

# Fabien Accominotti

University of Wisconsin–Madison

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## Academic positions

University of Wisconsin–Madison

Assistant Professor of Sociology, 2020–

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Demography and Ecology

Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Research on Poverty

London School of Economics

Assistant Professor of Sociology, 2014–2020

Faculty Affiliate, International Inequalities Institute

Faculty Affiliate, United States Centre

## External affiliations

London School of Economics

Fellow, International Inequalities Institute, 2020–

Sciences-Po Paris

Invited Professor, Medialab, 2020–

## Education

Columbia University

Ph.D. in Sociology, 2016

Columbia University

Master of Arts in Sociology, 2011

Columbia University

Visiting Scholar (Fulbright Fellowship), 2006–2007

Ecole Normale Supérieure, Cachan / Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales

Master of Arts in Sociology (with distinction), 2005

Ecole Normale Supérieure, Cachan, 2001–2006

## Publications

### *Book*

*Consecrated: Modern Art in Paris between Revolution and Hierarchy.*

Book manuscript under contract, Princeton University Press.

- Featured in the *Financial Times Magazine*, “Watch It While It Lasts: Our Golden Age of Television,” by Ian Leslie, April 13, 2017.

### *Peer-reviewed articles*

Léonie Hénaut, Jennifer Lena, and Fabien Accominotti. 2023. “Polyoccupationalism: Expertise Stretch and Status Stretch in the Postindustrial Era.” Forthcoming, *American Sociological Review*.

Fabien Accominotti, Freda Lynn, and Michael Sauder. 2022. “The Architecture of Status Hierarchies: Variations in Structure and Why They Matter for Inequality.”

*RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 8(6): 87-102.

- Featured in the *Down the Research Rabbit Hole* podcast, “Status Hierarchies,” January 2022.

Kate Summers, Fabien Accominotti, Tania Burchardt, Katharina Hecht, Liz Mann, and Jonathan Mijs. 2022. “Deliberating Inequality: A Blueprint for Studying the Social Formation of Beliefs about Economic Inequality.” *Social Justice Research* 35(4): 379-400.

- Morton Deutsch Best Article Award, International Society for Justice Research, 2023.

Fabien Accominotti. 2021. “The Aesthetics of Hierarchy: How Algorithmic Classifications Legitimize Inequality.” *British Journal of Sociology* 72(2): 196-202.

Fabien Accominotti. 2021. “Consecration as a Population-Level Phenomenon.” *American Behavioral Scientist* 65(1): 9-24.

Fabien Accominotti and Daniel Tadmon. 2020. “How the Reification of Merit Breeds Inequality: Theory and Experimental Evidence.” *LSE International Inequalities Institute Working Paper Series* 42: 1-37.

Fabien Accominotti, Shamus Khan, and Adam Storer. 2018. “How Cultural Capital Emerged in Gilded Age America: Musical Purification and Cross-Class Inclusion at the New York Philharmonic.” *American Journal of Sociology* 123(6): 1743-1783.

- Charles Tilly Best Article Award, ASA Comparative and Historical Sociology Section, 2020.
- Honorable Mention, Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award, ASA Consumers and Consumption Section, 2019.
- Profiled in the *Especially Big Data* podcast, “The Statistical Symphony,” December 2017.

Fabien Accominotti. 2009. “Creativity from Interaction: Artistic Movements and the Creativity Careers of Modern Painters.” *Poetics* 37(3): 267-294.

- Profiled in *Research: Breakthroughs in Knowledge and Ideas at Columbia*, July 2009.

Fabien Accominotti. 2008. “Marché et hiérarchie : la structure sociale des décisions de production dans un marché culturel.” (“Market and Hierarchy: The Social Structure of Production Decisions in a Cultural Market.”) *Histoire & Mesure* 23(2): 177-218.

