

CHRISTINA CIOCCA ELLER

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2019-Present Assistant Professor of Sociology and Social Studies
Harvard University

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

June 2021- Assistant Director of Evidence and Policy
Dec. 2022 White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
Biden-Harris Administration (*on public service leave during this time*)

EDUCATION

May 2019 **Ph.D., Sociology**
Columbia University
Dissertation: "Organizational Effects on Bachelor's Degree Completion for the New Majority"

2007 **M.Sc., Management Research, with Distinction**
University of Oxford, Saïd School of Business

2006 **M.St., Women's Studies**
University of Oxford

2005 **B.A., Interdisciplinary Studies: Performance and Culture, *summa cum laude and valedictorian of the College class***
Georgetown University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Stratification, Inequality, and Social Mobility	Organizations and Institutions
Sociology of Higher Education	Race and Social Class
Mixed Methods Research	Sociology of Culture

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS UNDER REVIEW (* signifies graduate student co-authors)

C. Ciocca Eller. "What Makes a Quality College? Re-examining the Equalizing Potential of Higher Education in the United States." *American Journal of Sociology*, accepted.
Under the former title, "Superficially Coupled Systems and the Organizational Production of Inequality in Higher Education":

- Awarded the 2019 David Lee Stevenson Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper, Sociology of Education Section, American Sociological Association

Graziella Moraes D. Silva, Luciana de Souza Leão, **C. Ciocca Eller**, Flavio Carvalhaes, and Thomas A. DiPrete. 2022. "Similar Gaps, Different Paths? Comparing Racial Inequalities among BA Holders in Brazil and the United States." *International Journal of Comparative Sociology* 62(5): 359-384.

Thijs Bol, **C. Ciocca Eller**, Herman G. van de Werfhorst, and Thomas A. DiPrete. 2019. "School-to-Work

Linkages and Labor Market Earnings.” *American Sociological Review* 84(2): 275-307.

C. Ciocca Eller and Thomas A. DiPrete. 2018. “The Paradox of Persistence: Explaining the Black-White Gap in Bachelor’s Degree Completion.” *American Sociological Review* 83(6): 1171-1214.

Thomas A. DiPrete, Thijs Bol, **C. Ciocca Eller** and Herman G. van de Werfhorst. 2017. “School-to-Work Linkages in the United States, Germany, and France.” *American Journal of Sociology* 122(6): 1869-1938.

C. Ciocca Eller, Katharine Khanna* and Greer Mellon*. “Intermediate Educational Transitions and Inequality in U.S. Higher Education.” *R&R*.

C. Ciocca Eller, Natasha Quadlin, and Ohjae Gowen*. “The Economic Returns to ‘Some’ College: Heterogeneous Higher Education Pathways and Inequality in Early Careers.” *Under review*.

PUBLISHED TECHNICAL REPORTS

C. Ciocca Eller, 2017. “Increasing Success for Two-to-Four-Year Transfer Students within the City University of New York.” Technical report, Graduate NYC College Readiness and Success Initiative.

WORKS IN PROGRESS (* signifies graduate student co-authors)

C. Ciocca Eller. “New Majority Students and Upward Social Mobility: A Study of Boundaries, Beliefs and College Experiences.”

C. Ciocca Eller. “Getting Fit Right: A Multidimensional Approach to Understanding Inequality in College Outcomes.”

C. Ciocca Eller. “Curricular Diversity and Intensity: The Role of Detailed Postsecondary Curriculum in Social Stratification.”

- 2017 Maureen T. Hallinan Graduate Student Paper Award, Sociology of Education Significant Interest Group, American Educational Research Association

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

2022 “Getting Fit Right: A Multidimensional Approach to Understanding Inequality in College Outcomes.”

- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA

“The Economic Returns to ‘Some’ College: Heterogeneous Higher Education Pathways and Inequality in Early Careers”

- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA

2021

2020 “Inter-organizational Effects on Stratification and Inequality.”

- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Online (*declined; COVID-19*)

“Life Goes on After Dropout: The Early Life Outcomes of Four-Year Enrollees with “Some College, No Degree.”

