

**Amy B. Cooter, Ph.D.**

Vanderbilt University • Department of Sociology  
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**Position**

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2013-present Full-time lecturer in Sociology, *Vanderbilt University*

**Education**

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- 2013 Ph.D. Sociology, *University of Michigan*
- Dissertation: "Americanness, Masculinity, and Whiteness: How Michigan Militia Men Navigate Evolving Social Norms"
  - Committee: Genevieve Zubrzycki (chair), Alford Young, Kiyoteru Tsutsui, Matthew Countryman
  - Research supported by the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program 2007-2010
- 2005 B.A. Sociology and Psychology (summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa),  
*Vanderbilt University*

**Research & Teaching Areas**

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Crime & Deviance	Nationalism	Social Movements
Masculinity	Race & Ethnicity	Social Psychology

**Teaching Experience**

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*Instructor of Record at Vanderbilt University*

- 2013-present Sociology 101/1010 Introduction to Sociology (including Maymester session)
- Sociology 255/3702 Race and Ethnic Minorities in the U.S.
- Sociology 256/3704 Race, Gender, and Sport
- Sociology 3201 Cultural Consumption and Audiences
- Sociology 3703 Social Psychology of Prejudice

*Other Vanderbilt Teaching Service*

- 2015-2016 Mayfield Project" Behind the Lens" faculty advisor
- 2015 Faculty VUceptor for incoming freshmen

MOSAIC Weekend invited faculty lecturer

2014 Posse Plus Retreat invited faculty guest

Panelist for "Cultural Appropriation vs. Cultural Appreciation." Presented by the NAACP Vanderbilt Chapter. *Vanderbilt University*. Nashville, TN.

Panelist for "Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority's Affirmative Action discussion." *Vanderbilt University*. Nashville, TN.

2013 Panelist for "On the Outside Looking in: Black and Latino Males on the Margins of Society." Presented by the NAACP Vanderbilt Chapter. *Vanderbilt University*. Nashville, TN.

*Graduate Student Instructor at the University of Michigan*

2011 Sociology 102 Power Politics and Religion

Sociology 368 Criminology

2010 Sociology 102 Social Inequality

2007 Sociology 101 Principles of Sociology

*Other Michigan Teaching Experience*

2013 Training and supervision of graduate student teaching assistants

Guest Lecturer, Sociology 101 Introduction, Clemson University

2012 Department of Sociology, Exceptional Graduate Student Instructor Award

2012 University of Michigan Graduate Teacher Certificate

Guest Lecturer, Sociology 190 American Dreams, American Nightmares: A Sociology of U.S. Conservatism, University of California Berkeley

2011 Guest Lecturer, Sociology 368 Criminology, University of Michigan

2007-2011 Training and supervision of undergraduate RAs

- 10 students through the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program working on the Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative
- 6 students working through the Sociology Undergraduate Research Program working on my research

2010-2012 Mentorship of 2 sociology Honors Students as a graduate student

2008-2013     Yearly mentorship of graduate students applying for NSF GRFP and other grants

### **Selected Publications**

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- 2011            “Neo-Nazi Nationalism.” *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism* 11(3): 363-385.
- 2006            “Neo-Nazi Normalization: The Skinhead Movement and Integration into Normative Structures.” *Sociological Inquiry* 76:145-165.
- Winner, Alpha Kappa Delta (international sociology honor society) Undergraduate Paper Award Competition

### *Co-authored Publications*

- 2008            Lishner, David A.; Cooter, Amy B.; Zald, David H. “Addressing measurement limitations in affective rating scales: Development of an empirical valence scale.” *Cognition & Emotion* 22:180-192.
- Lishner, David A.; Cooter, Amy B.; Zald, David H. “Rapid Emotional Contagion and Expressive Congruence Under Strong Test Conditions.” *Journal of Nonverbal Behavior* 32:225-239.
- 2007            Most, Steven B.; Smith, Stephen D.; Cooter, Amy B. “The naked truth: Positive, arousing distractors impair rapid target perception.” *Cognition & Emotion* 21:964-981.

