



Michelle Janning, PhD

Professor of Sociology and
Raymond and Elsie Gipson DeBurgh Endowed
Chair of Social Sciences

M.Y. Janning Social Research Consulting

1103 Figueroa St.
Walla Walla, WA 99362
janninmy@whitman.edu
(509) 520-5406



Experienced and award-winning author, human-centered design and research consultant, interdisciplinary researcher, teacher, and public speaker. Expert in educational issues, global childhoods, families, systems thinking, design thinking, inequalities, disability studies, teaching and learning, popular and material culture, and digital technologies. Public sociologist dedicated to reciprocity and boundary-crossing between academia, non-profit/for-profit organizations, media outlets, and diverse communities.

SELECT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Endowed Chair of Social Sciences and Professor of Sociology

- Whitman College Sociology (Walla Walla, WA) 2000–present
- Danish Institute for Study Abroad Sociology and Child Development & Diversity Programs (Copenhagen, DK) 2012–2015

Developed new academic programs and courses; taught and advised more than 2000 students; conducted collaborative research with 50+ students

Research and Human-Centered Design Consultant & Project Manager

- Blue Mountain (WA) Community Foundation/Sherwood Trust Non-Profit COVID-19 Task Force Survey of Non-Profits (2020)
- Walla Walla (WA) Valley Early Learning Coalition Walla Walla Cares for Kids Data Project (2019–2020)
- Post-Occupancy Evaluation Research Consultant. Community First Village and AIA Austin (TX) DesignVoice Housing Project (2018)

Designed, implemented, analyzed, and reported survey and interview findings along with recommendations for action items; managed diverse research team; conducted research methods trainings for teams

National, Regional, Local Leader

- Council on Contemporary Families Chair & Board Member (2014–2019)
Elected Chair of national organization, co-organized annual conference, led all meetings, implemented and delegated board decisions, communicated to membership, developed Board handbook and policies
- Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities Accreditation Commissioner (Seattle, WA) (2016–2019)

Served as Commissioner of NWCCU Board of Commissioners for accreditation of 163 higher ed institutions in the NW U.S.

- Assistant Dean of the Faculty, Whitman College (2010–2013)

Developed and administered student learning goals assessment program, secured accreditation status for the institution

- Chair, Department of Sociology, Whitman College (2008–2010; 2018–2021)

Chaired department of 6 faculty members for two terms, secured tenure-track positions and completed successful searches and hires, managed department budget, planned social events, mentored new colleagues

- Chair, Faculty Personnel Committee, Whitman College (2010–2012)

Led team in assessment of faculty dossiers for recommendations in contract renewal, tenure, and promotion decisions; facilitated all meetings and file management; wrote annual report

- Co-Chair and Member, Community Engaged Learning and Research Committee, Whitman College (2019–present)

Solicited, reviewed, and funded 15+ grants for community engagement activities

EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS

- PhD and MA in Sociology, University of Notre Dame (IN)
- BA in Sociology & Anthropology, Concentration in Women's Studies, St. Olaf College (MN), *Magna Cum Laude*
- Certificates in Design Thinking and User Experience Research from the Interaction Design Foundation

DEMONSTRATED PROFICIENCIES

Designed, led, and implemented 10+ multi-phase, multi-organization, multi-year, & multi-method social research projects in diverse sectors

Conducted or advised 100+ social research projects and wrote successful guidebook on mixed methods, including UX, survey design/quantitative analysis, qualitative interviews, focus groups, ethnographic field research, visual and textual analysis, card sorting, diary studies, sticker voting, and others

Presented 50+ dynamic, accessible, and engaging public talks to diverse audiences

Published award-winning peer-reviewed books and articles & general interest essays and commentaries with dedication to storytelling and accessible data presentation

Appeared as expert in 60+ interviews and media appearances in local, national, and international news and popular media outlets, including *The New York Times*, *Vox*, NPR, *Christian Science Monitor*, *The Washington Post*, *NBC News*, *Parents.com*, *Le Monde*, and *The Atlantic*

