

Wesley C. Stubenbord

Institute of Sociology, University of Bern
Bern, Switzerland | wesley.stubenbord@unibe.ch

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2026-Present Research Associate, Transitions from Education to Employment (TREE), University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
- 2023-2024 Teaching Fellow in Sociology, Sciences Po, Reims, France

EDUCATION

- 2026 Ph.D. in Sociology, Cornell University
Dissertation: “The Social Structure of Wealth Concentration: Composition, Origins, and Persistence among the Contemporary Economic Elite”
Committee: Kim Weeden (Chair), Cristobal Young (Co-Chair), Diane Burton
Area Exams: Economy and Society; Stratification and Inequality
- 2022 M.A. in Sociology, Cornell University
- 2016 Ed.M. in Curriculum and Teaching, Boston University
- 2014 B.A. in Economics and Sociology (*High Honors*), New York University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economic Sociology, Stratification and Inequality, Organizations

PUBLICATIONS

Work in Progress

Stubenbord, Wesley. “Economic Elites and Wealth Concentration Cross-Nationally, 1996-2025.”

Stubenbord, Wesley. “Silver Spoons, Bootstraps, and Billionaires: The Social Origins of the Contemporary American Economic Elite, 1982-2025.”

- Robert McGinnis Award for Best Paper in Methods or Data Innovation, Department of Sociology, Cornell University

Stubenbord, Wesley. “Too Rich to Fail? Rising Persistence and the Role of the State at the Top of the Global Wealth Distribution.”

Stubenbord, Wesley. “Gilded Age: The Role of Age Structure in Wealth Concentration.”

Stubenbord, Wesley. “Geographic Origins and the Role of Spatial Mobility in the Creation of Private Wealth.”

Briefs and Other Publications

Stubenbord, Wesley. 2025. "Mapping the Migration Patterns of the Global Economic Elite." Data visualization and brief. *SocArXiv* preprint. https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/6a93z_v1.

MEDIA COVERAGE

de Volkskrant. "[Miljardairs zijn honkvast](#)" [Billionaires Stay Put] by Pepijn de Lange and Stefan Pullen, January 21, 2026. Feature article (print and online) discussing the pre-print "Mapping the Migration Patterns of the Global Economic Elite."

Die Zeit. "[Milliardäre sterben eher, als dass sie auswandern](#)" [Billionaires Would Rather Die Than Emigrate] by Marilena Piesker, June 23, 2025. *Contributed original data analysis*.

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

- Nov. 2026 "Silver Spoons, Bootstraps, and Billionaires: The Social Origins of the Contemporary American Economic Elite, 1982-2025." 3rd Workshop on Wealth Inequality, Intergenerational Mobility, and Equality of Opportunity, WU Vienna, Vienna, Austria. (Scheduled).
- Sept. 2026 "Silver Spoons, Bootstraps, and Billionaires: The Social Origins of the Contemporary American Economic Elite, 1982-2025." The Atkinson Conference on Economic and Social Inequality, Nuffield College, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom. (Scheduled).
- July 2026 "Economic Elites and Wealth Concentration Cross-Nationally, 1996-2025." Annual Conference of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Bordeaux, France.
- June 2026 "Economic Elites and Wealth Concentration Cross-Nationally, 1996-2025." World Inequality Conference 2026, World Inequality Lab, Paris School of Economics, Paris, France.
- May 2026 "Economic Elites and Wealth Concentration Cross-Nationally, 1996-2025." RC28 Spring Meeting, Seville, Spain.
- Oct. 2025 "Economic Elites and Wealth Concentration Cross-Nationally, 1996-2025." International Conference on Wealth Inequality, Munich International Stone Center for Inequality Research at LMU Munich, Munich, Germany.
- July 2023 "Beyond the Top 1 Percent: Trends in Wealth Concentration among the World's Billionaires." Annual Conference of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Remote).
- April 2023 "Beyond the Top 1 Percent: Trends in Wealth Concentration among the World's Billionaires." Annual Conference of the Population Association of America, New Orleans, Louisiana. Winner, *PAA Poster Award*.
- Aug. 2022 "Billionaire Wealth in the 21st Century." Annual Conference of the American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, California.

Invited Talks

- Sept. 2026 “Silver Spoons, Bootstraps, and Billionaires: The Social Origins of the Contemporary American Economic Elite, 1982-2025.” Sociology Research Colloquium, University of Bern. (Scheduled).
- Feb. 2024 “Movements of Capital: How have the fortunes of the super-rich evolved and what does it mean for the future?” Public lecture in the *Teaching Fellow Seminar Series*, Sciences Po, Reims, France.
- May 2022 “Sources of Billionaire Wealth.” Guest lecture in SOC 2190: Economic Sociology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2026 Robert McGinnis Award for Best Paper in Methods or Data Innovation, Department of Sociology, Cornell University
- 2026 Jaap Dronkers Travel Award, Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification, International Sociological Association
- 2025 Conference Grant, Graduate School, Cornell University
- 2024-2025 Sage Fellowship, Cornell University
- 2023 Conference Grant, Graduate School, Cornell University
- 2022 Summer Research Grant, Center for the Study of Economy and Society, Cornell University
- 2021 Outstanding TA Award, Department of Sociology, Cornell University
- 2019-2020 Sage Fellowship, Cornell University
- 2013 Dean's Undergraduate Research Fund Grant, New York University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sciences Po

- Spring 2024 Instructor, Wealth & Inequality
Instructor, Statistics for the Social Sciences Using R
- Fall 2023 Instructor, Research Practicum for Inquiries in Sociology
Teaching Assistant to Professor Bruno Cousin, Introduction to Sociology

Cornell University

- Fall 2022 Teaching Assistant to Chao Yu, Instructor, Communication and Technology
- Fall 2021 Teaching Assistant to Professor Cristobal Young, Controversies About Inequality
- Spring 2021 Teaching Assistant to Professor Kim Weeden, Social Inequality
- Fall 2020 Teaching Assistant to Professor Kendra Bischoff, Introduction to Sociology

Chelsea High School, Chelsea, Massachusetts

- 2015-2016 Teacher, Discrete Mathematics (Grades 11-12)
- 2014-2016 Teacher, Advanced Placement Statistics
- 2014-2015 Teacher, Quantitative Reasoning (Grades 11-12)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University Service

2021-2023 Assistant Director, Center for the Study of Economy & Society, Cornell University

Departmental Service

2021-2022 Treasurer, Sociology Graduate Student Association, Cornell University

2020-2021 Brown Bag Seminar Co-organizer, Department of Sociology, Cornell University

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, American Sociological Association

Member, Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification

LANGUAGES & TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: English (Native), French (B2), Italian (A1), Arabic (A1), German (A1)

Statistical Programming: R, Stata

Programming Languages: Python, C/C++, SQL

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2017-2019 Analyst, Financial Intelligence Unit, American Express, New York, NY

2016-2017 Analyst, Finance Department, Ropes & Gray LLP, New York, NY

2014-2016 High School Math Teacher, Chelsea Public Schools, Chelsea, MA

2012-2014 Paralegal, Belluck & Fox LLP, New York, NY

REFERENCES

Available upon request.