

CLAUDIO E. BENZECRY

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Office

Sociology Department
University of Connecticut
344 Mansfield Rd.
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Positions Held

2007- Present	Assistant Professor of Sociology University of Connecticut
2008- Present	Faculty Affiliate, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Connecticut
2008- Present	Faculty Fellow, Center for Cultural Sociology Yale University

Education

New York University, Ph.D. (Sociology), 2007.

Dissertation: "A night at the Opera. Morality, Status and Musical engagement in Contemporary Buenos Aires."

Universidad de General San Martín, M.A. Studies (Cultural Analysis), 2000.

University of Buenos Aires, *Licenciatura* (Political Science), 1997.

Areas of Specialization

Sociology of Culture
Music and Society

Sociology of the Arts
Ethnography

Social Theory
Latin American Studies

Written Work

Book

2011 *The Opera Fanatic. Ethnography of an Obsession*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Spanish Translation: *El Fanático de la Opera. Etnografía de una obsesión*. Buenos Aires and Mexico: Siglo XXI Editores. May 2012.

Edited Volumes:

2010 C. E. Benzecry and M. Krause. *Knowledge in Practice*. Special Issue of *Qualitative Sociology*. Vol 33 (4).

C. E. Benzecry (ed). *Hacia una nueva sociología cultural: Mapas, dramas y prácticas*. Edited volume with an introductory study. Buenos Aires: Quilmes University Press (Argentina). Forthcoming (November 2011)

A. Peer Reviewed Publications

Forthcoming "The Love For. Repertoires of engagement and work on the self." *Cultural Sociology*. Accepted with minor revisions.

2010 "How do they know? Practicing knowledge in a comparative perspective." Introduction to *Qualitative Sociology* 33 no.4: 414-422. Special Issue on Knowledge in practice (w/Monika Krause).

2009 "Becoming a fan. On the seductions of opera." *Qualitative Sociology* 32 no. 2. (leading article)

* featured in *Contexts* Fall 2009, p. 11 under "new and noteworthy social research."

Spanish translation: 2010. "Convertise en fan: las seducciones de la opera." *Documentos de Trabajo* 63. Cátedra Metodología de la Investigación Social. Departamento de Sociología, Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Buenos Aires.

2008 "Azul y Oro. The many social lives of a football jersey." *Theory, Culture and Society* 25 no 1.

2006 "With a little help from my friends. Intellectual sociability and literary value in contemporary Buenos Aires." *Ethnography* 7 no. 2. (leading article)

* featured in *Contexts* Winter 2007, p. 8 under "new and noteworthy social research."

2006 "Curtain Rising, Baton Falling. The Politics of Musical Conducting in Contemporary Argentina." *Theory and Society* 35 no. 4.

2005 (w/Eric Klinenberg) "Cultural Production in a Digital Age". *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 59 no 7. Thousands Oaks, CA: SAGE. (leading article)

2002 "Beatriz Sarlo and Theories of Popular Culture." *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies* 11 no.1. London: King's College/Carfax.

2001 "The Luncheon of the Boating Party. Professionalism and literature during the 90's" in *Hispanamérica* 87. Gaethisburg: Hispanamérica/University of Maryland. (In Spanish)

B. Chapters in books and edited volumes

Forthcoming "La cultura. Instrucciones de uso" in C. E. Benzecry (ed.) *Hacia una nueva sociología cultural*. Buenos Aires: Quilmes University Press.

2010 "Everything is dirt. Reevaluating the place of cultural status in aesthetic attachment" in E. de la Fuente (ed.) *Philosophical and Cultural Theories of Music*. Boston and Leiden: Brill. Pp. 263-286.