Demonstrated stellar capacity to move quickly and astutely from deliberation to action in 15+ inclusive group facilitations focused on strategic planning, team-building, needs assessments, program evaluation, organizational culture analysis, and mission development

Designed award-winning and innovative structure and curriculum for 2000+ students across 20 courses and 5 academic or training programs, including Human-Centered Design in the Liberal Arts, Childhood Studies, Community-Engaged Sociology, and Disability Studies

Successfully utilized digital tools for data analysis, design, and web applications in quantitative and qualitative research projects, including SPSS, Jamovi, Qualtrics, dedoose, NVivo, WordPress, Canva, Figma, Microsoft Office Suite, and Google Suite

Secured more than \$300,000 in grants and other funding for teaching, research, and collaborative applied projects

Collaborated cross-nationally on research, writing, training, and applied projects

Michelle Janning, PhD

janninmy@whitman.edu

www.michellejanning.com

FUNDING

- Co-Lead, Developing a Human-Centered Design Program at Whitman College (\$60,000)
- Lead, Mellon Foundation Community-Engaged Learning and Research Initiative Mini-Grant: Data and Indicators project for Walla Walla Valley Early Learning Coalition + Development of Community-Based Sociology Course (\$20,000)
- Awardee, Fulbright Specialist Grant for Assessment of Student Learning and Sociology Curricular Development. Danish Institute for Study Abroad. Copenhagen, Denmark (\$5,000)
- Co-Principal Investigator, Teagle Foundation Planning and Implementation Grants, "Engaging Evidence in the Senior Capstone" Project, with University of Puget Sound (\$200,000)
- Recipient, collaborative student research funding at Whitman College (multiple) (\$15,000+)

SELECT KEYNOTES

- "From LEGO to Laptops: Researching and Teaching a Sociology of Childhood 'Stuff.'" (Bulgaria Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies)
- "Love Letters, Photos, and Calendars: Relationships, Family Roles, and Technological Change in Home Spaces and Objects." (University of Texas-Austin)
- "The Stuff of Family Life: Gender, Identity, and Politics in Homes." (California Lutheran University)
- "How Social Media Matters in Contemporary Motherhood." (Columbia County, WA Health Systems)
- "Childhood in the Happiest Country on Earth and the Friendliest City in the U.S." (Walla Walla Children's Home Society Luncheon)

SELECT GENERAL INTEREST WRITING & MEDIA APPEARANCES

- "[Video Calls are not the Same as 'Face to Face,' Are They? How Technology May Impact Intimate Relationships During COVID-19.](#)" Lecture for Whitman College COVID-19: A Liberal Arts Approach to the Study of a Global Pandemic.
- "[A Pandemic Home Tour Parts I and II.](#)" Families as they Really Are @ The Society Pages.
- "[Deep Stuff: A Sociologist Sorts Through the Marie Kondo Phenomenon.](#)" Humanities Washington Spark Magazine.
- "[The Data Behind the Headlines: What Research on the Newest Parenting Topics Really Reveals.](#)" Families as They Really Are @ The Society Pages.
- "[Why Do You Hold on to Text Threads?](#)" *The Verge's* Why'd You Push That Button Podcast.

AWARDS

- Selected for [Humanities Washington Speakers Bureau](#) "What Your Home Says About the World" (engaged 320 audience members in 9 presentations across Washington State)
- Whitman College Alumni Association Faculty Award for Service
- Appointed the Raymond and Elsie Gipson DeBurgh Endowed Chair in Social Sciences at Whitman College
- Foreword Reviews Silver Award for books in Families and Relationships
- Robert Y. Fluno Award for Distinguished Teaching in Social Science, Whitman College

