

Curriculum Vitae of
Jaïta Talukdar, Ph.D.
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND POSITIONS

- 2013— present Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Loyola University New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 2008 –2013 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Loyola University New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 2007 –2008 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION

- 2008 Ph.D. Sociology. University of Cincinnati, USA.
Dissertation title: *A Sociological Study of the Culture of Fasting and Dieting of Women in Urban India*.
Chair: Annulla Linders.
- 2001 M.A. Sociology. University of Calcutta, India.
Special Area: Rural and Urban Sociology, Chair: Swapan Pramanik.
- 1998 B.A. Sociology. Presidency College, Calcutta India.
Minors: Economics and Political Science.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Sociology of Gender	Sociology of Culture
Sociology of Body/Embodiment	Popular Culture/ Popular Media
Gender Issues in India	Global Change and Development

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

- 2014 “The Science of Robust Bodies in Neoliberalizing India” in Daniel Kleinman and Kelly Moore (eds.) *Routledge Handbook of Science, Technology, and Society*, pp.136—150.
London:Routledge.
- 2014 “Rituals and Embodiment: Class Differences in Religious Fasting Practices of Bengali Hindu Women” *Sociological Focus* 47(3) (Lead Article)

Last updated: August 2016

- 2013 Talukdar, Jaita (2013) “The *Before-And-After* Template: Researching and Reflecting on Body Image Concerns in Globalizing India” in Afshan Jafar and Erynn de Masi Casanova (eds.) *Global Beauty, Local Bodies*, pp. 117—123. New York: Palgrave MacMillan (Invited)
- 2013 “Gender, Class Aspirations, and Emerging Fields of Bodywork in Urban India” *Qualitative Sociology* 36(1): 101-123 (with Annulla Linders).
- ❖ Received North Central Sociological Association’s *Scholarly Achievement Award* (*Article Division*) of the year
- 2012 “Thin but Not ‘Skinny’: Women Negotiating the ‘Never Too Thin’ Body Ideal in Urban India.” (2012) *Women’s Studies International Forum* 35(2): 109-118.

Book Review

- Forthcoming* Book Review of “Navigating Austerity: Currents of Debts along a South Asian River” by Laura Bear for *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews*
- 2012 Book Review of “Appropriately Indian: Gender and Culture in a New Transnational Class” by Smitha Radhakrishnan *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 117(5): 1527-1529.

Other Publications

- 2013 “Childhood Obesity, as a Women’s Issue.” *The Multimedia Encyclopedia of Women in Today’s World* Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- 2012 “Diet and Weight Control.” *Encyclopedia of Women in Today’s World* Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Vol.1: 390-394.

Works in Progress

“Hegemonic Code of Fitness Underlying the Discourse of Going to the Gym in Modern India”

GRANT APPLICATIONS, AWARDS & HONORS

- 2013 American Institute of Indian Studies, Senior Research Fellowships, “Postcolonial Body Projects: The Pursuit of Fitness in Neoliberalizing India” (Not funded).
- 2012 Nominee for excellence in *teaching*, Faculty Senate Award, Loyola University New Orleans.
- 2011 Nominee for excellence in *community service*, Faculty Senate Award, Loyola University New Orleans.
- 2009—2010 Faculty Research Grant, University Committees on Grants and Leaves, Loyola University New Orleans titled, “Bodies “in-between” Worlds: Making Sense of Fasting and Dieting as Social Institutions in Urban India” (Awarded: \$3,195).

- 2009—2010 Marquette New Faculty Fellowship, Loyola University New Orleans titled, “Bodies “in-between” Worlds: Making Sense of Fasting and Dieting as Social Institutions in Urban India” (Not funded).
- 2009 —2010 First Year Seminars, Course Development Loyola University New Orleans (Not funded).
- 2005 —2006 Graduate Travel Fund, University of Cincinnati (Awarded: \$700).
- 2004—2005 Taft Advanced Graduate Fellowship, University of Cincinnati (Awarded: \$12,500).