#### *Other writings*

Fabien Accominotti. 2023. “Review of *Enrichment: A Critique of Commodities*, by Luc Boltanski and Arnaud Esquerre.” Forthcoming, *British Journal of Sociology*.

Fabien Accominotti. 2017. “Review of *Beyond the Beat: Musicians Building Community in Nashville*, by Daniel B. Cornfield.” *American Journal of Sociology* 122(6): 2015-2017.

Fabien Accominotti. 2015. "A Portrait of the Artist as a Prophet: Review of *Manet: A Symbolic Revolution*, by Pierre Bourdieu." *European Journal of Sociology* 56(3): 433-437.

*Working  
papers*

Fabien Accominotti and Michael Sauder. "The Making of Meritocratic Status Orders" (invited, *Annual Review of Sociology*).

Fabien Accominotti. "The Price of Hierarchy: Consecration and the Production of Economic Value in the Market for Modern Art" (invited revision).

Fabien Accominotti and Daniel Tadmon. "Meritocratically Unequal: How the Reification of Merit Hierarchies Fuels Inequality."

Fabien Accominotti. "Status Signaling, Rank Ambiguity, and Reciprocity in Informal Economic Exchange."

*In progress*

"Segregated Inclusion and the Changing Dynamics of Inequality" (with Shamus Khan).

"Elite Shifts in the Shadow of Democratization: Subscribers to the New York Philharmonic in the Era of the Great American Middle Class."

"The Consecration of Elites" (invited, *The Oxford Handbook of Elite Research*, edited by Mike Savage, Annette Lareau, and María Luisa Méndez).

"Sources of Social Status in the Contemporary United States" (with Freda Lynn).

"Where Do Status Hierarchies Come From?" (invited, *L'Année sociologique*).

"Elite Schooling and Peer Perceptions of Intelligence" (with Benjamin Brundu-Gonzalez).

"Matrilineal and Patrilineal Marriage Networks in the Emergence of the Dallas Upper Class" (with Shay O'Brien).

"Shifting Patterns of Royals' Interactions with British Society, 1870-1920" (with Marta Pagnini).

**Grants**

Fabien Accominotti (PI), "The Architecture of Meritocratic Evaluation and Its Impact on Inequality," Fall Competition Grant, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2022-2023, \$41,100).

Fabien Accominotti (co-PI, with Tania Burchardt), "Deliberating Inequality: Understanding the Social Formation of Beliefs about Economic Inequality," STICERD Grant (2019-2020, £10,000).

Fabien Accominotti (PI), "Explaining the Legitimacy of Inequality: Two Experimental Tests of the Consecration Hypothesis," LSE International Inequalities Institute Research Innovation Grant (2017-2018, £10,000).

Fabien Accominotti (co-PI, with Shamus Khan and Barbara Haws), “Subscribers to the New York Philharmonic, 1842–present,” Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Research Grant, Scholarly Communications Program (2012–2015, \$175,000).

Fabien Accominotti (co-PI, with Pierre-Michel Menger and Karim Hammou), “Collaboration as a Mechanism for Notoriety in Three Creative Industries,” French Department of Culture Research Grant (2011–2012, \$61,400).

### **Publicly available databases**

Market for Modern Art Exhibitions Database (1870-1930). 2023. Available from the National Archive of Data on Arts and Culture: <https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/pages/nadac/index.html>.

New York Philharmonic Subscribers Database (1842-present). 2016. Available from the New York Philharmonic’s Leon Levy Digital Archives: <https://archives.nyphil.org/index.php/open-data>.

