

Marion W. Dixon
Curriculum Vitae

Department of Literature, Culture, and Society
Point Park University
201 Wood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
marionwdixon.com

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University, 2013
M.S. Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University, 2007
B.A. Department of Political Science (*summa cum laude*), University of Michigan, 2000

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2026 – Present Chair, Department of Literature, Culture, and Society, Point Park University
2024 – Present Coordinator, Interdisciplinary Studies, and International and Environmental Studies, Department of Literature, Culture, and Society, Point Park University
2023 – Present Associate Professor, Sociology, Department of Literature, Culture, and Society, Point Park University
2018 – 2023 Assistant Professor, Sociology, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Point Park University
2014 – 2018 Professorial Lecturer, School of International Service, American University, International Development (Masters) Program

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Book

2023 *The Frontiers of Corporate Food in Egypt*. Oxford University Press. First book of new OUP series, Middle East Political Economy.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

2021 ‘Phosphate rock frontiers: Nature, labor, and imperial states, 1870-WWI’. *Critical Historical Studies* 8(2): 271-303.
2020 ‘Agrarian Question Revisited: Smallholders and Corporate Food in Egypt’, special issue Food Security and the Contested Visions of Agrarian Change in Africa, *Canadian Journal of Development Studies* 41(2): 279-295.

- 2018 'Chemical fertilizer in transformations in world agriculture and the state system, 1870 to the interwar period'. *Journal of Agrarian Change* 18(4): 768-786.
- 2017 'Plastics and Agriculture in the Desert Frontier'. *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East* 37(1): 86-102.
- 2015 'Biosecurity and the Multiplication of Crises in the Egyptian Agri-food Industry'. *Geoforum* 61: 90-100.
- 2014 'The land grab, finance capital, and food regime restructuring: the case of Egypt'. *Review of African Political Economy* 41(140): 232-248.
- 2011 'An Arab Spring'. *Review of African Political Economy* 38(128): 309-316.

Peer Reviewed Bibliography

- 2018 'Arab Spring.' In *Oxford Bibliographies in African Studies*, edited by P. Zeleza. New York: Oxford University Press.

Book Chapter/Section/Review

- Forthcoming* 'Finance and the Growth of Corporate Food in Egypt'. In *Capital and the Countryside*.
- 2018 'Riding on Waves of Crises: Finance, Food, and Political Tumult in Egypt'. In *The Financialization of Agri-Food Systems: Contested Transformation*, edited by H. Bjørkhaug, A. Magnan, and G. Lawrence, pp. 135-155. New York: Routledge.

Works Under Review

- 'Where is the Processed Food? A Review of Agriculture and Food Studies journal articles, (Jan) 2021 – (Feb) 2026'. Under review at *Sustainable Futures* (submitted July 2026).

Invited Book Reviews

- 2021 Review of *Food Insecurity and Revolution in the Middle East and North Africa: Agrarian Questions in Egypt and Tunisia*, by Habib Ayeb and Ray Bush, *Journal of Development Studies* 57(12): 2177-2178.
- 2017 Review of *The Contradictions of Neoliberal Agri-Food: Corporations, Resistance, and Disasters in Japan*, by Kae Sekine and Alessandro Bonanno, *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews* 46(6): 714-716.

Public Scholarship

- 2024 'Corporate Food and the Expanding Frontier: Egypt in the World Food Economy'. Marxist Sociology blog, Sept 13. Available at: <https://marxistsociology.org/2024/09/corporate-food-and-the-expanding-frontier-egypt-in-the-world-food-economy/>.

- 2024 'Finance and the Growth of Corporate Food in Egypt'. Institutional Landscapes, #16, May 13. Available at: <https://institutionallandscapes.org/contribution/16-finance-and-the-growth-of-corporate-food-in-egypt/>.
- 2023 'Influwanza attuyur wa adda'm al-ghada'i: Mu'alajat qadaya addawajin Assina'iya fi Misr' (Arabic translation of Tiny Beam publication by Anouar Mzoudi). Tiny Beam, Inc., Issue Lab. Available at: <https://doi.org/10/grp7jb>.
- 2023 'Eek! What the Chick? Addressing the Issues of Industrial Poultry in Egypt'. Tiny Beam Fund, Inc., Issue Lab (open access repository). Available at: <https://doi.org/10/grk7np>.
- 2018 'Egypt's Indelible Link: Corporate Food, Frontiers, and Popular Revolt'. *ROAPE Critical Agrarian Studies Blog*, 10 July. <http://roape.net/2018/07/10/egypts-indelible-link-corporate-food-frontiers-and-popular-revolt/>.
- 2017 'Al-Ghada' wa al-Azmah fi Misr' (Arabic translation of Food and Crisis in Egypt). *Thimar* no. 184. <http://www.athimar.org/Article-115?lang=ar>.
- 2017 'Food and Crisis in Egypt: corporate food and class inequalities'. *Thimar* no. 184 <http://www.athimar.org/Article-115>.
- 2014 'Agri-food industry growth and the land grab in north-east Africa'. *Democracy in Africa*, 17 November. <http://democracyinafrica.org/agri-food-industry-growth-land-grab-north-east-africa/>.
- 2014 'Making land (and money) a commodity: desert development and agribusiness in Egypt', *CIHEAM Watch Letter* 28, International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies. <http://ciheam.org/images/CIHEAM/PDFs/Publications/LV/WL28.pdf>.
- 2014 'Interview with Marion Dixon: Debating the Arab Spring,' *Kdebate: Global Debate*.
- 2013 'South-South land grabbing: what the case of Egypt and southern neighbours reveals'. *Pambazuka News*, 4 December. <http://www.pambazuka.org/en/category/features/89848>.
- 2010 'Investing in Inequality: Education Reform in Egypt'. *Middle East Report* 255: 40-47.

INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- 2023 CEDEJ Cairo, Roundtable/Webinar, "Hunger for the Desert: Food, Agri-capitalism and the Environment in Egypt". April 18

- 2017 Zayed University, Dubai, International Workshop, “Commodity Frontiers and Global Capitalist Expansion: Social, Ecological and Resource Policy Implications,” December 6-7 [cancelled attendance due to illness]
- 2016 Collaborative Research Centre, University of Leipzig, Germany, Workshop, “Spatialities of Food – The Urban Case of Cairo,” October 14-17.
- 2016 *Thimar*: Research collective on agriculture, environment & labor in the Arab World, American University of Beirut, Conference, “The production of knowledge for research: understanding rural well-being in the Arab world,” September 16-18.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Panels (Co)-organized

- 2020 ‘The Family and the Market in the Longue Durée’, Political Economy of the World System, American Sociological Association, San Francisco, August. (cancelled)
- 2018 Political Economy of the World System Roundtable, American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, August 11-14.
- 2017 ‘Commodity Frontiers in Historical Capitalism’, Third World-Ecology Research Network, Binghamton University, July 21-22.
- 2016 ‘What is new in the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition?’, 6th Development Sociology Section, American Sociological Association, Cornell University, October 6-8.
- 2016 ‘The financialization of agri-food: limits, contradictions, and new directions’, XIV World Congress of Rural Sociology, Toronto, August 10-14.
- 2016 ‘MENA political tumult: What do capitalism and class have to do with it?’, International Studies Association, Atlanta, March 16-19.
- 2013 ‘A Committee of Concerned Scholars’, Canadian Association of African Studies, Carleton University, May 2.

Papers Presented

- 2026 ‘Where is the Processed Food?’, Joint Association for the Study of Food and Society and Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society, Burlington, VT, June 7-10.
- 2021 ‘Land Reclamation in the Longue Durée (version 2)’, World- Ecology Research Network’s Virtual Conference, October and November.
- 2019 ‘Food Crises and Revolt’, American Sociological Association, New York, August 10-13

- 2018 'Chemical Fertilizer in the Making of National Agricultures and National Industries, 1870 – WWII', American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, August 11-14.
- 2018 'The modern world economy: frontiers, ecology, commodities', International Studies Association, San Francisco, April 4-7.
- 2018 'We Come as Friends: Missionaries, Investors, and the UN in South Sudan', w/ Claire Metelits and (student) Edmund Doku, International Studies Association, San Francisco, April 4-7.
- 2017 'Land reclamation and expanded commodity production in the *longue durée*', Middle East Studies Association, Washington DC, November 18-21.
- 2017 'Land Reclamation and Expanded Commodity Production in the *Longue Durée*', Third World-Ecology Research Network, Binghamton University, July 21-22.
- 2017 'Agriculture and food in the Middle East and North Africa: a research agenda', International Studies Association, Baltimore, February 25.
- 2016 'The Global Fertilizer Industry and 'Greening Africa' Initiatives since the 2007-2008 Crises', *Development in Question*: 6th Sociology of Development Section of American Sociological Association, Cornell University, October 6-8.
- 2016 'Regional financialization and consolidation of the Egyptian agri-food industry', XIV World Congress of Rural Sociology, Toronto, August 10-14.
- 2016 'Finance and its Discontents: Consolidation of the Egyptian Formal Economy', International Studies Association, Atlanta, March 16-19.
- 2015 'Frontiers and New Agricultural Countries', American Sociological Association, Chicago, August 22-25.
- 2015 'Phosphate, Fertilizers, and French North Africa: 1830s through the interwar period', *Global Commodity Flows* Conference and Workshop, Institute for Historical Studies, University of Texas, Austin, April 16-18.
- 2014 'The Geopolitics of Peak Phosphorus – and Food Secure Futures', 46th International Studies Association Northeast, Baltimore, Maryland, November 7-9.
- 2014 'Taming the untamed: the Avian flu and other monsters of industrial agriculture in Egypt', Joint Association for the Study of Food and Society and Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society, Burlington, VT, June 18-21.
- 2013 'Egyptian dairy: the reconstitution of peasantries and the making of corporate food', Rural Sociological Society, New York City, August 9.

