

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

2014 (August)—*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

Markets, Medicine, and Bodies	Globalization
Food, Gender, and Culture	Global Change and Development
Beauty and Society	
Sociology of Gender	

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

2022 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*. Pp.351-376 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 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.

Work in Progress

Books

- The Beautiful Body: Gender Perspectives (under contract with Routledge | Taylor and Francis Group) | *Work in Progress*

Journal Articles

- Building Fit Capital in the Face of Precarity: Fitness Entrepreneurship of Personal Trainers in Contemporary Kolkata | *Under Review*
- Discourses of Becoming a Fit Subject in English News Dailies in Neoliberalizing Kolkata | *Work in Progress*
- A Restaurant of One’s Own: A Punjabi Immigrant Community in Mid-Western Ohio Reimagining Precarity, Belonging, and Boundaries During the Pandemic | *Work in Progress*

Articles

- Fitness as Essential Work: Personal Fitness Trainers in Neoliberal Economies | *Work in Progress*

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.

Other

- 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

- 2023 Marquette Faculty Research Fellowships, “Genealogies of Care: The Role of Female Food Handlers in School-Based Feeding Programs
- 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.”
- 2004—2005 Taft Advanced Graduate Fellowship, University of Cincinnati

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Beside the Stove’Top: Women Handlers Maintaining a Care Context in School Lunch Programs in Urban India” Annual Conference on South Asia, 18th—21st October, Madison, Wisconsin.
- 2023 “A Restaurant of One’s Own: A Punjabi Immigrant Community in Mid-Western Ohio Reimagining Precarity, Belonging, and Boundaries During the Pandemic” Social Science International Interdisciplinary Conference, 26th – 27th July, Kolkata, India.
- 2022 “Retelling precarity: Analyzing Asian Indian immigrant worker experiences during Covid-19 pandemic across space and occupational structure” Boston Migration Workshop, Boston.
- 2021 “Cultural Entrepreneurship in Times of Globalization” Social Science History Association, 11th – 14th November, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2019 “Body Building Does Not Need American Certification” in Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, 16th—18th March, Boston
- 2018 Talukdar, Jaita. “Globalization and Cultural Entrepreneurship: Global Fitness Culture in Contemporary Bengal” Regular Session on Globalization. American Sociological Association, 11th—14th August Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2017 Talukdar, Jaita. “Personal Trainers as Cultural Entrepreneurs” Social Science History Association, 2nd –5TH 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, 10th--23th 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, 7th --10th 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, 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.

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

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

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association
Southern Sociological Society
Center for South Asian Studies at University of Wisconsin-Madison

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2017 Served on North Central Sociological Association’s Scholarly Achievement Article Awards Committee
- 2013—2019 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
- Social Problems; American Journal of Sociology; Qualitative Sociology; Gender and Society; Gender, Work and Organization; Sociological Focus; International Political Sociology; Qualitative Health; Sage Open.

REFERENCES: (Provided upon request)