

ANINDYA KUNDU

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

New York University – Postdoctoral Research Scholar

March 2018 to Present

Department of Administration, Leadership, and Technology

- Serves as Research Scientist for the HERE to HERE project, funded by the Dimon Foundation
- Designs metrics for evaluation with PI's Dr. June Ahn (UC Irvine) and Dr. Noel Anderson (NYU) for multi-year project focusing on research-practice partnerships to build college and career pathways for South Bronx youth
- Participates in strategic consulting for the HERE to HERE nonprofit through Design Based Research
- Mentors doctoral students and leads all research projects related to conference and paper submissions

EDUCATION

New York University – Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) – Sociology of Education

May 2018

Department of Applied Statistics, Social Science, and Humanities

- Dissertation: "Adding a Social Perspective to Grit: How Students with Disadvantages Navigate Obstacles and Gain Agency."
- Committee: Dr. Pedro Noguera (Chair, UCLA), Dr. Lisa Stulberg (NYU), Dr. Angela Duckworth (U. Penn)
- NYU Awardee: Outstanding Doctoral Student Teaching Award

The University of Chicago – Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

June 2010

- Law, Letters and Society; Minor in English. *With Honors*

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming Book

- Kundu, A. (2019). *Achieving Agency: Moving Beyond Grit to Realize Collective Responsibilities in Education*. Teachers College Press.

Peer Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

- Kundu, A. (2019). Understanding College "Burnout" from a Social Perspective: Reigniting the Agency of Low-Income Racial Minority Strivers Towards Achievement. Springer Nature. *The Urban Review*, 1-22.
- Kundu, A. (2017). "Grit and Agency: A Framework for Helping Students in Poverty to Achieve Greatness." *National Youth-at-Risk Journal*. 2(2). 69-80.
- Kundu, A. (2016). "Growing Roses in Concrete: A Perspective on How Agency and Grit can Foster the Success of All Students." *The Journal of School & Society*. 3(2). 18-31.
- Kundu, A. (2019). "Agency and Grit: Considerations for Low-Income Black Males to Achieve Greatness." *Michigan State University Press*. 6th Edition.

Other Articles and Professional Publications

- Kundu, A. (2018). "Fighting the Normalization of Failure," *Educational Leadership*. 75(6). 34-38.
- Kundu, A. (2016). "Review of Closing the Education Achievement Gaps for African American Males." *Teachers College Record*. 181-184.
- Kundu, A. (2014). BACKTALK: Grit, overemphasized; agency, overlooked. *Phi Delta Kappan*, 96(1), 80-80.
- Kundu, A. (2014). "Regaining Collective Responsibility for Students to Succeed." *NY ASCD*.
- Kundu, A., & Noguera, P. (2014). Why America's infatuation with "grit" can't solve our educational dilemmas. *Virginia Policy Review*. 11. 49-53.
- Kundu, A. (2014). "Digital Programming: Outlets for Youth Expression." *Prevention Tactics*. 1-8.

- Peer Reviewer: "The Sociology of Grit: Grit and its Potential Role in Stratification." *Sociology Compass*.
- Peer Reviewer: "Bringing Grit into a Sociological Discussion: A Cross-Cultural Examination of Status, Control, and Grit." *Social Currents*.
- Contributing author: *Learning Labs, Findings from Cohort 1 & 2*. Internal document for MacArthur Foundation and Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). January, 2013, 2014.

Working Papers

- **Kundu, A;** Ahn, J; Anderson; N. "A School Ecosystem-Approach to Understanding Work-Based Learning Development and Student Experiences in the Bronx."
- **Kundu, A;** Elcott, D; Foldy, E. "Grit and Social Identity Amongst Graduate Students: A Multivariate Approach to Understanding Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Issues in Higher Education."
- **Kundu, A;** Anderson, N. "Flipping the Notion of 'Family Contribution': Accounting for the Affordances that Parents in Low-Income Households make to Youth Aspirations and Work Ethic."

Popular Press Publications

- Pedro Noguera and Anindya Kundu. "Why Students Need More than Grit." *MSNBC.com*.
- "Leading with Conviction: Empowering the Formerly Incarcerated to Strengthen Democracy, Inside-Out." *Huffington Post*. August 11, 2016.
- "The Case For Closing Rikers Island." *Huffington Post*. June 30, 2016.
- "What to Make of Steph Curry, the NBA's Unanimous and Gritty MVP." *Huffington Post*. May 11, 2016.
- "Why We're Not 'Beyond Race. And Why Black Lives Matter.'" *Huffington Post*. March 11, 2016.
- "Inspiration in Insomnia: Resolving to Turn Dreams into Reality." *Huffington Post*. December 31, 2015.
- "Policing Schools and Dividing the Nation." *Huffington Post, Politics Blog*. October 28, 2015
- "No Student should have to be 'White Enough' to Succeed." *Huffington Post*. September 23, 2015.
- "Feeding Kids and Expanding Opportunity." *Phi Delta Kappan Blog*. June 19, 2015.
- "American schools: Still separate, still unequal." *Phi Delta Kappan Blog*. May 2014.
- Kundu, A. and Noguera, P. "Executing Schools and Killing Opportunity." *Kappan Blog*. November 2013.

