

Georg Rilinger

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2022 - Assistant Professor of Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management at the MIT Sloan School of Management
- 2020-22 Postdoctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne, Germany

EDUCATION

- 2020 PhD in Sociology, University of Chicago
Dissertation: “Toward a Sociology of Economic Engineering: Creation and Collapse of California’s Electricity Markets between 1993 and 2001”, defended in August of 2020.
Committee: Andrew Abbott (Chair), Karin Knorr-Cetina, Gary Herrigel, Kimberly Hoang
- 2016 M.A. in Sociology, University of Chicago
- 2013 MPhil in Political Theory (with Distinction), University of Oxford
- 2011 B.A. in Political Science (with Honors), Freie Universität Berlin

PUBLICATIONS

- 2025 “Market Design as Organizational Problem: Explaining System Failures in Platform Markets,” *American Journal of Sociology*, (forthcoming)
- *Runner up*, Best Paper 2023, OMT Section, Academy of Management
- 2024 *Failure by Design*, University of Chicago Press.
- „Algorithmic Management and the Social Order of Digital Markets,” *Theory and Society* (2024): 1-30. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11186-024-09555-6>
- “Involution in Luhmanns Systemtheorie” In: *Beihfte der Historischen Zeitschrift: Systemtheorie und antike Gesellschaft*.
- 2023 “Who Captures Whom? Regulatory Misperceptions and the Timing of Cognitive Capture” – *Regulation and Governance*, Vol. 17 (1). <https://doi.org/10.1111/rego.12438>

- 2022 “Conceptual Limits of Performativity: Assessing the Feasibility of Market Design Blueprints in California’s Transmission Capacity Markets (1993-2001)”, *Socio-Economic Review* Vol. 21 (2).
 “Discursive Multivocality: How the influence of economics can undermine the authority of economists,” *Socio-Economic Review* Vol. 20 (4).
- 2021 “The Organizational Roots of Market Design Failure: Structural Abstraction, the Limits of Hierarchy, and the California Energy Crisis of 2000/01” – Max Planck Discussion Paper Series 21/6.
- 2019 “Corporate Conspiracies and Complex Secrets: Structure and Perception of the Insull Scheme in 1930s Chicago” – *American Journal of Sociology*, volume 124, number 4 (January 2019)
- Ron Burt Best Student Paper Award, Economic Sociology Section, American Sociological Association, 2019.
- 2015 “Methodenprobleme immanenter Kritik - Das Beispiel der Entfremdung”
 (“Methodological Problems of Immanent Critique – The Case of Alienation”)
Leviathan 43 (1).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 “The Current Economy by Canay Özden-Schilling,” *Contemporary Sociology*, 51 (6), 499-501.
 “Organisatorische Grenzen des Marktdesigns (Organizational Limits of Market Design” – *Gesellschaftsforschung* 1/22, Max Planck Institute For the Study of Societies, pp. 6-7.
- 2021 „The Texas Blackouts and the Problems of Market Design” – ProMarket, Stigler Center at the University of Chicago, Booth School of Business, March 24th 2021
- 2020 “Die virtuelle Auktion” (The virtual auction) – *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 13. November, Nr. 265, p. 11
- 2018 “Interview with SASE President Gary Herrigel” in *SASE Newsletter*, Volume 2, Issue 1, Winter 2018, pp 4-9

WORKING PAPERS

- “The Experimental Hand Errs: How Data Driven Decision Making Can Fail in the Design of Digital Platforms” (with Gretta Corporaal, Rotterdam)
- “Stories that Move the Market: How Activist Short Sellers Convince Audiences that a Company is Overvalued” (with Brad Turner, MIT)

