

Hannah Borenstein
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Academic Appointments

Harper-Schmidt Fellow in the Society of Fellows & 2022-Present
Collegiate Assistant Professor in the Social Sciences Division, University of Chicago

Education

Ph.D., Cultural Anthropology, Duke University 2022
Certificate African & African American Studies
Certificate Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies
M.A., Cultural Anthropology, Duke University 2019
B.A., Individualized Study, New York University 2014

Publications

Books

Running to Labor: Ethiopian Women Distance Runners in Networks of Capital (manuscript in progress)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

“Ethiopia Between Hope and Despair in *Amessa & Faya Dayi*,” *Radical History Review*. Forthcoming.

“Finding One’s Footing: Hidden Abodes of Production in the Global Running Economy.”
Anthropology of Work Review. Forthcoming.

“Racing Towards Transformative Justice.” *Siyabonana: The Journal of Africana Studies*. Forthcoming

[“Putting Logos on the World’s Best Running Feet: The Emergence of Apparel Sponsors in Ethiopian and Kenyan Athletics.”](#) with Jörg Krieger. *The International Journal of the History of Sport*. October, 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09523367.2023.2266395>

[“Performative Disembedding: Amid and Between Potential and Professionalism in Ethiopian Girls’ Running.”](#) *NEOS: A Publication of the Anthropology of Children and Youth Interest Group*. Volume 15, 1. Spring 2023.

[“Tracking Work from the Wrist: The Surveillance of Ethiopian Women Athletes for Capital.”](#) *Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience*. Volume 7, 1, April 2021.

[“Running for Ethiopia: A Performance of Social Reproduction.”](#) *Recreation and Society in Africa, Asia, and Latin America*. Volume 7. 2019.

Contributed Chapters

“Naturalized East African Runners in the Middle East.” [Routledge Handbook of Sport in the Middle East](#). Edited by Paul Michael Branagan and Danyel Reiche. Routledge 2022.

“Feyisa Lilesa’s and the Transnational Protest of Ethiopia’s most Enduring Olympian.” [Sport and Protest in the Black Atlantic](#). Edited by Michael Gennaro & Brian McGowan. Routledge 2022.

“Laboring Athletes, Laboring Mothers: Ethiopian Women Athletes’ Bodies at Work.” [Sport, Migration, and Gender in the Neoliberal Age](#). Edited by Niko Besnier, Domenica Gisella Calabrò, and Daniel Guinness. Routledge 2020.

Book Reviews

“The Act of Living: Street Life, Marginality, and Development in Urban Ethiopia by Marco Di Nunzio.” *City & Society*. 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ciso.12254>.

“Sports in African History, Politics, and Identity Formation.” *Journal of Sport History*. ed. by Saheed Aderinto, and Michael J. Gennaro. *Journal of Sport History*, vol. 47 no. 3, 2020, p. 292-294. *Project MUSE*, doi:10.1353/sph.2020.0061.

Other Selected Writing

[“Why Shoes Do Not Make the Runner.”](#) SAPIENS, January 4, 2024.

[“Running in the Dark.”](#) *Anthropology News*. January 5, 2023.

[“30 Years Ago, Ethiopia’s Derartu Tulu Made History and Reshaped Running.”](#) *Washington Post*. August 8, 2022.

[“The Nickelodeon Cartoon That Taught a Generation to Hate Capitalism.”](#) *Slate*. March 9, 2022.

[“Reconsidering Killer Stories.”](#) *Society for the Anthropology of Work: Exertions*. September 10, 2021.

[“The Pan-Africa-USA International Track Meet.”](#) *Fansided*. July 19, 2021.

[“Starlets of Dystopian Sport.”](#) *Full Stop Quarterly: Winter 2020*. December 30, 2020.

[“Essential Workers.”](#) *Africa is a Country*. July 21, 2020.

[“Collective Memory and Intergenerational Trauma.”](#) *Los Angeles Review of Books*. May 20, 2020.

[“It can be seen’ – COVID-19’s Disasters for Workers.”](#) *Somatosphere*. April 10, 2020.

[“The Legacies of the Ethiopian Student Movement.”](#) *The Jacobin*. December 2, 2019.

[“Savoir Story.”](#) *Jewish Currents*. November 14, 2019.

[“Jack Johnson’s Counter Punch to a White Nationalist Holiday.”](#) *The Abusable Past*. July 3, 2019.

