

# David Norman Smith

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## Academic Appointments

Chair	University of Kansas, Sociology	2012-2016
Associate Chair	University of Kansas, Sociology	2009-2012
Professor	University of Kansas, Sociology	2007-
Associate Professor	University of Kansas, Sociology	1996-2007
Assistant Professor	University of Kansas, Sociology	1990-1996

## Education

Ph.D. Sociology	University of Wisconsin-Madison	1988
M.S. Sociology	University of Wisconsin-Madison	1977
A.B. Economics	University of California-Berkeley	1974

## Honors and Awards

*University of Kansas Sociology Dept.*

Paul Gibbons Roofe & Helen Waddle Roofe Professor	2016-2017, 2022-2023
E. Jackson Baur Professor	2017-2018, 2021-2022

## Select Books

- 2025 *Authority Fetishism: Charisma, Hegemony, and the Authoritarian Personality*. Leiden & Boston: Brill, *under contract*.
- 2025 *Commodity Fetishism: On the Critique of Political Psychology*. Leiden & Boston: Brill, *under contract*.
- 2018 *George Orwell Illustrated*, with art by Mike Mosher. Chicago: Haymarket.

## Select Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- 2025 "Surrender of the Will: Apathy, Authoritarianism, and the Crisis of Democracy," in *The Anthem Companion to David Riesman*, ed. Peter Kivisto. London: Anthem Press, *forthcoming*.
- 2025 "Authoritarianism from Below: Why and How Donald Trump Follows His Followers," with Eric Hanley, pp. 189-235 in *Current Perspectives in Social Theory*, 42 (1), January.
- 2024 "The Agitator Supplies What the Base Demands: Trumpism Before and After Donald Trump," pp. 1-31 in *Critical Sociology*, 50 (4/5) (July).
- 2022 "Marx's *Capital* after the Paris Commune," pp. 11-40 in *Marx's Le Capital*, ed. Marcello Musto. London & New York: Routledge.
- 2022 "Capital and the Thrill of Domination," pp. 195-207 in *The Routledge International Handbook of Max Weber Studies*, ed. Alan Sica. London & New York: Routledge.

- 2021 “Accumulation and Its Discontents: Migration and Nativism in Marx’s *Capital* and Late Manuscripts,” pp. 151-215 in *Rethinking Alternatives with Marx*, ed. Marcello Musto. London & New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2021 “Capital Fetishism and the Authoritarian Personality: Critical Theory in the Weimar Years,” pp. 108-144 in *How to Critique Authoritarian Populism*, ed. Jeremiah Morelock. Leiden & Boston: Brill.
- 2020 “The Heart of Whiteness: Patterns of Race, Class, and Prejudice in the Divided Midwest,” with Eric Hanley, pp. 111-128 in *Political Landscapes in the Age of Donald Trump*, ed. Barney Warf. London & New York: Routledge.
- 2020 “Anti-Authoritarian Marxism: Erich Fromm, Hilde Weiss, and the Politics of Radical Humanism,” pp. 131-165 in *Erich Fromm’s Critical Theory*, ed. Joane Braune and Kieran Durkin. London: Bloomsbury.
- 2019 “Authoritarianism Reimagined,” pp. 210-223 in *The Sociological Quarterly*, 60/2 (May).
- 2018 “The Anger Games” with Eric Hanley, pp. 195-212 in *Critical Sociology*, 44 (March):
- 2017 “Collectivism and the Intellectuals: Svend Ranulf, Émile Durkheim, Fascism, and Resistance,” pp. 305-351 in *Antisemitism Studies*, 1 (2), October.
- 2018 “21st Century Capital: Falling Profit Rates and System Entropy,” pp. 321-334 in *Twenty-First Century Inequality and Capitalism: Piketty, Marx, and Beyond*, ed. Lauren Langman and D. A. Smith. Leiden & Boston: Brill.
- 2018 “The Adventures of Professor Piketty,” with art by Tom Johnson, pp. 311-320 in *Twenty-First Century Inequality and Capitalism: Piketty, Marx, and Beyond*, ed. Lauren Langman and D. A. Smith. Leiden & Boston: Brill.
- 2017 “Theory and Class Consciousness,” pp. 369-424 in *The Handbook of Critical Theory*, ed. Michael Thompson. London & New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

## Reference Entries

- 2021 “Sociology, 1970-2020,” in *The Encyclopedia of the American Left*, third edition, ed. Mari Jo Buhle, Paul Buhle, and Dan Georgakas. New York: Oxford.
- 2019 “Sweatshops,” in *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*, third edition, ed. George Ritzer with J. Michael Ryan. New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- 2017 “Deferential Worker,” in *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social Theory*, ed. Bryan S. Turner, Chang Kyung-Sup, Cynthia Epstein *et al.* Oxford: Blackwell.