### **Selected Presentations**

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#### *Invited Presentations*

- 2015            MOSAIC invited faculty lecturer. " "Becoming 'raced:' cases of racialization." *Vanderbilt University*. Nashville, TN.
- 2014            Panelist for "Cultural Appropriation vs. Cultural Appreciation." Presented by the NAACP Vanderbilt Chapter. *Vanderbilt University*. Nashville, TN.
- Panelist for "Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority's Affirmative Action discussion." *Vanderbilt University*. Nashville, TN.
- "Militia Men and the Specter of the South." *Southern Sociological Society*, Charlotte, NC.
- 2013            Panelist for "On the Outside Looking in: Black and Latino Males on the Margins of Society." Presented by the NAACP Vanderbilt Chapter. *Vanderbilt University*. Nashville, TN.

- 2012 "A Muslim in the Militia? How Militia Members Construct National Identity with Michigan's Arab Population," *Earlham College*, Richmond, IN.
- 2011 "Methodological and Ethical Dilemmas in Researching Sensitive Populations." *Strategies for Conducting Qualitative and Ethnographic Research with Sensitive Populations*, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2010 "Symbolic Racism, Racial Codewords and Group Contact in 2009: A Case Example." *Association of Black Sociologists*, Atlanta, GA.
- "Coded Response to the USA's First Black President: The Michigan Militia as a Case Study of Lower-Middle Class White Males." *British Association of American Studies*, Norwich, UK.
- 2008 Morenoff, Jeff, Harding, David & Cooter, Amy. "Research on Prisoner Re-entry." *Michigan Department of Corrections*, Lansing, MI.

#### *Professional Conferences*

- 2014 "Racialized Threat: Muslim Americans and Nationalistic Exclusion." *American Sociological Association*, San Francisco, CA.
- 2013 "'Don't Tread on Me': Defiance and Compliance as Supporting American Values." *Society for the Study of Social Problems*, New York, NY.
- "Militia Masculinity: Protectors of Country, Family, and LGBT Populations?" *American Men's Studies Association*, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2012 "Militia Masculinities: Traditional Expression and Experimentation." *American Sociological Association*, Denver, CO.
- "Muslims in the Militia? How white, male Michigan Militia members construct community and national identity with Michigan's Arab population." *Society for the Study of Social Problems*, Denver, CO.
- 2011 "Social Scientists' Online Presence and Impact on Research: Lessons from Fieldwork with the Michigan Militia." *American Sociological Association*, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2010 "Media (Mis)Characterizations of Lower-Middle Class White Males and Perpetuation of Racial Animosity." *Society for the Study of Social Problems*, Atlanta, GA.
- 2009 "White Supremacist Response to 911: A Discourse Analysis." *American Sociological Association*, San Francisco, CA.

“Lower-Middle Class White Males’ Response to the USA’s First Black President: A Study of the Michigan Militia.” *Society for the Study of Social Problems Conference*, San Francisco, CA.

“Lower-Middle Class White Males’ Response to the USA’s First Black President: A Study of the Michigan Militia.” *University of Michigan, Election 2008 Conference*, Ann Arbor, MI.

“White Supremacist response to 911: A Discourse Analysis.” *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.

2008 Morenoff, Jeff, Harding, David & Cooter, Amy. The Neighborhood Context of Prisoner Reentry. *Population Association of America*, Detroit, MI.

2005 “Neo-Nazi Normalization.” *American Sociological Association*, Philadelphia, PA.

#### *Selected Media Presentations*

2016 "A look at militia groups in Michigan" *Michigan Public Radio*. Radio Interview. (<http://michiganradio.org/post/look-militia-groups-michigan#stream/0>)

2015 "So what are “constitutionalists” and why would a deputy worry about them?" By Daniel Walters. *Inlander*. Interview. (<http://www.inlander.com/Bloglander/archives/2015/08/12/so-what-are-constitutionalists-and-why-would-a-deputy-worry-about-them>)

"'Lady' team nicknames can be harmful, experts say." By Matt Slovin. *Tennessean*. Interview. (<http://www.tennessean.com/story/sports/college/vols/2015/06/29/lady-team-nicknames-can-harmful-experts-say/29492339/?from=global&sessionKey=&autologin=>)

2014 "Cliven Bundy's 'Range War'." *Radio West*. Live Radio Interview. (<http://radiowest.kuer.org/post/cliven-bundys-range-war>)

2013 "Militias." *National Geographic's Crazy Land*. On-camera interview. (netflix.com)

2012 "Militias." *Hidden in America*. On-camera interview. (<http://new.destinationamerica.com/>)

"Sikh temple shooter's ex arrested. What role do women play in racist groups?" By Mark Guarino. *Christian Science Monitor*. Interview. (<http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/2012/0808/Sikh-temple-shooter-s-ex-arrested.-What-role-do-women-play-in-racist-groups>).

