

Linus Albert Westheuser

Humboldt University Berlin
Department of Social Sciences
Universitätsstraße 3b, 10117 Berlin, Germany
Room 105
Phone: +49 (0)30 2093-66625
linus.westheuser@hu-berlin.de

Born: June 19, 1989—Berlin, Germany

Areas of specialisation

Political and Cultural Sociology; Classes and Milieus; Cleavages and Social Conflict; Identities; Morality; Populism; Conflict and Mobilization; Gender

Academic Career

- since 2022 POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER, Department of Social Sciences, Research Unit Macrosociology (Prof. Steffen Mau), Humboldt University Berlin
- 2021 POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP, Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship (ESKAS), Department of Political Science, University of Zurich
- 2016-21 PHD in Sociology and Political Science, Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence
Thesis Title: *Pre-Political Bases of a New Cleavage? Social Identities, Moral Economy, and Classed Politics in Germany.*
PhD Committee: Donatella della Porta (Main supervisor), Mike Savage, Steffen Mau
- 2020 RESEARCH VISIT International Inequalities Institute, London School of Economics
- 2017-2018 RESEARCH VISIT Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences, Humboldt-University Berlin
- since 2016 ASSOCIATE RESEARCHER Centre for Citizenship and Social Pluralism, University of Potsdam
- 2013-16 M.A. in Social Sciences, Humboldt-University Berlin
Thesis title: *Mobilizing Against Asylum Seekers: Grievances, Opportunities, and Discourse.*
Supervisor: Prof. Ruud Koopmans.
- 2015 VISITING STUDENT Department of Social Sciences, École Normale Supérieure, Cachan
- 2008-13 B.A. in Social Sciences and Philosophy, Humboldt-University Berlin
Thesis title: *Homology and Practice. Theorizing a Faultline in Pierre Bourdieu's Social Theory.*
Supervisor: Prof. Hans-Peter Müller.
- 2010-11 VISITING STUDENT Department of European Studies, King's College London

Publications

ARTICLES (PEER REVIEWED)

- 2020 Westheuser, Linus (2020), "Populism as Symbolic Class Struggle. Metaphor, Homology, and English Ale", *Participation and Conflict* 13(1): 256-283, ([LINK](#)).
- 2015 Westheuser, Linus (2015), "Männer, Frauen und Stefan Hirschauer: Undoing Gender zwischen Praxeologie und Rhetorischer Modernisierung (Men, Women and Stefan Hirschauer: Undoing Gender Between Praxeology and Rhetorical Modernization)", *GENDER – Zeitschrift für Gesellschaft, Geschlecht und Kultur* 3: 109-125 ([LINK](#)).
- 2012 Westheuser, Linus (2012), "'Obviously I'm Not a D**k, Right?' Positioning Male Identities on the Mediated Conversational Floor of a TV Game Show". *Soziologiemagazin*, 2: 125-136 ([LINK](#)).

AS EDITOR

- 2022 Westheuser, Linus and Donatella della Porta (eds.), "Social Space, Class Culture, and Political Cleavages. On the Analysis of Fragmented Class Societies", Special Issue of the *Berliner Journal für Soziologie*. (forthcoming)

WORK IN PROGRESS

- accepted Westheuser, Linus and Linda Beck, "Das Fortleben des Klassen-Cleavage im Unrechtsbewusstsein der ArbeiterInnen." (The Persistence of the Class Cleavage in the Moral Consciousness of Workers), accepted at *Berliner Journal für Soziologie*.
- accepted Westheuser, Linus, "Where Next for the Sociocultural Approach to Populism? Class, Status, and the Sociopolitical Low." In *Elgar Research Handbook of Populism*, eds. Stavrakakis, Yannis and Giorgos Katsambekis, due 2022.
- in progress Westheuser, Linus and Delia Zollinger, "Cleavage Theory Meets Bourdieu. Studying Social Identities Along an Open-Closed Divide." *Advanced Working Paper (presented at University of Zurich)*.
- in progress Westheuser, Linus, "Theorizing Cleavage Identities." *Advanced Working Paper (presented at London School of Economics)*.
- in progress Damhuis, Koen and Linus Westheuser, "The Moral Bases of a New Cleavage: Deservingness, Meritocracy, Recognition.", *Work in Progress (presented at Scuola Normale Superiore)*.

OTHER ARTICLES

- 2020 Westheuser, Linus (2020) "The Symbolic Politics of Populism Reflects the Class Alliances it Attempts to Assemble.", *LSE British Politics and Policy Blog* ([LINK](#)).
- 2019 Westheuser, Linus (2019) "The Tea Party, Occupy Wall Street, and the Great Recession" (Book Review), *Mobilization* 24(4): 531-2. ([LINK](#))
- 2018 Westheuser, Linus (2018), "Doing Gender" (Encyclopedia Chapter). *Gender Glossary*, ([LINK](#)).

