Dr Robert Dorschel

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ACADEMIC CAREER

Since 2024   Assistant Professor in Digital Sociology, Department of Sociology, University of Cambridge

2022-2024   Assistant Professor in Social Inequality and Diversity, Department of Sociology, Tilburg University

2019-2023   PhD Candidate, Darwin College, Department of Sociology, University of Cambridge
Dissertation Title: "The Social Codes of Tech Workers"
Awarded with the Best Dissertation Award 2024 by the Association of Internet Researchers

2017-2019   MA, Social Sciences, Department of Social Sciences, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Master Thesis Title: "'Data Science': Sociological Analysis of an Emerging Professional Field"
Awarded with the Best Master Thesis Award 2020 by the German Sociological Association

2018-2019   Visiting Graduate Student, Department of Sociology, Duke University

2013-2017   Dual-BA, Sociology and Political Science, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel
Final Grade 1.3

2012-2013   Career-Integrated Study Program at Aldi and the Department of Business, Mannheim University DHBW (terminated before completion)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Since 2022   Associated Researcher, Interdisciplinary Research Group "Social Inequality and Diversity", School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Tilburg University

2021-2022   Associated Researcher, Cambridge Digital Humanities and Trust & Technology Initiative, University of Cambridge

2020   Fellow, Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society, Berlin, September-November

2019-2022   Lead Convener, Technology & New Media Research Cluster, University of Cambridge

2017-2018   Student Assistant to Prof. Jutta Allmendinger, Berlin Social Science Center

PUBLICATIONS

Book

TBA   Dorschel, Robert: *The Social Codes of Tech Workers. A Contradictory Middle Class in the Making* (under contract with MIT Press, Labor and Technology Series).

Articles

2023   Dorschel, Robert: Middle-Class Responses to Climate Change: An Analysis of the Ecological Habitus of Tech Workers. *Current Sociology,* online first, 1-18.

2022   Dorschel, Robert: Reconsidering Digital Labour: Bringing Tech Workers into the Debate. *New Technology, Work and Employment*, 37(2), 288-307.

2022   Dorschel, Robert: A New Middle-Class Fraction with a Distinct Subjectivity. Tech Workers and the Transformation of the Entrepreneurial Self. *The Sociological Review*, 70(6), 1302-1320.

2022   Dorschel, Robert: Tech Workers und das achtsam-moralische Selbst. Jenseits von Künstlerkritik und Arbeitskraftunternehmer. *Arbeits- und Industriesoziologische Studien*, 15(1), 125-143.

2021   Dorschel, Robert: Discovering Needs for Digital Capitalism. The Hybrid Profession of Data Science. *Big Data & Society, 8(2),* 1-13.

2021   Dorschel, Robert / Brandt, Philipp: Professionalisierung mittels Ambiguität. Die diskursive Konstruktion von Data Scientists in Wirtschaft und Wissenschaft. *Zeitschrift für Soziologie,* 50(3-4), 193-210.

2021   Allmendinger, Jutta / Dorschel, Robert: Der Raum des Möglichen. Haben Frauen die Wahl?, *Kursbuch, 207*, 61-72.

2021   Dorschel, R.: "Data Science" Analyse einer emergierenden Profession mittels einer Verknüpfung von Diskurs- und Feldtheorie. *Soziologie*, 50(1), 94-102.

Book Review Essay

2021   Dorschel, Robert: Contours of the Networked Self. *New Media & Society,* 23(1), 193-198.

Book Chapters

2020   Dorschel, Robert: A Field Theoretical Discovery of the Tourism Industry. In: Pietzcker, Dominik/Vaih-Baur, Christina: Ökonomische und Soziologische Tourismustrends. Strategien und Konzepte im globalen Destinationsmarketing. *Springer*, Wiesbaden, pp. 29-44.

2019   Dorschel, Robert/Allmendinger, Jutta (2019): Über die sozialen Fesseln unserer Sprache. In: Eichinger, Ludwig / Plewnia, Albrecht (Hrsg.): Neues vom heutigen Deutsch. Empirisch – methodisch – theoretisch. Jahrbuch des Instituts für Deutsche Sprache 2018. Berlin / Boston: *de Gruyter*, pp. 313-23.

