

Curriculum Vitae of
Jaïta Talukdar, Ph.D.
Department of Sociology---Box 30
Loyola University New Orleans
6363 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118
jtalukda@loyno.edu
504-865-2128 (office); 504-865-3229 (fax)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND POSITIONS

2013— present *Associate Professor*, Department of Sociology, Loyola University New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana

- 2018— 2019 *Interim Chair*, Department of Sociology, Loyola University New Orleans
- 2017— 2019 *Co-chair* of Women's Studies Interdisciplinary Minor, Loyola University New Orleans

2008 –2013 *Assistant Professor*, Department of Sociology, Loyola University New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana

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.*
2001 M.A. Sociology University of Calcutta, India.
Special Area: Rural and Urban Sociology
1998 B.A. Sociology. Presidency College, Calcutta India.
Minors: Economics and Political Science.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Global Change and Development
Sociology of Body/Embodiment
Globalization
Food and Gender

Sociology of Medicine
Sociology of Gender
Gender Issues in India

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

Forthcoming “Bodybuilding Does Not Need American Certification”: Cultural Entrepreneurship in times of Globalization in Contemporary Bengal” in Smitha Radhakrishnan and Gowri Vijayakumar (eds.) *Sociology of South Asia: Postcolonial Legacies, Global Imaginaries*. Palgrave-Macmillan.

2020 “Feeding and Fasting Bodies” in Natalie Boero and Kate Mason (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of Body and Embodiment*, pp. 257-272. Oxford University Press: New York.

2014 “Rituals and Embodiment: Class Differences in Religious Fasting Practices of Bengali Hindu Women” *Sociological Focus* 47(3): 141-162 (Lead Article).

- 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.
- 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
- 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)
- 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 Reviews

- 2021 Beauty Diplomacy: Embodying an Emerging Nation. By Oluwakemi M. Balogun. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, 2020. Pp. xiv+280 for *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 126 (4): 973-975.
- 2018 Transnational reproduction: Race, kinship, and commercial surrogacy in India. By Daisy Deomampo, New York University Press, 2016 Pp. 288 for *International Journal of Contemporary Sociology*, Vol. 59 (4): 347-348.
- 2016 “Navigating Austerity: Currents of Debts along a South Asian River” by Laura Bear for *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews* Vol. 45 (6): 721-723.
- 2012 “Appropriately Indian: Gender and Culture in a New Transnational Class” by Smitha Radhakrishnan *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 117(5): 1527-1529.

Works in Progress

- “Are Personal Trainers Cultural Entrepreneurs or Aesthetic Laborers? The Neoliberalizing of Fitness in Contemporary Bengal” (In Progress)
- “Discourses of Becoming a Fit Subject in English News Dailies in Neoliberalizing Kolkata” (In Progress)

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.

GRANT APPLICATIONS, AWARDS & HONORS

2020	SSRC New Interdisciplinary Projects in the Social Sciences, “Pandemics and Migrant Precarity: North-South Dialogues” (Soma Chaudhuri: PI; Co-PIs Elizabeth Chacko and Bandana Purkayastha; Consultants: Paromita Sanyal, Anandhi Shanmugasundaram, Jaita Talukdar and Anand Venkatesh).
2018	Marquette Faculty Research Fellowships, “Postcolonial Body Projects: The Pursuit of Fitness in Neoliberalizing India”
2018	Bobet Fellowship, “Globalization and Cultural Entrepreneurship: Global Fitness Culture in Contemporary Bengal”
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.”
2005 —2006	Graduate Travel Fund, University of Cincinnati.
2004—2005	Taft Advanced Graduate Fellowship, University of Cincinnati

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

2019	“Body Building Does Not Need American Certification” in Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, 16 th —18 th March, Boston
2018	Talukdar, Jaita. “Globalization and Cultural Entrepreneurship: Global Fitness Culture in Contemporary Bengal” Regular Session on Globalization. American Sociological Association, 11 th —14 th August Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
2017	Talukdar, Jaita. “Personal Trainers as Cultural Entrepreneurs” Social Science Historical Association, 2 nd –5 TH November, Montreal, Canada.
2013	Talukdar, Jaita. “Hegemonic Codes of Fitness in Promotional Materials of New Gyms” Roundtable Session on Body and Embodiment, American Sociological Association, 10 th --23 th August, New York, New York.
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, 7 th --10 th October, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2012	Talukdar, Jaita. “Postcolonial Body: Going to the Gym and Discourses of Fitness in Urban India” The Annual Conference on South Asia, 11 th –14 th 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, 17 th --20 th 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, 21 st – 24 th 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.

