

Benjamin Anderson

Curriculum vitae

Vancouver, BC, Canada

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EDUCATION

- PhD, Communication** **Simon Fraser University** **2022**
Dissertation: Craft Capitalism: Labour and the Cultural Narratives of Artisanal Production
Committee: Enda Brophy, Zoë Druick, Alberto Toscano Examiners: Mark Banks, Mark Leier
- MA, Communication** **Johns Hopkins University** **2011**
Thesis: The Rising Radical: A Generative Criticism of Three Early Speeches of Eugene V. Debs
- BA (Honors), Communication, Theatre** **Lewis & Clark College** **2007**
Thesis: Recoding Racism: The Minstrel in Contemporary Performance

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Political economy of communication; labour process analysis; sociology of work; feminist political economy; workers' inquiry; popular culture studies; creative industries; research methods; neoliberalism and financialization; social reproduction; platform labour; worker organizing; craft; alternative media

PUBLICATIONS

Editor

- Anderson, B., Brophy, E., and Haiven, M. (2022). Zero Credit: Countering the Dreams of Techno-Finance. *TOPIA: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*, 45.
- Haiven, M., Brophy, E. and Anderson, B. (2021). Digital/Debt/Empire: Feature Series. *Public Seminar*, April-June 2019.

Refereed Journal Articles

- Anderson, B. (2021). The Forgotten Labour of Craft: Exploitation and Organizing in Artisanal Industries. *Labour/Le Travail*, 88: 53-76.
- Anderson, B. (2017). Project or Program: Prefigurative Politics, Folk Politics, and the Struggle for Change. *Unmediated: Journal of Politics and Communication*, 1 (1): 90-93.
- Anderson, B. (2016). Contingency and Satisfaction under Digital Capitalism. *Stream: Culture, Politics, Technology*, 8 (1): 4-8.
- Anderson, B. (2015). Rising Above: Alternative Media as Activist Media. *Stream: Culture, Politics, Technology*, 7 (1): 23-33.
- Anderson, B. (2015). Alternative Media and Bourdieu's Field: Internal Resistance or External Competition? *Transnational Worlds of Power: Proliferation of Journalism & Professional Standards*, 1 (1): 177-189.

Book Chapters

- Haiven, M., Brophy, E. and Anderson, B. (2022). Against Debt's Digital Empire: Exploring the Connections between Race, Technology, and Global Technology Regimes. In Compton, N.,

- Dyer-Witheford, N., Grzyb, A. and Hearn, A. (Eds.) *Organizing Equality: Dispatches from a Global Struggle*. Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press. Pgs. 99-125.
- Anderson, B. (2018). Opportunity in Crisis: Alternative Media and Subaltern Resistance. In Geelan, Walsh, and Gonzalez Hernando (Eds.) *From Financial Crisis to Social Change: Towards Alternative Horizons*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Reviews

- Anderson, B. (2019). Refining Creative Labour: Precarity and Autonomy in Cultural and Craft Industries. *Labour/Le Travail*, 84, 325-331.
- Anderson, B. (2018). Review of: Brennan, Kristjanson-Gural, Mulder and Olsen (Eds.) "Routledge Handbook of Marxian Economics." *Marx & Philosophy Review of Books*.
- Anderson, B. (2018). "But I'm a Professional...": Collectivity and the Freelance Writer. *TOPIA: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*, 38, 173-177.
- Anderson, B. (2017). Review of: Frayne, D "The Refusal of Work: The Theory and Practice of Resistance to Work." *Marx & Philosophy Review of Books*.
- Anderson, B. (2016). Review of: Fleming, P "The Mythology of Work: How Capitalism Persists Despite Itself." *Marx & Philosophy Review of Books*.
- Anderson, B. (2016). Review of Haiven, M "Crises of Imagination, Crises of Power: Capitalism, Creativity and the Commons." *TOPIA: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*, 36.
- Anderson, B. (2015). Review of: McChesney, RW "Blowing the Roof off the Twenty-First Century." *Marx & Philosophy Review of Books*.