2010 “Researcher: What Militias Want.” *CNN Newsroom*. Live on-camera interview. (<http://www.cnn.com/video/?/video/us/2010/03/30/nr.michigan.militia.cooter.cnn>).

“Deadline Now.” With Jack Lessenberry. *WGTE*, Toledo. Interview. ([http://www.wgte.org/wgte/watch/item.asp?item\\_id=6314](http://www.wgte.org/wgte/watch/item.asp?item_id=6314)).

“Hutaree Not an Ordinary Militia.” *Chicago Public Radio*. Radio interview. (<http://www.chicagopublicradio.org/Content.aspx?audioID=41064>).

*The Dave Ross Show*, Seattle. Live radio interview. (<http://www.mynorthwest.com/?nid=112&cmsid=90>).

“Hutaree man: Apocalypse? Fresh socks!” By Laura Conaway. *The Rachel Maddow Blog*. Interview. ([http://maddowblog.msnbc.msn.com/\\_news/2010/03/29/4087865-hutaree-man-apocalypse-fresh-socks](http://maddowblog.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2010/03/29/4087865-hutaree-man-apocalypse-fresh-socks)).

2009 “The Resurgence of the American Militia.” *HDNet World Report #731*. On-camera interview. Available through iTunes.

#### *Invited Blogs*

2012 "Problems Predicting Extremist Violence." *SEN Journal: Online Exclusives*. (<http://senjournal.wordpress.com/2012/09/16/problems-predicting-extremist-violence/#more-1805>).

2011 “Fieldwork in the Era of Facebook.” *A (Budding) Sociologist’s Commonplace* (<http://asociologist.wordpress.com/2011/07/28/guest-post-fieldwork-in-the-era-of-facebook/>).

2010 “Sociologist: How to understand militias.” *The Rachel Maddow Blog*. ([http://maddowblog.msnbc.msn.com/\\_news/2010/03/30/4090383-sociologist-how-to-understand-militias](http://maddowblog.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2010/03/30/4090383-sociologist-how-to-understand-militias)).

#### **Honors & Awards**

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2013 Rackham One-term Dissertation Fellowship

2012-2013 Sociology Department Small Grants

2012 Department of Sociology, Exceptional Graduate Student Instructor Award

2010-2012 Rackham Travel Grants

2007-2010 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

2006 LSA Regents/Departmental Fellowship

2005 Winner of Alpha Kappa Delta (International Sociology Honor Society)  
Undergraduate Student Paper Competition

Vanderbilt Sociology Outstanding Undergraduate Award

Graduated Summa Cum Laude, Vanderbilt University

Phi Beta Kappa (Academic Honor Society)

### **Other Research Experience**

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2013-2015 *Laboratory Manager*, David Zald's Affective Neuroscience Laboratory at  
Vanderbilt University

2007-2009 *Research Assistant*, "Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative" with Jeff Morenoff  
and David Harding at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research

2006-2007 *Research Assistant*, "State of Social-Psychology" with Jim House

2006-2007 *Research Assistant*, "Prison Project" with David Harding

2004-2006 *Research Assistant*, David Zald's Affective Neuroscience Laboratory at  
Vanderbilt University

- Conducted and managed data for numerous psychology experiments (attentional blink, scale development, and MRI amygdala studies), managed lab materials and ordering, supervised undergraduate RAs, and helped write NIH grant applications

### **Other Service**

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2007-2016 Occasional Reviewer

- *American Journal of Sociology*, *Gender & Society*, *Mobilization*, *Sociological Forum*, *Social Problems*, *Social Currents*