

Robert Manduca

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Department of Sociology
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Academic Positions

Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Michigan (2020-present)

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Inequality Dynamics
Faculty Affiliate, Michigan Institute for Data Science
Fellow, University of Chicago Center for Spatial Data Science

Education

Ph.D. in Sociology and Social Policy, Harvard University (2020)

Dissertation: *Social Structure, Space, and the Dynamics of Income Inequality*
Committee: Robert J. Sampson (chair), Mario L. Small, Jason Beckfield

M.C.P., Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2014)

B.A. with High Honors in Economics, Swarthmore College (2010)

Publications

Fritz, B. & **Manduca, R.** The Economic Complexity of US Metropolitan Areas. Accepted, *Regional Studies*. ([Preprint](#))

Manduca, R. & Sampson, R.J. 2021. Childhood Exposure to Polluted Neighborhood Environments: An Analysis of Intergenerational Income Mobility, Teenage Birth, and Incarceration in the U.S. *Population and Environment*. ([Publisher's version](#) | [Preprint](#))

Spicer, J., **Manduca, R.**, & Kay, T. 2020. National Living Wage Movements in a Regional World: The Fight for \$15 in the United States. *Labor and Employment Relations Association Research Volume*.

Manduca, R. 2020. The Spatial Structure of US Metropolitan Employment: New Insights from Administrative Data. *Environment and Planning B*. ([Publisher's version](#) | [Preprint](#))

· Tiebout Prize for Best Graduate Student Paper, Western Regional Science Association, 2018

Manduca, R. 2019. Antitrust Enforcement as Federal Policy to Reduce Regional Economic Disparities. *ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 685(1):156-171. ([Publisher's version](#))

Manduca, R. & Sampson, R.J. 2019. Punishing and Toxic Neighborhood Environments Independently Predict the Intergenerational Social Mobility of Black and White Children. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 116(16):7772-7777. ([Publisher's version](#))

Manduca, R. 2019. The Contribution of National Income Inequality to Regional Economic Divergence. *Social Forces* 98(2):578-621. ([Publisher's version](#) | [Preprint](#))

· Graduate Student Paper Award, North American Regional Science Council, 2017

· Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, ASA Mathematical Sociology Section, 2019

Manduca, R. 2018. The US Census Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Datasets. *REGION* 3(5):R5-R12. ([Publisher's version](#))

Small, M.L., **Manduca, R.**, & Johnston, W.R. 2018. Ethnography, Neighborhood Effects, and the Rising Heterogeneity of Poor Neighborhoods. *City and Community* 17(3):565-589. ([Publisher's version](#))

Manduca, R. 2018. Income Inequality and the Persistence of Racial Economic Disparities. *Sociological Science* 5:182-205. ([Publisher's version](#))

Folch, D., Spielman, S., & **Manduca, R.** 2018. Fast Food Data: Where User-Generated Content Works and Where it Does Not. *Geographical Analysis* 50(2): 125-140. ([Publisher's version](#))

Chetty, R., Grusky, D., Hell, M., Hendren, N., **Manduca, R.**, & Narang, J. (2017). The Fading American Dream: Trends in Absolute Income Mobility Since 1940. *Science* 356(6336):398-406. ([Publisher's version](#))

Green, B., Caro, A., Conway, M., **Manduca, R.**, Plagge, T., & Miller, A. (2015). Mining Administrative Data to Spur Urban Revitalization. In *Proceedings of the 21st ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining* (pp. 1829-1838) New York: ACM Press. ([Publisher's version](#) | [Preprint](#))

Working Papers (drafts available)

Manduca, R. "I Was Open to Anywhere, It's Just This Was Easier:" Social Structure, Location Preferences, and the Geographic Concentration of Elite College Graduates. ([Preprint](#))

Manduca, R., Hell, M., Adermon, A., Blanden, J., Bratberg, E., Gielen, A. C., van Kippersluis, H., Lee, K. B., Machin, S., Munk, M., Nybom, M., Ostrovsky, Y., Rahman, S., & Sirnio, O. Trends in Absolute Income Mobility in North America and Europe. ([Preprint](#))

Feigenbaum, J., Hell, M., **Manduca, R.**, & Narang, J. The American Dream in the Great Depression: US Absolute Income Mobility, 1915-1940. (Please email for draft)

Invited Presentations

University of Chicago Study Group in Spatial Analysis, Chicago IL. "Income Inequality and Economic Exclusion." January 2020.