Other Publications

- Anderson, B. (2023). Why Drink Granville Island Beer, Anyway?: Workers Confront Multinational Brewer on the Picket Line? *The Mainlander*. Available at <https://themainlander.com/2023/08/17/why-drink-granville-island-beer-anyway-gib-workers-confront-multinational-brewer-on-the-picket-line/>
- Anderson, B., Brophy, E. and Haiven, M. (2022). Introduction: Zero Credit. *TOPIA: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*, 45: 1-16.
- Anderson, B. (2020). "Beers and fries, please don't unionize!": Your favourite local haunt is anti-worker. *The Mainlander*. Available at <https://themainlander.com/2020/07/30/beers-and-fries/>
- Haiven, M., Brophy, E., and Anderson, B. (2019). Art, research and action against debt's digital empire: An introduction. Public Seminar. Available at <https://publicseminar.org/2019/04/art-research-and-action-against-debts-digital-empire/>
- Anderson, B. (2015). Golden tree to honour lost farmworkers, demand workplace safety. *Local Voice* (quarterly publication for members of MoveUP, the Movement of United Professionals), 10 (4): 21.

AWARDS

SFU Minor Research Fellowship	\$3,000	2021
SSHRC Connection Grant (co-author)	\$24,963	2018
COGECO Graduate Scholarship	\$16,000	2017
SFU Communication, Arts and Technology Research Fellowship	\$3,125	2016
SFU Communication, Arts and Technology Graduate Fellowship	\$6,250	2016
SFU Communication, Arts and Technology Research Fellowship	\$3,125	2015
SFU Communication, Arts and Technology Graduate Fellowship	\$6,250	2014
SFU School of Communication Entrance Scholarship	\$2,500	2013
JHU Special Academic Scholarship (Communication)	\$7,500	2010

INVITED TALKS

- “Craft Workers Organize: A Workers’ Inquiry of Craft Industrialism” research exhibit and showcase presentation invited for Innovations in Research, Simon Fraser University Public Square, Online, April 2021.
- “Toxic Workplaces in the Craft Economy” interview on Redeye, Vancouver Co-Op Radio. August 29, 2020.
- “Contracted Invisibility: Contract Faculty in the Neoliberal University” presented at Canadian Committee on Labour History, Vancouver, BC, May 2019
- “Love what you do or we’ll find someone who does: Exploitation and precarity in the neoliberal university,” presented at the Teaching Support Staff Union 40th Anniversary Labour School, Vancouver, BC, December 2018.
- “The Tenuousness of Winning: Organizing in the Neoliberal University,” presented at the Emily Carr Faculty Association Fair Employment Week Meeting, Vancouver, BC, October 2017.
- “Student Work and Campus Resistance: Undergraduate Organizing Against Corporate Education,” presented at the Council of Canadians Vancouver Chapter Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, September 2017.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- “Building Autonomous Power: Solidarity Networks in Precarious Times” paper accepted at the Historical Materialism Twentieth Annual Conference, London, November 2023.
- “Digital Circuits of Aspirational and Leisure Work: Craft in the Platform Economy” paper accepted at Critical Conversations in Work and Labour, Global Labour Centre, Toronto, October 2023.
- “Scholarly Work, Worker Organizing and the Amateur Intellectual: Lesson’s in Workers’ Inquiry” presented at the Canadian Association of Work and Labour Studies annual conference, Toronto, ON, 2023.
- “Digital Circuits of Aspirational and Leisure Work: Craft in the Platform Economy” presented at the Canadian Association of Work and Labour Studies annual conference, Toronto, ON, 2023.
- “The Amateur Intellectual, Workers’ Inquiry and the Late-COVID Union Boom” presented at the Canadian Association of Cultural Studies, Toronto, ON, October 2022.
- “Building Autonomous Worker Power in Canada’s Craft Brewing Industry” (w/ John Jenkinson), presented at Canadian Committee on Labour History, Calgary, AB, October 2022.
- “Autonomous Worker Collectives: Supplementing Labour’s Power in Craft and Service Work” presented at Critical Political Economy for a New Global Political Economy: Critical Political Economy Research Network Mid-Term Workshop, Limerick, Ireland, July 2022.
- “Solidarity Networks in Craft Industrialism: Worker Organizing, Worker Power and COVID-19” presented at Popular Culture Association Annual Conference, Seattle, WA (online), April 2022.
- “‘We Bring the Edge’: Style, Valorization and Identity in Artisanal Labour” presented at Global Labour Research Centre Graduate Student Symposium, Toronto, ON (online), October 2021.
- “The Forgotten Labour of Craft: Exploitation and Organizing in Artisanal Industries” presented at New Voices in Work & Labour Studies Workshop Series, Global Labour Research Centre, Toronto, ON (online), November 2020.
- “The False Precarity of the Entrepreneur: Insecurity and Individual Enterprise in Vancouver’s Tech Sector” presented at Canadian Communication Association, Vancouver, BC, May, 2019.
- “Working Mythologies in Craft Brewing: Politics, Materiality and Class Consciousness” presented at Canadian Association of Work and Labour Studies, Vancouver, BC, May 2019.
- “Considering Production: Perceptions and Conditions of Work in Craft Brewing” presented at Popular Culture Association (Beer Culture area), Washington, DC, April 2019.
- “The Gentrifariat: Adventures in High Paid Flexibility” presented at the Media Sociology Preconference, Montreal, QC, August, 2017.
- “Exploitation 101: Introduction to Student Work and University Legitimacy” presented with Elizabeth