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2013 Talukdar, Jaita. “The Before-And-After Template: Researching and Reflecting on Body Image Concerns in Globalizing India” Panel on Globalizing Embodiment, National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference, 7th --10th October, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 2013 Talukdar, Jaita. “Hegemonic Codes of Fitness in Promotional Materials of New Gyms” Roundtable Session on Body and Embodiment, American Sociological Association, 10th--23th August, New York, New York.
- 2012 Talukdar, Jaita. “Postcolonial Body: Going to the Gym and Discourses of Fitness in Urban India” The Annual Conference on South Asia, 11th –14th October, Madison, Wisconsin.
- 2012 Talukdar, Jaita. “Rituals and Agency: Class Differences in Embodied Experiences of ‘Brata’ (Fasting) Practices of Bengali Hindu Women” Roundtable Session on Body and Embodiment, American Sociological Association, 17th --20th August, Denver, Colorado.
- 2012 Talukdar, Jaita. “From Being a Boy’s Club to a ‘Complete Health Facility’: Gyms in Urban India.” Session on Gender and Globalization, Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, 21st – 24th March, New Orleans, LA.
- 2011 Talukdar, Jaita. “‘Beauty Does Not Glow in a Skinny Body’: Dieting Practices of Women in an Urban City of India.” Regular Session on the Sociology of Body : Normative and Transgressive Bodies, Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, 20th -- 23rd August, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2010 Talukdar, Jaita. “On ‘the Rut of Being a Fat Housewife’: Gender, Class Aspirations, Fat Bodies in Urban India.” Regular Session on the Sociology of Body, Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, 14th -- 17th August, Atlanta, GA.
- 2010 Talukdar, Jaita. “Metrosexuals, Bromance (rs), and Cougars: Shakers or Non-Shakers of the Gender Structure?” Annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, 21st --25th April, Atlanta, GA (Presenter and Presider).
- 2009 Talukdar, Jaita. “What is in Your Plate? Social Class and Changing Food Preferences of Women in Urban India.” Annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, 1st-- 4th April, New Orleans, LA.

- 2008 Talukdar, Jaita. "Learning from 'Ludovic' and 'Labeija': Questioning Extreme and Neutral Stands on Gender in a Public University." Annual meeting of the North Central Sociological Association, 28th-- 31st March, Cincinnati, OH.
- 2007 Talukdar, Jaita. "De-romanticizing the 'New Indian Woman': Narratives of 'New Indian Women' Negotiating the Traditional-Modern Dichotomy in an Eastern Metropolis City of India." Annual South Asian Conference, 12th --14th October, Madison, WI.
- 2007 Talukdar, Jaita. "'It Is Not Only About Losing Weight': Talk of Diet in Urban Metropolises of India." Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, 11th --14th August, New York, NY.
- 2007 Talukdar, Jaita and Soma Chaudhuri. "Women, Depression and Anti-Depressants: Extending a Social-Structural Model to Explain the Use of Anti-depressants." Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, 11th --14th August, New York, NY.
- 2007 Talukdar, Jaita. "A Way 'Outa' the Cultural Maze? How Women Negotiate the 'Traditional-Modern' Divide in a Metropolis City of India." A paper presented at the joint annual meeting of the NCSA/MSS, 4th --9th April, Chicago, IL.
- 2005 Szaflarski, Magdalena, Lisa A. Cubbins, Jaita Talukdar and Ronald Freyburg. "Alcohol Use, Health, and Place of Birth: A Study of the Immigrant Population." Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, August, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2005 Talukdar, Jaita. "Where is the Culture in 'Culture- Bound' Phenomena of Self-Starvation? Conceptual Challenges in Understanding Self Starvation Patterns in a Metropolis City of India." Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, August, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2003 Talukdar, Jaita. "Looking Beyond the Thinness Model: Attempting a Sociological Explanation over a Feminist Explanation of Eating Disorders." Annual meeting of the North Central Sociological Association, Cincinnati, OH.
- 2002 Talukdar, Jaita. "Terrorist Camps as Social Institutions: Applying Goffman's Total Institution to Understand the Role of Terrorist Camps in Making of the Terrorist Self." Annual meeting of the North Central Sociological Association, Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

DIRECTED STUDENT RESEARCH (Selected)

- "Twitter Wars: Social Media, Ethnicity and Political Participation" (2014, Fall), Advised Capstone Project for Zahra Abdeljaber, Loyola University New Orleans.
- "Children, Toys, and Gender" (2013, Fall), Advised Senior Capstone Project for Kristen Wee, Loyola University New Orleans
- "Male Attitudes towards Female Thinness" (2013, Spring), Advised Senior Capstone Project for Marissa Getner, Loyola University New Orleans.
- "Are Laws Killing Women: A Cross-national Examination of Legislative Policies and Maternal Mortality Rates" (2012), Co-advised Senior Capstone Project with Sue Mennino for Joilynn Hollies, Loyola University New Orleans.

“Attitude Towards Corporeal Punishment: Does your Faith Endanger your Children?” (2012), Co-advised Senior Capstone Project with Marcus Kondkar for Elizabeth Whiteside, Loyola University New Orleans.

“Gender and Communication in the Classroom” (2011) Co-advised Senior Capstone Project with George Capowich for Veronica Claborn, Loyola University New Orleans.

“Transitioning from Autonomous Love to Monogamous Marriage: The Impact of Tourism on the Familial and Romantic Institutions of the *Moso-Zu* of China” (2011-2012), Honors Thesis Advisor for Grace Ledford, Loyola University New Orleans.

“Bounce Dancing and Gender Performativity” (2011), Co-advised Senior Capstone Project with Sue Mennino for Katherine McGuire, Loyola University New Orleans.

