

# Cody R. Melcher

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Assistant Professor of Sociology, Loyola University New Orleans  
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## Academic Appointments

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY—NEW ORLEANS, LA

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, 2022-present

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW—NEW ORLEANS, LA

Workplace Justice Project (WJP)

Stuart H. Smith Law Clinic & Center for Social Justice

Research Associate, 2022-present

## Education

THE GRADUATE CENTER, CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK—NEW YORK, NY

*Ph.D.*, Sociology, 2022

THE GRADUATE CENTER, CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK—NEW YORK, NY

*M.Phil.*, Sociology, 2021

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY—DETROIT, MI

*M.A.*, Political Science, 2018

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN—ANN ARBOR, MI

*B.A.*, Political Science, 2013

## Research Interests

The intersection of race and class; economic insecurity; public opinion; quantitative methods; experimental designs; labor history; US South

## Awards

FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD IN TEACHING (2023)

Loyola University College of Arts and Sciences

FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD IN ADVISING (2024)

Loyola University College of Arts and Sciences

## Book

**Melcher**, Cody R., Esther Cyna, & Olivier Maheo (eds.). *Class, Race, and Space in the American South: Essays on the Political Economy of Racism*. Forthcoming from Brill Academic and Haymarket Press.

## Peer-Reviewed Articles

- (11) **Melcher**, Cody R. 2024. “Black Lives Matter and the Changing Sociological Canon: An Analysis of Syllabi from 2012 to 2023.” *Teaching Sociology*. Washington D.C.: American Sociological Association.
- (10) **Melcher**, Cody R., and Joseph van der Naald. 2024. “The Centrality of the Workplace and Class Consciousness in the US South: The New Orleans Community Studies.” *Journal of Labor and Society*.
- (9) Lindsay, Spencer and Cody R. **Melcher**. Forthcoming. “Investigating the Origins of Status Threat Among White Americans.” *Public Opinion Quarterly*. (Accepted 12/1/2023).
- (8) **Melcher**, Cody R. and Michael Goldfield. 2024. “Gérer les affaires de la bourgeoisie à part entière : L'état américain, la législation progressiste et le New Deal” [“Managing the Common Affairs of the Whole Bourgeoisie: The American State, Progressive Legislation, and the New Deal”]. *Mouvement ouvrier, luttes de classes et révolutions – Revue d'histoire (MOLCER Revue)* Issue 8: 30-38. Translated into French by Donna Kesselman.
- (7) **Melcher**, Cody R. 2023. “Race Scholars Denied Syllabus.” *TRAILS: Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology*. Washington D.C.: American Sociological Association.  
Also featured in *Teaching Sociology* 2024, Vol. 52(1): 103-105.
- (6) **Melcher**, Cody R. 2023. “Economic Insecurity and the Racial Attitudes of White Americans.” *American Politics Research* 51(3): 343-356.
- (5) **Melcher**, Cody R. 2023. “Economic Self-Interest and Americans’ Redistributive, Class, and Racial Attitudes: The Case of Economic Insecurity.” *Political Behavior* 45: 175-196.
- (4) **Melcher**, Cody R. 2021. “The Political Economy of ‘White Identity Politics’: Economic Self-Interest and Perceptions of Immigration.” *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 44.2: 293-313.
- (3) **Melcher**, Cody R. 2021. “Who’s Afraid of 1619?: Pedagogy, Race, and Class in the United States.” *Dialectical Anthropology* 45.2: 183-189.
- (2) **Melcher**, Cody R. 2020. “First as Tragedy, Then as Farce: W.E.B. Du Bois, Left-Wing Radicalism, and the Problem of Interracial Labor Unionism.” *Critical Sociology* 46.7-8: 1041-1055.
- (1) Goldfield, Michael & Cody R. **Melcher**. 2019. “The Myth of Section 7(a): Worker Militancy, Progressive Labor Legislation, and the Coal Miners.” *Labor: Studies in Working-Class History* 16.4: 49-65.

## Encyclopedia Entries

- Melcher**, Cody R. & Michael Goldfield. 2019. “The Failure of Labor Unionism in the US South.” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*.
- Melcher**, Cody R. 2021. “Race vs. Class Debates.” *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Race and Racism*, ed. John Solomos, forthcoming (accepted 2/9/21).
- Melcher**, Cody R. and Michael Goldfield. Forthcoming. “National Negro Labor Council.” *Encyclopedia of the American Left, Third Edition*, ed. Paul Buhle, Mari Jo Buhle, and Dan Georgakas. New York: Verso. (Accepted September 2020; 2023 expected publication date).

