

Elizabeth Butler Breese

Department of Sociology
Yale University
PO Box 208265
New Haven, CT 06520-8265
elizabeth.breese@yale.edu
Ph: 339-225-0358
August 2011

Education

- 2007- PhD candidate in Sociology, Yale University (expected 2012)
- Dissertation Title:* Interpreting the News: A Cultural Sociology of Journalistic Discourses in the United States
- 2010 MPhil, Sociology, Yale University
- 2008 MA, Sociology, Yale University
- 2006 BA, Wellesley College, *cum laude*, departmental honors in Sociology

Areas of Research and Teaching Interest

Culture, Media and Communications, Social Theory, American Society

Books

Narrating Trauma: On the Impact of Collective Suffering, Ron Eyerman, Jeffrey C. Alexander and Elizabeth Butler Breese, eds. Paradigm Publishers, 2011

The Historical Sociological Imagination (with Julia Adams, in progress)

Articles and Chapters

- 2011 “Claiming Trauma through Social Performance: The Case of *Waiting for Godot*,” pp. 213-236 in *Narrating Trauma: On the Impact of Collective Suffering*.
- “Introduction: On Social Suffering and Its Cultural Construction,” with Jeffrey C. Alexander, pp. xi-xxxv in *Narrating Trauma: On the Impact of Collective Suffering*.
- 2011 “Mapping the Variety of Public Spheres,” *Communication Theory* 21 (2): 130-149.

- 2010 "Meaning, Celebrity, and the Underage Pregnancy of Jamie Lynn Spears,"
Cultural Sociology 4 (3): 337-355.
- 2010 "Reports from 'Backstage' in Entertainment News," *Society* 47 (5): 396-402.

Articles Under Submission

"The Binary Code of American News," under review, *Sociological Theory*

Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

- 2010-2011 Paul Moore Fund for Instructional Innovation (with Julia Adams),
Yale University
- 2010-2011 Associates in Teaching Program (with Julia Adams)
Competitive Yale Graduate School program sponsoring twelve advanced
PhD students in their one-on-one collaboration with a faculty member in
the re-design and delivery of an undergraduate course. *Sociology* 121,
"The Sociological Imagination," was offered in Spring 2011.
- 2008-2011 Rosabeth M. Kanter Fellowship, Yale University
- 2007-2008 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
Honorable Mention
- 2007-2008 Vida Dutton Scudder Fellowship for graduate study, Wellesley College
- 2006 Alpha Kappa Delta Award for Distinction in Sociology, Wellesley College
Recognizing the senior who maintained the highest academic record in the
Sociology major.
- 2005-2006 Jerome A. Schiff Fellowship, Wellesley College
Financial merit award supporting field research for undergraduate senior
honors thesis.

Teaching Qualifications and Experience

Certificate of College Teaching Preparation

Awarded in 2011 by the Graduate Teaching Center at Yale University

- Spring 2011 Co-taught (with Julia Adams)
"The Sociological Imagination"

Fall 2010	Teaching Fellow “Foundations of Modern Social Theory” Professor Emily Erikson
Spring 2010	Teaching Fellow “Method and Practice of Field Work” Professor Elijah Anderson
Fall 2009	Teaching Fellow “Foundations of Modern Social Theory” Professor Ivan Szelenyi

Professional Presentations

- “The Binary Structure of American News and the Cable Revolution, 1978-1983”
Theory Section Roundtable Session, American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Las Vegas, August 22, 2011
The Center for Cultural Sociology Spring Conference, Yale University, April 29, 2011
- “Cultural Sociology and Media Studies: Meaning, Celebrity, and the Underage Pregnancy of Jamie Lynn Spears”
The Media Theory and History Faculty Seminar, Yale University, March 2, 2011
- “Scandalous Gossip: Publicity of Film Stars’ Transgressions in the Golden Age of Hollywood”
Culture and Social Analysis Workshop, Harvard University, November 29, 2010
Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 19, 2010
- “Iconic Anxiety: Meaning, Celebrity, and the Underage Pregnancy of Jamie Lynn Spears”
Center for Cultural Sociology Workshop, Yale University, December 12, 2008
- “A Durkheimian Defense of Hannah Arendt’s Public Sphere”
The Center for Comparative Research Workshop, Yale University, December 1, 2008
- “Iconic Anxiety: Social Performance and the Underage Pregnancy of Jamie Lynn Spears”
Konstanzer Meisterklasse, Konstanz, Germany, July 16-24, 2008

Selected Professional and Service Activities

2007- Present	Junior Fellow, Center for Cultural Sociology at Yale University
2007- Present	Junior Fellow, The Center for Comparative Research at Yale University
2004- Present	Fellow, Humanity in Action
2008-2009	Yale Sociology Graduate Students (SGS) Representative

2007-2009 Student Liaison, Women Faculty Forum at Yale University

Selected Work Experience

2009 Writer and Proofreader, Open Yale Courses
Drafted summaries and proofread transcripts of each lecture of Professor Ivan Szelenyi's course, "Foundations of Modern Social Theory."
Summaries and transcripts are posted, along with video and audio files, on the Open Yale Courses website: <http://oyc.yale.edu>.

2008 Research Assistant, Women Faculty Forum
Assisted Professor Hannah Brückner with design and analysis of a survey of one Yale College alumni class regarding work/life balance.

Ad-Hoc Journal Reviewer

American Journal of Sociology; Celebrity Studies; Communication Theory; Critical Studies in Media Communication; Sociology Compass

Community Involvement

2007-2010 Co-President, Wellesley-in-New Haven Alumnae Club

2009-2010 Volunteer Academic Tutor, Squash Haven (urban squash program)

2007-2009 Volunteer Academic Tutor, New Haven Reads

References

Jeffrey C. Alexander (Chair)
Sociology Department
P.O. Box 208265
Yale University
New Haven, CT 06520
jeffrey.alexander@yale.edu

Julia P. Adams
Sociology Department
P.O. Box 208265
Yale University
New Haven, CT 06520
julia.adams@yale.edu

Ronald N. Jacobs
1400 Washington Ave.
Arts and Sciences 351
University at Albany
Albany, NY 12222
rjacobs@albany.edu

Philip D. Smith
Sociology Department
P.O. Box 208265
Yale University
New Haven, CT 06520
philip.smith@yale.edu