

CASSANDRA COTTON

Curriculum Vitae, October 2023

Social Sciences Building
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2020 – Assistant Professor, School of Social and Family Dynamics, **Arizona State University**

2017 – 2020 Postdoctoral Scholar, School of Social and Family Dynamics, **Arizona State University**

EDUCATION

2017 Ph.D. Sociology, **McGill University**
Student Member, Centre on Population Dynamics
Dissertation: Migration and Motherhood in sub-Saharan Africa
Comprehensive exams: Population Dynamics (sub-areas: family, migration); Development and Social Change (sub-areas: gender & development, population & urbanization)

2008 B.A. First Class Honors in International Relations, **Mount Allison University**

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

2011 – 2013 Intern, Urbanization & Wellbeing Theme, **African Population & Health Research Center (APHRC)**, Nairobi, Kenya

2008 Development Leadership Certificate, **Coady International Institute**

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Family Demography, Kinship, Child Fostering, Motherhood & Childrearing, Dating & Romance, Marriage & Unions, Population Dynamics, Migration, Global Health, sub-Saharan Africa, Qualitative Methods, Mixed Methods

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Cotton, C., S. Clark & S. Madhavan. 2022. “One Hand does not Bring up a Child:’ Child Fostering Among Single Mothers in Nairobi’s Slums.” *Demographic Research Vol. 46, Article 30*: 865-904.

Cotton, C. 2021. “An Enduring Institution? Child Fostering in sub-Saharan Africa.” *Population & Development Review* 47(4): 1179-1206.

Cotton, C. & D. Beguy. 2021. “Long-Distance Mothering in Urban Kenya.” *Journal of Marriage and Family* 83(2): 482-497.

Clark, S., **C. Cotton**, R. Margolis & H.P. Kohler. 2020. “The Psychological Benefits of Marriage and Children in Rural Malawi.” *Studies in Family Planning* 51(3): 251-272.

Cotton, C. 2019. “Migration and Young Women’s Access to Maternal Healthcare in sub-Saharan Africa.” *Health & Place* 55: 136-144.

Clark, S., S. Madhavan, **C. Cotton**, D. Beguy & C. Kabiru. 2017. “Who Helps Single Mothers in Nairobi?: The Role of Kin Support.” *Journal of Marriage and Family* 79(4): 1186-1204.

Clark, S., **C. Cotton** & L. Marteleto. 2015. “Family Ties and Young Fathers' Engagement in Cape Town, South Africa.” *Journal of Marriage and Family* 77(2): 575-589.

Clark, S. & **C. Cotton**. 2013. “Transitions to Adulthood in Urban Kenya: A Focus on Adolescent Migrants.” *Demographic Research, Vol. 28, Article 37*: 1053-1092.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

*Denotes undergraduate student co-author

**Denotes graduate student co-author

Cotton, C. & C. Oduor. “Maternal migration and child fostering arrangements in Nairobi’s slums.” (Revise and Resubmit, working paper available upon request)

Cotton, C. “Child fostering and ideal family size: Evidence from Uganda.” (Revise and Resubmit, working paper available upon request)

Cotton, C. “Maternal migration and child fostering in sub-Saharan Africa: What is the role of migrant stream?” (Under review, working paper available upon request)

Cotton, C., P. Wekulo & C. Wainaina. “Mothering in adversity: Managing risks to child and adolescent well-being in Nairobi’s slums.” (In preparation, working paper available upon request)

Cotton, C., K. MacQuarrie & T. Pullum. “Sex and Age Distributions of Children Living Apart from Biological Parents: Evidence from DHS Surveys.” (In preparation, working paper available upon request)

Zamora Castro, A.* & **C. Cotton** (equal authorship). “Older adults and politics in romantic relationships.” (In preparation, working paper available upon request)

Cotton, C. & C. Oduor. “The new economics of kinship: Narratives of child fostering in urban Kenya.” (In preparation)

Cotton, C., A. Melendez-Mayfield**, A. Zamora Castro* & N. Flores-Gonzalez. ““Not my circus, not my monkeys:” Enduring preferences for monogamy among Arizona youth. (In preparation)

Cotton, C. & C. Oduor. “The constellations of child fostering in Kenya: Considerations of location and distance.” (In preparation)

Charron-Chénier, R. & **C. Cotton.** “Older Adults and Debt.” (In preparation)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Cotton, C. 2013. “Growing up on the edge: The well-being of children and youth in the slums of sub-Saharan Africa.” Research to Practice Policy Brief, No. 18. Institute for the Study of International Development, McGill University, Montreal, QC.

REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

Cotton, C., P. Wekulo & C. Wainaina. “Just want to give my Children a Better Life:” Mothers’ Protective Carework in Nairobi’s Slums.” (Roundtable presentation at the American Sociological Association 2023 Annual Meeting, August 17th-21st, 2023, Philadelphia, PA)

Cotton, C. & C. Oduor. “The new economics of kinship: Narratives of child fostering in urban Kenya.” (Poster presentation at the Population Association of America 2023 Annual Meeting, April 12th-15th, 2023, New Orleans, LA)

Cotton, C., P. Wekulo & C. Wainaina. “Mothering in adversity: Managing risks to child and adolescent well-being in Nairobi’s slums.” (Poster presentation at the Population Association of America 2023 Annual Meeting, April 12th-15th, 2023, New Orleans, LA)

Cotton, C. “Mother’s Marital Status & Child Non-Residence in sub-Saharan Africa.” (Poster presentation at the Population Association of America 2022 Annual Meeting, April 6th-9th, 2022, Atlanta, GA)

Cotton, C. “Does Pregnancy Wantedness Influence Use of Health Services for Mothers & Children?” (Poster Presentation at the Population Association of America 2021 Annual Meeting, May 5th-8th, 2021, Virtual Meeting)

Cotton, C., S. Clark & S. Madhavan. ““One Hand Does Not Bring Up A Child:’ Child Mobility in Urban Kenya.” (Presentation at the Population Association of America 2021 Annual Meeting, May 5th-8th, 2021, Virtual Meeting)

Cotton, C., S. Clark & S. Madhavan. “Child Mobility in Urban Kenya.” (Accepted for Poster Presentation at the Population Association of America 2020 Annual Meeting, April 22nd-25th, 2020,

Washington, DC*; Accepted for Roundtable at the American Sociological Association 2020 Annual Meeting, August 8th-11th, San Francisco, CA* *Meeting canceled due to COVID-19).

Cotton, C. 2019. "Child Fostering in sub-Saharan Africa: What has changed over Time?" (Presented at the 8th African Population Conference, Nov. 18-22nd, 2019, Entebbe, Uganda.)

Cotton, C. 2019. "Child Fostering and Ideal Family Size: Evidence from Uganda." (Presented at the 8th African Population Conference, Nov. 18-22nd, 2019, Entebbe, Uganda.)

Cotton, C. 2019. "Child Fostering in sub-Saharan Africa: What has Changed over Time?" (Poster presentation at the Population Association of America 2019 Annual Meeting, April 11-13th, 2019, Austin, TX).

Cotton, C. 2018. "Maternal Migration and Child Fostering in sub-Saharan Africa: What is the Impact of Migrant Stream?" (Poster presentation at the Population Association of America 2018 Annual Meeting, April 26th-28th, 2018, Denver, CO).

Cotton, C. 2016. "Young Women's Maternal Healthcare Use across Migration Streams: Evidence from sub-Saharan Africa." (Presented at the Population Association of America 2016 Annual Meeting, March 31st-April 2nd, 2016, Washington, DC)

Cotton, C. & C. Kabiru. 2015. "I don't want them to lead this life: Raising Children in Nairobi's Slums." (Poster presentation at the Population Association of America 2015 Annual Meeting, April 30th-May 2nd, 2015, San Diego, CA)

Cotton, C. & D. Beguy. 2015. "Mother's Migration and Child Fostering over the Life Course in Nairobi." (Poster presentation at the Conference on Population Change and Life Course: Taking Stock and Looking to the Future, March 18th-20th, 2015, Ottawa, ON)

Cotton, C. & D. Beguy. 2014. "Does Mothers' Migrant Status Affect Child Fostering in sub-Saharan Africa?: Evidence from two Informal Settlements in Nairobi, Kenya." (Presented at the Population Association of American 2014 Annual Meeting, May 1st-3rd, 2014, Boston, MA).

