

# CURRICULUM VITA

## Amy Brainer

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### Education

Ph.D. – Sociology	August 2014
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO, Chicago, IL	
M.A. – Sociology	May 2009
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO, Chicago, IL	
B.A. – Sociology	May 2005
NORTH PARK UNIVERSITY, Chicago, IL	

### Teaching and Research Interests

Kinship and Families, LGBTQ Studies, Immigration, Qualitative Methodologies, Taiwan

### Employment History

Assistant Professor	September 2014 to present
Women's & Gender Studies and Sociology	
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN, Dearborn, Michigan	

### Research Activities

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### Publications

#### Book

1. **Brainer, Amy**, *Queer Kinship and Family Change in Taiwan*, Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, 2019.

#### Journal Articles

2. **Brainer, Amy**, "New identities or new intimacies? Reframing 'coming out' in Taiwan through cross-generational ethnography," *Sexualities*, vol. 21, no. 5-6, 2018, pp. 914-931.
3. **Brainer, Amy**, "Materializing 'family pressure' among Taiwanese queer women," *Feminist Formations*, vol. 29, no. 3, 2017, pp. 1-24.
4. **Brainer, Amy**, "Mothering gender and sexually nonconforming children in Taiwan," *Journal of Family Issues*, vol. 38, no. 7, 2017, pp. 921-947.

#### Book Chapters

5. **Brainer, Amy**, "Patrilineal kinship and transgender embodiment in Taiwan," in H. Chiang and Y. Wang (Eds.), *Perverse Taiwan*, Routledge, New York, 2017, pp. 110-128.
6. **Brainer, Amy**, "Growing up with a lesbian, gay, or bisexual sibling," in B. Risman and V. Rutter (Eds.), *Families as They Really Are*, W. W. Norton & Co., New York, 2015, pp. 164-181.

7. Moore, Mignon and **Brainer, Amy**, “Race and ethnicity in the lives of sexual minority parents and their children,” in A. Goldberg and K. Allen, *LGBT-Parent Families: Innovations in Research and Implications for Practice*, Springer, New York, 2013, pp. 133-148.

### Works under Review

8. **Brainer, Amy**, “Lesbian and gay parents, heterosexual kinship, and queer dreams: Making families in 21<sup>st</sup> century Taiwan.”
9. **Brainer, Amy**, Banerjee, Pallavi, and Moore, Mignon, “Race and ethnicity in the lives of LGBTQ parents and their children: Perspectives from and beyond North America.”

### Other Writing

1. **Brainer, Amy**, “Book review: Queering families of origin, edited by Ciara Bertone and Maria Pallotta-Chiarolli,” *Journal of Family Theory and Review*, vol. 8, no. 1, 2016, pp. 116-121.
2. **Brainer, Amy**, “East Asian sexualities,” in A. Goldberg (Ed.), *The Sage Encyclopedia of LGBTQ Studies*, SAGE, Thousand Oaks, 2016, pp. 349-353.
3. **Brainer, Amy**, “Book review: The marrying kind: Debating same-sex marriage within the lesbian and gay movement, edited by Mary Bernstein and Verta Taylor,” *Gender & Society*, vol. 28, no. 3, 2014, pp. 498-500.

## Grants

### Research Grants

1. “Queer Trajectories in Family Based Immigration,” \$6,000, Brainer, A. (PI), Faculty Research Initiation and Seed Grant, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2016-2017.
2. “Reimagining LGBTQ Family Issues,” \$5,000, Brainer, A. (PI), Engaged Anthropology Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation, 2014-2015.
3. “Lesbian, Gay, and Queer Kinship in Taiwan: Generational Changes and Continuities,” \$20,000, Brainer, A. (PI), Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation, 2012-2013.
4. “Same Sexuality and Family Relations in Taiwan,” \$8,000, Brainer, A. (PI), Chancellor’s Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2011-2012.

### Instructional and Professional Development Grants

5. Faculty Research Publication and Dissemination Grant, \$300, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2018.
6. Faculty Incentive Research Funds, \$3,648, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2017.
7. Supplemental Professional Development Grant, \$600, Commission for Women, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2017.
8. Women’s & Gender Studies Professional Development Funds, \$250, 2016, 2017, 2018.
9. Creative Teaching Fund, \$1000, Hub for Teaching & Learning Resources, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2016.
10. Faculty Professional Development Grant, \$900, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2015.
11. SAGE Teaching Innovations & Professional Development Award, \$500, American Sociological Association Section on Teaching and Learning, 2013.

