

Ben Marley

Associate Professor of Sociology
Michigan State University
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Department of Sociology, Binghamton University, 2018
Dissertation Title: *Agricultural Revolutions in America's Heartland: The Corn Belt and the Making of American Capitalism*
- M.A. Sociology, Binghamton University, 2014
- M.A. Geography, Syracuse University, 2013
- B.A. Sociology, Syracuse University, 2008

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2024-present Michigan State University, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology.
- 2021-2022 James Madison College at Michigan State University, Assistant Professor.
- 2018-2024 Michigan State University, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology.

RESEARCH & TEACHING FIELDS

environment and health, science and technology, climate change, social theory, food & energy studies, and environmental sociology

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- R&R Marley, Benjamin. "Agrarian Transition in the Heart of America's Heartland," *Journal of Agrarian Change*. (in preparation for resubmission)
- 2019 Liu, Shiwei, Zhang, Pingyu, **Marley, Benjamin**, and Liu, Wenzin. "The Factors Affecting Farmers' Soybean Planting Behavior in Heilongjiang Province, China" *Agriculture*.

- 2016 Marley, Benjamin. "From War on Poverty to War on Coal: Nature, Capital, and Work in Appalachia," *Environmental Sociology*, 1 (2), 88-100.
- 2016 Marley, Benjamin. "The Coal Crisis in Appalachia: Commodity Frontiers, Crises, and the Geographies of Capital," *Journal of Agrarian Change*, 16 (2), 225-254. (winner of the Terence K. Hopkins Award for best paper, Political Economy of the World-System section of the ASA).
Reprinted for Virtual Special Issue: "Political Ecology of Agrarian Change," *Journal of Agrarian Change*. 2016.
- 2014 **Marley, Benjamin** and Samantha Fox. "A World-Ecological Perspective on Socio-Ecological Transformation in the Appalachian Coal Industry," *Journal of World-Systems Research*, 20 (2), 54-277.

Book Reviews

- 2014 Marley, Benjamin. "Mining Away the Company Town". *Santa Rita Del Cobre: A Copper Mining Community in New Mexico. Capitalism, Nature, Socialism*, 20 (3), 117-119.
- 2011 Marley, Benjamin. *Killing for Coal: America's Deadliest Labor War. Labor Histories*, 52 (3), 358-359.

Manuscripts in Preparation

- Marley, Benjamin and Bernard, Nicole. "Why is Reconstructing Work Non-negotiable in the Age of a Climate Crisis?"
- Marley, Benjamin. "A Theory of Crisis, Accumulation, and Reproduction and the American Agrarian Question".

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2022 Designation B
- 2020 Faculty Teaching Innovation Award
- 2018 Dr. Delia Koo Endowment Research Award-Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University
- 2018 Graduate Student Excellence Award in Teaching, Binghamton University
- 2017 Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities Doctoral Fellowship
- 2017 Dissertation Year Award, Sociology Department, Binghamton University
- 2017 Certificate in College Teaching - Composition
- 2017 Eastern Sociological Society Travel Grant

- 2017 Graduate Student Excellence Award in Research, Binghamton University
- 2016 Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award, Political Economy of the World-System
- 2016 Article Reprinted for Special Issue, "Political Ecology of Agrarian Change," *Journal of Agrarian Change*.
- 2016-2017 Teaching Assistantship. Binghamton University, Writing Initiative
- 2013-2016 Teaching Assistantship. Binghamton University, Sociology
- 2013 Syracuse University Graduate Student Organization Conference Fund \$200
- 2012 Geography Dept. Syracuse University Research Fund \$3,600
- 2011-2013 Teaching Assistantship. Syracuse University, Geography
- 2008 Golden Key International Honour Society-Syracuse University
- 2008 Alpha Kappa Delta: International Sociological Honor Society-Syracuse University

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Papers

- 2021 Utilizing the Sociological Imagination to Teaching During a Global Pandemic. Spring Conference on Teaching, Learning and Student Success at Michigan State University. May 4-7.
- 2019 The Agrarian Question: Marx, Gender, and Ecology. American Sociological Association, New York City, New York. August 10-13.
- 2019 Teaching Progressive Sociology. Spring Conference on Student Learning and Success at Michigan State University. May 6-8.
- 2019 The American Corn Belt: Household, Ecology, and Capitalism. Midwest Sociological Society. April 17-20.
- 2017 Agricultural Revolutions in America's Heartland: The Unpaid Work of Women, Children, and Soils. American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada, August 12-15.
- 2017 The Agrarian Bourgeois Revolution in the Heart of America's Heartland. Eastern Sociological Society. Philadelphia, PA, February 23-26.
- 2016 Agrarian Revolution from Above: The Corn Belt Family Farm. American Sociological Association. Seattle, WA, August 20-23.