- Sarjeant at What is Life?, Portland, Oregon, April 2017; and at Canadian Association of Work and Labour Studies, Toronto, ON, June 2017.
- “Education, Nature, & the Pursuit of Happiness: The “Good Life” in an Age of Crisis” presented with Yi Chien Ho at American Educational Studies Association, Seattle, WA, November 2016.
- “Shattering the Illusion: Capitalist Legitimation and the Radical Imagination” presented at The Society for Socialist Studies, Calgary, AB, May 2016.
- “Widening the Cracks: Legitimation, Alternative Media, and Subaltern Resistance” presented at Critical Studies 2016, Vancouver, BC, April 2016.
- “The Commercial Imperatives of Alternative Media: Funding Dissent or Selling Out?” presented at What is Media: Experience, Exploration, Emergence, Portland, OR, April 2016.
- “Recruitment in the Neoliberal University: Admissions and Ideological Homogenization” presented at Critical Theories in the 21st Century, West Chester, PA, November 2015.
- “Audience Labour & Alternative Media: The Work of Digital Resistance” presented at Northeast Popular Culture/American Studies Association Annual Conference, New London, NH, October 2015.
- “School and Seduction: Institutional Rationality in University Admissions,” presented at Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference, Riverside, CA, May 2015.
- “Alternative Media and Bourdieu’s Field: Internal Resistance or External Competition?” presented at What is Journalism? Exploring the Past, Present, and Future, Portland, OR, April 2015.
- “Challenging Legitimation: Alternative Media and Capitalist Crisis,” presented at Imagining Crisis: Cinema & Media Studies Graduate Conference, Toronto, ON, November 2014.
- “Opportunity in Crisis: Alternative Media in an Age of Capitalist Crisis,” presented at Crisis & Social Change: Toward Alternative Horizons, Cambridge, UK, September 2014.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Current Position – Term Lecturer of Qualitative Methods (September 2022 – August 2025)
School of Communication, Simon Fraser University

Classes Taught	Term Lecturer	Simon Fraser University	
Evaluation Methods in Applied Communication Research		4 terms	2022-2023
Communication, Science and Technology		1 term	2023
Globalization: Cultural Issues		1 term	2023
Design and Method in Qualitative Communication Research		3 terms	2022
Political Economy of Communication		2 terms	2022
The Political Economy of Labour Markets		2 terms	2020-2021
Communication and Social Change		3 terms	2018-2021
Labour Movements: Issues, Images and Popular Culture		1 term	2020
Studying Labour Through Film		1 term	2020
Craft: Material Work in a Digital Age		1 term	2019
The Labour Process: Work and Technological Change		1 term	2019
Communication in Conflict and Intervention		1 term	2019

