

## PERSONAL

Lorenzo Sabetta ( [REDACTED] )



[REDACTED]

## CURRENT POSITION

Adjunct Professor of Sociology at LUISS  
Department of Political Science  
(September 14, 2020 – ongoing)

## PREVIOUS POSITIONS

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Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Columbia/Missouri (USA)  
Department of Sociology, Middlebush Hall 325  
(September 30, 2017 - September 30, 2018)

Post-Doctoral Fellow at Linköping University (Sweden)  
Institute for Analytical Sociology  
(October 15, 2019 – June 15, 2020).

Post-Doctoral Researcher (*assegnista di ricerca*) at Sapienza-University of Rome  
Department of Communication and Social Research  
(October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021)

## INCOMING POSITIONS

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Visiting Researcher at the University of Oxford (UK)  
Nuffield College  
(January 15, 2022 – February 15, 2022)

EkSoc Visiting Fellow at the University of Lodz (Poland)  
Faculty of Economics and Sociology  
(March 1, 2022 – May 1, 2022)

## EDUCATION

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- B.A.** in *Sociology*, 110/110 magna cum laude  
Sapienza-University of Rome, 14/12/2011
  - M.A.** in *Sociology, Social Research and Evaluation*, 110/110 magna cum laude Sapienza-University of Rome, 8/7/2013
  - Ph.D.** in *Methodology of Social Sciences*, Excellent  
Sapienza-University of Rome, 27/2/2017
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**AWARDS,  
FELLOWSHIPS,  
GRANTS, AND  
HABILITATIONS**

- (2013) Commendation for Excellent M.A. Thesis on Sociology [Sapienza-University of Rome].  
(2013-2016) Sapienza-University of Rome Doctoral/PhD Grant.  
(2016) Italian Sociological Association “*Young Sociologist Award*”.  
(2017-2018) Postdoctoral Fellowship at University of Columbia-Missouri (USA).  
(2019-2020) “Robert K. Merton Fellowship” at the Institute for Analytical Sociology, Linköping University (Sweden).  
(2020-2029) National Scientific Habilitation (*Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale*) as Associate Professor in “General Sociology” (ASN, II fascia, Sociologia Generale-14/C1).  
(2021) *Sapienza Starting Grant* (Finanziamenti d’Ateneo per ‘Avvio alla Ricerca’ – Tipo2).  
(2022) Visiting Fellowship at Nuffield College, University of Oxford (UK).  
(2022) EkSoc Fellowship at the Faculty of Economics and Sociology, University of Lodz (Poland).
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**PUBLICATIONS**

- (2015) «Funzioni latenti e paradigma indiziario: termini di una convergenza», *Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale*, XXXVI(107): 27-48.
- (2015) «Sulla distinzione tra fini e valori. Presupposti e implicazioni metodologiche», *Comunicazionepuntodoc*, 12: 219-230.
- (2016a) ed. of *La pratica della ricerca. Frammenti dal taccuino di un sociologo* (Rome, Castelvecchi), Italian version of R.K. Merton «Three Fragments from a Sociologist’s Notebook» (“Annual Review of Sociology”, 1987).
- (2016) *Scelte obbligate. Note sugli appunti di Merton*, introduction to (2016a): 5-23.
- (2017) «La transizione dal latente al manifesto: un problema di teoria della valutazione», *Sociologia Italiana – AIS Journal of Sociology*, 9: 27- 51; **(Young Sociologist Award, 2016 Italian Sociological Association)**.
- (2017) *La logica del criterio che si auto-invalida: effetti inintenzionali come obiettivi*, in D. Pacelli (ed.), *Le cose non sono quelle che sembrano. Contributi teorico-analitici per una sociologia non ovvia*, Milano, FrancoAngeli, pp. 49-66.
- (2017) «Una certa idea dell’azione sociale: leggere insieme Merton e Bourdieu», *Sociologia e ricerca sociale*, XXXVIII(113): 62-83.
- (2018a) ed. of *Sociologia dell’inavvertito* (Rome, Castelvecchi), Italian version of W. Brekhus «A Sociology of the Unmarked» (“Sociological Theory”, 1998).
- (2018) *La rilevanza dell’irrelevante: epistemologia di un paradosso sociologico*, introduction to (2018a): 7-27.
- (2018) «Interpreting One’s Life Sociologically: The Cases of Merton and Bourdieu», *Sociologia e ricerca sociale*, XXXIX(115): 37-44 (with C. Lombardo).
- (2018) «Basta che funzioni? Note su big data e teoria sociologica», *Sociologia Italiana – AIS Journal of Sociology*, 11: 187-194.
- (2018) *La dimensione latente dell’azione sociale*, Milano, FrancoAngeli.
- (2019a) ed. of *Dato per scontato. La costruzione sociale dell’ovvietà* (Milano, Meltemi), Italian version of E. Zerubavel «Taken for Granted: The Remarkable Power of the Unremarkable» (Princeton University Press, 2018).

