Nicolas Restrepo Ochoa

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Education

Duke University, Ph.D. Sociology   2022

Duke University, M.A. Sociology   2021

University of Cambridge, M.Phil. Sociology   2016

Durham University, B.A. Sociology   2015

Research Interests

Culture and cognition | Attitudinal change | Cultural change | Agent-based modeling
| Morality | Cultural evolution | Social learning | Social Networks

Dissertation

Three papers on beliefs: on their measurement, their transmission, and its implications for large-scale change

Publications

Published:

1) "Hunter-Gatherer Foraging Networks Promote Information Transmission" (Co-author) [*RSOS*] Link.
2) "The role of template matching in the attribution of immorality". [*Poetics*] Link.

Accepted:

R and Rs:

Under Review:

1) "Identity Structures and Well-Being" (Co-author).[*Social Psychology Quarterly*] Link
2) "Mechanisms of Change across Issues and Contexts" (Co-author). [*Evolutionary Human Sciences*] Link

Presented:

1) "Bringing ecological rationality into models of cultural transmission" – Mind and Materiality panel at the ASA conference 2020.
2) "Varying formative windows and the pace of cultural change" - Formal Models of Culture panel at the ASA conference 2022.

In Progress:

1) "Cultural transmission and the global and local dynamics of social influence" (Co-author) Link
2) "The shape formative windows and the pace of cultural change". Link
3) "Measuring Movement in Cultural Landscapes". [*Invited for submission to Poetics*]

4) "Has young adulthood extended? Variation in formative periods across cohorts" (Co-author).
5) "Signals of what? The puzzle of the emergence of new collective rituals" (Co-author).
6) "Resilience in Animal Networks" (Co-author).
7) "Understanding moral disagreement through assumptions of vulnerability" (Co-author).
8) "Improving Functionalist Analysis" (Co-author).

Teaching and Mentoring

Mentoring at the Universidad del Altiplano 2023

Helping several students with their undergraduate theses

Introduction to R course at the Universidad del Altiplano 2023

Designed and taught a 2-day course geared to a mostly Spanish-speaking audience

Syllabus design for an Introduction to data science course 2022

Helped design a syllabus for an introduction to data science course and to write a set of complementary exercises using engaging data sets.

Project Manager - Data Plus 2021

Led a team of undergraduates with limited coding experience to build a dashboard of Durham Public Schools, currently being used by local organizations.

TA for the Social Statistics Sequence 2021-2022

Preparation of coding workshops for a 2-semester course focused on Bayesian statistics and causal identification.

Funding and Awards

Summer Research Fellowship ($5,500), Graduate School, *Duke University* 2022

Summer Research Fellowship ($5,500), Graduate School, *Duke University* 2020

Summer Research Fellowship ($5,500), Graduate School, *Duke University* 2019

Fuller's Prize for best departmental average in Sociology, *Durham University* 2015

Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship for Academic Excellence, *Durham University* 2014

Skills

R: Proficient | Qualtrics: Proficient | Agent-based modeling: Intermediate | Python: Intermediate | Network analysis: Intermediate | Stan: Proficient

Languages

Spanish: native | English: fluent | German: C1

Departmental Service

WorldView Lab Manager (Duke) 2021-2023

Anti-Racism Committee Representative (Duke) 2021-2023

Graduate Student Forum Co-Chair (Duke)	2020-2021
Staff Appreciation Coordinator (Duke)	2019-2020
Graduate and Professional Student Council Representative (Duke)	2018-2019

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Associaton

Cultural Evolution Society