

JAMES M. COOK

Associate Professor of Sociology

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Professional Specializations

Social network analysis, social media, political sociology, sociology of gender

Professional History

University of Maine at Augusta

Assistant Professor of Social Science, 2011-2017

Associate Professor of Sociology, 2017-

Duke University

Assistant Professor of Sociology, 2000-2006

University of Arizona

Ph.D., Sociology, 2000

Dissertation: "The Social Structure of Political Behavior: Action, Interaction and Congressional Cosponsorship."

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Clemens, Elisabeth and James M. Cook. 1999. "Politics and Institutionalism: Explaining Durability and Change." *Annual Review of Sociology* 25: 441-466.

Cook, James M. and Kristie A. Taylor. 2000. "National Power on the Local Stage: How Cable Captured Congress and Cornered Cities." *Sociological Perspectives* 43: 651-670.

McPherson, Miller, Lynn Smith-Lovin and James M. Cook. 2001. "Birds of a Feather: Homophily in Social Networks." *Annual Review of Sociology* 27: 415-444.

Cook, James M. 2005. "Filling Structural Holes: Social Networks in the Introductory Course." *Teaching Sociology* 33: 170-180.

Cook, James M. 2011. "Gender, Voting, and Cosponsorship in the Maine State Legislature." *New England Journal of Political Science* 6: 2-30.

Cook, James M. 2016. "Are American Politicians as Partisan Online as they are Offline? Twitter Networks in the U.S. Senate and Maine State Legislature." *Policy & Internet* 8(1): 55-71.

Cook, James M. 2016. "Gender, Party, and Presentation of Family in the Social Media Profiles of 10 State Legislatures." *Social Media + Society* 2(2): 1-11.

Cook, James M., 2016. "Twitter Adoption in U.S. Legislatures: A Fifty-State Study." *Proceedings of the 2016 International Conference on Social Media & Society*. DOI: 10.1145/2930971.2930982.

Cook, James M. and Dawn Plourde. 2016. "Do Scholars Follow Betteridge's Law? Questions in Journal Article Titles." *Scientometrics* 108(3): 1119-1128.

Cook, James M. 2017. "Twitter Adoption and Activity in US Legislatures: A 50-State Study." *American Behavioral Scientist* 61(7): 724-740.

Cook, James M., Carrie Hill and Jennifer Chase. 2018. "From Offline Politics to Online Action: Social Media Adoption and Communication by the Legislators, Lobbyists, and Business Groups of Maine." In *Sub-National Democracy and Politics through Social Media* (Mehmet Zahid Sobacı and İbrahim Hatipoğlu, eds.). Heidelberg, Germany: Springer.

Duguay, Ashley, Todd Loughead and James M. Cook. 2019. "Athlete Leadership as a Shared Process: Using a Social Network Approach to Examine Athlete Leadership in Competitive Female Youth Soccer Teams." *The Sport Psychologist* 33(3): 189-202.

Gurnack, Anne M., and James M. Cook. 2021. "Polish Americans, Political Partisanship and Presidential Elections Voting: 1972-2020." *European Journal of Transformation Studies* 9(2): 30-39.

Rubinsky, Valerie, and James Cook. 2023. "More than Two... but not Right Now: Interpretations and Responses to Covid-19 Measures on Reddit for Two Communities of Consensual Non-Monogamy." *Sexuality & Culture* 27(3): 1-22.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12119-022-10056-w>.

Cook, James M. 2023. "Social Media and Heroism." In *Encyclopedia of Heroism Studies*, Scott Allison et al. (editors). Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-17125-3_79-1.

Invited Research Publications

Cook, James M. 2006. "The Social Logic of Politics: Personal Networks as Contexts for Political Behavior (Book Review)." *Social Forces* 84: 1844-1845.

Cook, James M. 2013. "Usability Study for the Website of the Maine State Legislature: Final Report." Private research product distributed to the executive offices of the Maine State Legislature.

