

**Zachary Webster Griffen**  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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2023- Postdoctoral Fellow, Division of Medical Ethics, Department of Population Health, New York University Langone Health

## EDUCATION

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2023 Ph.D, Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles  
*Dissertation: "Expertise and the Enigma of Policy Influence: How Interventions in Healthcare and Education Changed Economics, 1950-2022"*  
*Committee: Aaron Panofsky and Hannah Landecker (Co-Chairs), Stefan Timmermans, Theodore M. Porter (History), Elizabeth Popp Berman (Organizational Studies, University of Michigan)*

2015 M.A., Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles

2013 M.A., International Affairs, Washington University in St. Louis

2010 B.A., Economics/Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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Sociology of Knowledge, Science, and Expertise; Sociology of Health and Biomedicine; Economic Sociology; Organizational Theory; Social Policy; Bioethics

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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**Griffen, Zachary.** Forthcoming. "The Economization of Early Life: Human Capital Theory, Biology, and Social Policy." *Science, Technology, and Human Values*.

**Griffen, Zachary.** 2022. "The 'Production' of Education: The Turn from Equity to Efficiency in U.S. Federal Education Policy." *Journal of Education Policy* 37(1): 69-87.

**Griffen, Zachary** and Aaron Panofsky. 2021. "Ambivalent Economizations: The Case of Value Added Modeling in Teacher Evaluation." *Theory and Society* 50(3): 515-539.

**Griffen, Zachary** and Stefan Timmermans. 2020. "The Cost of Saving Babies: How Economists Justify Policies." *Economy and Society* 49(2): 265-286.

**Griffen, Zachary** and Aaron Panofsky, 2020. "VAM on Trial: Judging Science in Teacher Evaluation Lawsuits." *Journal of Cultural Economy* 13(4): 444-460.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

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**Griffen, Zachary** and Aaron Panofsky, 2023. "Fields of Expertise: Analytical Approaches and the Question of Autonomy." Pp. 279-298 in *The Oxford Handbook of Expertise and Democratic Politics*, eds. Gil Eyal and Thomas Medvetz. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

## BOOK REVIEWS

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**Griffen, Zachary**. 2022. "The Organizational Character of Statistical Expertise," Review symposium for Emmanuel Didier, *America by the Numbers: Quantification, Democracy, and the Birth of National Statistics* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2020), *Journal of Cultural Economy* 15(1): 130-132.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

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**Griffen, Zachary**. "'The Golden Chalice, but also Fetishized': Causal Inference and the Emergence of Policy-Based Evidence in Economics."

**Griffen, Zachary**. "A Tale of Two Critiques: What QuantCrit and the Social Studies of Quantification Can Learn from Each Other." Working paper.

**Griffen, Zachary**. "Our Money or Our Lives: How Competing Fields Make Claims on Public Health." Working paper.

## PUBLIC WRITING

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**Griffen, Zachary**. "Testing Amid Turmoil." Guest blog post for *Scatterplot* <https://scatter.wordpress.com/2020/05/15/testing-amid-turmoil/>.

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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2022-2023	UCLA Sociology Meier Dissertation Fellowship
2021-2022	UCLA Sociology Department Fellowship
2019	Social Science History Association Student Travel Award
2018	LBJ Foundation Moody Research Grant
2016-2017	UCLA Graduate Research Mentorship

2016	Social Science Research Council Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship
2015	UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship
2014-2015	UCLA Center for American Politics and Public Policy Marvin Hoffenberg Fellowship
2014	UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship
2013-2014	UCLA Department of Sociology Fellowship
2012	Washington University University College Dean's Scholarship

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Instructor

2020-2022	Integrative Approaches to Society and Genetics (Society and Genetics 5), University of California, Los Angeles (Online)
2018-2019	Integrative Approaches to Society and Genetics (Society and Genetics 5), University of California, Los Angeles (In-Person)
2017	Sociology of Education (Sociology M175), University of California, Los Angeles (In-Person)

## EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

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2017-2021	Editorial Assistant, Sociology Office, <i>Social Science and Medicine</i> (Senior Editor Stefan Timmermans)
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## INVITED TALKS

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2022	"The Golden Chalice, but also Fetishized: Causal Inference and the Rise of Policy-Based Evidence in Economics." Presented at the third meeting of the Society for the Social Studies of Quantification, Los Angeles, September.
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## PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

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2023	"Our Money or Our Lives: How Competing Fields Make Claims on Public Health." To be presented at the Junior Theorist's Symposium at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, August.
2022	"The Economist's New Clothes: 'Rigorous Capital' and the Enigma of Policy Influence." Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Chicago, November.
	"RANDOMIZED STARS: Experimental Knowledge in the Economics of Social Policy." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, August.

“RANDOMized STARS: The Role of Experimental Research in Education and Health Economics.” Presented at the “Recent Shifts in the Boundaries of Economics: Philosophy and History” conference, Maison des Sciences Economiques, Paris, May.