## Online Papers

- 2019 “George Orwell’s Message in a Bottle,” *CounterPunch*.
- 2018 “The Political George Orwell,” *Jacobin*.
- 2018 “Trump Voters Want Exactly What He’s Delivering.” *Kansas City Star*.
- 2018 “What Authoritarian Voters Really Want” with Eric Hanley. *Zócalo Public Square*.

## FUNDED GRANTS: University of Kansas

- 2020 “Insight into Hitler’s Base (Part 2).” General Research Fund (GRF) grant.
- 2019 “Insight into Hitler’s Base.” General Research Fund (GRF) grant.

**PRESENTATIONS: International**

- 2023 “The Future of the Family, Private Property, and the State.” *Friedrich Engels Bicentenary Conference*, University of Brighton, Eastbourne Campus, June.
- 2023 “Social Character, Political Psychology, and Nativist Reaction: Erich Fromm's Relevance Today.” The 3rd International Erich Fromm Research Conference, International Psychoanalytic University, Berlin, June.
- 2022 “Critical Theory in the '20s.” 23rd Annual Meeting, International Social Theory Consortium, University of Central Florida, online.
- 2021 “Anti-Democratic Culture and the Usurpation Complex.” 22nd Annual Meeting, International Social Theory Consortium, University of Central Florida, online.
- 2019 “Accumulation by Forced Migration.” *Marx 201 / Rethinking Alternatives*, University of Pisa, May.

**PRESENTATIONS: American Sociological Association**

- 2023 “Marketing the Culture War.” ASA, Philadelphia.
- 2022 “*Counter-Revolution and Revolt*, Revisited.” Los Angeles.
- 2021 “Usurpation Nation.” *Zoom session*.
- 2020 “White Hostility: The U.S. in Perspective.” *Zoom session*.
- 2019 “Divided by Class, United by Hate?” New York.

**PRESENTATIONS: National Meetings**

- 2018 “‘He Says What I Think’.” Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, Philadelphia.

**PRESENTATIONS: Midwest Sociological Society**

- 2024 “Capital Fetishism, Bonapartism, and Legitimation Crisis,” *upcoming*.
- 2023 “Authoritarianism Across the Decades: The American National Election Studies, 1952-1956 and 2012-2016,” with Chris Altamura and Brenden Oliver. Minneapolis.
- 2022 “Charisma, Alienation, and Authoritarianism.” Chicago.
- 2021 “Authoritarian Twilight? Politics after Trump.” *Zoom session*.
- 2019 “Hatred in the Heartland?” with Eric Hanley. Chicago.
- 2019 “Strategies for Resistance to Authoritarianism.” Chicago.
- 2018 “The Donkey in the Room: Why Democrats Misunderstand Trump’s Base.” Minneapolis.

**PRESENTATIONS: Regional Meetings**

- 2019 “How the Republican Party Became the Party of Trump,” with Eric Hanley. Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago.
- 2018 “Electoral Support for Trump among White Americans – The Big Picture,” with Eric Hanley, Pacific Sociological Association, Long Beach.

**PRESENTATIONS: University of Kansas**

- 2023 “Authoritarianism Across the Decades, 1919-2019.” Paul and Helen Waddell Rooft Lecture, Sociology Department.
- 2022 “What We Learn from Survey Research.” Guest lecture in *Elements of Sociology*.
- 2019 “What We Learn from Survey Research.” Guest lecture in *Elements of Sociology*.
- 2018 “What We Learn from Survey Research.” Guest lecture in *Elements of Sociology*.
- 2018 “How the Republican Party Became the Party of Trump,” with Eric Hanley. Colloquia, Departments of Psychology and Geography.

**PRESENTATIONS: Regional and Local**

- 2023 “One for All, and All for One: A New Day for Academic Labor at KU.” Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Lawrence.
- 2018 “How Do Americans Feel About Guns?” *Guns to Grace: A Hope-Filled Dialogue*. Village Church, Social Witness and Advocacy Task Force. Prairie Village, Kansas.
- 2018 “Unexpected Common Ground.” Grandmothers Against Gun Violence, Prairie Village, Kansas.

