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CURRICULUM VITAE

BRIAN M. STARKS
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
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EDUCATION

2000-2005	Ph.D., Indiana University, Bloomington, Sociology
1997-2000	M.A., Indiana University, Bloomington, Sociology
1992-1996	Bachelor of Arts (*summa cum laude)*, University of Dayton, Sociology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2014- present	Associate Professor of Sociology Kennesaw State University
2011- 2014	Director, Catholic Social and Pastoral Research Initiative (CSPRI) Research Assistant Professor, Concurrent in Sociology University of Notre Dame
2005-11	Assistant Professor of Sociology Florida State University

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Outstanding Teaching Award winner, 2020, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Kennesaw State University

Outstanding Teaching Award winner, 2019 and 2020, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Kennesaw State University

Inspire Integrity Teaching Award Nominee, 2008, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Florida State University

John H. Edwards Fellowship for Scholarship and Service, 2004-2005, Indiana University

Social Action Award, 2004, Department of Sociology, Indiana University

Alfred Lindesmith-Elizabeth Ione Mullins Fellowship for Excellence in Research, 2002, Indiana University (Department's highest research award)

David Lee Stevenson Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper, 2001**,** American Sociological Association, Section on the Sociology of Education (with Simon Cheng)

Karl F. Schuessler Outstanding Research Paper Award, 2000, Indiana University (with Simon Cheng)

Chancellor's Fellowship, 1997-2002, Indiana University

Edward A. Huth Award-- Outstanding Student in Sociology, University Honors Program Graduate, 1996, University of Dayton

National Merit Scholarship, 1992-96, University of Dayton

TEACHING, SUPERVISION, & MENTORING

Global Mean on Evaluations while at KSU (2014-present): 3.6 (out of 4)

STUDENT SUPERVISION AT KSU

Honor's Capstone:

1. **Leigh Ann Davenport,** Honors Capstone Project, 2018 (Faculty Supervisor)

Directed Study:

1. **Camila Gracey Kisner**, UTA: Introduction to Sociology, Fall 2026
2. **Tanner Foreman**, UTA: Social Problems, Summer 2025
3. **George Fernandez**, UTA: Alcohol, Drugs and Society, Spring 2025
4. **Scott Hamill**, UTA: Introduction to Sociology, Spring 2025
5. **Jessica Pierce**, UTA: Religion and Society, Fall 2023
6. **Julia Volovio**, UTA: Alcohol, Drugs and Society, Spring 2023
7. **Hannah Milton**, Exploring Indigenous Communities in North America, 2023
8. **Chris Wynn**, UTA: Religion and Society, Summer 2022
9. **Samuel Haas**, Preaching and the Pulpit in American History, Spring 2022
10. **Isabella Girona,** UTA: Alcohol, Drugs and Society, Fall 2021
11. **Gwen Falkowski,** UTA: Religion and Society, Fall 2019
12. **Rachel Takacs,** UTA: Research Methods in Sociology, Fall 2018
13. **Shelbi Fowler,** UTA: Social Problems, Summer 2018
14. **Kerianne Wool,** UTA: Alcohol, Drugs and Society, Spring 2018
15. **Gabby Bruton,** Sociology of Religion, Fall 2017
16. **Kendell Kievitt,** UTA: Social Problems, Fall 2017
17. **Justin Maslanka,** UTA: Alcohol, Drugs and Society, Spring 2017
18. **Emily Deubel,** UTA: Social Problems, Fall 2016
19. **Megan Templeton**, Advanced Topics in Sociology of Religion, Spring 2016.