- 2010 "Theory and ... knowledge." *Perspectives* 32 (1) (Newsletter for the Section for Sociological Theory, ASA) May. (w/Monika Krause).
- 2009 "Presentación: Actualidad de Howard Becker." Introductory Study in Becker, Howard. *Outsiders*. Buenos Aires, México and Madrid: Siglo XXI editores. I-VII.
- 2007 "Beauty at the gallery. Operatic community and sentimental education in contemporary Buenos Aires" in C. Calhoun and R. Sennett (eds.) *Practicing Culture*. New York and London: Routledge.
- 2007 "Las múltiples vidas sociales de una camiseta de fútbol". *Apuntes de Investigación en Cultura y Política* 12. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur (In Spanish).
- 2006 "Las incógnitas que cruzan la nueva economía. Una entrevista con Richard Sennett". *Cuadernos del CENDES*. 23 no.61. Caracas: Universidad Central de Venezuela (In Spanish)
- 2004 "De músicos, nativos y sociólogos". *Apuntes de Investigación en Cultura y Política* 9. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur (In Spanish).
- 2002 "Jerarquías sociales, jerarquías culturales" in Altamirano, Carlos (ed.) *Léxico de Sociología de la Cultura*. Buenos Aires, México and Barcelona: Paidós. (In Spanish)
- 1999 "Con una ayudita de mis amigos. Apuntes hacia la comprensión de la sociabilidad en las presentaciones de libros". *Apuntes de Investigación en Cultura y Política* 4. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur. (In Spanish)
- 1997 "Transformaciones en el campo literario en la década del 90" in M. Margulis and M. Urresti (eds.) *La cultura en Argentina. Ensayos sobre la dimensión cultural*. Buenos Aires: Buenos Aires University Press. (In Spanish)
- 1997 "Subproducto: campo literario e industria editorial en la década del '90" in Ana Wortman (ed.) *Políticas y espacios culturales en Argentina*. Buenos Aires: Buenos Aires University Press. (In Spanish)

C. Work Under Review.

- "An Opera House for the 'Paris of South America.' A framework for the study of the pathways to high culture institutionalization.." Under review.
- "Pentecostal pastors and three chord rock. A formal approach to the reproduction of cultural forms" (w/Pablo Semán). Under review
- "A night at the Opera. From taste to Passion." Under review. Invited submission.

D. Work in Progress.

- "The geopolitics of case selection." At data gathering stage.
- "When capital doesn't spend" (w/Shamus Khan). In preparation for submission.
- "Música y sociología. Direcciones de investigación." (w/Pablo Semán) for Pablo Semán (ed.) *Aproximaciones socio antropológicas a los fenómenos musicales*. Buenos Aires: Editorial Gorla. In preparation for submission.
- "Learning the news. Endogenous variation in cultural consumption" (w/ Steve Ostertag). In preparation for submission.

E. Review Essays

- 2011 "A sociology of exposure and denial." *Sociological Forum* 29 no 4. (forthcoming, December 2011).
- 2010 "Sketches toward an Operatic Sociology." *European Journal of Sociology* 50 no. 3: 555-560.
- 2000 "Beatriz Sarlo: *La imaginación técnica. Sueños modernos de la cultura argentina*". *Nueva Sociedad*, Caracas (Venezuela).
- 2000 "Alta/Baja. Sociología y relativismo cultural". *Apuntes de Investigación en Cultura y Política* 5. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur.
- 1998 "Varón y sanito. A propósito de Jorge Salessi". *Apuntes de Investigación en Cultura y Política* 2/3. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur.

F. Book Reviews

- 2011 ¿"Estamos todos locos? A guisa de Mariano Ben Plotkin, *Freud in the Pampas*." *Apuntes de Investigación en Cultura y Política* 19. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur.
- 2011 "Kenneth H. Tucker Jr. *Workers of the World, Enjoy!*" *Contemporary Sociology* 40 (1): 97-8.
- 2008 "Paul Atkinson. *Everyday Arias*. " *Sociologica. Italian Journal of Sociology* 3.
- 2000 "Carlos Altamirano (ed.) *La Argentina en el siglo XX*." *Sociedad* 16.
- 2000 "Herbert Gans. *High culture and popular culture*." *Prismas* 5.

G. Textbooks

- 2001 *Ciencias Sociales. Historia y Formación Ciudadana*. Buenos Aires: Puerto de Palos. (In Spanish; w/ Eduardo Hourcade)

H. Invited Presentations

- 2011 "The Opera Fanatic. Ethnography of an Obsession." Author meets the critics. Panel with Richard Sennett, Vera Zolberg and Anne Midgette. Institute for Public Knowledge. NYU, NY. December 1st.
- 2011 "Opera y cierre social en Buenos Aires en el temprano siglo XX. Hacia una teoría de los regímenes de clasificación cultural." El Colegio de México. Mexico City. November 9.
- 2011 "Professionalization and critical sociology." NYLON workshop, New York University, NY. March 7.
- 2011 "Four handed sociology. Collaboration and knowledge production" (w/Andrew Deener). Sociology Department Proseminar. Brandeis University. Boston, Ma. March 3.
- 2010 "Tocaban en mangas de camisa! Revisitando algunas ideas clásicas sobre gusto y status." Seminario Permanente, Instituto de Desarrollo Económico y Social (IDES), Buenos Aires, July 12.
- 2010 "The Opera Fan. Ethnography of an Obsession." Center for European Studies, New York University, NY. February 26.

