

## Daniel J. DellaPosta

---

CONTACT 503 Oswald Tower  
INFORMATION Department of Sociology and Criminology  
The Pennsylvania State University  
University Park, PA 16802  
Email: [djd78@psu.edu](mailto:djd78@psu.edu)  
Personal Site: [www.danieldellaposta.com](http://www.danieldellaposta.com)

RESEARCH Social networks, economic sociology, political sociology, organizations and  
INTERESTS institutions, culture, computational methods

### APPOINTMENTS **The Pennsylvania State University**

Associate Professor of Sociology, 2022–  
Graduate Faculty, Social Data Analytics, 2018–  
Affiliate, Institute for Computational and Data Sciences, 2017–  
Affiliate, Population Research Institute, 2017–  
Assistant Professor of Sociology, 2017–2022

### EDUCATION **Cornell University**

Ph.D., Sociology, 2017  
*Dissertation:* Closure and Collaboration in the American Mafia  
*Committee:* Michael Macy (Co-Chair), Victor Nee (Co-Chair),  
Benjamin Cornwell

### **University of Chicago**

B.A. with Honors, Sociology, 2011  
*Thesis Advisor:* Terry Nichols Clark

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

Liang, Xiaofan, Joshua Baker, **Daniel DellaPosta**, and Clio Andris.  
Forthcoming. “Is Your Neighbor Your Friend? Scan Methods for  
Spatial Social Network (SSN) Hotspot Detection.” *Transactions in  
GIS*.

Adler, Gary, **Daniel DellaPosta**, and Jane Lankes. 2022. “Aesthetic  
Style: How Material Objects Structure an Institutional Field.” *Sociological  
Theory* 40: 51-81.

Kim, Minjae and **Daniel DellaPosta**. 2022. “The Fickle Crowd:  
Reinforcement and Contradiction of Quality Evaluations in Cultural  
Markets.” *Organization Science* 33: 2496-2518.

Krajewski, Andrew T., **Daniel DellaPosta**, and Diane Felmlee. 2022. "Vertical Organizations, Flat Networks: Centrality and Criminal Collaboration in the Italian-American Mafia." *Social Networks* 68: 127-138.

**DellaPosta, Daniel** and Marjan Davoodi. 2021. "The Complexity of Associative Diffusion: Reassessing the Relationship between Network Structure and Cultural Variation." *American Sociological Review* 86: 1193-1204.

*Comment on Goldberg and Stein (2018)*

Andris, Clio, **Daniel DellaPosta**, Brittany N. Freelin, Xi Zhu, Bradley Hinger, and Hanzhou Chen. 2021. "To Racketeer Among Neighbors: Spatial Features of Criminal Collaboration in the American Mafia." *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 35: 2463-2488.

Felmlee, Diane, **Daniel DellaPosta**, Paulina Inara Rodis, and Stephen A. Matthews. 2020. "Can Social Media Anti-Abuse Policies Work? A Quasi-Experimental Study of Online Sexist and Racist Slurs." *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*.

**DellaPosta, Daniel**. 2020. "Pluralistic Collapse: The 'Oil Spill' Model of Mass Opinion Polarization." *American Sociological Review* 85: 507-536.

*Clifford Geertz Prize for Best Article (co-winner), ASA Culture Section*

*Roy C. Buck Award for best published article in the social sciences by an untenured faculty member from the College of Liberal Arts at Pennsylvania State University*

**DellaPosta, Daniel** and Victor Nee. 2020. "Emergence of Diverse and Specialized Knowledge in a Metropolitan Tech Cluster." *Social Science Research* 86, 102377.

**DellaPosta, Daniel**. 2018. "Gay Acquaintanceship and Attitudes toward Homosexuality: A Conservative Test." *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*.

Nee, Victor, Lisha Liu, and **Daniel DellaPosta**. 2017. "The Entrepreneur's Network and Firm Performance." *Sociological Science* 4: 552-579.

**DellaPosta, Daniel**. 2017. "Network Closure and Integration in the Mid-20th Century American Mafia." *Social Networks* 51: 148-157.

**DellaPosta, Daniel**, Victor Nee, and Sonja Opper. 2017. “Endogenous Dynamics of Institutional Change.” *Rationality and Society* 29: 5-48.

*Lead article in special issue with commentaries from R. Solow, M. Ruef, A. Van de Rijt, C. Cameron and M. Macy, P. DiMaggio, and R. Calvert*

**DellaPosta, Daniel**, Yongren Shi, and Michael Macy. 2015. “Why Do Liberals Drink Lattes?” *American Journal of Sociology* 120: 1473-1511.