Cook, James M. 2015-2017. Column author for Kennebec Journal's *College Connection*. 500-word solicited newspaper column. Titles:

- "Is Your Professor Paid Off?" May 23, 2017
- "Alternative Facts Aren't Fake; They're Real." March 28, 2017
- "To Avoid Fake News, Forget Reputation and go Straight to the Source." February 8, 2017
- "President Trump Insults Maine Residents, but is he Right?" December 13, 2016
- "This Election, do we Show Up or Crumble?" October 20, 2016
- "A Glimpse of Maine Senate Races via Social Media." September 13, 2016
- "This Quirky Little Social Law Could End your Life." July 12, 2016
- "American Culture Gets it Wrong: Limits are Real." June 7, 2016
- "When Mainers Act Like Rats (And Why That's a Good Thing)." May 10, 2016
- "In Games and Codes, What are the Gender Limits?" March 29, 2016
- "Interdisciplinarity Reaps a Rich View of Maine Politics." February 17, 2016
- "African Immigrants to Maine are Young, Educated, and Integrating." January 7, 2016
- "In Crime Debates, Let's Use Facts vs. Fears." November 24, 2015
- "Hammers, Numbers, and Stories: What Good is a Social Science Degree?" October 13, 2015
- "Examining Temptation, Ethics, and the University." September 3, 2015
- "Do the Math: How Partisan is the Maine Legislature?" July 22, 2015
- "How Relations Affect Maine Leadership PACs." June 9, 2015
- "Women and Men at the State House: Is there a Difference?" April 16, 2015
- "Why Does Augusta get a Bum Rap on Crime? It's a City Thing." April 7, 2015

Cook, James M. 2016. "2016 Voter Registrations and 2014 General Election Voter Turnout: Local Variation in the State of Maine." Private research product prepared for the League of Women Voters.

Cook, James M. 2019. "Talking Donald Trump: A Sociolinguistic Study of Style, Metadiscourse, and Political Identity (Book Review)." *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 49(2): 483-484.

Gruzd, Anatoliy, Philip Mai, Raquel Recuero, Ángel Hernández, Chei Sian Lee, James Cook, Jaigris Hodson, Bree McEwan, and Jill Hopke. 2020. "An Introduction to the 2020 Conference on Social Media and Society: Diverse Voices – Promises and Perils of Social Media for Diversity." *SMSociety '20: International Conference on Social Media and Society* July: 1-4.

Recent Presentations

“Triune Sociocultural Graphs of Bisexual Identities in a Social Media Environment.” at the 2023 Bisexual+ Research, Activism, and Community Conference, September 30 2023.

“What does your Professor want from you?” Invited Presentation to the UMA Trail Blazer Workshop, Fall 2021.

“10 Habits of Highly Effective Students.” Invited Presentation to the UMA Trail Blazer Workshop, Fall 2021.

“The Hidden Curriculum of a College Education.” Invited Presentation to the UMA Trail Blazer Workshop, Fall 2021.

“The Impact of Homophily on Achieving Corporate Diversity.” Invited presentation to Leadership Lyceum, Chicago IL, February 15, 2021.

“Democracy and Authoritarianism in America: How to Protect one and Prevent the Other.” Invited presentation to Democracy & Authoritarianism Speaker Series at Ferry Beach Center, Saco ME, October 29 2020.

Participant, Groundwork Reunion Art Jam, October 2020.

“Rebuilding Trust in the Current Environment.” Invited presentation to Democracy & Authoritarianism Speaker Series at Ferry Beach Center, Saco ME, January 22 2020.

“Watch, Swim, or Surf: Data and Civic Engagement Involvement” at CLICK (Connect Learning in Community Knowledge) miniconference, Jewett Hall, UMA Augusta, October 3, 2019.

“Nonmonogamy Online: Comparing Content and Structure of Polyamory and Swinging Communication over Social Media” at the Social Media & Society 2019 International Conference in Toronto, Canada, July 19-21, 2019.

“Gender, Party, and the Kavanaugh Nomination: American State Legislators on Twitter” at the Social Media & Society 2019 International Conference in Toronto, Canada, July 19-21, 2019.