(2019) *Sullo sfondo della realtà sociale: quello che succede quando non succede niente*, introduction to (2019a): 7-27;

(2019) Self-defeating Prophecies: When Sociology Really Matters, in R. Poli and M. Valerio (eds.), *Anticipation, Agency and Complexity*, "Anticipation Science Series", Berlin, Springer: 51-59.

(2019) «Times of Sociology: Eviatar Zerubavel in Conversation with Lorenzo Sabetta», *Sociologica*, 13(2): 55-74.

(2019) *La riproduzione del dominio dal basso e la critica radicale: il caso del Tiquun/Comitato Invisibile*, in M. Pendenza, V. Romania, G. Ricotta, R. Iannone, E. Susca (eds.) *Capitalismo: caratteri e prospettive*, Milano, FrancoAngeli: 253-267.

(2019) «L'attore sociale non è un attore sociale: note su Bourdieu e Garfinkel», *Studi di Sociologia*, 2019(4): 361-378.

(2020) *Sustainability Through Unsustainability? Unintended Consequences and Emancipatory Catastrophism*, in M. Nocenzi and A. Sannella (eds.) *Perspectives for a New Social Theory of Sustainability*, Berlin, Springer: 103-113 (with C. Lombardo).

(2020) «Verso una congiunzione funzionale delle due "etichette" weberiane», *Quaderni di sociologia*, 81: 3-23 (with M. Bonolis).

(2020) «Ethnography (and Social Research) between Deeds and Words», *Etnografia e ricerca qualitativa*, 2020/3: 483-495.

(2020) *La corruzione come sistema di relazioni*, in C. Lombardo (ed.) *Area grigia, scambi illeciti e spazi di potere. Un'analisi delle reti di corruzione*, Milano, FrancoAngeli: 37-55 (with S. Pignedoli).

(2020) *Il silenzio delle sirene. Le strutture della temporalità fra spazio d'esperienza e orizzonte delle possibilità*, in C. Lombardo and S. Mauceri (eds.), *La società catastrofica*, Milano, FrancoAngeli: pp. 181-201 (with C. Lombardo and M.P. Faggiano).

(forthcoming) *The Sociology of Concepts or the Sociology of Judgments? Schmitt, Benjamin, Weber*, in A. Borghini (ed.) *Beyond the Orthodox. Studies in Historical Sociology*, Brill, Leiden (with C. Lombardo).

(forthcoming) *Against the Background of Social Reality. Defaults, Commonplaces, and the Sociology of the Unmarked*, New York, Routledge (ed. with C. Lombardo).

(forthcoming) *What is Done When Nothing Special is Being Done: Social Theory and the Power of the Unmarked*, in C. Lombardo and L. Sabetta (eds.) *Against the Background of Social Reality*, New York, Routledge.

(forthcoming) *On the Structural Unmarkedness of the Micro-Macro Link*, in C. Lombardo and L. Sabetta (eds.) *Against the Background of Social Reality*, New York, Routledge (with C. Lombardo).

(forthcoming) *Failure of Transparency? The Case of Socially Unattended Things*, in A. Mica, A. Horolets, M. Pawlak and P. Kubicki (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Failure: Perspectives from Sociology*, New York, Routledge.

(forthcoming) *Appearances of Nothing: Social Action Theory and Concealed Strategic Behavior*, in W. Brekhus, T. DeGloma and W.R. Force (eds.) *Oxford Handbook of Symbolic Interactionism*, Oxford, Oxford University Press (with C. Lombardo).

(forthcoming) *The Anthem Companion to Robert K. Merton*, London, Anthem Press (ed. with C. Crothers).

