

Hannah Borenstein

Harper-Schmidt Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Chicago

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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
Dissertation: *Running to Labor: Ethiopian Women Athletes in Networks of Capital*
M.A., Cultural Anthropology 2019
B.A., Individualized Study, New York University 2014

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

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

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

Contributed Chapters

“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.

“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 ‘Special Skills’ of Late Capitalist Sport: The Transnational Protest of Ethiopia’s most Enduring Olympian.” *Sports and Protest in the Black Atlantic*. Edited by Michael Gennaro & Brian McGowan. Forthcoming.

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*. Forthcoming.

Other Selected Writing

[“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.

[“How Extras Got Cut Out of the Hollywood Union Drive.”](#) *VICE*. April 29, 2021.

[“Dereje’s Dream of Bringing Marathon Glory to Ethiopia.”](#) *World Athletics*. April 23, 2021.

[“The Long Run.”](#) *Are We Europe*. March 30, 2021.
[“Starlets of Dystopian Sport.”](#) *Full Stop Quarterly: Winter 2020*. December 30, 2020.
[“Forty Years Later 9 to 5 Still Speaks the Truth.”](#) *Current Affairs*. December 28, 2020.
[“Sprint Nation: The South’s track stars are after more than medals.”](#) *Scalawag Magazine*. October 9, 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.
[“Running is Work.”](#) *Africa is a Country*. June 6, 2019.

Awards, Fellowships & Grants

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

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
Research Assistant – Duke University
 “Ghost Bikes,” Harris Solomon, Fall 2016

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

Academic Presentations

- “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

Podcasts

- “Power and Politics in World Athletics,” *New Books Network*, December 2021.
- “Sport Podcast Hannah Borenstein on Ethiopian Women’s Long-Distance Running, and Power Dynamic in Track and Field,” *Social*, August 2021.

Invited Lectures and Talks

- “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.

Memberships

American Anthropological Association
Anthropology of Work Society
Association for Africanist Anthropology

Relevant Work Experience

Sports Agency Internship, Elite Sports Management, West Chester, PA & Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 2019-2020

Research Assistant, British Institute of Eastern Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, 2015-2016

Program Assistant, Amani Kibera, Nairobi, Kenya 2015-2016

Program Coordinator, Yaya Girls Program, Sululta, Ethiopia 2014-2015

Community Services Intern, New York Road Runners, New York, NY, 2014

Gallatin Review Editor, New York University, 2013 – 2014

Cross Country, Track & Field Athlete, New York University 2013-2014