- 2009 “El Fanatico de Opera. Etnografía y sociología cultural en la concreción de un proyecto de investigación.” Organized by the Sociology Department. University of Buenos Aires. June 10.
- 2009 “An Opera House for the Paris of South America. Elites, Italians and City authorities in a classificatory struggle.” Sponsored by the Princeton University Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies. Princeton University Sociology Department, NJ. March 12.
- 2008 “Heroes, Devotees, Addicts and Nostalgics. Repertoires of engagement in the quest for self transcendence.” Junior Theorists Symposium. Organized by the Theory Section of the American Sociological Association. Harvard University Sociology Department. Cambridge, Ma. July 31.
- 2008 “Música y sociedad. Enfoques, conjeturas e interrogantes hacia una nueva sociología musical.” Organized by the Music & Society group. Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Buenos Aires. July 24.
- 2008 “Héroes, Nostálgicos, Adictos y Peregrinos. La música como forma de afiliación social.” CECYP. Centro de Estudio en Cultura y Política. Fundación del Sur, Buenos Aires. June 28.
- 2008 “The ‘love for.’ Aesthetic proclivities as forms of social affiliation.” Presented at the New York University Culture and Politics Workshop. New York, NY. March 24.
- 2006 “Moral listening: symbolic boundaries, work on the self and passionate engagement in a contemporary Opera House”. Talk given at the Sociology Departments of University of British Columbia, University of Connecticut and McMaster University. December.
- 2003 “The Luncheon of the Boating Party. Intellectual sociability and literary value in contemporary Buenos Aires”. Featured Speaker at the 4th Sociology in the Age of the Intelligent Machines Conference. Buffalo State University. Buffalo, NY. April 25-27.
- 2003 “Los escritores jóvenes en la Argentina de los 90: una militancia anti-trascendente.” Ciclo Transformaciones en el mundo intelectual. Aliance Francaise-Raisons D’Agir, Centro Cultural Rojas, Buenos Aires University. June 10.
- 2002 “Music and charisma. The Politics of Musical conducting in contemporary Argentina.” Guest Speaker at the Cultural Policy Seminar, Rockefeller Privatization of Culture Program. New School for Social Research. New York, NY. April 29.

I. Conference Papers

- 2011 “A formal approach to the reproduction of cultural forms. Thin and thick in cultural sociology” (w/Pablo Semán). 9th Annual Conference of the Yale University Center for Cultural Sociology. New Haven CT. April 29-30.
- 2010 “Pentecostal pastors and three chord rock. A formal approach to the reproduction of cultural forms” (w/Pablo Semán). 35th Annual Meeting. Social Science History Association,, Chicago, Ill, November 18-21.
- 2009 “Opera and social closure in 19th Century Buenos Aires. Detaching ritual classification from organizational form.” 34th Annual Meeting. Social Science History Association, Long Beach, CA. November 12-15.

- 2009 "An Opera House for the 'Paris of South America.' Notes towards a theory of classificatory struggle." 104th Annual Meeting. American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA. August 8-11.
- 2008 "Becoming an opera fan. Seductions of Opera." First ISA Sociology Forum. International Sociological Association. Barcelona, Spain. September 5-8.
- 2008 "Heroes, Devotees, Addicts and Nostalgics. Repertoires of engagement in the quest for self transcendence." 6th Annual Conference of the Yale University Center for Cultural Sociology. New Haven CT. May 2-3.
- 2006 "Opera crazed. The many dimensions of music as a morally engaging practice." 101st Annual Meeting. American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada. August 11-14.
- 2006 "A Night at the Opera. Morality, engagement and attachment through music." 4th NYLON Conference in Politics and Culture, New York University, March 17-19.
- 2005 "La reproducción moral de la belleza. Educación sentimental y comunidad operística en la Buenos Aires contemporánea." III Congreso Nacional de Sociología. Buenos Aires, Argentina. October 20-22.
- 2004 "The Moral Reproduction of Beauty. Sentimental education and operatic community in contemporary Buenos Aires." SUNY Stony Brook Ethnography Conference. Stony Brook, NY. April 30th.
- 2003 "Charisma and Alienation. Social Interaction among Orchestral Musicians". 12th Annual Graduate Student Conference. New York University Sociology Department. New York, NY. March 29.
- 2003 "Unity of Place". Introduction at the 1st. Ethnography New York Style Conference. CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY. March 28
- 2003 "A day at the Races. Isolation, masculinity and the quest for the perfect bet" 73rd Annual Meeting Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, Pa. March 1-3.
- 2002 "With a little help from my friends. Intellectual sociability and literary value". 1st NYLON Conference in Culture and Politics. London School of Economics-SSRC. London, UK. May 26-28.
- 2002 "Selling Buenos Aires. Tourism and Cultural Policy in the production of a national identity". 72nd Annual Meeting. Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, Ma. March 7-10.
- 2001 "Intelectuales o profesionales. El debate en la Argentina post-dictadura". XXIII International Congress. Latin American Studies Association. Washington D.C. September 6-8.
- 2000 "El almuerzo de los remeros. Profesionalismo y literatura en la década del '90". XXII International Congress. Latin American Studies Association. Miami, Fl. March 16-18.

