

# W. Rafferty Thompson

## CV

Social and Behavioral Science Building N428  
Stony Brook, NY 11794-4356

wyatt.thompson@stonybrook.edu  
785-840-5783

---

### Research Interests

Economic sociology, political sociology, sociology of markets, sociology of morality

### Methodological skills

Depth interviews, archival analysis, regression (OLS, logistic, spatial), R, Python, Stata, data visualization

### Education

Bachelor of Arts in Media Studies

The Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA – Graduated in June of 2012

Masters in Sociology

Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, NY – Graduated in May 2022

Ph.D. in Sociology

Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, NY – Expected in May 2024

### Working Papers

Thompson, W. Rafferty. “Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is: Polarization in Political Prediction Markets.”

### Awards

2022 David Street Award from Stony Brook University for the best qualitative and/or theory graduate student paper

### Research Assistantships

Georgetown University

Washington, DC

January 2021–present

- Assisting Dr. Jennifer Heerwig’s research on campaign finance
- Using computational methods (e.g., regular expressions, web-scraping) to chart the contribution rates for the most populous cities in the U.S.
- Analyzing political contribution patterns in New York City with the use of descriptive statistics, data visualizations, and linear regression

Stony Brook University

Stony Brook, NY

June 2020–December 2020

- Assisted Dr. Jennifer Heerwig’s research on campaign finance

- Cleaned datasets and produced descriptive statistics relevant to independent expenditure contributions in Seattle and individual political contributions in New York City
- Researched the history of the New York City Campaign Finance Act

### **Teaching Experience**

*Instructor:* Historical Development of Sociology Theory – SOC-361 (summer 2021)

*Datalab Instructor:* Multivariate Regression Techniques – SOC-502 (spring 2022)

*Instructor:* Sociology of Gambling – SOC-391 (*upcoming* winter 2023)

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant Experience**

Historical Development of Sociological Theory – SOC-361 (fall 2018)

Sociology of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse – SOC-339 (spring 2019)

Sociology of Youth – SOC-243 (fall 2019–fall 2021)

Multivariate Regression Techniques – SOC-502 (spring 2022)

### **Academic Service**

President (2020-2021 academic year) – Sociology Graduate Student Forum

Graduate Student Mentor (2020-present)– Sociology Graduate Student Forum

Graduate Student Representative (2019-2020 academic year) – Faculty Meetings

Department Mobilizer (2018–2022) – Graduate Student Employee Union

### **Conference Presentations**

Buying the Big Apple: Evaluating the Donor Class in New York City Elections

Panel presentation with Dr. Jennifer Heerwig

2021 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting

Shrouded in Secrecy: Theories of Illegal Markets

Roundtable presentation

2020 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

### **Non-Academic Employment Experience**

Lead Schedule Coordinator – comScore, Inc. (previously Rentrak)

Portland, Oregon

May 2015–July 2018

- I managed a team that aggregated the broadcast schedules of linear television networks, verifying that comScore’s television viewership data was recorded and tabulated properly
- Conducted job interviews to find the perfect additions to our friendly and hard-working department
- Ran Alteryx workflows as an aegis for quantitative accuracy

Data Center Associate – Rentrak

Portland, Oregon

October 2012–May 2015

- Acquired and accounted box office data for films playing across the US
- Ensured that movie studios received accurate information