(forthcoming) *Theory as an Optional or Theory as a Must? The Bearing of Methodological Choices on the Role of Sociological Theory*, in C. Crothers and L. Sabetta (eds.), *The Anthem Companion to Robert K. Merton*, London, Anthem Press (with A. Fasanella).

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

(2016) «La logica del criterio che si auto-invalida: effetti inintenzionali come obiettivi», Italian Sociological Association meeting “*Le cose non sono quelle che sembrano*”. *La traccia di Luciano Gallino tra teoria sociale e impegno pubblico*, Lumsa University, Rome, May 28; **(Young Sociologist Award, 2016 Italian Sociological Association)**.

(2016) «L’etnometodo non è un etnometodo. Su una dimensione paradossale degli approcci “emic”», *1<sup>st</sup> National Ph.D. Conference in Social Sciences*, University of Padua, June 24.

(2016) «Interpreting one's life sociologically: the cases of Merton and Bourdieu», *International Sociological Association Conference on “Monuments, Relics and Revivals”*, University of Warsaw, July 7 (with C. Lombardo).

(2016) «Unintended Consequences and the Objective Meaning of Social Action. Notes on the “Indeterminacy in the past” debate», *XI European Conference on Social and Behavioral Sciences*, Sapienza-University of Rome, September 3.

(2016) «Problemi teorico-metodologici del concetto di “merito”: inganni dell’oggettività e paradossi della performatività», XI Italian Sociological Association National Meeting *Disuguaglianze, Giustizia, Equità nel contesto globale*, University of Verona, November 11 (with S. Nobile).

(2016) «Strategicità, performatività, strumentalità: la sociologia pubblica e i suoi effetti indiretti», Meeting on *Sapere pubblico e sapere collettivo. L’Università del futuro e la sua rilevanza sociale*, University of Parma, November 28.

(2016) «Tecniche qualitative e oggettivismo: una connessione controintuitiva», *VII Qualitative Analysis National Forum*, University of RomaTre, December 7.

(2017) «The Grammar of Conspiracy and the Vocabulary of Modernity: Social Action Theory and Theory of Action without the Social», *Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, February 24 (con C. Lombardo).

(2017) «Self-defeating Prophecy: When Sociology Really Matters», International Workshop *Anticipation, Agency and Complexity*, University of Trento, April 6.

(2017) «Teoria sociologica e big data: meccanismi, generalizzazioni e il problema della validità esterna», Italian Sociological Association meeting – Methodology Section, *Big Data, Big Challenges*, University of Milano Bicocca, April 28.

(2017) «“Mother Courage”: Sociology of a Semantic Slippage», *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, Montreal, August 14.

(2017) «The Banality of Order? Purposiveness und Unintentionality in the Preservation of Social Status Quo», *European Sociological Association Biennial Conference*, Athens, August 29.

(2017) «Global and Local Effects as Unintended Consequences: the Role of Unexpected in Social Change», 9<sup>th</sup> *Slovenian Social Science Conference*, Ljubljana, September 22 (with C. Lombardo).

(2018) «A Time for Unchange? Reconsidering the Sociological Significance of Uneventfulness», *Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting*, Baltimore, February 22 (with W. Brekhus).

(2018) «“Let Sleeping Dogs Lie”: Unintended Consequences and Mechanisms of Hyperrationality», 11<sup>th</sup> *International Network of Analytical Sociology Conference*, Stanford University, June 7.

(2018) «Theory as an Optional or Theory as a Must? Two Macro- Models of Sociological Research», *Canadian Sociological Association – Social Theory Research Cluster*, Ryerson University, Toronto, July 14.

(2018) «Modernity, Social Action Theory, and The Rise of Non- Sociological Explanations of Social Reality», *Midterm Conference of the “Social Theory” Research Network – European Sociological Association*, Berlin, September 5 (with C. Lombardo).

(2018) «La riproduzione del dominio “dal basso” come anello mancante della critica radicale: il caso del Tiquun/Comitato Invisibile», *Italian Sociological Association – Midterm Conference Capitalismo: caratteri e prospettive*, University of Salerno, October 2.

(2018) «Is Racism Without Racists Only an American Phenomenon? Color-Blind Discrimination and the Southern European Context», *Midterm Conference of the “Southern European Societies” Research Network – European Sociological Association*, University of Catania, October 4.