### **Honors, awards, and fellowships**

Morton Deutsch Best Article Award, International Society for Justice Research, 2023

Nomination for UW-Madison’s Vilas Associates Awards, 2022

Charles Tilly Best Article Award, ASA Comparative and Historical Sociology Section, 2020

Nomination for LSE’s Student-Led Teaching Excellence Awards, 2020

Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award (Honorable Mention), ASA Consumers and Consumption Section, 2019

Winner, LSE US Centre Undergraduate Research Assistantships Program, 2019

Invited Scholar, Max Planck / Sciences Po Center on Coping with Instability in Market Societies, 2015

Nomination for LSE’s Student-Led Teaching Excellence Awards, 2015

Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, 2014 (declined)

Nomination for Columbia University’s Presidential Teaching Award, 2013

Aage Sørensen Memorial Conference Travel Award, 2012

Paul H. Klingenstein Fellowship, Columbia University, 2010-2011

Paul F. Lazarsfeld Fellowship, Columbia University, 2008-2013

Fulbright Fellowship, 2006-2007

Undergraduate Fellowship, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Cachan, 2001-2005

### **Invited talks**

“The Consecration of Elites” • London School of Economics, New Advances in Elite Research Conference, 2024

- “The Architecture of Status Hierarchies: Variations in Structure and Why They Matter for Inequality” • Harvard University, Status and Inequality Workshop, 2023 • Bielefeld University, Comparing, Categorizing, Valuating: Modes of Ordering Workshop, 2023
- “Segregated Inclusion and the Changing Dynamics of Inequality” • Harvard University, Stone Inequality and Social Policy Seminar, 2023 • University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Sociology Colloquium, 2023
- “Polyoccupationalism: Expertise Stretch and Status Stretch in the Postindustrial Era” • EM Lyon Business School, Storm Research Center in Strategy and Organization Seminar, 2023
- “Meritocratically Unequal: How the Reification of Merit Hierarchies Fuels Inequality” • University of Wisconsin-Madison, Institute for Research on Poverty Seminar, 2022 • University of California, San Diego, Sociology Colloquium, 2022 • Peking University, National School of Development Economic Sociology Workshop, 2021
- “Consecrated: Modern Art in Paris between Revolution and Hierarchy” • Collège de France, Sociology of Creative Work Symposium, 2021
- “How the Reification of Merit Breeds Inequality: Theory and Experimental Evidence” • Sciences Po, Medialab Seminar, 2021 • University of Wisconsin-Madison, Sociology Colloquium, 2020 • British Department for Work and Pensions, Hot Topic Tuesday, 2020 • Indiana University, SHeL Seminar, 2019 • Linköping University, Institute for Analytical Sociology Seminar, 2019 • London School of Economics, CASE Social Exclusion Seminar, 2019 • Cass Business School, City University of London, Management Research Workshop, 2019 • Columbia University, Wealth and Inequality Seminar, 2019 • Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies Public Lecture, 2019 • Sciences Po, Observatoire Sociologique du Changement Research Seminar, 2019 • University College London, Quantitative Social Science Seminar, 2019 • London School of Economics, Inequalities Seminar, 2019 • Università degli Studi di Torino, Collegio Carlo Alberto, Politics and Society Seminar, 2018 • MIT Sloan School of Management, Economic Sociology Working Group, 2018 • Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Social Processes and Structures Seminar, 2018 • Columbia University, Experimental Design Workshop, 2017
- “Beyond Bias: Optimizing for Equality” • CogX 2020, Ethics in Action Panel, London, 2020
- “Deliberating Inequality: Understanding the Social Formation of Beliefs about Inequality” • London School of Economics, Methodology Seminar, 2020
- “Consecration as a Population-Level Phenomenon” • Harvard University, Culture and Social Analysis Workshop, 2018 • London School of Economics, Economy and Society Workshop, 2016
- “How Cultural Capital Emerged in Gilded Age America: Musical Purification and Cross-Class Inclusion at the New York Philharmonic” • Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales & Opéra Comique de Paris, Performing Arts Seminar, 2021 • Yale University, Comparative Research Workshop, 2018 • Columbia University, Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences Seminar, 2018 • Cornell University, Center for the Study of Economy and Society Colloquium, 2017 • University of Oxford, Sociology Seminar, 2017 • Stan-