Harvard Kennedy School Growth Lab Seminar, Cambridge MA. "Defining Economic Exclusion in the Presence of Extreme Inequality." September 2019.

University of Chicago Urban Environment Research Group, Chicago IL. "Pollutants and Intergenerational Social Mobility in Chicago." June 2019.

University of Chicago Study Group in Spatial Analysis, Chicago IL. "Environmental Predictors of Intergenerational Social Mobility." May 2019.

Northwestern University Applied Quantitative Methods Workshop, Evanston IL. "Measuring Economic Exclusion in an Era of Extreme Inequality." December 2018.

Opportunity Insights Weekly Seminar, Cambridge MA. "Beyond Concentrated Poverty: Neighborhood Organizational and Environmental Predictors of Intergenerational Mobility." November 2018.

Brown University Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences Seminar, Providence RI. "Characterizing the Spatial Structure of US Metropolitan Employment using LODES Data." April 2018.

University of Chicago Study Group in Spatial Analysis, Chicago IL. "Identification of Business Districts Using LODES Data." January 2018.

CARTO Spatial Data Science Conference 2017, New York NY. "Identifying and Categorizing Business Districts using Census LODES Data." December 2017.

Guest lecture, MIT course 11.407: Tools and Techniques for Economic Development. "An Introduction to LEHD Data Tools." November 2017.

National Conference of State Legislatures 2017 Annual Summit, Boston MA. "Economic Mobility and the American Dream." August 2017.

Cornell University Sociology Graduate Student Association Seminar, Ithaca NY. "US Regional Inequality and the Migration Decisions of College Graduates." March 2017.

Census Local Employment Dynamics Webinar. "The Spatial Structure of American Employment." February 2016.

Grants & Fellowships

Harvard Center for American Political Studies, Graduate Seed Grant for "Income Inequality and Regional Economic Divergence" (2017).

Russell Sage Foundation, Intergenerational Mobility in the United States award for "The American Dream in the Great Depression: Absolute Income Mobility in the United States, 1915-1940." With Maximilian Hell, James Feigenbaum, and Jimmy Narang (2017).

Doctoral Fellow, Harvard Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality & Social Policy (2015-2017)

Honors & Awards

Presidential Scholar, Harvard University (2014)

American Institute of Certified Planners Outstanding Student Award, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2014)

Harvey Milk / Grace Lee Boggs Award for Community Leadership and Service to the Intercultural Center, Swarthmore College (2010)

Phi Beta Kappa, Swarthmore College (2010)

National Merit Scholar (2006)

National Hispanic Recognition Scholar (2006)

Teaching

University of Michigan

SOC 210: Introduction to Statistics for Social Science, Winter 2021

SOC 595.004: Topics in Sociology - Spatial Data Analysis, Winter 2021

Harvard University

Models of Social Science Research (Teaching Fellow), Harvard Department of Sociology, Fall 2016

Introduction to Social Inequality (Teaching Fellow), Harvard Department of Sociology, Spring 2017

Advising

2020: Amy Tan (Harvard University undergraduate thesis), "Diversity in Schools: Academic and Economic Outcomes in Chicago Public Schools and Nationwide."

2019: Patrick Tan (Harvard University undergraduate thesis), "Industry & Mobility: Examining the Relationship between the Productive Structure of the Local Economy and Intergenerational Income Mobility."

2018: Benedikt Fritz (Zeppelin University undergraduate thesis), "Relating the Related: On the Relationship Between Different Measures of Regional Variety and Inequality."

- Best BA thesis, Zeppelin University, 2018.

Professional Activities and Memberships

Reviewer, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *British Journal of Sociology*, *City and Community*, *DuBois Review*, *Demography*, *Environment and Planning B*, *Forum for Social Economics*, *Geographical Analysis*, *GeoJournal*, *Population Research and Policy Review*, *Regional Studies*, *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, *Science*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *Social Science Research*, *Sociological Methods and Research*, *Socius*

Area Chair, Empirical and Policy Track, Mechanism Design for Social Good 2020 Workshop

Member, American Sociological Association

Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility

Section on Community and Urban Sociology

Section on Mathematical Sociology

Member, Research Committee 28 of the International Sociological Association

Member, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management

Member, American Association of Geographers

Last updated: February 16, 2021