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS & 3rd Party Funding

2024	Summer Institute on Organizations and Their Effectiveness at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), Stanford
2023 – 2024	Dean’s Office Pre-Doc Grant (Technical Associate I)
2023 - 2024	Fred Kayne Professorship (Endowed Chair)
2018-2020	Hanna Holborn Gray Fellowship, Mellon Foundation
2019	Henderson Research Grant, Division of the Social Sciences, University of Chicago
2018	Orin Williams Fund Travel Grant, Division of the Social Sciences, University of Chicago,
2018	Travel Grant, Sociology Department, University of Chicago
2017	Stigler Center PhD Dissertation Award (Bradley Fellowship), Booth School of Business, University of Chicago
2017	Travel Grant, Beyond Positivism Conference
2016/17	Fellowship, Critical Realism Working Group, Yale University
2015	Fellowship, Philosophy of Social Science Seminar, Yale University
2014 – 2018	PhD Fellowship, Sociology Department, University of Chicago
2014	Fellowship, Gesellschaftswissenschaftliches Kolleg: Religion und Kultur (Social Science Institute: Culture and Religion), German National Academic Foundation
2013	Fellowship, Political Theory Summer School, Dubrovnik
2012-2013	Scholarship, Department of Politics, University of Oxford
2012-2013	Scholarship, Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes (German National Academic Foundation)
2012	Distinction in MPhil Qualifying Exam, University of Oxford
2011	Study Abroad Fellowship, Fulbright Commission
2011	Scholarship, Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Service) For Study Abroad at University of California, Berkeley

INVITED TALKS

2024	“The Experimental Hand Errs,” Keynote Lecture at Digital(-ized) Economy Conference, University of Trier.
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- “Beyond Algorithmic Control”, Invited Panel at SASE, Limerick
- “Market Design as Organizational Problem” Haas School of Business, U.C. Berkeley
- 2023 “The Social Order of Digital Markets,” Kennedy Institute Freie Universität Berlin
- “Failure By Design” Copenhagen Business School.
- “The Organizational Roots of Market Design Failure,” Crisis of the Energy Markets, Virtual International Workshop at Virginia Tech.
- 2022 „The Social Order of Digital Markets,” Economic Sociology Seminar, Harvard University.
- “Coordination without Cooperation,” Sociology Colloquium, University of Lucerne
- “Das Problem der Involution in Luhmanns Systemtheorie,“ („The Problem of Involution in Luhmann’s System Theory“) Humboldt Universität Berlin.
- 2021 “Market Design and the Problem of Modularization” Humboldt Universität Berlin.
- 2020 “Market Design and the Problem of Modularity.” MIT Sloan, TIES Group.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2024 “Panel Symposium: Studying the Designers Behind Technologies of Coordination and Control,” August 2024, Academy of Management, Chicago.
- “The Experimental Hand Errs,” Junior OT Conference, Harvard Business School, August 2024.
- 2023 “The Social Order of Digital Markets” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, August 2023; Medici Summer School at MIT Sloan July 2023; Junior OT Conference, London Business School, July 2023.
- “The Organizational Limits of Market Design,” Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, August 2023.
- 2022 “A Future for Economic Sociology: Offering Solutions”, Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, August 2022
- „Digitalisierung, Ökonomische Rationalität und die Aufgabe der Kunst“, (Digitalization, Economic Rationality, and the Mission of Art), BDK Fachverband für Kunst und Welt, Wuppertal, September 2022.
- 2021 “Discursive Multivocality: How the Influence of Economics can Undermine the Authority of Economists”, American Sociological Association, Virtual Conference August 2021 & SASE Virtual Conference, July 2021.

- 2020 “Market Design Failure and Disjointed Interpretative Frames”, Annual Economic Sociology Conference at Carnegie Mellon University in the Tepper School of Business, October 2020.
- “Toward a Sociology of Economic Engineering”, American Sociological Association, Virtual Conference, August 2020
- “The Use of Network Analysis in Historical Research”, Workshop for Network Analytical Tools at Stellenbosch Institute, Stellenbosch, South Africa, February 2020.
- 2019 “How Regulators Overcome Deep Blindspots: Detecting Market Power in California’s Electricity Markets”, American Sociological Association, New York, August 2019.
- “Overcoming 'Systematic Errors' in the Regulatory Dialectic: Detecting Market Power in California's Electricity Markets (1996-2001), Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE), New York, June 2019
- “Toward a new Sociology of Economic Design”, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE), New York, June 2019
- 2018 “Resolving Regulatory Blindspots in California’s Electricity Markets: Deep Blindspots, Conceptual Metaphors and the Power of Unstructured Data”, Money, Markets and Governance Workshop, University of Chicago, October 2018.
- “Metaphors of The Market and Regulation: The Failure to Detect Market Power in California” – Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE), Kyoto, Japan, June 2018
- “Learning to Regulate: Detecting Market Power in California’s Electricity Markets (1996-2001)” – Stigler Center for the Study of the Economy and the State, University of Chicago, May 2018
- 2017 “Complex Secrets and their Audiences” – American Sociological Association, Montreal, CA, August 2017.
- “The Problem of Normative Justification in Sociological Research”, at the Beyond Positivism Conference in Montreal, CA., August 2017
- 2016 “Regulation under Uncertainty – Failures and Potentials in Complex Industrial Settings” (with Professor Gary Herrigel), at Max Weber Institute of Sociology, Heidelberg University, conference title: ‘How to Analyze and Prevent Corporate Crime? The Failures of Regulation and Self-Regulation’, December 2016
- “Complex Secrets and Their Audiences” – Social Science History Association, Chicago, November 2016

