

ELIZABETH M. JACOBS
elizabeth.2.jacobs@uconn.edu

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Connecticut	2024-
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology	
Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research Guest Researcher	
Brown University, Population Studies and Training Center Affiliate	
University of Pennsylvania, Population Studies Center Affiliate	
Nuffield College, University of Oxford	2026
Visiting Fellow	
Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research	2022-2023
Postdoctoral Fellow, Digital and Computational Demography Department	
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, Work, Gender, Globalization, Policy, Demography, Digital Sociology, Computational Methods

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Jacobs, Elizabeth. 2025. "On the Up and Up: The Job Mobility of Skilled Return Migrants." *Social Forces*. 103(4): 1538–1559. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soae132>
- Jacobs, Elizabeth, Tom Theile, Daniela Perrotta, Xinyi Zhao, Athina Anastasiadou and Emilio Zagheni. 2025. "Global Gender Gaps in the International Migration of Professionals on LinkedIn." *Population and Development Review*. 51(3). <http://doi.org/10.1111/padr.70012>
- Jacobs, Elizabeth. 2024. "Greener Pastures: Why Indian International Students Leave the U.S. Labor Market." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. 51(5): 1346-1370. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2024.2397426>
- Donato, Katharine, Elizabeth Jacobs, Lisa Singh, Ali Arab and Nathan Wycoff. 2024. "Using Organic Data in Migration Research." *International Migration Review*. 59 (1): 5-36. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01979183231193627>
- 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*. 59 (1): 37-60. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01979183231203931>
- Jacobs, Elizabeth. 2022. "Work Visas and Return Migration: How Migration Policy Shapes Global Talent." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. 48(7): 1647-1668. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2020.1857232>

- Jacobs, Elizabeth. 2022. "The Homogenizing and Diversifying Effects of Migration Policy in the Internationalization of Higher Education." *Higher Education*. 83: 339-355.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10734-020-00658-4>
- 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.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/imig.12970>
- 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).
<https://doi.org/10.1162/99608f92.a4d9a7c7>
- 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*. <https://publications.iom.int/books/mrs-no-68-migration-misinformation-spanish-language-tweets-during-pandemic>
- 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). <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsoc.2019.00044>

Special Issues

- "Using Organic Data in Migration Research." 2025. *International Migration Review*. 59 (1). 5-164.
This six-article special issue considers the promise, limitations and ethics of organic data as a timely and detailed complement to administrative and survey data in difficult-to-access contexts. Co-editor and contributor with Katharine Donato. <https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/mrxa/59/1>

Conference Proceedings

- Kotov, Egor, Tom Theile, Ole Hexel, Elizabeth Jacobs, Jisu Kim, Daniela Perrotta, Emilio Zagheni. 2025. "Impact of Temporary Location Visitors on Mobile App Usage in French Cities: Implications for Socio-Economic Segregation Studies." *Proceedings of the 28th Conference of the Association of Geographic Information Laboratories in Europe*. Dresden, Germany. June 2025. 1-3.
<https://agile-gi.eu/conference-2025/programme-2025/accepted-papers-and-posters-2025>
- Kotov, Egor, Tom Theile, Ole Hexel, Elizabeth Jacobs, Jisu Kim, Daniela Perrotta, Emilio Zagheni. 2023. "Seasonal Shifts in Mobile Data Consumption: Investigating the Effect of Daylight Variation on Application Usage Patterns." *NetMob Conference 2023*. October 2023. Madrid, Spain.
https://netmob.org/www23/book_of_abstract/book_of_abstract.pdf
- Agrawal, Ameeta, Lisa Singh, Elizabeth Jacobs, Yaguang Liu, Gwyneth Dunlevy, Rhitabrat Pokharel, 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*. Thessaloniki, Greece. 1-10.
<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/10302481>

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*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soac127>

Articles Under Review

- Jacobs, Elizabeth. "Fainter Praise: Online Professional Recommendations and Immigrant Job Promotions."

Manuscripts in Progress

- Jacobs, Elizabeth. *Taking Flight: Skilled Migration in the United States* (Book Manuscript)

Jacobs, Elizabeth. "We Are What We Eat: The Social Incorporation of Immigrant Food."

Jacobs, Elizabeth. "Birds of a Feather: Immigrant Solidarity Across Difference."

Jacobs, Elizabeth. "Return migration and gender inequality in the Indian technology industry."

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."

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." *The B-Sides*.

Jacobs, Liz. 2020. "Bollywood's Demographic Transition: Fertility on the Big Screen." *The B-Sides*.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Center for the Advanced Study of India Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania	2020
Russell Sage Foundation. Summer Institute in Migration Research Methods selected participant	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." *German Federal Institute for Population Research (Bundesinstitut für Bevölkerungsforschung) (BiB)*. 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: Online Professional Recommendations and Immigrant Job Promotions.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Chicago, IL. August 2025.
- “On the Up and Up: The Job Mobility of Skilled Return Migrants.” *IMISCOE Conference*. Paris, France. July 2025.
- “We Are What We Eat: The Cultural Incorporation of Immigrant Food.” *PopDays 2025*. Cagliari, Italy. June 2025.
- “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

Pedagogical Training

Graduate Faculty Mentor Training. University of Connecticut	2025
Workshop training, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, University of Connecticut	
“Facilitating Class Discussions.”	2024
“Timely Topics: AI is Here to Stay...Now What?”	2025
“Generative AI in writing courses”	2025
Center for Teaching and Learning Certificate, University of Pennsylvania	2019
<i>Trained in diverse pedagogical approaches; received teaching observation and feedback</i>	

Courses Taught

University of Connecticut

“Society in Global Perspective.” Fall 2025. (Writing intensive)

“Sociology of Immigration.” Spring 2025. (Graduate Seminar)

“Demography.” Fall 2024. (Hybrid graduate/undergraduate instruction)

“Quantitative Methods in Social Research.” Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025. (Quantitative Learning requirement)

Georgetown University

Workshop Series Facilitator

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

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

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

University of Pennsylvania

Instructor:

“Introduction to Sociology.” Summer Sessions I and II 2020.

Teaching Assistant:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Columbia University

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

ADVISING

Dissertation Committees:

Jingzhi Guo

Master’s Committees:

Kelsey Gaylord, Mahir Takak, Ye Wang, Satadru Bhattacharyya

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor:

Leon Nguyen

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

United Nations High Commission for Refugees, Research Consultant	2021-
TED Talks, Editorial Associate	2013-2014
Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, Cultural Heritage Policy Intern	2011
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, <i>The B-Sides</i>	2020-
Obama for America, Digital Media Intern	2012
<i>The Daily Pennsylvanian</i> , Editor	2009-2011

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Service to the Discipline

Editorial Boards	<i>Frontiers in Sociology</i>
Peer Reviewer	<i>Social Forces; Social Problems, International Migration Review, Higher Education, International Migration, Chinese Sociological Review, Asian Population Studies</i>
ASA Committees	International Migration Section: Mentorship and Professionalization Regional Spotlight Committee 2023: Philadelphia
PAA Session Organizer 2026:	Digital Trace and Found Data
Board Member for Penn's Graduate Sociology Society	
Penn LGBT Center Graduate Professionalization Working Group	

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Undergraduate Honors Advisor	2025-
Executive Committee	2024-2026
Graduate Planning Committee	2024-2025
Sociology Community Engagement Committee	2024-2025

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. Emilio Zagheni

Director
Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research
zagheni@demogr.mpg.de (+49.381.2081.0)

Dr. Katharine Donato

Donald G. Herzberg Professor of International Migration
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
guillen@wharton.upenn.edu (215.746.1966)