- Sociology of Education Association, Asilomar, Pacific Grove, CA

- 2019** “Superficially Coupled Systems: The Organizational Production of Inequality in Higher Education.”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY
- “Understanding The College Major Decision Process for Traditionally Underrepresented College Students: A Longitudinal, Interview-Based Approach.”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY
- 2018** “New Majority Students and Upward Social Mobility: A Study of Boundaries, Beliefs and College Experiences.”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
 - Columbia University Workshop on Wealth and Inequality, New York, NY
 - American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY
- “Understanding The College Major Decision Process for Traditionally Underrepresented College Students: A Longitudinal, Interview-Based Approach.”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
 - American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY
- 2017-2018** “Institutional Effects on Bachelor’s Degree Completion for the New Majority.”
- Spencer/NAEd Spring Fellows Retreat, Washington, DC
 - Center for Research on Educational Opportunity, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana
- 2016** “Explaining the Black-White Gap in Four-year College Entry and Departure.”
- Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington
- “Postsecondary Curricular Trajectories: Trends, Outcomes, and New Directions.”
- Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, DC
 - Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Seattle, Washington
- 2015** “What Matters Most? Explaining the Gap in Dropout Rates Between Black and White Students.”
- Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL
 - Annual Meeting of the Population Association of American, San Diego, CA
 - Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Association, New York, NY
 - Columbia University Race, Ethnicity & Migration Workshop, New York, NY
- 2014** “The Strength of School-Work Linkages: A Comparison of Three Countries.”
- Aage Sørensen Memorial Conference, Oxford, England

SELECTED INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2022** “Getting Fit Right: A Multidimensional Approach to Understanding Inequality in College Outcomes”
- University of Wisconsin, Madison, Interdisciplinary Training Program in Education Sciences
- “Advancing Equity and Evidence in the Biden-Harris Administration”

- W.T. Grant Foundation Reducing Inequality Convening, Washington, D.C.
- 2021** “Alignment and Adaptation: Explaining Major (Non-)Declaration in Public Colleges.”
- Academic Pathways Flash Conference, Stanford University & the University of Michigan
- 2020** “Life Goes on After Dropout: Examining the Early Economic Outcomes of Students with ‘Some College, No Degree.’”
- MIT Sloan School of Business, Institute for Work and Employment Research
 - UCLA Department of Sociology, Stratification, Inequality, and Mobility Working Group
- “Loosely-Coupled Accountability: Re-examining the Equalizing Potential of Higher Education in the United States.”
- Ensuring Equitable Student Success in Higher Education Program, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, MA
- 2019** “New Majority Students and Upward Social Mobility: A Study of Boundaries, Beliefs and College Experiences.”
- Harvard University Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, MA
- 2018-** “Superficially Coupled Systems: The Organizational Production of Inequality in Higher
2019 Education.”
- Opportunity Insights, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
 - Mahindra Humanities Seminar on Higher Education, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
 - Haas School of Business, University of California-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
 - University of Chicago Department of Sociology, Chicago, IL
 - Yale University Department of Sociology, New Haven, CT
 - Harvard University Department of Sociology, Cambridge, MA
- 2016-** “The Integration and Success of Two-to-Four-Year Transfer Students: A Study of Three City
2017 of New York Colleges.”
- Community College Research Center, Teacher’s College, Columbia Uni., New York, NY
 - City University of New York, Council of Chief Academic Officers, New York, NY
 - City University of New York, Office of Policy & Research Seminar Series, New York, NY

GRANTS

- 2021-** W.T. Grant Foundation and Spencer Foundation, for “Advancing Equity as a Master Frame in the U.S.
2022 Government” (\$250,000).
- Milton Fund, Harvard University, for “Beyond Dropout: Examining Life Experiences and Outcomes among Those with Some BA College” (\$43,100).
- 2020** Inequality in America Initiative Research Grant, Harvard University, for “Beyond Dropout: Examining Life Experiences and Outcomes among Those with Some BA College” (\$45,000).
- 2018** Appointed advisor for the Transfer Opportunity Project, City University of New York. Institute of Education Sciences (IES) Grant R305A180139 (\$12,000 over 4 years).
- 2017** National Academy of Education / Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (\$27,500).

- 2015** Graduate NYC/ New York City Community Trust Research Fellowship for, “The Integration and Success of Freshmen and Transfer Students,” (\$28,000).
- 2015** The University of Texas at Austin Population Research Center Grant for, “Linking College Curriculum with Completion and Socioeconomic Returns,” (\$5,000).
- 2014** Research assistant under Thomas A. DiPrete, PI, for the National Science Foundation (Sociology program) Research Grant, “Fields of Study, School-Work Linkages, and Inequality: A Comparative Approach,” Grant SES-1423828, (\$268,897).
- 2014** Research assistant under Thomas A. DiPrete, PI, for the Spencer Foundation Small Research Grant, “School-Work Linkages and College Persistence,” (\$49, 992).

