

About the Authors

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David Arditi is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Theory at the University of Texas at Arlington. His research addresses the impact of digital technology on society and culture with a specific focus on music. Arditi is author of *iTake-Over: The Recording Industry in the digital era* and his essays have appeared in *Popular Music & Society*, the *Journal of Popular Music Studies*, *Civilisations*, *Media Fields Journal* and several edited volumes. He also serves as Co-Editor of *Fast Capitalism*. Email: darditi@uta.edu.

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Bob Kunovich

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Organization & Environment, *ultiBase*, and *Post-Communist Cultural Studies* with Penn State University Press. From 1997-2010, he was Director of Graduate Studies, and he founded the OLMA program on the basis of his work with the Virginia Tech Cyberschool from 1994-2003. He continues to direct the Collaboratory for Digital Discourse and Culture that also he developed during the Cyberschool experiment. He has been awarded fellowships and grants by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the Carter G. Woodson Institute, the Center for Organizational and Technological Advancement, International Research and Exchange Board (IREX), the Department of State, and the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (Fulbright Research/Teaching Award). During 1996, he was named Visiting Research and Teaching Scholar at the Open Polytechnic of New Zealand, and in 1995 he was the Fulbright Professor of Cultural Theory and the Politics of Information Society at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand. He has reviewed grant proposals in political science, sociology, and science studies for the National Science Foundation, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Austrian Science Fund, and the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology of New Zealand. Email: twluke@vt.edu .

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Joshua E. Olsberg

Dr. Joshua E. Olsberg's research seeks to understand the connections between culture, politics and personal identity. A first-generation Cuban-American, Dr. Olsberg has conducted ethnographic studies in Eastern Cuba, engaged in analysis of media coverage of Haitian politics and economics, and examined the way that those living in rural Mid-Missouri communities define the struggles they face in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Dr. Olsberg's work draws upon critical theories across disciplines, and he firmly believes that cross-disciplinary, collaborative scholarly efforts can lead to breakthroughs in our understanding of our societies and ourselves. He believes that teaching is a means of building and changing communities for the better, and that difficult dialogues within the classroom can lead to greater understanding and compassion for those who we perceive as different. Dr. Olsberg began at and Assistant Professor in Interdisciplinary Studies at National University in July 2015, and was previously a visiting faculty member at Southern Methodist University. He completed his PhD in Sociology, with a graduate minor in International Development, from the University of Missouri in 2014. He is a native of Fort Worth, Texas and enjoys traveling, hiking, and any sport that involves skates. Email: jolsberg@nu.edu .

Michael A. Peters

Michael A. Peters research interests focus on educational philosophy with a focus on contemporary philosophical movements to the framing of educational issues, especially philosophical and political economy questions of knowledge production, distribution and consumption. His recent writing and scholarly activity revolves around two interrelated areas: contemporary philosophy (critical theory, poststructuralism, hermeneutics, and analytic philosophy)

with a focus on philosophy of education, and; the politics of education, educational reform and welfare policy in NZ and elsewhere (<http://www.michaeladrianpeters.com/>; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Adrian_Peters). The two areas of interest theoretically inform each other. The deepest influences upon his thinking and writing include the Austrian philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein and Michel Foucault. These philosophers provide a positive philosophical response to nihilism and to the fragmentation of value and dissolution of culture. Here the question of style is significant in understanding philosophy as a kind of writing. His major current projects include work on distributed knowledge, learning and publishing systems, and ‘open education.’ He has written over eighty books and some five hundred papers and chapters. My Google citation (at 27 Feb 2017) is 10,713 (5,259 since 2012) with an h-index of 48 (34 since 2012) and an i10-index of 185 (1123 since 2012). He is the executive editor of the SSCI journal, *Educational Philosophy and Theory* (T&F, 14 issues per year) for over 20 years, with strong engagement to rebuild the Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia (PESA). He is the founding editor of *Policy Futures in Education*, *E-Learning and Digital Media* (Sage), and *Knowledge Cultures*. In 2016 he established *The Video Journal of Education and Pedagogy* (<https://videoeducationjournal.springeropen.com/>, Springer) and *The Editors’ Collective* (NZ, <http://www.editorscollective.org.nz/>) that he established to develop an experimental and innovative culture for academic publishing and collective writing, especially for emerging NZ scholars. He has been an advisor to world agencies such as UNESCO and to governments on these and related matters in Scotland, NZ, South Africa, USA (NSF) and the EU. He is Emeritus Professor at the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign), Professorial Fellow at James Cook University, and Distinguished Visiting Professor at Zhenzhou University, China. He was made a Lifelong Member of the Humanities Society of NZ, and The Society for Research in Higher Education (SRHE), and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of NZ in 2010. He was awarded honorary doctorates by State University of New York (SUNY) in 2012 and University of Aalborg in 2015. Email: mpeters@waikato.ac.nz.

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Lukas Szrot

Lukas Szrot is currently a Ph.D. student in Sociology at the University of Kansas. His primary areas of interest are social theory, religion, and environmental sociology, and his dissertation project deals with the relationship between religiosity and environmental concern, both in the United States and globally. Two books—a social problems text written for introductory sociology courses and public outreach, and a work on the Western intellectual lineage of the current, ostensibly “post-truth” era—are also in process, as well as several journal articles. Szrot is passionate about teaching, and has organized and/or taught courses in social problems, environmental sociology, and sociology of religion, as well as tutored students in social theory, research methods, and statistics. He aims to continue writing and teaching as an academic sociologist upon completion of his Ph.D. Presently Szrot lives with his wife Charline and his

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