Selected Conference Papers

- 2021 with Delia Zollinger: “Cleavage Theory Meets Bourdieu. Studying Social Identities Along the Second Dimension.”, *SciencesPo Paris and University of Zurich Publication Seminar*.
- 2020 “The Deep Structures of the New Cleavage: Social Identity, Moral Boundaries and Political Habitus of Production Workers and Sociocultural Professionals.”, *University of Zurich, Research Group on Cleavages and Social Identities*.
- 2020 “‘Not Like the Little People, But Like the Normal People’: Deep Structures of Young Workers’ Self Understandings.”, *ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops, SciencesPo Toulouse. (cancelled)*.
- 2020 “The Symbolic Class Politics of Populism.”, *Political Studies Association Conference, University of Edinburgh (canceled)*.
- 2019 “Boundaries, Morality, Antagonism: Theorizing Cleavage Identities.”, *EGN Conference, London School of Economics and Political Science*.
- 2019 “Populism and The Popular: Some Conceptual Disentangling.” *Workshop: The Cultural Side of Populism, Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence*.
- 2018 “Changing Cleavage Structures and the Morality of Workers and Middle Class Professionals.”, *Conference ‘Diversity, Threat and Morality’, University of Tübingen*.
- 2018 “Precarity, Moral Boundaries, Realignment: Identification Processes in Young Middle and Working Class Milieus.”, *Humboldt-University Berlin*.
- 2017 “The Strange Reappearance of Class in Debates Around Right-wing Populism”, *Conference ‘Materialist Perspectives on Social Movements’, University of Kassel*.
- 2017 “Mobilizing Against Asylum Seekers in Eastern Germany: Grievances, Opportunities, Discourse.”, *Conference of the European Sociological Association (ESA), Pantheon University, Athens*.
- 2016 “Discursive Opportunities and Boundary Making in Radical Right Violence”. *Research Unit ‘(Un)Doing Difference’, University of Mainz*.
- 2016 “The Political Conduct of Life – A Weberian Perspective on Movement Activism”. *Forum of the International Sociological Association (ISA), University of Vienna*.

Teaching

- 2018 “Introduction to Classical Sociological Theory” (30 teaching hours), University of Potsdam.

Service to the profession

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION AND CHAIR DUTY

- 2019 Conference organizer and chair: “Class Without Consciousness. The Politics of Fragmented Class Identities”, 2-day conference *Scuola Normale Superiore*.
- 2020 Conference discussant: “Solidarity Across Differences”, *University of Cambridge*.
- 2019 Workshop chair: “The Cultural Side of Populism”, *Scuola Normale Superiore*.
- 2017 Workshop discussant: “Party Realignment, Economic Crisis and Varieties of Populism in Europe”, *Scuola Normale Superiore*.

GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

- 2018-21 Student representative at the European Graduate Network.
- 2017-19 Welcome Officer (First contact for visiting researchers at Scuola Normale's SPS Department).
- 2017-19 Co-founder, Florence Intersectionality and Gender Working Group (FIG), *Scuola Normale Superiore & European University Institute*.

Professional Experience

- 2017 Editorial Assistant, *Berliner Journal für Soziologie*. Edition *Max Weber Handbuch* (J.B.Metzler).
- 2016-current Translator, e.g. *German Cultural Foundation* (Kulturstiftung des Bundes), *Berlin State Senate*.
- 2014-15 Teaching Assistant, *Chair of General Sociology* (Prof. Hans-Peter Müller), *Humboldt-University*.
- 2012-13 Editorial Assistant, *Berlin Institute for Critical Theory*, *Free University Berlin*.
- 2011-12 Research Assistant, *Center for Social Research*, *Humboldt-Universität Berlin*.

Grants & Honours

- 2008-11 Scholarship, German Academic Scholarship Foundation (*Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes*)
- 2010 Essay Award, *Soziologie Heute*, "Theories of Subjectivation in G.H. Mead and Judith Butler".
- 2008 State Prize, High School Historiography Prize of the German President, "1968 on the Right".

Skills

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), Italian (advanced), French (intermediate), Latin.
Methods: Content Analysis, Documentary Method, Multiple Correspondence Analysis, Time Series Regression, Event Analysis, Frame Analysis, Process Tracing, Archival Research.
Software: Office, Stata, MAXQDA, Wordpress.

References

Prof. Dr. Donatella della Porta, Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence, donatella.dellaporta@sns.it
Prof. Dr. Steffen Mau, Humboldt-University Berlin, steffen.mau@hu-berlin.de
Prof. Dr. Magne Flemmen, University of Oslo, magne.flemmen@sosgeo.uio.no
Dr. Koen Damhuis, University of Utrecht, k.h.b.damhuis@uu.nl