

# About the Authors

## Christopher Altamura

Christopher Altamura is a sociology PhD student at The University of Kansas where he currently teaches Self and Society. At present, his research concerns the political psychology of authoritarianism, the political sociology of democracy and democratization, and sociological theory. He can be reached at [chrisaltamura@ku.edu](mailto:chrisaltamura@ku.edu). Thomas Bechtold

## Thomas Bechtold

Thomas Bechtold is a doctoral student in the Department of Sociology at the University of Tennessee- Knoxville where he studies critical social theory and environmental sociology.

## Graham Cassano

Graham Cassano is an associate professor of sociology at Oakland University, near Detroit, Michigan. His books include *A New Kind of Public: Community, Solidarity, and Political Economy in New Deal Cinema, 1935-1948* (Haymarket, 2016) and, with Rima Lunin Schultz and Jessica Payette, *Eleanor Smith's 'Hull House Songs': The Music of Protest and Hope in Jane Addams's Chicago* (Brill, 2018). He is currently working with the labor historian, Daniel Clark, on a spatial history of Pontiac, Michigan, 1950-2010.

## Harry F. Dahms

Harry F. Dahms is a professor of sociology working in social theory, critical theory, philosophy of social science, and sociology of science fiction at the University of Tennessee - Knoxville, where he is also co-chair of the Committee on Social Theory and co-director of the Center for the Study of Social Justice. He has been an affiliate in Sociology at the University of Innsbruck, Austria since 2010, and previously taught at Florida State University and the University of Göttingen, Germany. He is the editor of [Current Perspectives in Social Theory](#) and director of the International Social Theory Consortium, and currently in the process of completing a book, *Modern Society as Artifice: Critical Theory and the Logic of Capital* (Routledge).

## Sascha Engel

Sascha Engel is Visiting Simpson Scholar at the University of Wyoming. He holds a PhD from the Alliance for Social, Political, Ethical, and Cultural Thought (ASPECT) at Virginia Tech as well as an M.A. in Political Theory from the Goethe University Frankfurt (Germany). Sascha's research focus is the Eurozone Crisis, along with its broader implications for the analysis of global financial and institutional economics.

## Tony Allen Feldmann

Tony Allen Feldmann is a doctoral candidate at the University of Kansas. His research interests are in social psychology, political sociology, and critical theory. His MA research focused on the social psychological roots of right-wing authoritarian attitudes. His PhD research is focusing on the experiences of teachers in Wisconsin after the passage of Act-10.

## Mario Khreiche

Mario Khreiche holds a Ph.D. in Political and Cultural Thought from Virginia Tech. Currently, he is the Andrew W. Mellon Sawyer Seminar Postdoctoral Fellow on the topic of "Information Ecosystems: Creating Data (and Absence) From the Quantitative to the Digital Age" at the University of Pittsburgh. His research explores the relation between discourses on automation and processes of gigification, taskification, and gamification in various industries. Email: mariokhreiche@pitt.edu

## Dan Krier

Dan Krier is Professor of Sociology at Iowa State University and organizer of Symposia on New Directions in Critical Social Theory. He specializes in critical social theory, political economy, and comparative-historical sociology. Books include *Speculative Management: Stock Market Power and Corporate Change* (SUNY: 2005), *NASCAR, Sturgis and the New Economy of Spectacle* (with William Swart, Brill SCSS: 2016), *Capitalism's Future: Alienation, Emancipation and Critique* (co-edited with Mark P. Worrell, Brill SCSS: 2016), *The Social Ontology of Capitalism* (co-edited with Mark P. Worrell, Palgrave Macmillan: 2017, and is currently completing *Economic Theology: The Religious Foundations of Capitalism* (Brill SCSS: under contract).

## Charles Lemert

Charles Lemert will soon publish: *Americans Thinking America; The Bottom Turtle: Silence and Society*, and with Immanuel Wallerstein, *Living Progressively in a Transitional Time*.

## Jennifer Miller

Jennifer Miller is an interdisciplinary scholar and cultural theorist who researches children's picture books. She has published in the *Journal of Homosexuality*, the edited collection *Heroes, Heroines, and Everything in Between*, and is currently working on a book length project under contract with the University Press of Mississippi.

## David Norman Smith

David Norman Smith works at the point of intersection between political sociology, political psychology, and political economy. Before joining the KU faculty in 1990, he studied sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (Ph.D, 1988) and economics at the University of California-Berkeley (A.B., 1974). He is keenly interested in all of the many ways in which people think and feel about democracy and tolerance, not only in politics but in culture and the economy. That interest, and a background in social theory, has led him to pursue an ever-expanding menu of research – on prejudice and intolerance, authority and authoritarianism, the Holocaust and the Rwandan genocide of 1994; on charisma and crisis, capitalism and labor. In each of these areas, he seeks multi-faceted insight by whatever means are available – socio-historical study, survey research, and close reading, especially of texts by major sociological theorists.

## Lukas Szrot

Lukas Szrot is currently an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Bemidji State University. His dissertation research, completed in the spring of 2019, examined how the relationship between religious identity and environmental concern has changed over time in the United States. Szrot has a long-standing interest in how ethical and cultural shifts occur around environmental issues and beliefs about “nature,” but has also written, and conducted research on, the social psychology of belief, the relationship between publics and experts in democracies, and methodological issues in the social sciences. He can be reached at [lukas.szrot@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:lukas.szrot@bemidjistate.edu)

## Andrew Urie

Andrew Urie recently completed his PhD in Social and Political Thought at York University (Canada). He specializes in American intellectual history and popular culture, and his research interests include cultural political economy, literary studies, and textual sociology. His dissertation is entitled *Turning Japanese: Japanization Anxiety, Japan-Bashing, and Reactionary White American Heteropatriarchy in Reagan-Bush Era Hollywood Cinema*. He has also published in *Dialogue: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Popular Culture and Pedagogy*.

## Mark P. Worrell

Mark P. Worrell is Assistant Professor of Sociology at SUNY Cortland and the editor of *The New York Journal of Sociology* ([www.newyorksociology.org](http://www.newyorksociology.org)) and the author of the book *Dialectic of Solidarity: Labor, Antisemitism, and the Frankfurt School* published by Brill in 2008. Worrell’s research blends critical and classical social theory in the areas of antisemitism and authoritarianism research as well as issues in economic and political sociology. Recent and forthcoming publications include articles in *Rethinking Marxism*, *Telos*, *Critical Sociology*, *Fast Capitalism*, and *Current Perspectives in Social Theory*.