Cotton, C. & D. Beguy. 2013. "Mothering as Migrants: Experiences from the Informal Settlements of Nairobi, Kenya." (Presented at the IUSSP International Population Conference, August 26th-31st, 2013, Busan, South Korea; the Canadian Population Society Annual Meeting, June 5th-7th, 2013, Victoria, BC; poster presentation at the Population Association of America 2013 Annual Meeting, April 11-13th, 2013, New Orleans, LA).

Clark, S., D. Beguy, **C. Cotton** & A.G.Boco. 2013. "Single Motherhood and Child Mortality: Is Poverty the Link?" (Poster presentation at the IUSSP International Population Conference, August 26th-31st, 2013, Busan, South Korea).

Clark, S. **C. Cotton** & L. Marteleto. 2013. "Engaging Young Fathers in South Africa: The Role of Conjugal and Consanguineous Ties." (Poster presentation at the IUSSP International Population Conference, August 26th-31st, 2013, Busan, South Korea; presented at the Population Association 2013 Annual Meeting, April 11-13th, 2013, New Orleans, LA).

Cotton, C. & D. Beguy. 2013. "Migration and Mothering in sub-Saharan Africa: Women's Lives in the Slums of Nairobi, Kenya." (Presented at the Canadian Association for African Studies Annual Meeting,

May 1st-3rd, 2013, Ottawa, ON).

Clark, S. & C. Cotton. 2011. "The Effects of Migration and Family Structure on Transitions to Adulthood in Urban Kenya." (Presented at the 6th African Population Conference, Dec. 5th – 9th, 2011, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; the Population Association of America 2012 Annual Meeting, May 3-5th, 2012, San Francisco)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & FIELDWORK

- 2022 – **Principle Investigator**
Romance and Dating in Later Life, Arizona State University
- 2018 – 2020 **Qualitative Facilitator**
Family Voices Project, Children's Equity Project, Arizona State University.
- 2016 **Qualitative Research Associate (Short-Term Consultant)**
Africa Gender Innovation Lab, World Bank, Conakry, Guinea.
- 2009 – 2017 **Research Assistant**
Department of Sociology, McGill University.
- 2010 – 2013 **Data Coder**
Life Histories, Health & HIV/AIDS Data Laboratory, McGill University.
- 2011, 2013 **Principal Investigator**
Dissertation fieldwork in the Nairobi Urban Health and Demographic Surveillance System site, Nairobi, Kenya.
- 2008 – 2009 **Program Assistant**
Association Rwandaise pour le Bien-Etre Familial (through the Coady International Institute and the Xtending Hope Partnership), Kigali, Rwanda.
- 2008 **Research Assistant**
Department of Sociology, Mount Allison University.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE

TEACHING

Arizona State University

Instructor, School of Social & Family Dynamics

SOC 515 Studies of the Family

Fall 2023: 5 students

SOC 391 Applied Research Methods

Fall 2023: 40 students; supervising 2 honors enrichment contracts

Fall 2022: 39 students; supervised 4 honors enrichment contracts

Spring 2022: 33 students; supervised 1 honors enrichment contract

Fall 2021: 29 students

SOC 333 Population

Fall 2021: 46 students; supervised 3 honors enrichment contracts

Fall 2020 (ASU Sync): 49 students; supervised 3 honors enrichment contracts

Spring 2020: 37 students; supervised 1 honors enrichment contract

Spring 2019: 28 students

Spring 2018: 30 students

McGill University

Instructor, Department of Sociology

SOCI 365 Health & Development

Fall 2012: 84 students

Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology

SOCI 234 Population & Society Winter 2012

SOCI 365 Health & Development Fall 2011, Fall 2010, Winter 2010

SOCI 222 Urban Sociology Winter 2011

SOCI 254 Development & Underdevelopment Fall 2009

MENTORING

Arizona State University

Graduate Mentoring, School of Social and Family Dynamics

First Year Graduate Mentor, Henry Pennerman, 2023 – present

First Year Graduate Mentor, Julianne Culey, 2022 – 2023

First Year Graduate Mentor, Priscilla Owiredu, 2020 – 2021

Comprehensive Exam Committee Member, Longfeng Li, 2020 – 2021

Undergraduate Mentoring, School of Social and Family Dynamics

Research Mentor (Romance & Dating in Later Life)