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2020** Merton Award for Best Dissertation in Sociology, Department of Sociology, Columbia University.
- 2019** David Lee Stevenson Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper, Sociology of Education Section, American Sociological Association.
- 2017** Charles Tilly Outstanding Teaching Award, Department of Sociology, Columbia University.
- 2017** Maureen T. Hallinan Graduate Student Paper Award, Sociology of Education Significant Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association, for the paper, “Curricular Diversity and Intensity: The Role of Detailed Postsecondary Curriculum in Social Stratification.”
- 2016** Revise and Resubmit Award for excellence in reviewing for the journal, *Sociology of Education*, American Sociological Association.
- 2012** Paul F. Lazarsfeld Fellow, Department of Sociology, Columbia University.
- 2007** Dean’s Award for Highest Academic Performance, Saïd Business School, University of Oxford.
- 2006** Rhodes Scholarship Finalist
- 2005** Healy Fellowship for Graduate Study at the University of Oxford, Georgetown University.

TEACHING

Harvard University

- Spring 2023** Race and Ethnicity in the United States, Undergraduate Junior Tutorial in Social Studies
Race and Ethnicity in the United States, Undergraduate Seminar in Sociology
- Spring 2021** Race and Ethnicity in the United States, Undergraduate Junior Tutorial in Social Studies
- Fall 2019** Race and Ethnicity in the United States, Undergraduate Junior Tutorial in Social Studies
Sociological Research Design, Graduate Course in Sociology
Inequality in America Proseminar, Graduate Course in the Harvard Kennedy School

Columbia University

- 2016** Instructor, Sociology of Education, Columbia University.

Teaching Assistant, Sociology of Teaching, Learning, and Curriculum, Columbia University.

- Service-learning undergraduate course offered through a multi-million dollar tutoring intervention funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

2015- Graduate Student Coordinator and Teaching Assistant, Workshop on Wealth and Inequality,
2016 Columbia University.

- Developed and led new student workshop in conjunction with the Seminar on Wealth and Inequality, directed by Thomas A. DiPrete and Seymour Spilerman.

STUDENT COMMITTEES

Dissertation Committees

Elena Ayala-Hurtado, Harvard University

Cherrie Bucknor, Harvard University

Leah Gose, Harvard University

Lilly Yu, Harvard University

Qualifying Paper Committees

Matthew Brooke, Harvard University

Abigail Mariam, Harvard University

Lauren Taylor, Harvard University

Tyler Woods, Harvard University

Senior Thesis Committees

Elise Colin, Social Studies, Harvard University

Malaiika Maka, Social Studies, Harvard University

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *Social Forces*, *Sociology of Education*, *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*; *American Educational Research Journal*, and *Educational Researcher*.

2020- University Hearing Committee, Harvard University.

2022

2020 Hoopes Prize Committee, Harvard University.

2019- Standing Committee, Committee on Degrees in Social Studies, Harvard University.

present

2019- Social Policy PhD Standing Committee, Harvard University.

present

2017 Graduate Student Representative, Sociology of Education Association.

2015 Member, Committee on Diversity and the Student Experience, Department of Sociology, Columbia University.

2015 Student representative for the Middle States Review of Columbia University.

2015 Internship in Academic Administration in the Office of the Provost, Columbia University.

2014- Graduate Student Co-Coordinator for the Seminar on Wealth and Inequality, Department of

2017 Sociology, Columbia University.

2013 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Sociology, Columbia University.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- American Sociological Association (Sections: Education; Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility; Organizations, Occupations, and Work; Race and Ethnicity; Sociology of Culture)
- Research Committee on Social Stratification and Mobility (RC28) of the International Sociological Association (ISA)
- Population Association of America (PAA)
- Sociology of Education Association (SEA)
- American Educational Research Association (Division: Postsecondary Education; SIG: Sociology of Education)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2010-2012 Director of Speechwriting and Strategic Communications, Office of the President, Georgetown University.

2007-2010 Communications and PR Associate, the Dilenschneider Group, New York, NY.