Honor's Contract:

1. **Julia Tynes,** Honors Contract in Alcohol, Drugs and Society, 2026
2. **Alaina Hoofnagle,** Honors Contract in Social Problems, 2021

STUDENT SUPERVISION AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Doctoral Dissertation Supervision at FSU:

1. **Carolyn Sawtell**, Ph.D., Sociology, 2008 (member)

Master Thesis Supervision at FSU:

1. **J. Sumerau,** MA, Sociology, 2010 (member)
2. **Allison Hand**, MA, International Relations, 2010 (member)
3. **Sunshine Rote**, MS, Sociology, 2009 (chair)
4. **Kevin Hodges**, Applied Master's, Sociology, 2008 (member)
5. **Jordan Brown**, MA, Sociology, 2007 (member)
6. **Sarah Conn**, MA, Sociology, 2006 (member)

Honor's Thesis Supervision at FSU:

1. **Marlee McCleary**, Honors Thesis, 2010 (member)

RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Adler, Gary, Tricia C. Bruce, and Brian Starks (eds.). (2019). *American Parishes: Remaking Local Catholicism.* Fordham University Press. (order of editors is alphabetical; all equal contributors)

Contributing authors: Nancy Ammerman; Mary Jo Bane; Brett Hoover; Tia Noelle Pratt; Mark Gray; Kathleen Garces-Foley; Courtney Irby; and John Coleman, S.J.

Selected List of Publications:

Starks, B. (2025). Review of "Catholics in America: A Social Portrait." ***Social Forces***, 104(1), September 2025, Page e4, https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soaf044

Starks, B. (2020) "Review of Sharon Nepstad's *Catholic Social Activism.*" ***Social Forces*** 99(1) 15-16. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soaa017

Starks, B. (2019) "Review of Michele Dillon's *Postsecular Catholicism: Relevance and Renewal.*" ***Review of Religious Research*** DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s13644-018-0358-1

Starks, B. and Adler, G. (2018) "What Veteran Parishes Can Teach Us: How long-serving Spanish-language ministries successfully integrate Latinos within the parish." Special Issue edited by Hosffman Ospino ***Journal of Prevention and Intervention in the Community*** 46(4): 340-354.

Starks, B. (2018) "A Secularizing Institution?: Understanding the Undergraduate Experience" In *Young Adult American Catholics: Explaining Vocation in Their Own Words* edited by Maureen K. Day. Paulist Press.

Starks, B. and M. K. Day. (2018) A National Study on Catholic Campus Ministry: A Report Prepared for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat of Catholic Education.

Starks, B. (2013) "Exploring Religious Self-Identification among U.S. Catholics: Traditionals, Moderates, and Liberals." ***Sociology of Religion*** 74(3): 314-342.

Blouin, D., Robinson, R.V., and Starks, B. (2013) "Are Religious People More Compassionate and Does This Matter Politically?" ***Politics and Religion*** 6: 618-645.

Picca, L., Starks, B., and Gunderson, J. (2013) "It Opened My Eyes": Using Student Journal Writing to Make Visible Race, Class, and Gender in Everyday Life." ***Teaching Sociology*** 41(1): 82-93.

Rote S. and Starks, B. (2010) "Racial/Ethnic Differences in Religiosity and Drug Use." ***Journal of Drug Issues*** 40(4): 729-754.

Starks, B. and Robinson, R.V. (2009) "Two Approaches to Religion and Politics: Moral Cosmology and Subcultural Identity." ***Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*** 48(4): 650-669.

Starks, B. (2009) "Self-Identified Traditional, Moderate, and Liberal Catholics: Movement-Based Identities or Something Else?" ***Qualitative Sociology*** 32(1): 1-32. (Lead Article)

Starks, B. and Robinson, R.V. (2007) "Religion, Modernism and Parental Values." ***Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*** 46(1):17-35.

Brian Starks (2006) "Technique 58: The American Dream, Ideology, Religion and Inequality" in *Innovative Techniques for Teaching Sociological Concepts* edited by Sandi Nenga and Edward Kain. ASA Resource Materials for Teaching: TRAILS

Starks, B. and Robinson, R.V. (2005) "Who Values the Obedient Child Now?: Religion and Adult Values for Children, 1986-2002." ***Social Forces*** 84: 343-59.

Starks, B. (2003) "The New Economy and the American Dream." ***The Sociological Quarterly*** 44: 205-225.

Cheng, S. and Starks, B. (2002) "Racial Differences in the Effects of Significant Others on Students' Educational Expectations." ***Sociology of Education*** 75: 306-327.