- 2016 Globalization in American Agriculture: Agro-Industrial Revolutions in the Capitalist World-Ecology. 40th Annual PEWS Conference. University of Maryland, College Park, MD, April 9-10.
- 2016 Agro-Industrial Revolutions in the Making of American Capitalism. Eastern Sociological Society. Boston, MA, March 17-20.
- 2015 Appalachia and the Hydrocarbon Sector in the Capitalist World-Ecology. American Sociological Association. Chicago, IL, August 21-25.
- 2015 From Food Frontier to Fuel Frontier: The Making and Un-Making of Appalachia. Revisiting Remaking Modernity: New Voices in Comparative-Historical Sociology. Evanston, IL, July 21.
- 2015 From Ecological Surplus to Surplus Humanity: Agrarian Change in the Long Twentieth Century. World Society, Planetary Natures: Crisis and Sustainability in the Capitalocene and Beyond. Binghamton, NY, July 10-11.
- 2015 The Centrality of Agriculture in the Capitalist World-Ecology. Sociology Graduate Student Research Day. Binghamton, NY, April 18-19.
- 2015 Returning to the Plains Frontier: Agrarian Class Relations and the Ecologies of Accumulation in the First Food Regime. Eastern Sociological Society. New York City, NY, February 26-March 1.
- 2014 The Rise and Fall of King Coal in the Long-Twentieth Century. Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference. Lexington, KY, February 27-March 1.
- 2014 Dethroning King Coal: Exhausting West Virginia's Socio-ecological Relations in the Rise of the Powder River Basin. Eastern Sociological Society, Baltimore, MD, February 20-23.
- 2013 The Crisis of Capitalism in the Coalfields: Conflict, Moments, and Beyond. Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference. Lexington, KY, February 28-March 2.
- 2012 Removing Mountaintops in the Mountaineer State: Spaces of Accumulation are Spaces of Contestation. Association of American Geographers. New York City, NY, February 24-28.
- 2008 Jobs For Sale: Polarization of Labor Market in Syracuse. MayFest-Syracuse University. Syracuse, NY, May 8.

CAMPUS TALKS

- 2024 Who Cooked The Planet? Introduction to Sociology. February 21.
- 2023 The Problem Isn't The Problem. Introduction to Environmental Sociology. October 13.

- 2023 Sociology & Climate Change. Department of Sociology, Sociology Club. April 14.
- 2017 The Transition from Independent Production to Petty Commodity Production in the Making of the Corn Belt. Department of Sociology, Binghamton University. November 3.
- 2017 The American Agrarian Question. *Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities*, Binghamton University. October 25.
- 2016 How to Construct a Conference Presentation. “Scholarly Practices Workshop Series.” Department of Sociology, Binghamton University. November 8.

Conferences Organized

- 2015 World Society, Planetary Natures: Crisis and Sustainability in the Capitalocene and Beyond, Binghamton University. Binghamton, NY, July 10-11.
- 2014 Fourth Biennial SUNY Binghamton Graduate Conference on World Historical Social Science. Binghamton, NY, April 25-27.

Panels Organized

- 2018 PEWS Roundtable. American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 11.
- 2014 “Capital, Resources, and the Crisis of Our Times.” Eastern Sociological Society, Baltimore, MD, February 23.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Michigan State University

Introduction to Sociology
International Development & Change
Introduction to Environmental Sociology
Climate Change & Society
Science, Technology, and Society
Political Sociology
Developing Societies
Social Theory
Society & the Individual

Time, Space, and Change in Human Society
People & Environment
Identity and Community: An Approach to Writing I
Politics, Society and Economy in the “Third World”

OUTREACH EXPERIENCE

2024-present Formed Michigan State University book club

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

2024-present Diversity Equity Inclusion Committee
2021-2024 Undergraduate Education Committee
2019-2021 Awards Committee
2018-2019 Speakers Series Committee

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2011 Research Assistant for Tod Rutherford, Syracuse University, “Small differences that (still) matter? Cross Border Regions and Work Place Governance in the Southern Ontario and US Mid-West Automotive Industry,” *Regional Studies*, 47 (1), 116-127.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer Review

2021 Reviewer for *Journal of Agrarian Change*
2020 Reviewer for *Journal of Agrarian Change*
2019 Reviewer for *Environment, Development, and Sustainability*
2019 Reviewer for *Journal of World-Systems Research*
2018 Reviewer for *Journal of Historical Sociology*
2017 Reviewer for *Political Geography*
2017 Reviewer for *Journal of Peasant Studies*
2017 Reviewer for *Environment, Development and Sustainability*
2017 Reviewer for *Alpenglow*

- 2017 Editor, *Binghamton Writes*, Binghamton University
 2016 Reviewer for *Journal of Agrarian Change*
 2016 Reviewer for *Environmental Sociology*
 2015 Reviewer for *Society & Natural Resources*

To Profession

- 2019-2021 Editorial Board Member, *Society & Natural Resources*
 2018 Curriculum Design of Graduate Program in Food Studies Program, University of Southern Maine
 2018 The Summer Writing Seminar on the Theory & Practice of Writing, University of Southern Maine
 2017-2018 Newsletter Editor for Marxist section of the American Sociological Association
 2017 Certificate in College Teaching, Binghamton University
 2016 Council Member of Political Economy of the World-System Section of ASA
 2016 Certificate in Online Teaching. Center for Learning and Teaching, Binghamton University
 2015-2018 Member, Fernand Braudel Center, Binghamton University
 2015-2017 Vice President of Graduate Student Organization
 2015-2018 Newsletter Editor for *PEWS* section of the American Sociological Association
 2015-2018 Publications Committee for *PEWS* section of the American Sociological Association
 2015 Agroecology Certification: Community Agroecology Network, Santa Cruz, CA.
 2014-2015 Sociology Graduate Student Representative
 2014 Panel Participant in Publication Workshop for Graduate Students, Binghamton University
 2013 Future Professoriate Project (FPP)-Syracuse University

AFFILIATIONS

Research Affiliations

- 2018- Gender in a Global Context, Core Faculty and Gender, Justice and Environmental Change Faculty, Michigan State University
 2018- Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University

2014- World-Ecology Research Network

2015-2018 Fernand Braudel Center, Binghamton University

Professional Affiliations

American Sociological Association

Eastern Sociological Society

American Society for Environmental History

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Mandarin-Elementary

Spanish-Elementary