## Popular Press Publications

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2024. “Canary in the Coal Mine: Mass Incarceration in Louisiana.” *Spectre Journal*.

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2023. “Father Louis Twomey and the Fight for Labor and Civil Rights at Loyola.” *JustSouth Monthly* No. 130.

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2022. “The Contemporary Relevance of Catholic Labor Radicalism.” *Jacobin Magazine*.  
Also published at *Portside*.

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2022. “What Do Socialists Actually Believe?” *Jacobin Magazine*.

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2021. “‘Southernism or Socialism—Which?’: White Supremacy and Labor’s Failure.” *Against the Current*. No. 211: 34-36.

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2021. “The Wages of Whiteness or White Fragility? W.E.B. Du Bois and the Enduring Problem of Interracial Unionism.” *American Sociological Association Marxist Sociology Blog*.

Goldfield, Michael & Cody R. **Melcher**. 2021. “Moments of Rupture: The 1930s and the Great Depression.” *Convergence Magazine*.  
Also published at *Portside*.

Goldfield, Michael & Cody R. **Melcher**. 2020. “American Exceptionalism or the Trump Aberration? Race and Class in American Politics.” *Left Voice*.

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2019. “Progressive Illusions, Radical Promises: The Working Class and the State.” *Left Voice*.

## Book Reviews

**Melcher**, Cody R. & Michael Goldfield. 2018. “Review of Rights Delayed: The American State and the Defeat of Progressive Unions, 1935-1950.” *Journal of Labor and Society* 21(2): 265-268.

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2017. “Review of Uninformed: Why People Know so Little about Politics and What We Can do about It.” *Journal of Political Science Education* 13(3): 370-372.

## Research Grants Awarded

Workplace Justice Project

“Creating a Roadmap for a More Equitable New Orleans:  
Finding Economic Security” (2022-present)

Amount: \$18,000

Multidisciplinary Enhancement of Geospatial Tools for GIS, Mapping and Data Visualization  
at Loyola University New Orleans

Co-Principal Investigator (2022-2023)

Amount: \$101,573

Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality

“Survey Experiment Research Grant” (2022)

Amount: \$3,000

PSC-CUNY Research Grant 63139-00 51:

“Economic Insecurity and Social and Political Attitudes” (2021)

Amount: \$3,500

Early Research Initiative (ERI) Catalyst Grant:  
“Economic Insecurity Survey Experiment” (2020)

Amount: \$2,000

## Teaching Experience

AS INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD AT LOYOLA AT RAYBURN (LO-RAY; RAYBURN CORRECTIONAL CENTER, ANGIE, LOUISIANA)

*SOCI-A335*: Research Methods and Techniques: Spring 2024

*SOCI-A338*: Research Methods Lab: Spring 2024

AS INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS

*SOCI-A336*: Social Statistics: Spring 2023; Spring 2024

*SOCI-A339*: Social Statistics Lab: Spring 2023; Spring 2024

*SOCI-A302*: Race Scholars Denied: Spring 2023; Spring 2024

*SOCI-X234*: Capitalism: Spring 2023; Summer 2024; Fall 2024

*SOCI-A335*: Research Methods and Techniques: Fall 2022; Fall 2023; Fall 2024

*SOCI-A338*: Research Methods Lab: Fall 2022; Fall 2023; Fall 2024

*SOCI-A310*: Social Policy: Fall 2022; Fall 2023

*SOCI-A300*: Urban Sociology: Fall 2022; Fall 2023; Fall 2024

*SOCI-A499*: Independent Study (Advanced Statistics): Fall 2023

*SOCI-A499*: Independent Study (Sociology of American Radicalism): Spring 2024; Fall 2024

*SOCI-A499*: Independent Study (Sociology of Black Nationalism): Spring 2024; Fall 2024

*Sociology Capstone Theses Advised*: Fall 2022, two students; Spring 2023, three students; Fall 2023, four students; Spring 2024, five students.

AS INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD AT THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK

*SOC 31996*: Capitalism: Fall 2019; Fall 2020; Fall 2021

*SOC 27400*: Urban Politics and Policy: Spring 2020; Spring 2021; Spring 2022

AS INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD AT WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY:

*PS 2240*: Urban Politics and Policy: Spring 2017

*PS 3520*: Justice: Fall 2016

*PS 1010*: American Government: Fall 2015 & Spring 2016

## Conference Papers and Presentations

**Melcher**, Cody R. and Spencer Lindsay. 2024. “What do American Socialists Really Believe? Political Polarization, Partisanship, and the Problem of Socialist-Identifiers.” Presented at the 94th Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, 1/10/2024, New Orleans, LA.