Awards, Fellowships & Grants

ESPN Research Fellowship, 2024

Smithsonian Lemelson Center Research Fellowship, 2023

James B. Duke International Travel Fellowship, 2020-2021

Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, 2020

Olympic Studies Centre Ph.D. Students Research Grant, 2020

Society for the Anthropology of Work Travel Grant, 2020

Association for Africanist Anthropology Graduate Student Conference Grant, 2019

Versatile Humanists Internship Grant, Duke VH, 2019

Fieldwork Grant, Center of French and Ethiopian Studies, 2019-2020

Ernestine Friedl Research Award, Duke Gender, Sexuality, & Feminist Studies 2019

Summer Research Fellowship, Duke University, 2019

Graduate Student Fellow, Kenan Institute for Ethics, Duke University 2018-2019

Graduate Award for Research and Training, Center for International and Global Studies, Duke University 2018-2019

Summer Research Fellowship, The Graduate School, Duke University, 2018

Migration Lab Fellowship, Duke University, 2017-2018

Summer Research Fellowship, The Graduate School, Duke University, 2017

Young Explorer’s Grant, National Geographic, 2016-2017

Dean’s Award for Graduating Seniors, New York University, 2014-2015

Gallatin Jewish Studies Grant, New York University, 2014

Dean’s Award for Summer Research, New York University 2013

Jewish Leadership Fellowship, New York University, 2011-2012

Teaching Experience

Collegiate Assistant Professorship – The University of Chicago
“Global Society III” (Two Classes), Spring 2023
“Global Society II: Population and Society” (Two Classes), Winter 2023, 2024
“Global Society I” (Two Classes), Autumn 2022, 2023
“Model Core Seminar: Commodity Fetishism in Karl Marx’s Capital Vol. 1” Summer 2023
Instructor of Record – Duke University
“Anthropology of Sport,” Spring 2022
Teaching Assistant – Duke University,
“Advertising and Society” (2 Discussion Sections) Ed Timke, Spring 2019
“Anthropology of Money” Charles Piot, Fall 2018
“Anthropology of Sports,” Orin Starn, Spring 2018
“Introduction to African Studies,” Charles Piot, Fall 2017
“Theoretical Foundations of Cultural Anthropology,” Anne-Maria Makhulu, Spring 2017

Academic Presentations

“Sporting Productive Bodies,” AAA/CASCA Annual Meeting, November 2023
“Transformative Thought Amid Transphobic Policy,” AAA/CASCA Annual Meeting, November 2023
“Contestations of Virtuous Bodies,” Capitalist Virtue Ethics Workshop, University of Cologne, June 2023
“Athlete Migrations, Past & Present,” North American Society for the Sociology of Sport (NASSS), Las Vegas, November 2022
“Running to Labor,” University of Chicago,” Weissbourd Symposium, The University of Chicago October 2022.
“Working Together, Racing Apart,” Doing, Writing, Thinking Sport History, University of Lausanne Summer School, August 2021
“Premature Finish Lines,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada, November 2019
“A New Running Economy,” Summer Academy International Research Center “Work & Human Life Cycle in Global History” (re: work) and the History Department, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, November 2019
“Running for Ethiopia,” Performance and Labor Graduate Student Conference, Duke University, April 2018
“Reinscribing Borders, Reinscribing Authenticity,” Center for Sociocultural Sport and Olympic Research Conference, California State University Fullerton, March 2018

Invited Lectures and Talks

“[Co-Opting AI: Athletics.](#)” NYU Institute for Public Knowledge, December 2023.
“Sports Management as Method,” University of Minnesota Morris, March 2023.
“Transnational Sporting Protests,” Aarhus University, September 2022.
“Response-Ability: Anthropology and Activism,” Duke University, November 2021.
“East African Runners in the Middle East,” Georgetown University Qatar, September 2021.
“Attending to the Moment in Anthropology,” Duke University, September 2020.
“Out of Thin Air: Response,” Durham University, UK, December 2020.

Podcasts/Video Appearances

“[Hannah Borenstein On the Untold Stories of Ethiopian Runners.](#)” *Citius Mag*, March 2023.
“[ETV Interview with Dr. Hannah Borenstein.](#)” *Ethiopian Broadcasting Services*, September 2022.
“[Ethiopian Elite Running E3: Legatafo Track.](#)” *Sweat Elite*, May 2022.
“[50A Casa Paradiso/50B Gerald's Tonsils \(with Hannah Borenstein\)](#)” *Stoop Kidz*, April 2022.
“[Power and Politics in World Athletics.](#)” *New Books Network*, December 2021.

[“Spotlight: Hannah Borenstein,”](#) *Duke SSRI*. September 2021.

[“Hannah Borenstein on Ethiopian Women’s Long-Distance Running, and Power Dynamic in Track and Field,”](#) *Citius Mag: Social Sport Podcast*, August 2021.

Mentoring/Other Academic Service

Graduate Student Project Manager, Story +

“Race, Racism, and the History of Duke Sports,” Summer 2022

Feminist Theory Workshop

Discussion Leader, Spring 2022

Conference Organizer, “Performance and Labor,” Duke University, 2017-2018

Memberships

American Anthropological Association

African Studies Association

Anthropology of Work Society

Association for Africanist Anthropology

North American Society for the Sociology of Sport