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

2019 "Unleashing Catholic Generosity by Understanding the Catholic Giving Gap" at Our Sunday Visitor's Diocesan Leadership Gathering, *Share the Vision*. (June)

2018 "Improving Formation, Training and Professional Development: Job Satisfaction and Well-Being of Catholic Campus Ministers" at Secretariat for Catholic Education Workshop for the Meetings of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Baltimore. (November)

2018 Author Meets Critics Session- Invited Critic for Michele Dillon's, "Postsecular Catholicism" at annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, Philadelphia, PA (Aug)

2017 Authors Meet Critics Session- Invited Critic for Zech et al's "Catholic Parishes of the 21st Century" at annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, Montreal (Aug)

2015 "Generational Shifts Among Catechetical Leaders" National Conference for Catechetical Leadership Representative Council Meeting, Atlanta, GA (Nov)

2015 "The Parish: Maintenance or Mission?" Keynote Speaker, Evangelization and Stewardship Conference, Diocese of Cleveland (Nov)

2015 "Are We Basically Bad or Fundamentally Fine? Surprisingly Different Views on Human Nature and Why they Matter." First Fridays Club of Akron, University of Akron, Akron, OH (Jul)

2015 "Adventures in Interdisciplinarity" Keynote Speaker for Florida Society of the Social Sciences Conference, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL (Mar)

2014 "Unleashing Catholic Generosity" Featured Speaker for National Catholic Development Conference, Chicago, IL (Oct)

2014 "Joyfully Communicating the Living Mystery," National Conference of Catechetical Leaders, St. Louis, MO (May)

2014 "Unleashing Catholic Generosity Seminar," Archdiocese of Boston, Braintree, MA (May)

2013 "Re-imagining Stewardship" Stewardship Conference, Diocese of St Petersburg (Nov)

2013 "Developing 'Live the Mission' vs. 'Pay the Bills' Parish Communications." Evangelization and Stewardship Conference, Diocese of Cleveland (Nov)

2013 "Unleashing Catholic Generosity." Catholic Foundation's 25th Anniversary Celebration, Diocese of Toledo, Toledo, OH (June)

2013 "Explaining the Catholic Giving Gap in the U.S." Archdiocese of Santa Fe, Albequerque and Santa Fe, New Mexico (June)

2011 "Who's Moral Sense?: Investigating Which Political Issues are Moral Issues," Fordham University, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, New York, NY (February)

2010 "Religious War and Religious Peace: What Can Research on Religious Identity Tell Us about Religious Conflict?" Stanley Saxton AKD Induction Lecture, University of Dayton, Department of Sociology, Dayton, OH. (April)

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

External

2020 External Reviewer of San Damiano Scholars Program at Marian University ($1500)

2017-2020 Missionary Disciple Institute- Review for Marian University ($4500)

2018 Maureen Day, Linda Kawentel, and Brian Starks. "Qualitative Study of Catholic Campus Ministers" ($4010 From the Review of Religious Research and $6000 from the USCCB)

2017 Brian Starks. "Identifying the Impact of Catholic Campus Ministry and Assessing the Formation Needs of Campus Ministers" (Over $100,000 when including symposiums at Notre Dame; $9,276 for course buyout, additional $10,000 USCCB direct contract to Burruss Institute for national online survey;.)

2014-2016 Research Consultant for the National Study of Catholic Parishes with Hispanic Ministry ($4500)

2015 Gary Adler, Tricia Bruce, and Brian Starks. "The American Parish Project" Institute for Advanced Catholics Studies ($40,538) and Louisville Institute ($16,500)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

University:

General Education Council, sociology representative, August 2019- Dec 2020 and August 2016-December 2017, monthly meetings

Catholic Student Union, faculty advisor, September 2015-present. Regular weekly attendance at lunches and liturgies with students at KSU Catholic Center; Facilitate events and coordinate university support

Undergraduate Policies and Curriculum Committee, Gen Ed Council Liaison, September 2016-December 2017, biweekly meetings

College:

Makerspace Advisory Board (Member 2020-2021)

FSEA Committee (Member 2020)

College Awards Committee (Member 2019)

Department or Program:

Department Awards Committee (Member 2021- present, 2018, Chair 2019)

Student Organization of Sociology, co-faculty advisor, 2022- present, faculty advisor, August 2015-December 2019. Bi-weekly meetings (with AKD honors society). Facilitated documentary nights to watch movies, such as "Living on a Dollar"

Department Promotion and Tenure Committee (Member 2020-2021)

Department Faculty Council (Member and Chair April-November 2020; resigned)

Department Curriculum Committee (Member 2019-2021)

Faculty Senate, sociology and criminal justice interim representative (Dr. Lepadatu was on research leave), August 2018-December 2018.