“The Expertise of Crisis: Jurisdictional Disputes in School Reopening and Police Reform Debates.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, March.

2021 “The Economization of Early Life: Human Capital Theory, Genetics, and Social Policy.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Philadelphia, November.

“Policy-Based Evidence: Economic Expertise in the Fragmented Welfare State.” Presented “Contentious Politics, Tricky Science: Experts and Scientists in Controversial Policy Debates in Europe and North America” conference, Bordeaux, France, October.

“The Economization of Early Life: Human Capital Theory and the Politics of Evaluation,” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Social Studies of Science, Toronto, October.

“The Expertise of Crisis: Economists and the Temporality of Policy Response.” Presented at the virtual annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, August.

“The Economization of Early Life: Human Capital Theory, Genetics, and Social Policy.” Presented at the “Inventing Human Capital Theory: Historical Perspectives on Work, Education, and the Labor Market” workshop, University of California, Santa Barbara, April.

2020 “The Economization of Early Life: Human Capital Theory Meets Genetics.” Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association (canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic), October.

“Whither Universality? Single-Payer Healthcare and the Transformation of U.S. Policy Debate.” Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association (canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic), August.

2019 “Charter, Teacher, Doctor, Match: Economics and Social Policy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Chicago, November.

“RANDomizing the Cost of Healthcare: Economics, ‘Health Status, and U.S. Federal Policy.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Social Studies of Science, New Orleans, September.

“Whither Universality? Single-Payer Healthcare and the Transformation of U.S. Policy Debate.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, New York, June.

2018 “RANDomizing the Cost of Healthcare: The RAND Health Insurance Experiment and the Idea of Medical Cost Sharing.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Phoenix, November.

“Economizing the Social: The Institutionalization of Education and Health Economics.” Presented at the Center for the History of Political Economy Summer Institute, Durham, North Carolina, June.

2017 “Economizing the Social: The Midcentury Emergence of Education and Health Economics.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Montreal, November.

“Economizing the Social: The Midcentury Emergence of Education and Health Economics.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science, Boston, September.

“The Cost of Saving Babies: Calculations and Consequences” (with Stefan Timmermans). Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, August.

“Economizing the Social: The Emergence of Education and Health Economics in the Middle of the Twentieth Century.” Presented at the 14<sup>th</sup> “History of Economics as History of Science” workshop, École Normale Supérieure Paris-Saclay, Paris, June.

2016 “Economic Justice: from Economic Model to Legal Decision” (with Aaron Panofsky). Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Chicago, November.

“The Cost of Saving Babies: Calculations and Consequences” (with Stefan Timmermans). Presented at the “Labeling and the Politics of Markets” workshop, Ecole des Mines des Paris, Paris, October.

“The Cost of Saving Babies: Calculations and Consequences” (with Stefan Timmermans). Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Berkeley, June.

“Seeing Like a Firm: Educational Production and the Politics of Economic Expertise.” Presented at the “Expertise from Margin to Center” workshop, Columbia University, New York City, April.

“Standardizing the Cost of Saving Babies” (with Stefan Timmermans). Presented at the “Making Standards” workshop, Dalhousie University, January.

2015 “Value-Added Modeling in Teacher Evaluation: A Case Study in Economic Imperialism?” (with Aaron Panofsky). Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Baltimore, November.

“Value-Added Modeling in Teacher Evaluation: A Case Study in Economic Imperialism?” (with Aaron Panofsky). Presented at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, August.

“Historicizing Human Capital: Economic Knowledge and the Instability of Categories.” Presented at the SKAT25 Mini-Conference of the American Sociological Association’s Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section, Chicago, August.

“Seeing Like a Firm: Educational Production and the Politics of Economic Expertise.” Presented at the annual meetings of the History of Economics Society, East Lansing, June.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

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2014-2022 UCLA Sociology Graduate Student Mentor Undergraduate Honors Thesis Program

2018-2019 Co-Coordinator of the UCLA Sociology of Health Working Group

2019 Student Member, UCLA Sociology Graduate Student Admissions Committee

2015-2016 Co-President, UCLA Sociology Graduate Student Association

2014-2016 Co-Founder and Co-Coordinator, UCLA Sociology Theory Working Group

#### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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2021-2022 Elected Student Representative, Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section, American Sociological Association

Occasional reviewer: *Social Science and Medicine, Theory and Society, Socio-Economic Review, European Journal of Sociology, Educational Researcher, Science, Technology, & Human Values, History of the Human Sciences*

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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2017-Present	Society for the Social Studies of Science.
2016-Present	Society for the Advancement for Socio-Economics.
2015-Present	Social Science History Association.
2014-Present	American Sociological Association.

## **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES AND OTHER SKILLS**

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Proficient in Japanese

Proficient with *R* and *STATA* statistical computing software

Familiar with *HLM* and *SAS* statistical computing software

**References available upon request**