

ALEXANDER C. SUTTON

Washington and Lee University | Newcomb Hall
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EMPLOYMENT

- 2024-present **Washington and Lee University**, Lexington, VA
Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology &
Anthropology
- 2022-2024 **Washington and Lee University**, Lexington, VA
DeLaney Postdoctoral Fellow, Shepherd Program
- 2021-2022 **University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA
Pre-doctoral Research Fellow for Excellence through Diversity

EDUCATION

- 2022 **University of Virginia**, Charlottesville VA
Ph.D., Sociology
Dissertation: Composing the Creative Self: Constructing Meaning, Identity,
and Aesthetic Imaginaries in Contemporary Art Music.
Dissertation Committee: Isaac Ariail Reed (Chair), Fiona Greenland, Jeffrey
Olick, Claudio Benzecry (Northwestern University)
- 2018 **University of Virginia**, Charlottesville, VA
M.A., Sociology
- 2013 **Virginia Commonwealth University**, Richmond, VA
Post-Baccalaureate Graduate Certificate, Gender, Sexuality & Women's
Studies
- 2006 **Virginia Commonwealth University**, Richmond, VA
B.M., Music Composition

RESEARCH/TEACHING INTERESTS

Cultural Sociology, Sociological Theory, Sociology of Creativity, Sociology of Music & The Arts, Social Aesthetics, Disability & Impairment Studies, Interpretive Sociology, Cultural Production, Identity & The Self

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Sutton, Alexander C.** 2021. "Toward New Aesthetic Horizons: The Case for a Pragmatist-Hermeneutic Approach to Art Music." *The American Sociologist*. Vol. 52(4): 821-847

Sutton, Alexander C. 2020. "The Composition of Success: Competition and the Creative Self in Contemporary Art Music." *Qualitative Sociology*. Vol. 43(4): 489-513

Book Chapters

Sutton, Alexander C. 2023. "Constructing Difference and Diversity: Culture, Meaning, and the American Art Music Paradox." In *The Cultural Sociology of Art and Music*. Edited by Lisa McCormick. Palgrave MacMillan.

Book Reviews

Sutton, Alexander C. 2022, "Book Review of *Composing Capital: Classical Music in the Neoliberal Era*," by Marianna Ritchey." *International Sociology*. Vol. 37(2): 206-209

Sutton, Alexander C. 2021. "Socializing the Aesthetic." *American Journal of Cultural Sociology*. Vol. 9(1): 92-97

WORKS IN PROGRES

Article Manuscript

Sutton, Alexander C. Book Project: "Self-Curation and the Dilemma of Difference: On the Creative and Professional Lives of Contemporary American Composers"

Sutton, Alexander C. "Fetishization as a Condition for Cultural Appropriation"

Sutton, Alexander C. "Toward a Social Aesthetics of the Creative Self."

Sutton, Alexander C. "Locating the Black American Composer: Music, Authorship and Aesthetic Resistance"

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

2023	Lenfest Grant for Summer Research, Washington and Lee University, \$4,500
2021-22	Predocotrual Fellowship for Excellence through Diversity, University of Pennsylvania,
2020	Graduate School of Arts & Sciences Dean's Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Virginia, \$20, 000
2019	Raven Society Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Virginia, \$2500
2019	Office of Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs Professional Development Grant, University of Virginia, \$1,000
2019	Sociology Department Summer Research Grant, University of Virginia, \$2,000
2019	GSAS Council Research Grant, University of Virginia, \$1,000
2018	Fellow at the Rubin Institute for Music Criticism, San Francisco Conservatory of Music

- 2017 Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Summer Research Grant, University of Virginia, \$2,500
- 2017 Sociology Department Summer Research Grant, University of Virginia, \$900
- 2015 GSAS Research and Professional Development Grant, \$5,000
- 2015 Outstanding Sociology Graduate Student of the Year Award, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2014 Quest Innovation Grant for the VCU Accessibility M(app) Project, Office of the President, Virginia Commonwealth University, \$40,000
- 2013 Nominee, President's Award for Campus Multicultural Enrichment (PACME), Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2013 Black History in the Making Award, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2010 Fellow at the Grace E. Harris Minority Political Leadership Institute, Virginia Commonwealth University

PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 Guest lecturer, Colby College, Department of Sociology, Waterville, ME (virtual lecture)
- 2023 "Theorizing with Art and Music," British Sociological Association, Sociology of Art & Theory Study Groups, (virtual panel)
- 2021 "The Social Aesthetics of Identity and Creative Practice." Culture Workshop, University of California-Santa Barbara
- 2020-21 Guest lecturer, George Washington University, Department of Music, Washington, D.C.
- 2020 "Constructing Difference and Diversity: Interpreting the Creative Practices of Contemporary American Composers." Sociology of Music Network, *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* (virtual)
- 2018 "The Composition of Success: Competition and the Creative Self in Contemporary Art Music." *Center for Cultural Sociology Annual Conference*, Yale University, New Haven CT
- 2018 "The Composition of Success: Competition and the Creative Self in Contemporary Art Music." University of Virginia Sociology Department Colloquium, Charlottesville, VA
- 2012 "Men Seeking Men for (Fun)ds and Profit: A Marxist Critique of Pornography and Capitalism." *Public Sociology Graduate Conference*, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2019-2022 “Composing the Creative Self: Constructing Meaning, Identity, and Aesthetic Imaginaries in Contemporary Art Music.” IRB# 2639, Principal Investigator/Study Coordinator, University of Virginia
- 2017 “Examining the Role of Prizes and Competitions in Contemporary Music.” IRB# 2017-014800, Principal Investigator/Study Coordinator, University of Virginia
- 2014 “VCU Accessibility M(app) Project,” through the Quest Innovation Grant Program At Virginia Commonwealth University, Principal Investigator
- 2013 “Audience Research on Gonzo Porn.” IRB# HM14166, Study Coordinator, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2010 “*iCommunity* Student Survey Project,” through the Grace E. Harris Minority Political Leadership Institute, Virginia Commonwealth University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record (undergraduate courses)

- 2023 (Spring) **Social Inequality in American Cinema**
Sociology & Anthropology Department, Washington and Lee University
- 2023 (Winter) **(de) Constructing Disability in the U.S.**
Sociology & Anthropology Department, Washington and Lee University
- 2022 (Fall) **Producing Culture from the Margins**
2023 (Fall) Sociology & Anthropology Department, Washington and Lee University
- 2020 (Summer) **Sociology of Music**
Sociology Department, University of Virginia
- 2018 (Summer) **Sociology of Culture**
Sociology Department, University of Virginia

Graduate Teaching Assistant (undergraduate courses)

- 2021 (Spring) **Social Problems**
- 2020 (Fall) **Introduction to Sociology**
- 2019 (Fall) **Introduction to Social Theory**
- 2019 (Spring) **Criminology**
- 2018 (Fall) **Systems of Inequality**
- 2018 (Spring) **Introduction to Social Theory**
- 2017 (Fall) **Sociology of Culture**
- 2017 (Spring) **Introduction to Sociology**
- 2016 (Fall) **Social Problems**

Teaching Assistant responsibilities included facilitating weekly discussion sections, grading, and assistant instructor with general course development and preparation.

ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2021-2023 Article Manuscript Reviewer for *Poetics*, *Qualitative Sociology* and *Cultural Sociology*
- 2018-2019 Student-Faculty Meeting Liaison, Graduate Student Council, Sociology Department, University of Virginia
- 2013 Article Manuscript Reviewer for *New Cinemas: Journal of Contemporary Film*
- 2013 Student Representative, Faculty Search Committee, Sociology, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2013 Student Representative, Faculty Search Committee, Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2012 Student Representative, Promotion and Tenure Committee, Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2012-2013 President, Delta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta International Honor Society, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2012-2015 Staff/Student Representative, Equity & Diversity Committee, College of Humanities and Sciences, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2011-2013 Vice President, Students for Social Action, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2010 Volunteer Event Coordinator, Dogtown Dance Theater, Richmond VA

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association (ASA)
Social Science History Association (SSHA)