Search Committee for Sociology Lecturer, Chair, March 2017-April 2017. Provided charge to the committee and organized meetings. Read all materials for over 27 candidates. Assessed and ranked each of them. Met with committee members to create a short list and select candidates for phone interviews, conducted phone interviews with six candidates, conducted follow ups with listed and outside references, and helped to facilitate on-campus interviews of three candidates (one candidate- Ballard- accepted another position just prior to interview date). End result, we successfully hired Wendell Johnson as new Lecturer in Sociology.

Ad hoc Committee on Tenure and Promotion, member, September 2015-December 2016. Tasked with revising departmental T&P guidelines into P&T guidelines in line with new college and university guidelines (e.g., new external letters, promotion to Associate prior to granting tenure, etc.) and to revise old and outdated guidelines to meet existing departmental goals

Ad hoc Committee on Undergraduate Teaching and Research Assistants, chair, February -April 2016 Developed proposal for departmental policy on undergraduate teaching and research assistants. Organized meeting to discuss and revise policy in light of comments and concerns.

Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, member, August 2015-March 2016. Read all materials for over 20 candidates. Assessed and ranked each of them. Met with committee members to create a short list and select candidates for phone interviews, conducted phone interviews with approximately six candidates, conducted follow ups with listed and outside references, and helped to facilitate on-campus interviews of three candidates. End result, we successfully hired Beverly Crank as new Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice.

Departmental Scribe, August 2014-August 2015. Recorded minutes for all departmental meetings. Distributed and revised based on feedback.

OTHER INSTITUTIONS (Florida State University and University of Notre Dame)

Inequality/Social Justice Area Committee**,** Theory Committee (Chair)**,** Honors and Awards Committee, Undergraduate Program Committee (Chair), Graduate Admissions and Financial Aid Committee, and Colloquium Committee, Strategic Planning Committee

THE PROFESSION

Service to Professional Associations:

2019-2021	Program Chair for the 2020 (canceled) and 2021 Annual Meetings of the **Association for the Sociology of Religion**
2019	Distinguished Book Award Committee, member, **Religion Section** of **American Sociological Association**
2019	Convener, Religion in New York City, Annual Meeting of the **Association for the Sociology of Religion**
2018	Session Organizer, **Religious Research Association/Society for the Scientific Study of Religion**
2017	Student Paper Award Committee, Chair, **Religion Section** of **American Sociological Association**
2016	Session Organizer (w/ Gary Adler and Tricia Bruce), **Religious Research Association/Society for the Scientific Study of Religion**

2014-15 Membership Committee, Chair, **Association for the Sociology of Religion**

2013-14 Session Organizer, **American Sociological Association**

2007-10 Fichter Award Grant Committee, Member and Chair, **Association for the Sociology of Religion**

2006-07 Elections Committee, Member, **Southern Sociological Society**

Other Reviewing Activities:

2018 External Review Letter Writer for Tenure Application at Missouri State University
(Tenure Applicant: Dr. Catherine Hoegeman; Department Chair: David Rohall)

2017 Letter Writer for **Louisville Institute** Review
(Grant Applicant: Dr. Tricia Bruce)

2016 Letter Writer for **Louisville Institute** Review
(Grant Applicant: Dr. Michael Agliardo)

Manuscript Reviewer,

American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, Gender and Society, Church Life: Journal for the New Evangelization; Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion; Qualitative Sociology; Review of Religious Research; Social Forces; *Social Science Quarterly*; *Sociological Perspectives; Sociology of Religion; South; The Sociological Quarterly;* and *Work and Organizations*