“Corporate Conspiracies and Complex Secrets – Structure and Perception of the Insull Scheme in 1930s Chicago”, Society for the Advancement of Socio Economics (SASE), University of California, Berkeley, June 2016.

2016 “Corporate Conspiracies and Complex Secrets”, Politics, History and Society Workshop, University of Chicago, May 2016 and Money, Markets and Governance Workshop, University of Chicago, October 2016.

“Conspiracies as Structure and Perception”, XXXVI Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis, Newport Beach, L.A., April 2016

2013 “Addressing Alienation in Habermas’s Theory of Communicative Action,” Graduate Student Workshop, University of Oxford, October 2013.

TEACHING

2024 Instructor, Competitive Strategy Boot Camp, MIT Sloan
Instructor, Competitive Strategy, MIT Sloan (Recommend Professor: 4.3 out of 5)

2023 Instructor, Competitive Strategy, MIT Sloan (Recommend Professor: 4.0 out of 5; Recommend Subject 4 out of 5)

Guest Lecture, Organizations and Environments (Instructor: Susan Silbey), MIT Sloan

Guest Lecture, Using Simulations to Build Theory (Instructor: Johan Chu), MIT Sloan

2019 – 2020 Instructor (Preceptor), Sociology B.A. Seminar, University of Chicago

2018 Instructor, Introduction to Social Thought (“Power, Identity, Resistance”), University of Chicago

2018 Teaching Assistant, Sociological Theory, University of Chicago

2017 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Economic Sociology (“Maverick Markets – Social and Cultural Aspects of Markets”, University of Chicago

2016 – 2017 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Social Thought (“Power, Identity, Resistance”), University of Chicago.

2011 Instructor, Political Science, Oxford Royale Summer Academy

SERVICE

- 2024 Organized AOM Panel Symposium “Studying the Designers Behind Technologies of Coordination and Control: Scholars Discuss an Emergent Research Agenda” (together with Greta Corporaal)
Granovetter Paper Prize Committee, Member, Section for Economic Sociology
American Sociological Association
- 2023 Organized ASA Panel on “Digital Marketplaces”
- 2022 Workshop Organizer on “Prospects and Limits of Platform Control,” Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne, May 5th – 7th
Ron Burt Student Paper Prize Committee, Chair, Section for Economic Sociology,
American Sociological Association
- 2019 – 21 Language Editing for Zeitschrift für Historische Forschung (Journal For Historical Research)
- 2017 – 18 Student Editor for newsletter of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE)
- 2016 – 18 Student Organizer of the Sociology Department Colloquium at the University of Chicago
- 2016 – 17 Student member on the Manuscript Board at the *American Journal of Sociology*
- 2015 – 16 Associate Editor for Book Reviews at the *American Journal of Sociology*
- 2014 – 16 Board Member International Student Advisory Board
- Occasional Reviewer for the *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *Economy and Society*, and *Berliner Journal für Soziologie*, *Sociology Compass*, *Current Sociology*, *Social Currents*, *Journal of Cultural Economy*
- Professional Memberships: American Sociological Association, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie (DGS)

LANGUAGES

German (native)

English (fluent)

Spanish (reading)

Python

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