Analia Zamora Castro, 2023 – present

Nicholas Camacho, 2022

Crystallyn Bellew, 2022

Audrey Zelinka, 2022

Slater Kelly, 2022

Gracie Kelly, 2022

Honors Thesis Director

Slater Kelly, Defended October 2023

Cameron Decker, Defended April 2023

Abigail Spencer, Defended April 2022

Honors Thesis Committee Member

Samantha Nabaty, Defended April 2021

Summer Undergraduate Program for Engaging in Research (SUPER), School of Social and Family Dynamics

Co-Director & Facilitator, (23 students), 2018 – 2022

ASA Section Mentor-Mentee Programs

Family Section Mentor, 2023
Population Section Mentor, 2022

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

2023 **Association of College and University Educators (ACUE)**
Creating an Inclusive and Supportive Learning Environment Micro-Credential

RESEARCH SUPPORT

PROPOSALS FUNDED

2022 School of Social and Family Dynamics Team Science Initiative, “Romance and Dating in Later Life,” Cassandra Cotton (PI), Masumi Iida (Co-I). \$12,500.

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2018 Canadian Sociological Association Outstanding Graduating Student 2017-2018
2012 – 2014 Doctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (\$40,000)
2014 Samuel Lapitsky Award, Faculty of Arts, McGill (\$2,300)
2014 Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Student Competition, Population Change and Lifecourse Strategic Knowledge Cluster (\$1,000)
2013 Leadership in International Development Graduate Research Award, Institute for the Study of International Development, McGill University (\$2,000)
2013 Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Student Competition, Population Change and Lifecourse Strategic Knowledge Cluster (\$2,840)
2013 Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Student Competition, Population Change and Lifecourse Strategic Knowledge Cluster (\$875)
2013 Research to Practice Graduate Student Fellowship, Institute for the Study of International Development, McGill University (\$2,000)
2011 Report on Adolescent Girls’ Migration, The Population Council (Better World Fund) (\$5,000)
2011 Arts Graduate Research Travel Award, Faculty of Arts, McGill (\$3,500)
2009 – 2010 Provost’s Graduate Fellowship, McGill University (\$5,000)
2009 – 2010 McCall MacBain Fellowship, McGill University (\$2,500)
2009 – 2010 Principal’s Graduate Fellowship, McGill University (\$5,000)
2007, 2008 Millennium Bursaries, Fondation canadienne des bourses du millenaire (\$8,000)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & SERVICE

INTERNAL SERVICE

2023 – *Personnel Committee*, School of Social & Family Dynamics
2022 *Search Committee*, Sociology Tenure-Track Faculty Position, School of Social & Family Dynamics

- 2022 *Search Committee (Ad Hoc)*, Sociology Tenure-Track Faculty Position, School of Social & Family Dynamics
- 2022 *Faculty Review Committee*, Graduate Completion Fellowship, Graduate College
- 2019 – 2023 *Sociology Graduate Committee*, School of Social & Family Dynamics
- 2018 – 2022 *Co-Chair*, Summer Undergraduate Program for Engaging with Research (SUPER)/Diversity & Inclusion Science Initiative (DISI), School of Social & Family Dynamics
ASU Now coverage: “Undergrad researchers navigate COVID-19, racism and the move to online learning.” <https://news.asu.edu/20200904-undergrad-researchers-navigate-covid-19-racism-and-move-online-learning>
ASU University Technology Office coverage: “Sanford School SUPER program opens research career opportunities for undergrad students.” <https://uto.asu.edu/learning-experience/sanford-school-super-program>
- 2018 *Co-Organizer*, Kenyatta University-ASU Collaborative Symposium (April 2019)
ASU Now coverage: “Collaborative symposium welcomes ASU partnership with Kenyatta University.”
ASU Now coverage: <https://news.asu.edu/20190513-collaborative-symposium-welcomes-asu-partnership-kenyatta-university>