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Member, Blue Mountain Community Foundation COVID-19 Response Fund Committee
- Officer, Green Park Elementary School PTA Board of Directors
- Member, Walla Walla Camp Fire Board of Directors and Strategic Planning Committee
- President, The Kids' Place Child Care Center Board of Directors
- Co-organizer, Creative KidSpaces fundraiser for The Kids' Place Child Care Center
- Muralist, Walla Walla Children's Museum
- Congregation Profile Committee Chair, St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Walla Walla)

INTERNATIONAL

- International higher education teaching and consulting (Denmark)
- Journal and book editing collaboration (Ireland, France, Bulgaria)
- Presentations at 10 international conferences on education, children's geographies, children's consumption, and sociology
- Exchange student host family (Morocco, Denmark, and Germany)
- Worked, studied, and lived abroad (Germany, Denmark, South Africa)
- Language courses in French, Danish, Spanish, Russian, German, and Arabic

Michelle Janning, PhD

ACADEMIC CV

SELECT ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Books and Edited Volumes

Janning, Michelle (2023), *A Guide to Socially-Informed Research for Architects and Designers*. Routledge.

Bankova, Petya, Aude le Guennec, Michelle Janning, and Elya Tzaneva, editors (2020), *Sociocultural Dimensions of Childhood*. Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies and Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

Janning, Michelle, editor (2019), *Contemporary Parenting and Parenthood: From News Headlines to New Research*. Praeger/ABC-CLIO.

Janning, Michelle (2018), *Love Letters: Saving Romance in the Digital Age*. Routledge.

Janning, Michelle (2017), *The Stuff of Family Life: How our Homes Reflect our Lives*. Rowman and Littlefield (Silver Foreword Indies Award in Families & Relationships).

Janning, Michelle, guest editor (2008), Special Issue of *Journal of Family Issues* "Spaces and Places of Family Life: Cultural and Popular Cultural Representations of Homes and Families."

Articles, Chapters, Reviews

McConnell, Eileen Diaz, Neal Christopherson, and Michelle Janning. 2021. "We've Come a Long Way, But We Could be Doing Better: Gendered Commentary in U.S. Media Coverage of the 1999 and 2019 Women's World Cup." *Sociology of Sport Journal*.

Janning, Michelle. 2021. Book Review of Sun Sun Lim's *Transcendent Parenting: Raising Children in the Digital Age*. *Contemporary Sociology*.

Janning, Michelle. 2020. "Displaying Childhood and Parenthood in Everyday Family Spaces: Linking Theory, Research, and Pedagogy." In *Sociological Studies of Children and Youth*. Emerald Publishing.

Janning, Michelle. 2019. "Parenting in the Age of Apps and Mommy Blogs." Pp. 67-89 in *Contemporary Parenting and Parenthood: From News Headlines to New Research*. Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger/ABC-CLIO.

Janning, Michelle, and Maya Volk. 2017. "Where the Heart is: Home Space Transitions for Residential College Students." *Children's Geographies*.

Janning, Michelle, and Helen Brambrink (Scalise). 2015. "Gender and Generation in the Home Curation of Family Photography." *Journal of Family Issues*.

Janning, Michelle, Jill Laney, and Caitlyn Collins. 2010. "Spatial and Temporal Arrangements, Parental Authority, and Young Adults' Post-Divorce Experiences." *Journal of Divorce and Remarriage*.

Conference Presentations

"Going to College in a Childhood Bedroom? Living Spaces and the Transition to Adulthood for U.S. College Students during COVID-19." Contemporary Childhood Conference, University of Stirling, Glasgow, Scotland, 2021.

"Teaching and Learning in a Community-Based Sociology Course with Students and Local Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities." Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology Annual Conference, 2019.

"Teaching Child and Teen Consumption in an Interdisciplinary Global Childhoods Course." Child and Teen Consumption Conference (Denmark), 2016.

Michelle Janning

1103 Figueroa St. Walla Walla, WA 99362

janninmy@whitman.edu (509) 520-5406

www.michellejanning.com