ford University, Sociology Colloquium, 2016 • University of Wisconsin, Madison, Center for the Humanities Public Lecture, 2016 • Laboratoire de Sociologie Quantitative, Paris, Quantitative Sociology Seminar, 2016 • University of Minnesota, Sociology Colloquium, 2016 • New York University, Sociology of Culture Workshop, 2016 • University of California, San Diego, Sociology Colloquium, 2016 • Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies Public Lecture, 2016 • University of Mannheim, Mannheimer Zentrum für Europäische Sozialforschung Colloquium, 2015 • University of Virginia, Sociology Graduate Student Colloquium, 2015 • University of Manchester, Mitchell Center Seminar, 2014 • Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Historical Sociology Seminar, 2014 • Columbia University, Wealth and Inequality Seminar, 2014

“A Theory of Consecration: Intermediation and the Formation of Economic Value in the Market for Modern Art” • Creative Industries Conference, New York University, 2017 • Goethe University Frankfurt, Social Sciences Colloquium, 2016

“The Price of Purity: Brokerage as Consecration in the Market for Modern Art” • Sciences Po, Centre de Sociologie des Organisations, Networks & Regulation Seminar, 2015 • Sciences Po, MaxPo Conversations on Ökonomie, Politics and Society, 2015 • Centre de Recherches Sociologiques et Politiques de Paris, Market Intermediation Seminar, 2010

“Consecration and Creativity: Insights from the Art World” • London School of Economics, Sociology Colloquium, 2014 • Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Valuation Seminar, 2013 • Stanford University, Graduate School of Business, Organizational Behavior Seminar, 2013 • University of California, Berkeley, Sociology Colloquium, 2013 • Harvard University, Sociology Colloquium, 2013

“Expected Futures and the Origins of Collaborations: Evidence from Rap Music” • Columbia University, Networks and Time Seminar, 2012

“Status Signaling, Reciprocity, and Favor Exchange Participation” • Columbia University, Networks and Time Seminar, 2010

“Creativity from Interaction: Artistic Movements and the Creativity Careers of Modern Painters” • Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, Art History Seminar, 2008 • Laboratoire de Sociologie Quantitative, Paris, Sequence Analysis Workshop, 2007

“Market and Hierarchy: The Social Structure of Production Decisions in a Cultural Market” • Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, Art History Seminar, 2006

## Conference presentations

“Polyoccupationalism: Expertise Stretch and Status Stretch in the Postindustrial Era” • American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Organizations, Occupations, & Work Section Session, Philadelphia, 2023

“Matrilineal and Patrilineal Marriage Networks in the Emergence of the Dallas Upper Class” • Social Science History Association Conference, Washington, D.C., 2023 • American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Historical Sociology Regular Session, Philadelphia, 2023

“Shifting Patterns of Royals’ Interactions with British Society, 1870-1920” • Social Science

History Association Conference, Washington, D.C., 2023

“The Architecture of Status Hierarchies: Variations in Structure and Why They Matter for Inequality” • Russell Sage Foundation Conference on Status and Inequality, New York, 2021 • Authenticity Miniconference, MIT Sloan School of Management, 2021

“Consecration as a Population-Level Phenomenon” • Literature in the Nobel Era Conference, Marbach, 2021 • Social Science History Association Conference, Montreal, 2017

“How the Reification of Merit Breeds Inequality: Theory and Experimental Evidence” • American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Inequality, Poverty, & Mobility Section Session, San Francisco, 2020 • RC28 Spring Conference, Turku, 2020 • SASE Conference, Amsterdam, 2020

“Deliberating Inequality: Understanding the Social Formation of Beliefs about Economic Inequality” • SASE Conference, Amsterdam, 2020

“The Price of Hierarchy: Consecration and the Formation of Economic Value in the Market for Modern Art” • Social Science History Association Conference, Chicago, 2019

“Status Signaling, Rank Ambiguity, and Reciprocity in Informal Economic Exchange” • American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Rationality & Society Section Session, New York, 2019