TEACHING

Tilburg University, Lecturer

Networks and Cohesion, Research Master, Department of Sociology (Fall Term 2023)

Foundations of Sociology, Research Master, Department of Sociology (Fall Term 2023)

Pre-Master Research Project, BA Level, Department of Sociology (Spring Term 2023)

University of Cambridge, Lecturer

Subjectivities and Societies, SOC 6, BA Level, Department of Sociology (Michaelmas 2022)

Critical Approaches to Discourse Analysis, MPhil and First-year PhD Level, Social Science Research Methods Programme (Michaelmas 2020 and 2021)

University of Potsdam, Lecturer

Introduction to Classical Sociological Theory, Undergraduate Level, Department of Social Sciences (Fall Term 2020 and 2021)

Humboldt-University Berlin, Teaching Assistant

The Sociology of "Good Work", Master's Level, Assistant to Professor Jutta Allmendinger (Summer Term 2018)

University of Kiel, Tutor

Introduction to Academic Research, Undergraduate Level, Department of Social Sciences (Fall Term 2015 and 2016)

Tutor Teaching Qualification Programme, University of Kiel, 20 Hours

GRANTS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS

2024   PhD Dissertation Award, Association of Internet Researchers

2022   Research Network Grant, Cambridge Digital Humanities

2022   Early Career Workshop Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics

2020   Best Master Thesis Award, German Sociological Association

2020	Fellowship, Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society, Berlin, September-November (3000 Euros)
2020	Field Work Funding Award, Department of Sociology, Cambridge
2019-2022	PhD Stipend, Foundation of the German Economy
2017-2019	MA Stipend, Foundation of the German Economy

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY

2021	Co-Organiser of the College Reading Group "Interdisciplinary Perspectives on 'The Good Life'" at Darwin College
2017-2021	Student Representative at the election committee for new stipends, Foundation of the German Economy
2014-2017	Member of the Student Parliament, University of Kiel
2014-2017	Officer for Educational Politics, Student Council (AStA), University of Kiel

SELECTED ACADEMIC TALKS

2024	Inaugural British Journal of Sociology Conference, "Eco-Social Class: Reconsidering Class Theory through A Case Study of Tech Workers"
2023	Digital Labor Conference, Weizenbaum Institute Berlin, "Tech Workers and the Emancipatory Potential of High-Paid Digital Laborers"
2023	Diversity and Difference Conference, University of Kiel, "Elements of a Post-Entrepreneurial Self. Tech Workers and the Contradictory Power of Moral Codes"
2023	British Sociological Association, Annual Conference, "The Social Codes of Tech Workers", "Ecology and Class Structure: Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Social Classes in the United Kingdom"
2023	Dutch Sociological Association, Annual Conference, "The Ecological Habitus of Tech Workers"; "Towards a Theory of Eco-Social Class"
2022	SASE Conference, "Tech Workers and the Class Matrix of Digital Capitalism", "The Professionalization of Data Science in the U.S. and Germany"
2022	British Sociological Association, Annual Conference, "Digital Labour and Tech Workers", "The Subjectivity of Data Scientists"
2022	Oxford Internet Institute, Platform Economy Seminar, "The Professionals Behind the Platform Economy"
2021	American Sociological Association, Annual Conference, "Reconsidering Digital Labour: Bringing Tech Workers into the Debate"

SELECTED PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

2024	Panel Discussion Round, "Schöne Neue Arbeitswelt", Berliner Ensemble Theater
2023	Podcast Interview, "ChatGTP and the Future of Work", Was Tun? Der Podcast
2022	Newspaper Interview, "Tech Worker: So ticket die neue digitale Mittelklasse", Süddeutsche Zeitung
2022	Podcast Moderation, "(In)Security in the Context of Epochal Shifts", Berlin Social Science Center (WZB) and OECD
2022	Newspaper Article, "Die Hinterbühne der Datenwelt", Frankfurter Rundschau
2022	Newspaper Interview, "Digital Pioneers: Wie ticken Tech Workers?", T3N Magazine
2020	Blog Post, "Digital Professionals, Surveillance and the Covid-19 Pandemic", Cambridge Trust and Technology Website

REVIEWER

American Journal of Sociology, Big Data & Society, Current Sociology, Leviathan, The Sociological Review

DATA ANALYSIS SKILLS

Interviewing (narrative, semi-structured, structured), ethnography, digital ethnography, discourse analysis (software: MAXQDA), statistical analysis (software: R)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

German (native), English (fluent), French (advanced)