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

"Cosmopolitan Modernity and Reconstruction of Immigrant Mothering: Kodavathees Across the Asia Pacific" (2016, Fall) External Dissertation Examiner for Bittiandra Chand Somaiah, Macquarie University

UNDERGRADUTE STUDENT RESEARCH (Loyola University New Orleans)

- ❖ "Black Representation in Legal Firms: A Content Analysis" (2020 Spring)
- ❖ Midwifery and Black Women (2020 Spring) Lacey Warr

- ❖ “How Do Black Spaces in Entertainment Affect Representations of Black Women?” (2019, Spring) Shelsy Cacho
- ❖ “Hegemonic Bureaucracy and Popular Culture: A Critical Study of the Television Show *The Office*” (2019, Spring) Nora Corrigan
- ❖ “Los Islenos and Symbolic Ethnicity: Exploring the Significance of a Language Shift” (2019, Spring) Sierra Carvalho
- ❖ “”Stigma and Exchange in Sugar Dating Relationship” (2018, Fall) Advised Senior Capstone Project for Alice Mutrux
- ❖ “Children of Latino Immigrant Parents and Path to Education” (2018, Fall) Advised Senior Capstone Project for Alejandra Duke
- ❖ “Effects of Black Political Groups in Politically Working Class African Americans” (2018, Fall) Advised Senior Capstone Project for Ike Triplett
- ❖ “Gender Display in Social Media Advertising” (2018, Spring), Advised Senior Capstone Project for Victoria Nachman
- ❖ “Powerful Women in Beauty: Addressing the Relationship between Feminism and Cosmetics” (2018, Spring), Honors Thesis Advisor for Maggie McGovern
- ❖ “Racial Justice and Communities” (2017, Fall) Internship advisor for Marisa Jurczyk
- ❖ “College Students and Trigger Warnings” (2016, Fall) for Shadi Bhandari
- ❖ “Weight Stigma and Discrimination” (2014, Spring) Advised Capstone Project for Jack Schiller
- ❖ “Children, Toys, and Gender” (2013, Fall), Advised Senior Capstone Project for Kristen Wee
- ❖ “Male Attitudes towards Female Thinness” (2013, Spring), Advised Senior Capstone Project for Marissa Getner
- ❖ “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
- ❖ “Attitude Towards Corporeal Punishment: Does your Faith Endanger your Children?” (2012), Co-advised Senior Capstone Project with Marcus Kondkar for Elizabeth Whiteside
- ❖ “Gender and Communication in the Classroom” (2011) Co-advised Senior Capstone Project with George Capowich for Veronica Claborn
- ❖ “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
- ❖ “Bounce Dancing and Gender Performativity” (2011), Co-advised Senior Capstone Project with Sue Mennino for Katherine McGuire
- ❖ “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
- ❖ “AIDS Education in Uganda and the U.S.” (2009), Independent Study with Marlanea Peabody

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
 Southern Sociological Society
 Sociologist for Women in Society
 Center for South Asian Studies at University of Wisconsin-Madison

SERVICE TO Loyola

2020-2022	Currently serving as a member of the College Rank and Tenure Committee
2020-2021	Currently serving as a member of the Civil Rights Grievance Committee
2019-2020	Served as a member of the College of Arts and Sciences, Faculty Excellence Awards Committee, representing the Department of Sociology
2017—2019	Served as Co-chair of <u>Women’s Studies Minor</u> , Loyola University New Orleans
2017	Served on the <u>College Rank and Tenure Committee</u> , representing the College of Social Sciences
2017 (Fall)	Served as a member of the <u>Faculty Senate</u> , representing the Department of Sociology.
2009—present	Serving as a member of the <u>Women’s Studies Committee</u> (Steering Committee; Women Studies Curriculum Committee), representing the Department of Sociology and College of Social Sciences.
2011—2012	Served as the interim Director of Loyola Himalaya <u>Summer Program</u> .
2011 (Fall)	Served as a member of Standing Common Curriculum Committee’s <u>Ethics Workgroup</u> , representing the College of Social Sciences.
2011 (Spring)	Served as a member of <u>International Student Association E-Board</u> Interview Committee.
2010—2015	Served as a member of the <u>Internationalization Review and Advisory Committee</u> , representing the College of Social Sciences.
2010—2015	Served as a member of the <u>College Curriculum Committee</u> , College of Social Sciences representing the Department of Sociology.
2010—2012	Served as a member of the <u>Service Learning Advisory Board Committee</u> , representing the College of Social Sciences.
2009 (Fall)	Served as a member of the <u>Faculty Senate</u> , representing the Department of Sociology.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

2017	Served on North Central Sociological Association’s Scholarly Achievement Article Awards Committee
2013—2019	Editorial Board, <i>Sage Open</i> and <i>Sociological Focus</i>
2014	Discussant for panel on “Bodies, State, and Nationalism” for American Sociological Association’s (Bodies and Embodiment section) annual meeting at San Francisco, 17 th - 21 st August
2014	Organizer of panel on “Gender and Economic Inequality” for American Sociological Association’s (Sex and Gender section) annual meeting at San Francisco, 17 th —21 st 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
- Social Problems
 - American Journal of Sociology
 - Qualitative Sociology
 - Gender and Society
 - Gender, Work and Organization
 - Sociological Focus
 - Sociological Spectrum
 - Women's Studies International Forum
 - International Political Sociology
 - Sage Open
 - Journal of Integrated Social Sciences

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

- 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)