“How Cultural Capital Emerged in Gilded Age America: Musical Purification and Cross-Class Inclusion at the New York Philharmonic” • American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Special Session on Post-Bourdieuian Theoretical Agendas, Montreal, 2017 • Social Science History Association Conference, Baltimore, 2015 • International Network of Analytical Sociologists Conference, Harvard University, 2015 • Classical Music and Its Audiences in the Digital Age Conference, Paris, 2015

“Collaborations and Careers: Disentangling Quality Signaling from Collective Skill Formation in the Theater and Movie Industries” • Sunbelt Conference, Newport Beach, 2016

“Qualities and Inequalities: How the Interplay of Quality Signals Shapes Winner-Take-All Inequality” • American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Economic Sociology Section Session, New York, 2013

“Expected Futures and the Origins of Collaborations: Evidence from Rap Music” • International Conference on Recognition and Consecration in the Arts, Poitiers, 2012 • International Network of Analytical Sociologists Conference, Columbia University, 2012 • Sunbelt Conference, Redondo Beach, 2012

“Achieving Credibility: Jury Selection as Audience-Building and Impression-Making” • Aage Sørensen Memorial Conference, Stockholm University, 2012

“The Price of Purity: Brokerage as Consecration in the Market for Modern Art” • Max Planck Summer Conference, Northwestern University, 2012 • American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Economic Sociology Section Session, Atlanta, 2010 • SASE Conference, Philadelphia, 2010

“Status Signaling, Reciprocity, and Favor Exchange Participation” • American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Regular Session on the Dynamics of Social Networks, At-

lanta, 2010 • Sunbelt Conference, San Diego, 2009 • Association Française de Sociologie, Social Networks Conference, Lille, 2008

“Creativity from Interaction: Artistic Movements and the Creativity Careers of Modern Painters” • Association for Cultural Economics Conference, Copenhagen, 2010

## Teaching

*University of Wisconsin-Madison (2021–)*

Social Network Analysis (graduate & undergraduate)

Cultural Sociology (graduate)

Methods and Designs of Sociological Research (graduate)

*London School of Economics (2014–2020)*

Data Analysis (graduate)

Methods and Designs of Quantitative Social Research (graduate)

The Sociology of Culture (graduate)

Economic Sociology (graduate)

Data in Society (undergraduate)

*Columbia University (2012)*

The Sociology of Culture (undergraduate)

*Ecole Normale Supérieure, Cachan (2012 & 2013)*

Social Network Analysis and Relational Sociology (graduate, 3-day short course)

## Advising

*Ph.D. Committee Chair:*

Benjamin Brundu-Gonzalez (LSE)

*Ph.D. Committee Member:*

Benny Witkovsky (UW-Madison)

Wendy Li (UW-Madison)

Siyang Fu (UW-Madison)

Jordan Sallis (UW-Madison)

Javier Rodriguez (UW-Madison)

Jackie Ho (Cornell University)

Marta Pagnini (LSE)

Marion Lieutaud (LSE, Defended 2021, Current position: LSE Fellow in Computational Social Science)

Cornelia Reyes-Acosta (LSE, Media and Communications, Defended 2017)

*Dissertation Upgrade Committee Member:*

Muhammed Akdag (LSE, 2019)

Marion Lieutaud (LSE, 2018)

Yan Wang (LSE, 2018)



*Master's Advisor:*

Rodrigo Gonzalez Velastin (UW-Madison)

Minseo Cho (UW-Madison)

Katrina Wang (UW-Madison)

Umika Kumar (LSE)

Qi Li (LSE)

Christine Linge (LSE)

Marta Pagnini (LSE)

Josh Rosenberg (LSE)

*Master's Thesis Committee Member:*

Becca Bier (UW-Madison)

**Professional service**

Editorial Board, *Frontiers in Big Data* (2020–)

Advisory Board, *Sociologica* (2019–)