J. Translations

- 2011 "Studies in the Genesis of the Naval Profession." Apuntes de Investigación 20. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur.
- 2009 "The Power of Inertia" by Howard Becker (w/ an introduction). Apuntes de Investigación 15. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur.

- 2007 *Nationalism* by Craig Calhoun. *Nacionalismo*. Buenos Aires: Ediciones del Zorzal.
- 2003 "Musician, Sociologist and Hearing Person: a Crisis of Identities" by Robert Alford. Apuntes de Investigación 9. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur.
- 2000 "Collective Action" by Charles Tilly. Apuntes de Investigación 6. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur.
- 1999 *Durable Inequality* by Charles Tilly. *La desigualdad persistente*. Buenos Aires: Editorial Manantial.
- 1998 "Identity Politics and the Left" by Eric Hobsbawm. Apuntes de Investigación 2/3. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundación del Sur.

K. Newspaper and Magazine Articles (in home country)

- 2010 "El fin de un ciclo?" Página 12. July 22.
- 2009 "La ópera, una pasión que ahora se explica." La Nación. May 30.
- 2005 "El trabajo. Nos hará libres? Interview with Richard Sennett". Diario Clarín. Book Review Supplement. December 24.
- 2005 "La política se fortalece con nuevos actores". Diario Clarín. Book Review Supplement. July 30.
- 2004 "El máximo coliseo argentino y sus usos". La Nación. August 14.
- 2000 "La letra con sangre entra. Interview with Loic Wacquant". Diario Deportivo Olé. September 23.

My research has been featured at ABC News.com, MSNBC.com, CNBC.com, USA TODAY.com, Washingtonpost.com, Kirkus Reviews; the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, The Sydney Morning Herald and The Brisbane Times; The Canada Standard, The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, The National Post (Canada); Kölner Stadt Anzeiger, Heise Daily, Wissenschaft Aktuell and Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (Germany); Salzburger Nachrichten (Austria); China Daily, Khaleej Times (United Arab Emirates), Al Watan Daily (Kuwait), Daily Times Lahore (Pakistan); O Estado de Sao Paulo, O Globo and Correio do Brasil (Brazil); Radio Torino (Italy), Radio Nacional, Revista Teatro Colón, Radio Metro and La Nación (Argentina); El Confidencial (Spain) and Monitorul (Romania).

Contexts has featured my work at the Discoveries section of the magazine on Winter 2007 and Fall 2009.

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor. Dept. of Sociology, University of Connecticut.
 Fall 2007/08/10. Social Theory. Undergraduate course.
 Spring 2008 and 2011. Contemporary Social Theory. Graduate course
 Spring 2008/09/11. Social Theory. Undergraduate course.
 Fall 2008/09. Qualitative Methods 1. Graduate course.
 Spring 2009. Contemporary Classics in the Sociology of Culture. Graduate Course.
 Fall 2009/2010. Core Theorists. Graduate course.

Instructor, Dept. of Sociology, New York University.
 Summer session 2006. Sociological Theory.

Adjunct Lecturer, Dept. of Media and Film Studies, Hunter College, CUNY, 2000-2001. Introduction to Media Studies.

Instructor, Dept. of Sociology, University of Buenos Aires, 1999-2000. Sociology of Culture.

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Local Media Consolidation Study, NYU, directed by Eric Klinenberg. 2004-2005.

In depth Interviewer, Transition to Adulthood Study, Second Generation Project, Mac Arthur Network, New York site, CUNY GC-Harvard, directed by John Mollenkopf, Philip Kasinitz and Mary Waters, 2001-2003.