*Outstanding Article Publication Award, ASA Mathematical Sociology Section*

**DellaPosta, Daniel**. 2013. “The Heterogeneous Economic Returns to Military Service: Evidence from the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study.” *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* 34: 73-95.

**DellaPosta, Daniel**. 2013. “Competitive Threat, Intergroup Contact, or Both? Immigration and the Dynamics of *Front National* Voting in France.” *Social Forces* 92: 249-273.

*Robin M. Williams, Jr. Best Graduate Student Paper Award, Department of Sociology, Cornell University*

WORKING  
PAPERS

**DellaPosta, Daniel**. “Bridging the Parochial Divide: Outsider Brokerage in Mafia Families.” *Revise and resubmit.*

Kim, Minjae, **Daniel DellaPosta**, and Liam Essig. “Why Moderate Voters Choose Extreme Candidates: Voter Uncertainty as a Driver of Elite Polarization.”

**DellaPosta, Daniel**. “The Weakness of Strong Expectations: Diffusion and the Self-Defeating Prophecy.”

Essig, Liam and **Daniel DellaPosta**. “Partisan Styles of Self-Presentation in Millions of Twitter Bios.”

**DellaPosta, Daniel**. “Coming-Out Stories and Gay Identity: A Narrative Network Analysis.”

BOOK  
CHAPTERS AND  
OTHER  
PUBLICATIONS

**DellaPosta, Daniel**. 2020. Book review for *Syndicate Women: Gender and Networks in Chicago Organized Crime*, by Chris M. Smith. *Contemporary Sociology* 49: 534-535.

**DellaPosta, Daniel** and Michael Macy. 2015. “The Center Cannot Hold: Networks, Echo Chambers, and Polarization.” Edward J. Lawler, Shane R. Thye, and Jeongkoo Yoon (Eds.), *Order on the Edge of Chaos*. Cambridge University Press. 86-104.

**DellaPosta, Daniel**, Yongren Shi, and Michael Macy. 2015. “Why Do Liberals Drink Lattes? How Lifestyles Tied to Political Views Can Be Self-Reinforcing among Partisan Groups.” *USAPP: The LSE’s Daily Blog on American Politics and Policy*. July 14, 2015.

**DellaPosta, Daniel**, Terry Nichols Clark, Stephen Sawyer, and Arkaida Dini. 2014. “Civic and Arts Activities Can Energize Politics, France, and Europe.” Terry Nichols Clark (Ed.), *Can Tocqueville Karaoke? (Research in Urban Policy, Volume 11)*. Emerald. 91-113.

AWARDS,  
GRANTS, AND  
FELLOWSHIPS

Clifford Geertz Prize for Best Article (co-winner), ASA Culture Section. 2021.

Roy C. Buck Award (for best published article in the social sciences by an untenured faculty member), College of Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University. 2021.

Seed Grant, Institute for Computational and Data Sciences, Pennsylvania State University. 2020.

Co-Principal Investigator (with Diane Felmlee, Alan MacEachren, and Stephen Matthews). “A Quasi-Experimental Study of Corporate Policy Effects.” National Science Foundation RAPID Grant (\$72,000). 2018.

External Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Economy and Society, Cornell University. 2017–present.

Outstanding Article Publication Award, ASA Mathematical Sociology Section. 2016.

Best Student Paper Award, Academy of Management’s Organization and Management Theory Division. 2016.

Best Graduate Student Paper Award, ASA Rationality and Society Section. 2015.

Ronald Burt Outstanding Student Paper Award, ASA Economic Sociology Section. 2015.

Robin M. Williams, Jr. Best Graduate Student Paper Award, Department of Sociology, Cornell University. 2012.

Seed Grant, Center for the Study of Inequality, Cornell University. 2011.

Seed Grant, Center for the Study of Economy and Society, Cornell University. 2011.

Russell Sage Fellowship, Cornell University. 2011.

Harold E. Goettler Political Institutions Prize (Honorable Mention), University of Chicago. 2011.

Panel Study of American Religion and Ethnicity Undergraduate Paper Prize. 2010.

CONFERENCE  
AND INVITED  
PRESENTATIONS

“(Why) Dense Networks Promote Norm Enforcement.” American Sociological Association. Los Angeles, CA. August 2022.

“The Weakness of Strong Expectations: Diffusion and the Self-Defeating Prophecy.”

- Computational Social Science Seminar at University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. April 2019.
- Interdisciplinary Committee on Organizational Studies Seminar at University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. March 2022.
- Organisational Behaviour Seminar at INSEAD. Fontainebleau, France. February 2023.

Panel on “Combating Political Polarization.” American Sociological Association. Virtual. August 2021.

“Why Moderate Voters Choose Extreme Candidates.”