EXTERNAL SERVICE

- 2023 *Table President*, “Family Section: Carework,” American Sociological Association 2023 Annual Meeting, August 17th-21st, Philadelphia, PA
- 2023 *Session Chair*, “Global Perspectives on Early Marriages,” Population Association of America 2023 Annual Meeting, April 12th- 15th, New Orleans, LA
- 2023 *Session Organizer*, Joint Session between Family and Population Sections (“Family Relationships Beyond the Household”), American Sociological Association 2023 Annual Meeting, August 17th – 21st, 2023, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2022 *Committee Member*, ASA Family Section Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award.
- 2022 *Session Organizer*, Regular Session on Marriage, Civil Unions, and Cohabitation (“Global Perspectives on Marriage and Unions”), American Sociological Association 2022 Annual Meeting, August 5th-9th, 2022, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2021 – *Editorial Board Member*, Canadian Studies in Population.
- 2021 *Session Chair*, “Kinship Beyond the Household,” Population Association of America 2021 Annual Meeting, May 5th-8th, 2021, Virtual Meeting.
- 2021 *Poster Discussant*, “Family Demography, Historical Demography,” Population Association of America 2021 Annual Meeting, May 5th-8th, 2021, Virtual Meeting.

- 2020 *Session Organizer*, “Kinship Beyond the Household,” Population Association of America 2021 Annual Meeting, May 5th-8th, 2021, Virtual Meeting.
- 2020 *Session Chair*, “Comparative Studies of Union Formation,” Population Association of America 2020 Annual Meeting, April 22nd-25th, 2020, Washington, DC *Meeting canceled due to COVID-19.
- 2019 *Discussant*, “Diverging Destinies in sub-Saharan Africa,” 8th African Population Conference, Nov. 18th - 22nd, 2019, Entebbe, Uganda.
- 2013 *Session Chair*, “Trends in the Rates of Mixed Marriages,” International Population Conference, Aug. 26 - 31st, 2013, Busan, South Korea
- 2012 *Session Chair*, “Family Transitions over the Life Course,” International Perspectives on Family Structures and Child Well-Being, Nov. 30th & Dec.1st, 2012, Montreal, Canada
- 2011 *Session Chair*, “Socioeconomic Impact of HIV/AIDS,” 6th African Population Conference, Dec. 5th-9th, 2011, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Ad Hoc Reviewer: African Journal of Reproductive Health, Social Science & Medicine, Canadian Studies in Population, Journal of Population Research, Swiss National Science Foundation, Global Public Health, Journal of Comparative Family Studies, Journal of Marriage & Family, PLOS One, Social Forces, Journal of Adolescent Health, Child and Youth Services, Health and Place, Demographic Research, Sociological Focus, International Journal of Comparative Sociology, Sociological Perspectives, Population and Environment, Population and Development Review, Child Development

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

Community Talks

Copper Springs Retirement Community: “Romance and dating in later life.” March 13th, 2023

Online

ASU Now: “The new nuclear family.” Sept. 24th, 2020

<https://news.asu.edu/20200924-discoveries-new-nuclear-family>

ASU Now: “Sanford School faculty release Solidarity and Action Statement on anti-racism.” Sept. 4th, 2020

<https://news.asu.edu/20200803-sanford-school-faculty-release-solidarity-and-action-statement-anti-racism>

Radio/Online

55 and Up to No Good Podcast: “Are the 55+ really up to no good? Let’s talk romance with Cassandra Cotton.” May 26th, 2023.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fUY95F9moTE&ab_channel=55AndUpToNoGood

KJZZ: “Study: Moms reduced work hours more than dads during pandemic.” July 27th, 2020.

<https://kjzz.org/content/1604379/study-moms-reduced-work-hours-more-dads-care-kids-during-pandemic>

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Population Association of America (PAA)

International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP)

Union for African Population Studies (UAPS)

American Sociological Association (ASA)