Research Assistant, School of Social Science's Research Institute, University of Buenos Aires 1995-1998. In depth Interviews, literature reviewer, survey designer

Awards and Fellowships

- University of Connecticut AAUP Excellence Award in Research Promise. 2011
- University of Connecticut Junior Faculty Research Grant. 2008.
- GSAS Pre doctoral Fellowship. 2006.
- NYU GSAS Travel Grant. 2004, 2006.
- NYU McCracken Fellowship. 2002-2006.
- Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Cientificas y Técnicas (Argentina). External Doctoral Fellowship, 2001-2003.
- CUNY GC Provost Fellowship. 2002.
- CUNY Sociology Birdie & Fuchs Travel Award 2001.
- CUNY CCF Program. Graduate Student Fellow. 2000-2002.
- CUNY GC University Fellowship. 2000-2001.
- FULBRIGHT Commission (USIA) 2000-2002. Fellowship.
- IIE's Monica Mourier Archibal Fund 2000-2002. Supplement Fellowship
- University of Buenos Aires (Argentina) 1998-2000. Research fellowship.
- Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Cientificas y Tecnicas Graduate Fellowship, 1998.

Service to the Profession

2011-2 Co-organizer- *TULA- Taller on Urban Latin American*. This yearlong workshop makes U Conn the center of a regional seminar series, connecting faculty and graduate students across New England.

2011 Organizer, *Social Theory* Regular Session. 3 sessions organized on behalf of the Theory Section of the American Sociological Association. 106th Annual Meeting. American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV, August 20-23. Discussant, *'This is not political': Ethnographies of Political Life*. Eastern Sociological Society, February 24-27. Philadelphia, PA. Discussant, *Identity* Panel. SUNY Stony Brook 8th annual Ethnography Conference, April 15. Manhattan, NY.

- 2010 Expert Reader, *Junior Research Fellowship*, King's College. Cambridge, England. December.
- 2009 Organizer, *Junior Theorists Symposium*. Organized on behalf of the Theory Section of the American Sociological Association. University of California-Berkeley. August 7.
 Presider, *Cultural Hierarchies and Sources of Innovation* session. On behalf of the Culture Section. 104th Annual Meeting. American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA. August 8-11.
- 2003 Co-organizer, *Ethnography New York Style*. CUNY Graduate Center. March 28. Developed with a small group of graduate students and Mitchell Duneier and sponsored by most social science departments in the NYC area.

Editorial Positions

Co-Editor, *Culture*. Newsletter of the Sociology of Culture Section, American Sociological Association. 2011-

Associate Editor, *Apuntes de Investigación en Cultura y Política*. Buenos Aires: CECYP-Fundacion del Sur.

Editorial Board Member, *Qualitative Sociology*. 2009-

Reviewer, *American Sociological Review*; *American Journal of Sociology*; *Theory and Society*; *Sociological Theory*; *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*; *Theory, Culture and Society*; *Poetics*; *IJURR*; *Ethnography*; *The Sociological Quarterly*; *Urban Studies*; *Current Anthropology*; *Geopolitics*; *The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*.

Membership in Professional Associations

American Sociological Association; Social Science History Association; Latin American Studies Association; Eastern Sociological Society.

Service to the Department

Graduate Planning Committee, 2007-09
 Undergraduate Planning Committee 2009-2011
 Graduate Admissions Committee, 2007-09
 Colloquia Organizing Committee, 2008-11
 Executive Committee (elective position), 2009-2011

Student Supervision

Ph D Dissertation Committee
 Stephen Ostertag (completed, 2008), Lisa Bogardus (in progress), Christine Zozula (in progress), Trisha Tiamzon (in progress), Ranita Ray (in progress), Diego Vecino (in progress, chair, University of Buenos Aires).

Master Thesis Committee

Latisha Nielsen (completed, 2009), Trisha Tiamzon (completed, 2010), Chris Donnelly (completed, 2010), Sergio Mobilia (completed, 2010), Alex Thompson

(completed, 2011), James Hogan, Natalie Umsted and Elizabeth McBride (in progress)

PhD Comprehensive Exam Committee,
Sociology of Culture: Mustafa Gurbuz (2009), Nicholas Koenig (2009, chair)
Stratification/Work: Rodrigo Figueroa (2011)- Stratification/Education: Joseph Ma (2011)- Migration/Culture: Trisha Tiamzon (2011)

Advisees

Nicholas Koenig (Ph D)

Independent Study

Lisa Bogardus (Sociology of Attachment, 2009) and Trisha Tiamzon (Sociology of Food, 2011)

Language proficiency

Spanish: Native speaker.

French: Good reading comprehension and basic conversational skills.

Italian: Good reading comprehension and basic conversational skills.

Portuguese: Basic reading comprehension, able to read newspapers and sociology.

English: Fluent

References

Craig Calhoun

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Gaye Tuchman

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