(2018) «Leggere la realtà sociale “in contropelo”: la sociologia, l’inavvertito e il dato per scontato», *Laboratorio Interdisciplinare di Ricerca su Corpi, Conflitti e Diritti*, University of Palermo, October 17 **[invited speaker]**.

(2019) «That’s Nothing!”. On the Structural Unmarkedness of the Micro-Macro Link», *International Symposium What is Done When Nothing Special is Being Done: Social Theory and The Power of the Unmarked*, Sapienza-University of Rome, March 5 (with C. Lombardo) **[invited speaker]**.

(2019) «La sociologia dell’inavvertito, la rilevanza dell’irrelevante», University of Pisa, March 18 (with W. Brekhus). **[invited speaker]**.

(2019) «Change the Unintended, Change the Future: Unanticipated Consequences and Social Forecasting», *Time is Money, and Beyond: The Temporality of Action and Consequences*, 7<sup>th</sup> *International Workshop on Unintended Consequences*, University of Warsaw, May 6 (with C. Lombardo) **[invited speaker]**.

(2019) «Merton, Bourdieu e la riflessività come strumento di analisi sociologica», *Permanent Seminar on the Sociology of Pierre Bourdieu*, University of Pisa, June 7 (with C. Lombardo) **[invited speaker]**.

(2019) «Big Data, Digital Footprints e Capitalismo Digitale: alcune osservazioni sul concetto di “traccia”», *Italian Sociological Association meeting – Theory Section “Immaginari del capitalismo contemporaneo”*, University of Pisa, June 21 (with F. Martire).

(2019) «When “Adequacy” is Actually its Opposite: Reading Social Reality Against the Grain», *14<sup>th</sup> European Sociological Association Conference*, Manchester, August 23.

(2019) Discussant of the panel «Balbo, Barbagli, Bruschi, Cipriani, Marradi, Schizzerotto e Sgritta rispondono alle domande di giovani sociologi e sociologhe», Italian Sociological Association – Methodology Section “*La ricerca sociale tra due millenni. Generazioni di sociologi e sociologhe a confronto*”, University of Milano-Bicocca, September 27 [invited speaker].

(2019) «Oltre il dilemma delle “due etiche”. Convinzione e responsabilità nella sociologia di Weber», Italian Sociological Association – Political Sociology Section “*La lezione weberiana sulla professione politica e i suoi insegnamenti per l’attualità*”, University of Salerno, October 3 (with M. Bonolis).

(2020) «Appearances of Nothing: Social Action Theory and Concealed Strategic Behavior», *International Colloquium Series*, Center for Cultural Sociology at Bar Ilan University, Tel Aviv, January 1 (with C. Lombardo) [invited speaker].

(2020) «The Reception of Social Action. Or: How Actions Become What They Are», *Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Annual Meeting – Special Panel: Symbolic Interactionism and Pierre Bourdieu*, Pisa, June 29 (postponed).

(2020) «Oggettività, Idealtipi e Teoria Sociologica», *Ripensare la società nelle emergenze e nelle trasformazioni globali - Con Max Weber, 100 anni dopo (1920-2020)*, Italian Sociological Association meeting, December 16.

(2021) «Concluding Remarks», International Conference *What People Leave Behind: Marks, Traces, Footprints and Significance for Social Sciences*, Sapienza-University of Rome, June 16.

(2021) «Facoltativo o inderogabile? Il ruolo della teoria nel farsi della ricerca», *Il circolo virtuoso. Teoria e ricerca empirica nella sociologia italiana*, Italian Sociological Association meeting, September 30 (with A. Fasanella).

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## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

(2012) Research Assistant for the project *Omofobia giovanile. Un’indagine sui processi di costruzione sociale dell’ostilità verso gay e lesbiche nelle scuole di Roma* (Interdepartmental Research Project, Sapienza-University of Rome; Principal Investigator: Sergio Maucri).

(2014) Research Assistant for the project *La comunicazione del rischio chimico. Sperimentazione e valutazione nelle scuole di Roma* (Department of Communication and Social Research, Sapienza-University of Rome, and Ispra, Istituto per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale; Principal Investigator: Antonio Fasanella).

(2017) Research Assistant for the project *Le reti del crimine* (Sapienza-University of Rome; Principal Investigator: Carmelo Lombardo).