## Honors and Awards

1. Outstanding Paper from an Emerging Scholar, LGBTQ Research Symposium, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2018.
2. Outstanding Research Article, Women’s & Gender Studies, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2017.

3. Outstanding Faculty Award, Women in Learning and Leadership, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2015.
4. Alice J. Dan Dissertation Research Award, Center for Research on Women and Gender, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2013.
5. Jessie Bernard Outstanding Contribution to Feminist Scholarship Paper Award, Feminism and Family Studies Section, National Council on Family Relations, 2009.

## Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association (sections: Asia and Asian America, Family, Sexualities) • Association for Asian Studies • National Women's Studies Association • North American Taiwan Studies Association

## Refereed Conference Presentations

1. **Brainer, Amy**, Author Meets Critics: *Queer Kinship and Family Change in Taiwan*, North American Taiwan Studies Association Annual Conference, 5/2019, Seattle.
2. **Brainer, Amy**, panelist, "The future of Taiwan studies," North American Taiwan Studies Association Annual Conference, 5/2019, Seattle.
3. **Brainer, Amy**, "Queering family immigration," Association for Humanist Sociology Annual Meeting, 11/2018, Detroit.
4. **Brainer, Amy**, panelist, "Decentering ethnocentrism in research on LGBTQ families of color," LGBTQ Research Symposium, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 5/2018, Champaign.
5. **Brainer, Amy**, panelist, "Taiwan in trans\* perspective: Transdisciplinary, transnational, transcultural," North American Taiwan Studies Association Annual Conference, 6/2016, Toronto.
6. **Brainer, Amy**, "LGBTQ research in non-western contexts," Symposium on LGBTQ Inclusion as Researchers and in Research, University of Michigan, 9/2018, Ann Arbor.
7. **Brainer, Amy**, "Where are the parents of the femme lesbians?: What missing data teach us about sex, gender, and family in Taiwan," Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, 8/2017, Montréal.
8. **Brainer, Amy**, "Lesbian and gay parents, heterosexual kinship, and queer dreams: Making families in 21<sup>st</sup> century Taiwan," East Asia Family Law Workshop, Indiana University, 5/2017, Bloomington.
9. **Brainer, Amy**, "Queer parenting in Taiwan," Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, 3/2017, Toronto.
10. **Brainer, Amy**, "Queer(ing) marriage and family in China and Taiwan," After Marriage: The Future of LGBTQ Politics and Scholarship, CUNY Center for LGBTQ Studies, 10/2016, NYC.
11. **Brainer, Amy**, "Queer ways of dying: End of life and afterlife care in contemporary Taiwan," National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference, 11/2015, Milwaukee.
12. **Brainer, Amy**, "Mothering gender and sexually nonconforming children in Taiwan," American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, 8/2015, Chicago.
13. **Brainer, Amy**, "New identities or new intimacies? Reframing 'coming out' in Taiwan through cross-generational ethnography," Queer Kinship and Relationships International Conference, 6/2015, Zalesie, Poland.
14. **Brainer, Amy**, "From daughter and friend to son and daughter-in-law: Gender transition as a family affair," Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, 3/2015, Chicago.
15. **Brainer, Amy**, "Who are the 'concerned parents?': Global homophobias and local resistance among Taiwanese parents of LGBT children," National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference, 11/2014, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

16. **Brainer, Amy**, “Lesbian daughters-in-law, transgender descendants: Contemporary meanings of patrilineal kinship in Taiwan,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, 11/2013, Chicago.
17. **Brainer, Amy**, “How ‘continuing the paternal line’ matters for lesbians and transgender people in Taiwan,” Gender Matters Conference, 4/2013, Chicago.
18. **Brainer, Amy**, “Analyzing the generation gap in how LGBT people in Taiwan relate to their families of origin,” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, 8/2013, NYC.
19. **Brainer, Amy**, “Let mom and dad know you’re the OK kind of gay’: Negotiations of class, gender, and sexuality in Taiwanese families,” Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, 3/2013, Chicago.
20. **Brainer, Amy**, “Sexuality and family relations in Taiwan,” ISA 11th International Laboratory for PhD Students in Sociology, 6/2012, Taipei.
21. **Brainer, Amy**, “Race and ethnicity in the lives of LGBT parents and their children,” Council on Contemporary Families Annual Conference, 3/2011, Chicago.
22. **Brainer, Amy**, “Do I choose the faith, or do I choose my brother?’: Theorizing straight and gay siblings,” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, 8/2010, Atlanta.
23. Banerjee, Pallavi and **Brainer, Amy**, “South Asian single mothers in ethnic enclaves,” Association for Research on Mothering Conference on Mothering and Migration, 2/2010, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
24. **Brainer, Amy**, “A family affair: Same-sexuality and family relations in Taiwan,” Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting, 2/2010, Santa Barbara.
25. **Brainer, Amy**, “Being straight is not a choice’: Essentialism and identity de/construction among heterosexual siblings of gay, lesbian, and bisexual young adults,” Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, 8/2009, San Francisco.