“Exploring the Intersection of Western Medicine and Traditional Beliefs of Health and Well-being in Refugee Camps” (2010-2011), Honors Thesis Advisor for Kristie Hadley, Loyola University New Orleans.

“AIDS Education in Uganda and the U.S.” (2009), Independent Study with Marlanea Peabody, Loyola University New Orleans

INVITED PRESENTATIONS (for student organizations and initiatives)

Talukdar, Jaita “A Feminist Critique of the Gender Script of Thinness” (2013) Loyola Philosophy Club Symposium, Loyola University New Orleans, 19th April, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Talukdar, Jaita “What do terms like Cougars, Bromance(rs), and Metrosexuals tell us about Gender Inequality?” (2013) Guest speaker for Freshman Seminar Course, Loyola University New Orleans, 12th March, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Talukdar, Jaita “Cougars, Bromance(rs), and Metrosexuals: A Feminist Appraisal.” (2012) Student Advocates for Gender Equality, Loyola University New Orleans, 18th April, New Orleans.

Talukdar, Jaita “A Feminist Appraisal of the Film, ‘Boy’s Don’t Cry.’” (2011) Women’s Initiatives Organization’s Movie Night, Women’s Resource Center, Loyola University New Orleans, 11th April, New Orleans.

Talukdar, Jaita “Indian Women and the Ultra-thin Ideal: A Discussion” (2011) Love Your Body Week at the Women’s Resource Center, Loyola University New Orleans, 16th February, New Orleans.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association (Section members: Body and Embodiment; Sex and Gender; Sociology of Culture)

Southern Sociological Society

Sociologist for Women in Society

Center for South Asian Studies at University of Wisconsin-Madison

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT/COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

- 2012 “India Etiquette Dinner” Invited to host a dinner by the Global Business Association, a student organization at the Business School, Loyola University New Orleans, 7th November 2012, New Orleans, Louisiana (Invited).
- 2011—2012 Served as the interim Co- Director of Loyola Himalaya Adventure Summer Program.
- 2011 (Fall) Served as a member of Standing Common Curriculum Committee’s Ethics Workgroup, representing the College of Social Sciences.
- 2011 (Spring) Served as a member of International Student Association E-Board Interview Committee.
- 2010—present Serving as a member of the Internationalization Review and Advisory Committee, representing the College of Social Sciences.
- 2010—present Serving as a member of the College Curriculum Committee, representing the Department of Sociology.
- 2010—2012 Served as a member of the Service Learning Advisory Board Committee, representing the College of Social Sciences.
- 2009—present Serving as a member of the Women’s Studies Committee (Steering Committee; Women Studies Curriculum Committee), representing the Department of Sociology and College of Social Sciences.
- 2009 (Fall) Served as a member of the Faculty Senate, representing the Department of Sociology.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2013— Editorial Board, *Sage Open* and *Sociological Focus*
- 2014 Discussant for panel on “Bodies, State, and Nationalism” for American Sociological Association’s (Bodies and Embodiment section) annual meeting at San Francisco, 17th- 21st August
- 2014 Organizer of panel on “Gender and Economic Inequality” for American Sociological Association’s (Sex and Gender section) annual meeting at San Francisco, 17th—21st August
- 2011—present Committee member of Body and Embodiment and Sex and Gender Sections of American Sociological Association.
- 2014; 2012 Served on Graduate Student Paper Award Committee for Body and Embodiment
- 2010 —present Manuscript Reviewer
(Books) *W. W. Norton Company, Oxford University Press, Routledge, Sage Publications*. Served on the Advisory Board of George Ritzer’s recently published textbook, “Introduction to Sociology” (Sage Publications 2012).

(Journals) *Qualitative Sociology, Sociological Focus, Folklore, Gender and Society, Women's Studies International Forum, International Political Sociology, Sociological Spectrum, Sage Open*

2009 Presider for a Session on Gender and Media at the Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting 2010.

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

2013 Invited to talk about social scientific research on “body language” for WWLTV’s Channel 4 show *504*. Aired on October 22, 2013
<http://www.wwltv.com/on-tv/wupl/The-504-Body-language-of-politicians-and-others-228873821.html>

2011 Co-chair of the Executive Committee for SGI-USA: Buddhists for Peace, Culture, and Education Marching band for Zulu, Mardi Gras Parade. Included month-long planning and coordination with seventy members toward successful participation in the parade.

2009 —present Translator for New Orleans Worker’s Center for Racial Justice.
Translate Bengali and Hindi for migrant workers to effectively communicate with their employers, social workers and immigration lawyers.

2009 (Summer) Loyola Himalayan Adventure (Study abroad program)
Organized a full-day service work for Loyola students at Koshish, a school for disadvantaged children in Delhi, India.

REFERENCES: (Provided upon request)