“Gender, Party, & the Kavanaugh Nomination” at the Research and Pedagogy Colloquium Series, UMA Augusta, April 24, 2019.

“Measuring Community in Political Networks” at VIT University, Tamil Nadu, India, August 7, 2018.

“A Moving Average of Our Associates” at Groundwork VII in East Wakefield, NH, April 7, 2018.

“Safety Net: Online Behavior Management Strategies” at University College 2016 Faculty Institute in Augusta, ME, May 18, 2017.

“Applying the Principles of Community Engagement to the Practice of Community Gardening,” with Laura Kate Corlew at the 2017 Eastern Psychological Association Conference in Boston, MA, March 18, 2017.

Community forum on discrimination and the KKK, invited public panel discussant, University of Maine at Augusta, February 8, 2017.

“Social Threat, Social Media and Political Campaigns: 2016 Election Season Trends,” invited presentation to the Lewiston Wisdom Lunch, Lewiston, ME, October 2016.

Interview regarding gubernatorial politics on The Maine Event (MPBN TV), September 2016.

“Fears, Data and the 2016 Maine Elections,” invited presentation to the Maine Credit Union League, Bangor, ME, September 2016.

“Twitter Adoption in U.S. Legislatures: A Fifty-State Study” at the 2016 International Social Media & Society Conference in London, UK, July 13, 2016.

“Beyond the Course by 2030: Redesigning State University Education as an Open Structure of Learning Objects” at University College 2016 Faculty Institute, May 20, 2016.

“Going Outside: We Tied Our Courses to a Garden, a Foreign Policy Conference, and Statuary Hall, and Thrived” at University College 2016 Faculty Institute, May 20, 2016.

“Access Delayed is Access Denied: Equality of Information in the Age of Social Media” at League of Women Voters New England Leadership Conference in Wells, ME, April 9, 2016.

“Faculty Panel: Research Across the Disciplines,” presentation as part of Research and Pedagogy panel at the University of Maine at Augusta, delivered February 2016.

“Social Media and Politics,” invited appearance on MPBN’s Maine Calling, December 2015.

“Online Education in the Year 2030” Research and Pedagogy colloquium presentation, University of Maine at Augusta, October 15, 2015.

“The Sociology of Social Media,” invited appearance on MPBN’s Maine Calling, September 2015.

“Stages of Teaching and Learning Social Media Analytics” at the 2015 meetings of the International Communication Association in San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 24, 2015.

“Open Maine: Making Politics Social,” Research and Pedagogy lecture at the University of Maine at Augusta, delivered April 2015.

“When Friendship Gets Fuzzy: Tie Formation and Role Performance Among Teddy Bears Online” at the Social Media & Society 2014 International Conference in Toronto, Canada, September 27-28, 2014.

“When is Online On Task? Matching Social Media to Teaching Style and Learning Outcomes” at the 2014 University of Maine System Faculty Institute, May 15, 2014.

“Making Connections: Twitter Networks of the Maine State Legislature,” at the 2014 New England Political Science Association Conference in Woodstock, Vermont, April 24-26, 2014.

“Choosing a teaching career after the PhD” at Harvard University Department of Sociology, April 11 2014.

“Beat the ‘Suite: Free Alternatives for Social Media Analytics” at Social Media Breakfast Central Maine, Thomas College, February 25 2014.

“Twitter Talk in the U.S. Senate” at the 2013 Social Media and Society Conference at Dalhousie University, September 14 2013.

“Your Course is a Network, Not a Line: Implementing a Graphic Syllabus Online” at the Third New England Regional Sloan-C Conference on Online Learning in Portland, Maine, on October 26 2012.

“Domains, Ceilings and Escalators: Committee Gender Composition and Legislative Leadership in the State House” at the New England Political Science Association meetings in April 2012.

“Is a Corporation a Person?” lecture for Constitution Week, University of Maine at Augusta, Randall Student Center, September 20 2011.