Classes Taught	Sessional Instructor	Simon Fraser University	
Media and Popular Cultures		4 terms	2021-2022
The Labour Process: Work and Technological Change		5 terms	2017-2021
Work in the 21 st Century		1 term	2018
Introducing Labour Studies		1 term	2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Researcher	<i>Union Jobs and Community Vibrancy</i>	2023-Present
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- Formulating community-based organizational research in the communities surrounding the Deltaport terminal, in partnership with International Longshore Workers' Union Local 400 and the Morgan Centre for Labour Research.
- Conducting systematic reviews of collective agreements and employer policies to assess working conditions.
- Interviewing union leaders, rank-and-file members, and community members to track the impact of unionized jobs in a local context.
- Research Assistant** *Platform Organizing* 2022-Present
- Consulting on and helping develop new project directions and designs.
- Coordinated, chaired and wrote framing materials for conference panels (Canadian Association of Cultural Studies, 2022 and Canadian Association of Work and Labour Studies, 2023).
- Research Assistant** *Digital/Debt/Empire* 2016-2022
- Co-wrote 2018 SSHRC Connection Grant application (top application of cycle, total award: \$24,963).
- Co-organized the Digital/Debt/Empire Symposium in Vancouver, BC in May 2019.
- Co-edited the Digital/Debt/Empire *Public Seminar* Series.
- Co-edited "Zero Credit," a special issue of *TOPIA: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*.
- Research Assistant** *Digital Debt - Finance, Communication and Resistance* 2014-2018
- Co-wrote 2016 SSHRC Insight Development Grant (winning application, total award: \$54,944).
- Conducted background research on the global debt collection industry.
- Research Assistant** *Creating Digital Opportunity* 2015-2017
- Surveyed digital firms in British Columbia and organized a sample of approx.. 75 interview participants.
- Conducted interviews with 20 participants.
- Co-presented findings at annual nation-wide research team meetings.
- Co-authored annual progress reports.
- Research Assistant** *Labour Messaging: Practices of Autonomous Communication* 2013
- Researched and produced annotated bibliographies on worker organizing in cultural industries and on alternative media strategies and organizations.

SERVICE

- Steering Committee Member** 2021-Present
- Craft Brewery Workers' Alliance of Canada
- Workshop Co-Facilitator** 2022-2023
- School of Communication Teaching Skills Workshop
- Conference Co-Organizer** 2019
- Digital/Debt/Empire
- Steward/Trustee** 2015-2018
- SFU Teaching Support Staff Union (TSSU)
- Conference Co-Organizer** 2016
- SFU Critical Studies Conference
- Graduate Caucus Chair** 2015-2016
- SFU School of Communication
- Editorial Board Member** 2014-2017
- STREAM Graduate Journal of Communication
- Peer Reviewer/Adjudicator** 2013-2014
- Think Again! Interdisciplinary Seminar Series

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Graduate Writing Facilitator** 2017-2023
- Simon Fraser University Burnaby, BC, Canada

Communications Consultant

BC Labour Heritage Centre

2015-2017

Burnaby, BC, Canada

Admissions Counselor

Lewis & Clark College

2012-2013

Portland, OR, USA

Undergraduate Affairs Coordinator

Portland State University

2011-2012

Portland, OR, USA

Off-Campus Student Life Coordinator

Georgetown University

2010-2011

Washington, DC, USA

Coordinator of Campus Apartments

Central Washington University

2008-2009

Ellensburg, WA, USA

MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

Canadian Association of Cultural Studies

2022-Present

Canadian Committee on Labour History

2022-Present

Global Labour Research Centre

2021-Present

Canadian Communication Association

2019-Present

Popular Culture Association

2018-Present

Canadian Association for Work and Labour Studies

2017-Present

Cultural Studies Association

2015-2017

Northeast Popular Culture/American Studies Association

2015-2016

Society for Socialist Studies

2015-Present

Union for Democratic Communications

2015-Present

Centre for Policy Research on Science and Technology

2014-2017