**Melcher**, Cody R. and Michael Goldfield. 2023. [Keynote Address](#): “The Fight for Workers’ Rights and Gender Equality in the US Today.” Presented at “Classe, race et lieux au péril du Sud : la politique américaine au prisme de l’œuvre de Michael Goldfield.” Sorbonne Université; Paris, France (2/1/2023).

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2023. “Michael Goldfield as Scholar, Mentor, and Agitator.” Presented at “Classe, race et lieux au péril du Sud : la politique américaine au prisme de l’œuvre de Michael Goldfield.” Université Paris-Est Créteil; Paris, France (2/2/2023).

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2022. Invited Speaker, “On the Contemporary Relevance of Louis Twomey, S.J.,” *Catholic Social Teach-In*, event sponsored by the Loyola University Community Action Program. (11/17/2022).

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2022. “White Supremacy as a Decommodification Strategy: The Role of Economic Insecurity in the Determination of White American’s Racial Attitudes.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Comparative Labor Politics Workshop.

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2020. “The Whip of Hunger: The Causal Effects of Economic Insecurity on Racial and Redistributive Attitudes.” Presented at the Experimental Design Workshop at Columbia University’s Interdisciplinary Center for Innovative Theory and Empirics, New York.

**Melcher**, Cody R. and Kevin G. Lorentz II. 2017. “Built Environment and the Court: An Experimental Substantiation of Political Aesthetics.” Presented at the 88th Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans.

**Melcher**, Cody R. 2016. “The Pragmatics of Style and the Redistribution of the Sensible: A Critique of Rancière.” Presented at the 74th Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago.

### **Reviewer for:**

*American Political Science Review*

*Social Forces*

*Political Behavior*

*British Journal of Political Science*

*Sociological Inquiry*

*Teaching Sociology*

*West European Politics*

*The Social Science Journal*

*Critical Sociology*

*The Sociological Quarterly*

Swiss National Science Foundation (grant reviewer)

### **Service to the Discipline**

Member of the 2024 American Political Science Association (APSA) Class & Inequality Award Committee (Best Paper on Social and Economic Inequality).

Organizer and discussant, “Book Talk on John Arena’s *Expelling Public Schools*,” Loyola University New Orleans (October 26, 2023).

Member of the Faculty Committee for African and African American Studies/Black Studies, 2023-present.

Member of the Standing Committee on the Loyola Core, 2023-present.

Organized and hosted *The Labor Spring: Loyola, the Labor Movement, and the Fight for Workers’ Rights*,” sponsored by the Workplace Justice Project at Loyola Law Clinic, The Kalmanovitz Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor at Georgetown University, and the Jesuit Social Research Institute (4/21/23).

Taught a seminar on R and RStudio to high school students at Loyola’s Neuroscience Summer Camp (Summer 2023)

Organized and taught a faculty workshop on R, RStudio, and RMarkdown (Loyola; Sep. 2022).

Conference Organizing Committee, “Classe, race et lieux au péril du Sud : la politique américaine au prisme de l’œuvre de Michael Goldfield.” Université Paris-Est Créteil; Paris, France (Feb. 2023).

Curriculum and Examinations Committee (Graduate Center; elected; 2019-2021)

### **Statistical/Survey Program Proficiency**

R, R Markdown, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Stata, SPSS, Qualtrics

### **Fellowships**

Graduate Center Fellow (CUNY)	2018-2022
Teaching appointment at the City College of New York	2019-2022
Research Assistant for Prof. Michael Goldfield (Wayne State)	2016-2022
Assisted in the publication of Michael Goldfield’s <i>The Southern Key: Race, Class, and Radicalism in the 1930s and 1940s</i> (2020) Oxford: Oxford University Press.	
Graduate Teaching Instructor (Wayne State)	2015-2017
Thomas C. Rumble Fellow (Wayne State)	2014-2015

### **Association Membership**

American Sociological Association  
Association for the Study of African American Life and History  
American Political Science Association  
Southern Political Science Association

### **References**

Leslie McCall, Presidential Professor of Sociology and Political Science  
Associate Director, Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality  
The Graduate Center, CUNY, Dept. of Sociology

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2285 FAB 656 W. Kirby  
Detroit, MI 48202  
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