transnational Labor Markets.” *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*. Virtual conference. May 2021.
- “Return Migration and Knowledge Flows in the Process of Skilled Migration.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. San Francisco, California (Virtual conference). August 2020.
- “Immigration Policies and Knowledge Remittances: Return Migration and Multi-Directional Knowledge Flows in the Global Labor Market.” *Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting*. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. February 2020.
- “Skilled Migrants in the Global Labor Market: A Novel Approach Using LinkedIn Employment Histories.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. New York, New York. August 2019.
- “The Great Equalizer? Education, Gendered Migrant Networks, and the Occupational Attainment of Highly Skilled Immigrants.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. New York, New York. August 2019.
- “Legal Institutions and the Global Labor Market: How Immigration Policy and Legal Status Shape the Skilled Migration Journey.” *Law and Society Association Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C. June 2019.
- “The Great Equalizer? Education, Gendered Migrant Networks, and the Occupational Attainment of Highly Skilled Immigrants,” *Russell Sage Foundation Special Issues Conference*. New York, New York. April 2019.
- “Gendered Networks in the Highly Skilled Labor Market: Legal Status and Immigrant Occupational Attainment,” *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*. Austin, Texas. April 2019.
- “Should We Staple Green Cards to Diplomas? How the State Regulates and Constrains the Development and Retention of Foreign Skill.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. August 2018.
- “Blocked at the Top: How Legal Status Constrains Labor Market Entry for Skilled Migrants.” *Eastern Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Baltimore, Maryland. February 2018.
- “Legal and in Limbo: How the H-1B Visa Heightens the Cost of Migration.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Montreal, Québec. August 2017.
- “Multilingual Mobilization in the Global City: How Immigrant Organizers in New York City Built Coalitions across Language Lines.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Seattle, Washington. August 2016.

“Mobilizing Multilingualism in the Global City: How race, place and gender contributed to immigrant coalition building in New York City’s language access movement.” *Eastern Sociological Society Meeting*. Boston, Massachusetts. March 2016. (An earlier version was presented at the Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting. Memphis, Tennessee.)

“Giving Voice to Immigrants in the Global City: Policy and Practice of Multilingual Social Service Delivery in New York City.” *Eastern Sociological Society Meetings*. New York, New York. February 2015.

“In the Shadow of Glory: Olympic Pageantry and the Disruption of Rio’s Favelas.” *Eastern Sociological Society Meetings*. New York, New York. February 2015.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

Workshop training, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, University of Connecticut 2024
“Facilitating Class Discussions.”

Center for Teaching and Learning Certificate, University of Pennsylvania 2019
Trained in diverse pedagogical approaches; received teaching observation and feedback

INSTRUCTOR

“Demography.” Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut. Fall 2025.

“Quantitative Methods in Social Research.” Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut. Spring 2024, Fall 2025.

“Introduction to Sociology.” Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania. Summer Session II 2020.

“Introduction to Sociology.” Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania. Summer Session I 2020.

WORKSHOP SERIES FACILITATOR

“Racial Bias in Algorithms.” Massive Data Institute, McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University. Spring 2022.

“Data-Driven Policy Design and Analysis.” Massive Data Institute, McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University. Fall 2021.

“Demographic Inference in Big Data.” Massive Data Institute, McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University. Spring 2021.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

“Epidemics, Natural Disasters, and Geopolitics: Managing Global Business and Financial Uncertainty,” Teaching Assistant for Dr. Mauro Guillén, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. Spring 2020.

“International Political Economy,” Teaching Assistant for Drs. Mohamed El-Erian, Regina Abrami and Sudev Seth, The Lauder Institute, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. Fall 2019.

“Global and Regional Analysis,” Teaching Assistant for Dr. Regina Abrami, The Lauder Institute, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. Spring 2019.

“Globalization in Historical Perspective,” Teaching Assistant for Drs. Mauro Guillén and Brian Spooner, Departments of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania. Fall 2018.

“Media, Culture And Society In Contemporary China,” Teaching Assistant for Dr. Guobin Yang, Departments of Sociology and Communications, University of Pennsylvania. Spring 2018.

“Mental Illness,” Teaching Assistant for Dr. Jason Schnittker, Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania. Fall 2017.

“Introduction to Sociology,” Teaching Assistant for Dr. Onoso Imoagene, Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania. Spring 2017.

“Sociological Research Methods,” Teaching Assistant for Dr. Melissa Wilde, Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania. Fall 2017.

“Sociology of Work and Gender,” Grading Assistant for Dr. Teresa Sharpe, Department of Sociology, Columbia University. Spring 2015.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

United Nations High Commission for Refugees, Research Consultant 2021-

TED Talks, Editorial Associate 2013-2014

- Researched literature reviews for 500 TED Talks from a range of disciplines
- Selected daily TED talk and wrote headline and copy
- Authored 50+ articles for *TED Blog*

Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, Cultural Heritage Policy Intern 2011

- Wrote comparative report of international cultural heritage policy
- Evaluated programming and efficacy of Smithsonian Folklife Festival
- Conducted primary research in Smithsonian archives.

Penn Center for Globalization Studies in an Urban World, Research Assistant 2011

Penn Cultural Heritage Center, Research Assistant 2012

MEDIA EXPERIENCE AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Contributing writer, *The B-Sides* 2020-

Obama for America, Digital Media Intern 2012

The Daily Pennsylvanian, Editor. 2009-2011

- Voting member of student-run editorial board, member of website redesign committee.
- Earned Columbia Student Press Association Award for Interactive Graphic and Video News Package.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Boards: *Frontiers in Sociology*

Peer Reviewer: *Social Forces*; *Social Problems*, *International Migration Review*, *Higher Education*, *International Migration*, *Chinese Sociological Review*, *Asian Population Studies*

ASA International Migration Section Committee Member on Mentorship and Professionalization

ASA Regional Spotlight Committee 2023: Philadelphia

Board Member for Penn’s Graduate Sociology Society

Penn LGBT Center Graduate Professionalization Working Group

COMPUTER SKILLS + PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

NVivo, Stata, Python, R, Excel, HTML, JSON, Adobe Creative Suite

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Spanish (bilingual proficiency), French (proficient), Portuguese (beginner), Hindi (beginner), German (beginner)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association, Population Association of America, European Population Council, Eastern Sociological Society

REFERENCES

Dr. Emilio Parrado

Dorothy Swaine Thomas Professor of Sociology and Director, Population Studies Center
University of Pennsylvania
eparrado@pop.upenn.edu (215.898.5534)

Dr. Chenoa Flippen

Professor of Sociology and Director, Center for the Study of Ethnicity Race and Immigration
University of Pennsylvania
chenoa@sas.upenn.edu (215.898.5534)

Dr. Katharine Donato

Donald G. Herzberg Professor of International Migration and Director, Institute for the Study of International Migration
Georgetown University
kmd285@georgetown.edu (202.687.2350)

Dr. Pilar Gonalons-Pons

Associate Professor of Sociology
University of Pennsylvania
pgonalon@sas.upenn.edu (215.573.9196)

Dr. Mauro Guillén

William H. Wurster Professor of Multinational Management
Vice Dean, MBA Program for Executives
Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
m.guillen@jbs.cam.ac.uk