## Teaching Activities

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### Chronology of Teaching Assignments

Term	Course Number	Course Title	Cr. Hrs.	Num. of Students
W’19	Soc 201	Contemporary Social Problems	3	26
	Wgst/Soc 388	LGBTQ Religious Experience	3	33
	Wgst/Anth/Soc 451	Family, Sexuality, and Human Rights	3	30
F’18	Wgst/Anth/Hum/Psyc/Soc 303-001	Introduction to Women’s & Gender Studies	3	40
	Wgst/Anth/Hum/Psyc/Soc 303-002	Introduction to Women’s & Gender Studies	3	40
	Wgst/Hum/Soc 366	Sexualities, Genders, and Bodies	3	38
S’18	Wgst/Soc 388	LGBTQ Religious Experience	3	18
W’18	Soc 201-001	Contemporary Social Problems	3	25
	Soc 201-002	Contemporary Social Problems	3	28
	Wgst/Anth/Soc 451	Family, Sexuality, and Human Rights	3	30
F’17	Wgst/Anth/Hum/Psyc/Soc 303-001	Introduction to Women’s & Gender Studies	3	40
	Wgst/Anth/Hum/Psyc/Soc 303-002	Introduction to Women’s & Gender Studies	3	39
	Wgst/Hum/Soc 366	Sexualities, Genders, and Bodies	3	39
S’17	Wgst/Soc 388	LGBTQ Religious Experience	3	13

W'17	Soc 201	Contemporary Social Problems	3	28
	Wgst/Anth/Hum/Psyc/Soc 303-001	Introduction to Women's & Gender Studies	3	40
	Wgst/Anth/Hum/Psyc/Soc 303-002	Introduction to Women's & Gender Studies	3	40
F'16	Soc 201	Contemporary Social Problems	3	28
	Wgst/Hum/Soc 366	Sexualities, Genders, and Bodies	3	34
	Wgst/Anth/Soc 451	Family, Sexuality, and Human Rights	3	26
S'16	Wgst/Hum/Soc 366	Sexualities, Genders, and Bodies	3	32
W'16	Pre-Tenure Faculty Course Releases			
F'15	Soc 201	Contemporary Social Problems	3	39
	Wgst/Hum/Soc 366	Sexualities, Genders, and Bodies	3	40
	Wgst/Anth/Soc 451	Family, Sexuality, and Human Rights	3	25
W'15	Soc 201	Contemporary Social Problems	3	36
	Wgst/Anth/Hum/Psyc/Soc 303	Introduction to Women's & Gender Studies	3	37
	Wgst 390C	Perspectives in LGBTQ Studies	3	11
F'14	Wgst/Anth/Hum/Psyc/Soc 303-001	Introduction to Women's & Gender Studies	3	37
	Wgst/Anth/Hum/Psyc/Soc 303-002	Introduction to Women's & Gender Studies	3	40
	Wgst 390C	Perspectives in LGBTQ Studies	3	15

## Curriculum Development

### New Courses

1. Social Struggle and Social Change, Soc 302, proposed W'19.
2. LGBTQ Religious Experience, Wgst/Rels/Soc 388, approved W'17.
3. Family, Sexuality, and Human Rights, Wgst/Anth/Soc 451, approved W'15.
4. Sexualities, Genders, and Bodies, Wgst/Hum/Soc 366, approved W'15.
5. Perspectives in LGBTQ Studies, Wgst 390C, approved F'14.

### New Programs and Initiatives

6. Certificate in LGBTQ Studies (coordinator), approved W'17.
7. Foundations program for incoming students in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters (task force co-chair), proposed W'19.
8. Assignment Redesign Department Liaison, Hub for Teaching and Learning Resources, W'17.