**SERVICE: Editorial**

- 2020- Editorial Board, *The Complete Works of Rosa Luxemburg*. Verso, Book Series.
- 2009- Editorial Board, *Critical Sociology*.

**SERVICE: American Sociological Association (ASA)**

- Elected Council Member, History of Sociology and Social Thought, 2022-2025.
- Member, Lifetime Achievement Committee, *History of Sociology Section*, 2020-2021.  
Award recipients: Patricia M. Lengermann and Gillian Niebrugge-Brantley.
- Chair, Lifetime Achievement Committee, *History of Sociology Section*, 2019-2020.  
Award recipient: Marcel Fournier.

**SERVICE: Midwest Sociological Society**

- Presider, *Thematic Panel*: “‘Inextricably Linked’: Academic Freedom, Tenure and Shared Governance Before, During and After COVID-19,” with Hans-Joerg Tiede, AAUP, and Michael DeCesare, Merrimack College, 2021. *Zoom session*.
- Presider, Trumpism: Origins, Attributes and Ramifications. Minneapolis, 2018.

**SERVICE: Academic Community**

- Nominator, Lifetime Achievement Award, ASA Section on the History of Sociology and Social Thought. *Awarded 2023*.
- Nominator, Lifetime Achievement Award, ASA Section on Marxist Sociology. *Awarded 2023*.
- Referee, Distinguished Professorship, University of California-Santa Barbara, *Awarded 2020*.
- Referee, Full Professorships, Northern Illinois University, 2020; West Virginia University, 2019; University of Oklahoma, 2018.

**SERVICE: University of Kansas**

- President, Advocacy Chapter, American Association of University Professors, 2024-2025.
- Invited Member, Faculty Senate Retirees Rights and Benefits Committee, 2021-2022.
- Invited Member, Ad Hoc Committee to Review the KU Core Curriculum, 2019-2020.
- Elected Member, Faculty Senate (College of Liberal Arts & Sciences), 2017-2020.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE: Department of Sociology**

2016-24      Interim Chair, Personnel Committee  
2016-24      Member, Personnel Committee  
2019-20      Chair, Race & Ethnicity Search. *Recruited:* Prof. Fithawee Tzeggai.

**OTHER SERVICE: Department of Sociology**

2022              Nominator, Excellence in Teaching Award: Dr. Lisa-Marie Wright.  
2018              Graduate course preparation, “Digital Research Methods” (SOC 910).

**UNDERGRADUATE Mentorships & Sponsorships**

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY

- Mentor, Emerging Scholars Program (Melisa Martin Del Campo, 2019-20, 2020-2021).

SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- Chair, Honors Thesis (Zoey Rawson, 2020-2021).
- Member, Global & International Studies Thesis committee (Zoey Rawson, 2020).

**GRADUATE COURSES: University of Kansas**

- SOC 900, Seminar on Special Topics in Theory Spring 2025, Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017
- SOC 910, Digital Research Methods, Spring 2018

**UNDERGRADUATE COURSES: University of Kansas**

- SOC 430, Cross-Cultural Sociology Fall 2022, Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018
- SOC 105, Elements of Sociology, Honors Fall 2024, Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Fall 2021 (*two sections*), Spring 2021, Fall 2020 (*two sections*), Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Spring 2018

**Graduate Committees Chaired**

Chair, Ph.D Committees (Awarded)

- Akbar Amat, 2024, *with honors*: “Commerce and Marriage in Altisheher, 1850s-1930s.” Anthropology. Co-Chair: Arienne Dwyer.
- Pamela J. Rooks, 2022, *with honors*: “The 'Jayhawk Nazi' of Kansas: Gerald Winrod, Antisemitism, and the Evangelical Far Right 1925-1944.”
- Hanhao Wang, 2019: “Productivity for What? GDP and Well-Being in China.”

Chair, Ph.D Committees (*Current*)

- Laura Muñetón, Matheus Romanetto, Chris Altamura, Tony Feldmann, Brenden Oliver

Chair, Ph.D Oral Comprehensive Exams, Chris Altamura, Tony Feldman.

Chair, Area Studies Dossiers, Brenden Oliver (*pending*), Laura Muñetón, Christopher Altamura, Tony Feldmann.

Chair, MA Committees, Rafael Pinto Martinea (2024), Qixin Pan (2023, won CLAS outstanding MA award), Alanna Daniels (2023), Laura Muñetón (2022, won CLAS outstanding MA award), Christopher Altamura (2018).