Panel Discussant

- 2019 Rural Sociology section, American Sociological Association, New York, August 10-13.

- 2018 'Structuring the Global from Below', International Studies Association, San Francisco, April 4-7.
- 2017 'Accumulation by Appropriation', Third World-Ecology Research Network, Binghamton University, July 21-22.
- 2017 'Postcolonial Perspectives on the Politics of Development: Historical Views of Postcolonial States', International Studies Association, Baltimore, February 22-25.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2022 Burning Questions Fellowship Award, Tiny Beam Fund, Inc.
- 2017 School of International Service Dean's Summer Research Award
- 2016 School of International Service Conference Travel Award, American University

CAMPUS TALKS

Point Park University

- 2022 'EEK! What the Chick? What is the matter with the chickens we eat? How are countries like Egypt impacted by factory farming?', School of Arts & Sciences, funded by the Tiny Beam Fund, Inc., November.

American University

- 2018 'Rethinking the 2011 Uprising in Egypt: The Food-Revolt Nexus', International Development Program Friday Forum, School of International Service, January.
- 2017 'Riding on Waves of Crises: Finance, Food, and Political Tumult', Ethnographies of Empire Fall Symposium, School of International Service, September.
- 2015 'Participation: Promise or Tyranny or..?', International Development Program Friday Forum, School of International Service, September.
- 2015 'The 'P' in Greening Africa', International Development Program Friday Forum, School of International Service, January.

TEACHING

Point Park University

- Interdisciplinary Studies Practicum (2023-2025)
- Interdisciplinary Studies Thesis (2023-2024)
- Power, Politics, and Society (Spring 2023, Fall 2026)
- Agriculture and Food Systems (Summer 2023 (graduate-level), Spring 2020, Summer 2021)
- Governments and Politics of the Middle East (Fall 2018)

Introduction to Global Cultural Studies (2019-2023)
Sociological Foundations (2018-2025)
World Cultures (2019-2025)
Nature and Society (Spring 2021, Independent study)

American University

Special topic in Identity, Race, Gender and Culture – ‘The West and the Rest: Discourse and Power in International Development’ (2015-2017)
International Development (2014-2017)
International Development (2014-2017, graduate course)
Micropolitics of Development (2015-2017, graduate course)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Book reviews:

University of California Press
Routledge Geography and Tourism Books
American University in Cairo Press

Journal review:

Agriculture and Human Values; American Journal of Sociology; Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East; Contemporary Sociology; Development in Practice; Ecologies Technics & Civilizations; Environment and Planning A; Feminist Economics; Food Security; Geoforum; Globalizations; International Journal of Middle East Studies; Journal of Agrarian Change; Journal of Peasant Studies; Review of African Political Economy; Review of African Political Economy; World Development

Edited volume review: *Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte / Economic History Yearbook*

PEWS Council elected member, Political Economy of the World System section, American Sociological Association, 2017-2020

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Point Park University

Literature, Culture, and Society (LCS) Department Tenure and Promotion Committee, Chair (Fall 2024)

Organizational Review Committee (elected) (2023-2025)

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2019-2023)

Secretary, Undergraduate Curriculum (2022-2023)

Community Engagement Dissertation Committee (Fall 2022)

Community Engagement Search Committee (Spring 2022)

Ad-Hoc Political Science Search Committee (Spring 2019)

American University

Core Committee (Undergraduate Curriculum) (2017-2018)

Committee for Habits of Mind Courses (2017-2018)

Faculty Advisor, International Development Program (2016-2018, 2014-2015)

Faculty Advisor, AU Chapter of Nourish International (2016-2017, 2015-2016)

Faculty Mentor, Undergraduate Mentorship Program (2015-2016, 2014-2015)

Ad-Hoc Committee on Term Faculty Mentorship (2014-2015)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Lebo Unplugged, 2025 – Present

Health Justice advocacy, regional PA, 2018-2021

Public Talk, 'Experiencing the Egyptian Revolution: Lessons Learned', Workers' Rights Center, Ithaca, NY, 2012

Translation assistant and international advocate, Egyptian Peasant Solidarity Committee, Egypt, 2008-2011

Apprentice, Bison Ridge Farm, Van Etten, NY, 2006-2007

Peace Corps Health Volunteer, Morocco, 2002-2003

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association

Association for the Study of Food and Society

International Studies Association

Middle East Studies Association

Rural Sociological Association

REFERENCES

Philip McMichael
Department of Development Sociology
Cornell University
240B Warren Hall
Ithaca, NY 14850
pdm1@cornell.edu / 607-255-5495

Fouad Makki
Department of Development Sociology

Cornell University
251C Warren Hall
Ithaca, NY 14850
fmn2@cornell.edu / 607-255-6237

Jason W. Moore
Department of Sociology
Binghamton University
Binghamton, NY 13902
jwmoore@binghamton.edu / 607-777-3232