### Undergraduate Student Supervision

1. McBeth, B., "Asexuality and ace spectrum identities," independent study in Women's & Gender Studies, University of Michigan-Dearborn, S'19.
2. Erickson, D., Fabbri, L., Freeman, S., McQuiston, B., & Wilson, R., queer studies reading group, independent studies (completed collectively) in Women's & Gender Studies, University of Michigan-Dearborn, F'18.
3. Jaworski, A., "Applying principles of nonviolent communication to sex and intimacy," independent study in Sociology, University of Michigan-Dearborn, F'17.
4. Gironza, J., "The process of transmasculine individuals coming out to parents," independent study in Women's & Gender Studies, University of Michigan-Dearborn, F'16.
5. Gaber, L., "Making disability studies accessible," independent study in Women's & Gender Studies, University of Michigan-Dearborn, F'16.

6. Monier, M., “Representations of transwomen in the media,” sponsored fellowship in Women’s & Gender Studies, University of Michigan Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP), S’16.
7. Davis, T., “Control’d chaos” (podcast about Black lesbian experience), independent study in Women’s & Gender Studies, University of Michigan-Dearborn, S’15.
8. Mustafa, M., “Resisting reconciliation: Middle Eastern and queer identities,” independent study in Women’s & Gender Studies, University of Michigan-Dearborn, W’15.
9. Jones, N., “Counseling and the LGBTQ+ community,” independent study in Women’s & Gender Studies, University of Michigan-Dearborn, W’15.
10. Sociology mentees: H. Alazzawi, J. Gironza, A. Jaworski, J. Harris, F. Mackie
11. LGBTQ studies certificate mentees: M. Duff, L. Fabbri, D. Flowers-Fayad, A. Forman, S. Freeman, M. Good, S. Kroske, H. Liles, B. McQuiston, J. Vasquez, B. Vernon, C. Scott, R. Wilson, J. Yunker

## **Service Activities**

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### **University Service**

#### **Campus-wide Committees**

1. Campus safety oversight & advisory committee (2018-present)
2. Student leadership awards selection committee (2018-present)

#### **College-wide Committees**

3. First year experience task force (2018-present)
4. CASL restructuring task force (2018)
5. Chancellor’s medallion award selection committee (2016-2018)
6. Academic integrity board (2015-2018)

#### **Departmental and Program Committees**

7. Women’s & Gender Studies self-study group (2018-present)
8. Behavioral Sciences online funds committee (2018-present)
9. Sociology LEO lecturer review committee (2018-present)
10. LGBTQ Studies certificate steering committee (chair, 2016-present)
11. Sociology undergraduate mentoring coordinator (2016-present)
12. Women’s & Gender Studies curriculum committee (2015-present)
13. Women’s & Gender Studies steering committee (2014-present)
14. Sociology LEO lecturer search committee (2017)
15. Women’s & Gender Studies/Women in Learning & Leadership recognition ceremony planning committee (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)

#### **Other Service to the University**

1. Presenter, UM Research Associate Deans Meeting (11/2018)
2. Faculty mentor, Transitions Welcome for returning, graduate, and transfer women ages 25+, Women’s Resource Center (9/2018)
3. Organizer and host, “Caring for LGBTQ communities in today’s world,” campus-wide event launching the Certificate in LGBTQ Studies and featuring Rev. Dr. Roland Stringfellow, Elisa Pérez-Arellano, and Lia Fabbri (10/2017)
4. Panelist, “Active learning with technology,” Digital Education Day, Hub Center for Teaching and Learning Resources (3/2017)

5. Panelist, “How to create an inclusive and equitable campus climate,” Inclusion Week sponsored by Student Government (2/2017)
6. Participant in campus open houses for prospective students (10/2016, 4/2017, 10/2017, 4/2018)
7. Panelist, “The role of service in research and teaching,” New Faculty Orientation (8/2015)

## Professional Activities

1. Reviewer for *About Gender-International Journal of Gender Studies, Current Sociology, Gender, Place and Culture, Gender & Society, Journal of Family Issues, Journal of Homosexuality, Sexualities, Social Problems, Social Sciences, and Sociological Forum*
2. Editorial advisory board, *Social Problems* (2014-2017)
3. Program committee, Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting (2017)