GRANTS, AWARDS & PRESS

- New Hope Foundation, Private RFP. Consulted the Urban Youth Alliance and helped non-profit organization secure \$250,000/yr for two years. Will formalize a partnership through NYU for \$50,000 as independent contractor and research project on alternatives to incarceration for South Bronx youth.
- Interviewed by NPR about agency and non-cognitive traits: <http://n.pr/2vBKXlr>. Aug 14, 2017.
- TED Resident. Selected into highly selective Residency program. Spring, 2017.
- Outstanding Doctoral Student Teaching Award: \$1,500 (2017); Doctoral Student Travel Fund: \$1,000 (2017); Adjunct Instructor Professional Development Fund: \$1,000 (2017, 2016); McArthur Doctoral Student Fellowship: \$26,000 (2014, 2013, 2012).
- NYU "Faculty First Look" Scholar. National cohort of doctoral students. 2017-2018.
- NYU Steinhardt: Outstanding Doctoral Student Teaching Award. 2017.
- Cited scholar in coda of Angela Duckworth's New York Times Bestseller, *GRIT*. 2nd edition, paperback.
- Selected participant for NYU's 12th-Annual, Martin Luther King Oratorical Contest.
- Interviewed in JSTOR Daily: <http://daily.jstor.org/students-dont-just-need-grit-they-need-agency>. Jun 8, 16.

COURSES TAUGHT

2017 Recipient of NYU Steinhardt School's "Outstanding Doctoral Student Teaching Award."

- Adjunct Professor, NYU. Undergraduate Course: *Education as a Social Institution*. Spring 2018.
- Adjunct Professor, NYU. Undergraduate Course: *American Dilemmas: Race, Inequality, and the Unfulfilled Promise of Public Education*. Fall 2014; Fall 2015; and Fall 2016.
- Adjunct Professor, NYU. Graduate Level Course: *Social and Cultural Reproduction: Research on Urban and Minority Youth*. Spring, 2016.
- Thesis advisor to NYU Gallatin School Master's student.
- Teaching Artist at The Moth. Led high-school residencies for eventual Story-Slam Event Fall 2017-2018.
- Teaching Assistant for Professor Pedro Noguera, NYU. Graduate Level Course: *Social and Cultural Reproduction: Research on Urban and Minority Youth*. Spring, 2015.
- Teaching Assistant for Pedro Noguera, NYU. Undergraduate Course: *American Dilemmas: Race, Inequality, and the Unfulfilled Promise of Public Education*. Fall, 2013.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

- TED Talk: "The Boost Students Need to Overcome Obstacles." Published on TED.com. September 2017. Over one million views. TED Conference: Jun 6, 2017. New York, NY.
- American Education Research Association (AERA), National Annual Meeting. April 2018. *Division J*, Paper Presentation: "Correcting 'Burnout' Experienced by Low-Income Students of Color who Succeed."
- Sociology of Education Association (SEA), Annual Conference. February 2018. Paper Presentation: "Decreasing the 'Burnout' Phenomenon in Low-Income College Students of Color."
- Keynote Speaker. Annual Sinclair Board Symposium: "The Conditions for Student Success." January, 2018.
- Keynote Speaker. Presented now-published research, "Growing Roses in Concrete: How Agency and Grit can Foster Success for Students." University of Pittsburgh, Institute for Learning. *Designing for Difference Conference*. May 19, 2017. Pittsburgh, PA.
- AERA, National Annual Meeting. April 2017. Presented now-published paper, "Grit and Agency: A Framework for Helping Students in Poverty to Achieve Greatness." San Antonio, TX.
- University of Pennsylvania, Character Lab. "Examining the Agency of Disadvantaged Students: How Young Adults Navigate Obstacles." Apr 16, 2015. Philadelphia, PA.
- American Libraries Association (ALA) Mid-Winter Conference. "A Digital Frontier: America's Learning Labs and YouMedia Sites." Presented initial findings from first 18 months of on-site research and interviews. With Dr. Richard Arum. Jan 25, 2014. Philadelphia, PA.
- National Learning Labs Convening. "Lessons Learned from Cohort 1: Challenges and Advice." Presentation given to national audience of Learning Lab Grantees. Jul 25, 2013. Pittsburgh, PA.

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

New York University, Institute of Human Development and Social Change

New York, NY

Doctoral Researcher for Dr. Richard Arum

October 2012 to June 2014

- Team Lead for National Learning Labs. Liaison between NYU team and the MacArthur Foundation.
- Evaluated 30 afterschool programs in libraries across U.S; conducted 80 interviews of educators.



New York City, Department of Education
Academics Consultant

New York, NY
January 2012 to July 2012

- Helped create citywide manual for Common Core implementation (networks, schools, families).
- Organized citywide Chancellor's Principals Conference in June 2012 with approximately 1,500 attendees.

University of Chicago Crime Lab & Northwestern Institute for Policy Research
Research Associate for Professors Jens Ludwig and Jon Guryan

Chicago, IL
July 2010 to July 2011

- Oversaw admission of ~4,000 youth at Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center (JTDC).
- Cleaned datasets for study involving cost-effectiveness of cognitive behavioral training implementation.