Reviewer, *Actes de la Recherche en Sciences Sociales*, *Administrative Science Quarterly*, *American Behavioral Scientist*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *British Journal of Sociology*, *Economy and Society*, *Histoire & Mesure*, *Journal of Cultural Economics*, *Journal of Mathematical Sociology*, *PLoS One*, *Poetics*, *Social Currents*, *Social Forces*, *Social Networks*, *Social Psychology Quarterly*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *Sociological Inquiry*, *The Sociological Quarterly*, *Sociological Theory*, *Sociology Compass*, *Symbolic Goods/Biens Symboliques*, *Valuation Studies*, *Work & Occupations*, Chapman & Hall, Polity Press.

Reviewer, European Research Council Advanced Grants Competition

Chair, Reinhard Bendix Student Paper Award Committee, ASA Comparative and Historical Sociology Section (2023)

Member, Program Committee, ASA Rationality & Society Section (2023)

Member, Nominations Committee, ASA Economic Sociology Section (2023)

Member, Program Committee, ASA Culture Section (2023)

Member, Nominations Committee, ASA Rationality & Society Section (2021)

Member, Barrington Moore Best Book Award Committee, ASA Comparative and Historical Sociology Section (2020)

Member, Mary Douglas Best Book Award Committee, ASA Culture Section (2020)

Member, Program Committee, ASA Economic Sociology Section (2020)

Member, Nominations Committee, ASA Organizations, Occupations & Work Section (2020)

Member, Richard A. Peterson Best Student Paper Award Committee, ASA Culture Section (2017)

Organizer, ASA Annual Meeting Section Session, “New Directions in the Study of Culture and Inequality” (Inequality, Poverty, & Mobility Section, 2023)

Co-organizer (with Sarah Bowen), ASA Annual Meeting Special Session, “Cultures of Clas-

sification: Race, Gender, and Class” (Sociology of Race, Gender, & Class and Sociology of Culture Sections, 2020)

Co-organizer (with Shamus Khan), ASA Annual Meeting Special Session, “Access without Integration: The Logics, Forms, and Consequences of Segregated Inclusion” (2017)

Panelist, SSHA Author Meets Critics Session for *Power for a Price: The Purchase of Official Appointments in Qing China*, by Lawrence Zhang (2023)

Panelist, SSHA Author Meets Critics Session for *Entitled: Discriminating Tastes and the Expansion of the Arts*, by Jennifer Lena (2021)

## University service

*University of Wisconsin-Madison*

Co-founder and co-coordinator, Experimental Methods Seminar, Department of Sociology (2023–)

Chair, Social Science Computing Cooperative Steering Committee (2022–)

Undergraduate Curriculum, Program Planning, and Assessment Committee, Department of Sociology (2022–)

Faculty Senator (2021–)

Doctoral Examination Committees, Department of Sociology: Culture; Organizations and Occupations; Social Psychology (2021–)

Social Committee, Department of Sociology (2021–2022)

*London School of Economics*

Internal Reviewer, European Research Council Consolidator Grants Competition (2020)

Chair, Master’s Program in Sociology (2018–2020)

Ph.D. Selection Committee, Department of Sociology (2017, 2018, 2019)

Co-coordinator, Department of Sociology Colloquium Series (2016–2020)

Co-founder and co-coordinator, Inequalities Seminar, International Inequalities Institute and Department of Sociology (2016–2018)

Junior Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology (2015, 2017, 2018, 2019)

LSE Fellow Search Committee, Department of Sociology (2015, 2019, 2020)

Chair, Master’s Program in Culture & Society (2014–2017)

*Columbia University*

Co-founder and co-coordinator, Networks and Time Seminar, Department of Sociology and Incite (2009–2014)

## Affiliations

Member, American Sociological Association, 2009–

Member, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 2010–

Member, Social Science History Association, 2013–

Research Associate, Incite, Columbia University, 2018–

Member, Ecineq Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, 2019–