Courses Developed to Teach (first year taught in parentheses)

Analyzing Social Media (2013)

Basic Research Methods (2019)

Business and Politics in American Society (2001)
Collective Behavior and Social Movements (1999)
Criminology (2011)
Cultivating Community: The Garden Seminar (2014)
Introduction to Sociology (1997)
Political Networks (2000)
Political Sociology (2002)
Research Methods in the Social Sciences (2014)
Social Bases of Politics (2001)
Social Media Certificate (2012)
Social Networks (2012)
Social Problems (2011)
Social Science Capstone Course (2018)
Sociology of Gender (2014)
Sociology of Women (1996)

University Service

Sabbatical Committee (Chair 2020, Member 2021)
Shared Governance Review Committee (Chair Fall 2020 -)
Provost's Committee on Faculty Hiring (Fall 2020 -)
Maine Policy Scholars Faculty Advisor (Fall 2015 – Fall 2020)
UMA Maine Policy Scholars Selection Committee (Chair, 2016 --)
Social Science Program of the Future Author, Member, Project Manager (2019-2020)
Brightspace Pilot Participant (Spring 2020)
Augusta Assembly Co-Organizer (Fall 2018 – Spring 2020)
UMA Bookstore Advisory Committee (Fall 2019)
UMA Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Unified Accreditation (Fall 2019 -- Spring 2020)
UMA Augusta Community Garden Co-Coordinator (Fall 2015 – Fall 2017), Coordinator (Spring 2018 – Fall 2020)
UMA Bangor Community Garden Co-Coordinator (Spring 2017 – Spring 2019)
Psychology Degree Development Committee (Fall 2018 – Spring 2019)
Board Policy 214 Task Force (Spring 2018)
Faculty Senate (Fall 2017 – Spring 2020)
UMA Student Research Conference Organizing Committee (Spring 2016 --)
Social Science Communications Hiring Committee (2018-2019)
Civic Engagement Advisory Committee (Fall 2017 – Fall 2019)
Social Science Hiring Committee Chair (2013-2014, 2017-2018)
UMA Colloquium Committee (Spring 2017 – Fall 2018)
UMA Conduct Committee Faculty Chair (Summer 2016)
UMA Conduct Committee (Fall 2015 -)
Bridge Year Program Oversight Committee (Spring 2015 – Spring 2018)
Interdisciplinary Studies Council (Spring 2015 – Fall 2016)
Advocating Wicked Scholarship in Maine Committee, Chair (Fall 2014 – Fall 2016)
Convocation Speaker (Fall 2014)

Moderator, UMA Augusta Mayoral Debate (Fall 2014)
Faculty Senate (Spring 2014)
UMA Library Hiring Committee (Spring 2013)
Office of Institutional Research Hiring Committee (Fall 2012 - Spring 2013)
Computer Information Systems Hiring Committee (Fall 2012 - Spring 2013)
Civic Engagement Strategic Planning Committee, Chair (Fall 2012 – Spring 2013)
UMA-UC Committee (Spring 2013)
Research and Pedagogy Colloquium Series Organizer (Spring 2011- Spring 2020)
Office of Civic Engagement Advisory Group (Fall 2011 – Spring 2014)
Social Science Program Secretary (Fall 2011 – Spring 2018, Fall 2020 --)

Research Peer Review Service

Conferences

International Social Media & Society Working Papers Chair (2020)
International Social Media & Society Conference Program Committee (2018 --)
Association of Internet Researchers Program Committee (2018-2019)
26th International World Wide Web Conference Program Committee (2017)

Books

Introduction to Criminology by Anthony Walsh (Sage)
Selling Social Media by Daniel Faltesek (Bloomsbury)
Social Media Freaks by Dustin Kidd (Westview)

Grants

Canada Research Chairs
National Science Foundation
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Journals

American Journal of Sociology
American Sociological Review
Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication
Journal of Experimental Psychology
Journal of Interactive Marketing
Nature Climate Change
Policy & Internet
Politics & Gender
Quantitative Science Studies
Review of Policy Research
Review of Religious Research
Sage Open
Social Forces
Social Media + Society
Social Science Research

Sociological Forum
Sociological Spectrum

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association
Association of Internet Researchers
International Social Media & Society Conference Organization