(2020-2021) Research Fellow for the project *Critical Thinking and Cognitive Populism in the Digital Platform Society. Independence of thought, narcissism and networked individualism among Italian high school students* (Grande Progetto d’Ateneo, Sapienza-University of Rome; Principal Investigator: Carmelo Lombardo).

(2021-) Research Fellow for the project *Global Failure Think Tank* (Principal Investigator: Adriana Mica).

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**OTHER  
ACADEMIC  
ACTIVITIES**

(2019) Organizing Committee Chair – International Symposium *What is Done When Nothing Special is Being Done: Social Theory and the Power of the Unmarked*, Sapienza-University of Rome, 5-6 March.

(2019) Organizing Committee Member – International Conference *Marx 201: Rethinking Alternatives*, University of Pisa, 8-9 May.

(2019) Organizing Committee Chair, Colloquium on *Il populismo come categoria concettuale: un'analisi critica*, Sapienza-University of Rome, 10 July.

(2021) Organizing Committee Chair – International Conference *What People Leave Behind: Marks, Traces, Footprints and Significance for Social Sciences*, Sapienza-University of Rome, 15-16 June.

(2018-) Referee for Routledge, Meltemi, Mimesis, Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale, Journal of Classical Sociology, Sociologia Italiana - AIS Journal of Sociology.

**TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE**

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(2019) Adjunct Professor of *Social Conflict*, Department of Political Science, University of International Studies of Rome (full course, 48 hours).

(2019) Lecture on «La sociologia dell'inavvertito e l'interpretazione "in contropelo" della realtà sociale» (4 hours), Ph.D. Program on *Communication, Social Research and Marketing*, Sapienza-University of Rome, March 4.

(2019) Lecture on «Problemi della concettualizzazione nelle scienze sociali: il caso delle classificazioni sociali inavvertite» (4 hours), Ph.D. Program on *Communication, Social Research and Marketing*, Sapienza-University of Rome, March 19.

(2019) Lectures series on «Tecniche Innovative di Analisi Sociologica» (13 hours), II Level University Master Course, *Sociology – Theory, Methodology, Research* (Sapienza-University of Rome, University of Tor Vergata, and University of RomaTre), May-September.

(2019) Lecture on «Digital Footprint: un concetto metodologico», (3 hours) Ph.D. Program on *Communication, Social Research and Marketing*, Sapienza-University of Rome, June 25 (with F. Martire).

(2020) Lectures series on «Tecniche Innovative di Analisi Sociologica» (13 hours), II Level University Master Course, *Sociology – Theory, Methodology, Research* (Sapienza-University of Rome, University of Tor Vergata, and University of RomaTre), June-July.

(2021) Lecture on «Sociologia analitica e teoria dell'azione» (3 hours), Ph.D. Program on *Communication, Social Research and Marketing*, Sapienza-University of Rome, May 17.

(2021) Lectures series on «Tecniche Innovative di Analisi Sociologica» (6 hours), II Level University Master Course, *Sociology – Theory, Methodology, Research* (Sapienza-University of Rome, University of Tor Vergata, and University of RomaTre), June-July.

(2020-ongoing) Adjunct Professor of *Sociology*, Department of Political Science, LUISS Guido Carli (full course, 72 hours)

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**COMMITTEES  
AND  
EDITORIAL  
BOARDS**

(2018-) Scientific Committee Member of the book series *Interactio*, PM (editor Cirus Rinaldi).

(2018-) Editorial Board Member of the journal *Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale*, FrancoAngeli (editor Enzo Campelli).

(2019-) Scientific Committee Member of the book series *Teoria e ricerca sociale e politica*, Altravista (editor Andrea Spreafico).

(2019-) Editorial Board Member of the journal *Lares*, Olschki (editor Fabio Dei).

(2019-) Founder and Editor of the book series *Denkstil: Theories and Practices of Knowledge*, Meltemi (with G. Ienna).

(2019-) Scientific Committee Member of the *Center for Electoral Sociology* (Sapienza-University of Rome, Department of Communication and Social Research; chair C. Lombardo).

(2020-) Editorial Board Member of the book series *Inferenze/Evidenze*, FrancoAngeli (editors Antonio Fasanella and Carmelo Lombardo).

(2021-) Member of the *Laboratory for Alternative Theories* (Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, York University, Toronto, Canada; chair M. Musto).