## Conference Sessions Organized and/or Chaired

4. Discussant, “Recentering and decentering China: Mapping geopolitics through queer affect and imagining alternative futurity,” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, 11/2018, Atlanta.
5. Organizer, “Constructing gender” and “Gender, sex, and power,” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, 8/2018, Philadelphia.
6. Organizer, “Narratives of globalization and sociology,” Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, 8/2017, Montréal.
7. Presider, “Gendered and sexual institutions and embodiments,” Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, 8/2017, Montréal.
8. Discussant, “Transnational movements and impossible desires: On the rise of neoconservatism and LGBTQI politics in Taiwan,” North American Taiwan Studies Association Annual Conference, 6/2016, Toronto.
9. Co-organizer with Jingshu Zhu, “Queer(ing) marriage and family in China and Taiwan,” After Marriage: The Future of LGBTQ Politics and Scholarship, CUNY Center for LGBTQ Studies, 10/2016, New York.
10. Co-organizer with Pallavi Banerjee, “Configurations of power and the marginal in global contexts,” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, 11/2016, Montréal.
11. Chair, “(Non) recognition: Strategies of resistance,” Queer Kinship and Relationships International Conference, 6/2015, Zalesie, Poland.
12. Co-organizer with Francine Banner, “Precarious Death,” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, 11/2015, Milwaukee.
13. Organizer, “Local-global entanglements and anti-queer/anti-feminist movements,” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, 11/2014, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

## Student and Community Engagement

1. Faculty advisor to PRIDE, University of Michigan-Dearborn (6/2016-present)
2. Faculty advisor to She’s the First, University of Michigan-Dearborn (10/2014-present)
3. Invited post, *Taiwan Insight*, <https://taiwaninsight.org/2019/02/19/queer-kinship-and-family-change-in-taiwan/> (2/2019)
4. Interview, *The Society Pages*, <https://thesocietypages.org/ccf/2018/11/13/queer-kinship-in-taiwan-an-interview-with-amy-brainer/> (11/2018)
5. Keynote, 4<sup>th</sup> International Women’s Day Gala, sponsored by She’s the First (3/2018)
6. Invited remarks, Solidarity Rally: No Walls! No Borders! No More Deportations! sponsored by the Social Justice League (2/2017)
7. Panelist, Creating an Inclusive World: LGBTQ+ Panel, sponsored by the College Democrats (11/2016)

8. Organizer, Processing the Pulse Nightclub Shooting, for UM-Dearborn students and open to the community (6/2016)
9. Invited talk, “Coming out in Taiwan: Beyond sexual identities and politics,” Women’s and Gender Studies Speaker Series, Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame (2/2016)
10. Invited remarks, Candlelight Vigil for Victims of World Violence, jointly sponsored by the Lebanese Student Association, Muslim Student Association, Pakistani Student Association, Social Justice League, and Students for Islamic Awareness (11/2015)
11. Invited talk, “Where are the parents of the femme lesbians? What missing subjects teach us about sex, gender, and family in Taiwan,” Association for Student Anthropologists, University of Michigan-Dearborn (11/2015)
12. Organizer of a workshop for parents of LGBTQ children, hosted by the Taiwan Tongzhi Hotline Association-Southern Branch with support from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, Kaohsiung, Taiwan (10/2015)
13. Organizer, session on Independent Bodies, Independent Families: Creating Lives Together, co-hosted by the Taiwan Tongzhi Hotline Association and the International Lesbian and Gay Association-Asia with support from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, Taipei (10/2015)
14. Invited talk, “Trans\* Taiwan: Bodies, families, politics, histories,” Gender Umbrella Society, University of Illinois at Chicago (3/2013)
15. Invited talk, “Tongzhi family relationships: Social and historical perspectives,” Taiwan Tongzhi Hotline Association LGBT Elders Working Group, Taipei (11/2012) and Department of Education, National Dong Hwa University, Hualien, Taiwan (12/2012)
16. Invited talk, “Intimate research: Doing ethnography and oral history interviews in communities we care about,” Center for the Study of Sexualities, National Central University, Jhongli, Taiwan (11/2012)
17. Panelist, “Cross generational perspectives on LGBT lives—body, family, emotions, work,” Taiwan Tongzhi Hotline Association LGBT Elders Working Group, Hualien, Taiwan (10/2012)
18. Invited talk, “International perspectives on contemporary families,” Lee-Ming Institute of Technology, Taipei (10/2012)

Updated 3/2019