- Berkeley Haas Management of Organizations Seminar. Virtual. April 2021.
- Institute for Analytical Sociology at Linkoping University. Virtual. May 2021.
- Population Research Institute Graduate Student Methods Workshop at Pennsylvania State University. Virtual. May 2021.
- American Sociological Association. Virtual. August 2021.
- Yale Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality. Virtual. October 2021.

“Political Polarization in the United States: A Network Approach.”

- Cornell University. Ithaca, NY. November 2019.
- University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee (invited by Graduate Students of Sociology Association). Virtual. March 2021.

“Pluralistic Collapse: The Structure of Mass Opinion Polarization.”

- International Network of Analytical Sociologists. Palo Alto, CA. June 2018.
- American Sociological Association. New York, NY. August 2019.

Panel on “Meaning and Social Contagion.” Academy of Management. Boston, MA. August 2019.

“Closure and Collaboration in the American Mafia.” Duke Network Analysis Center. Durham, NC. November 2016.

“Why Do Liberals Drink Lattes (And Why Should We Care)?” American Sociological Association. Seattle, WA. August 2016.

“Networks of Cooperation and Specialized Knowledge.” American Sociological Association. Seattle, WA. August 2016.

“The Fickle Crowd: Selective Differentiation in Cultural Markets.”

- American Sociological Association. Seattle, WA. August 2016.
- Academy of Management. Anaheim, CA. August 2016.

“Three Major Themes in American LGBTQ+ History.” Cornell oSTEM (Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). Ithaca, NY. April 2016.

“Bridging the Parochial Divide: Closure and Brokerage in Mafia Families.”

- International Network of Analytical Sociologists. Cambridge, MA. June 2015.
- American Sociological Association. Chicago, IL. August 2015.

“Endogenous Institutional Change.” American Sociological Association. New York, NY. August 2013.

“Does Veteran Status Have a Structural Effect on Earnings?” American Sociological Association. Denver, CO. August 2012.

“Why Do Liberals Drink Lattes?” International Network of Analytical Sociologists. New York, NY. June 2012.

## TEACHING

Department of Sociology and Criminology, Pennsylvania State University

*Undergraduate:*

Social Conflict  
The Mafia in American Society  
Research Methods  
Applied Network Science

*Graduate:*

Economic Sociology

Department of Sociology, Cornell University

Introduction to Sociology (Teaching Assistant)

ADVISING AND  
MENTORSHIP

*Ph.D. Committees:*

Liam Essig (Chair, in progress)  
Jisu (Jason) Park (Co-Chair, in progress)  
Marjan Davoodi (Co-Chair, in progress)  
Anthony Albanese (Member, in progress)  
Michael Belt (Member, in progress)  
Chris Julien (Member, in progress)  
Alejandra Bonilla-Mena (External member, Geography, in progress)  
Nawon Oh (External member, Management, in progress)  
Ilayda Onder (External member, Political Science, in progress)  
Seth Warner (External member, Political Science, in progress)  
Jason Williamson (External member, I/O Psychology, 2022)  
Ki Eun Shin (External member, Psychology, 2020)

*M.A. Committees:*

Abdul Basit Adeel (Chair, in progress)  
Zhi Li (Chair, 2020)  
Jason (Jisu) Park (Member, 2022)  
John P. Miller (Member, 2021)

*Undergraduate Honors Theses:*

Taran Samarth (2023)  
Nicole D'Amico (2021)

DEPARTMENTAL  
SERVICE

Department of Sociology and Criminology, Pennsylvania State University

Department Head Search Committee. 2021–2022.

Department Advisory Committee. 2020–2021.

Co-founder and co-organizer, Culture and Politics Workshop. 2018–present.

Sociology Graduate Committee. 2018–present.

Faculty Awards Committee. 2017–2018.

Job Market Preparation Committee. 2017–2018.

Department of Sociology, Cornell University

Graduate Admissions Committee. 2015–2016.

Co-Chair, Cornell Sociology Graduate Student Association. 2013–2014.

PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICE AND  
MISCELLANEOUS

Session Organizer, ASA Mathematical Sociology Section. 2022.

Ronald Burt Outstanding Student Paper Award Committee, ASA Economic Sociology Section. 2016.

Best Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, ASA Rationality and Society Section. 2016.

Journal Reviewer: *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Sociological Review*, *International Migration Review*, *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, *Management Science*, *Organization Science*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Rationality and Society*, *Social Forces*, *Social Networks*, *Social Problems*, *Social Psychology Quarterly*, *Sociological Forum*, *Sociological Methods and Research*, *Sociological Perspectives*.

Grant Reviewer: *National Science Foundation*

MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association

*Sections:*

- Mathematical Sociology
- Political Sociology
- Economic Sociology
- Sociology of Culture
- Rationality and Society