# CURRICULUM VITAE

#### Matthew Peter Unger, PhD

Assistant Professor

Department of Sociology & Anthropology

Concordia University, Montréal

Email: matthewpunger@gmail.com

## EDUCATION

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2013 | Doctorate of Philosophy*Department of Sociology, University of Alberta* |
| 2002 | Master of Arts in Religious Studies*University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta* |
| 1998 | Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies, with distinction *University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba* |

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 20162014-July 2016 | *Assistant Professor of Sociology & Anthropology.* Social Theory and Law. Concordia University, Montréal, Canada. *Postdoctoral Fellow* with Canada Research Chair in Social Theory, Culture, and Law, Dr. George Pavlich. Department of Sociology, University of Alberta, Canada |

## SCHOLARLY PARTICIPATION

### Books authored or edited

**Single Authored Book:** Unger, Matthew P. *Sound, Symbol, Sociality: The Aesthetics of Extreme Metal Music.* London: Palgrave Macmillan. 2016.

“It’s about time someone raised the stakes in metal studies! Unger’s book is analytically sophisticated, theoretically adventurous, rigorous, and places the academic study of metal music right where it belongs: the heart of contemporary intellectual debates on meaning and purpose in modern societies. Drawing inspiration from phenomenology, religious studies, and other unorthodox sources, Unger is unafraid to break with both timeworn and newly-ossified conventions in sociology, philosophy, and metal studies itself as he advances his refreshingly original thesis. This work will no doubt prove highly influential in the global community of metal and allied scholars, now and in the future, and will catch the attention of scholars who may be indifferent to the music but need to hear its message.” (Jeremy Wallach, Professor of Popular Culture and co-editor of “Metal Rules the Globe: Heavy Metal Music around the World”)

“This book is a timely and significant contribution to our understanding of the meaning and purpose of sound and music in our social worlds. Unger adds a richly theorized analysis to the debate about transgression in extreme metal.” (Karl Spracklen, Professor of Leisure Studies, Leeds Beckett University, UK)

**Edited Collection:**  Pavlich, George and Matthew P. Unger, Eds. *Accusation: Creating Criminals.* Vancouver: UBC Press. 2016.

"Moving far beyond the usual laments about over-criminalization and excessive sentences, this fine collection of thought-provoking essays deeply challenges our usual ways of understanding what it is to accuse, and pushes us toward alternative understandings of responsibility, judgment, and crime."

– Linda Meyer, professor of law, Quinnipiac University, and author of The Justice of Mercy

"Accusation responds to a gap in scholarship – namely the neglect of a thorough exploration of accusation from a theoretical, philosophical, and critical angle. By unearthing the narrative, symbolic, ideological, aesthetic, and cultural dimensions of the ideas and practices through which people are accused of crime, it asks important questions about accusation and lights the way for future work, discussion, and debate."

– Karin van Marle, department head and professor of jurisprudence, University of Pretoria

**Edited Collection:** Pavlich, George and Matthew P. Unger, Eds. (Under contract UAP Press, TBP 2017) *Entryways and Criminalization.* University of Alberta Press.

### PEER REVIEWED Articles and BOOK Chapters

2016. Unger, Matthew. “The Forgetfulness of Accusation.” In *Accusation: Creating Criminals.* George Pavlich and Matthew P. Unger, Eds. UBC Press.

2016. Pavlich, George and Matthew P. Unger. “Introduction: Framing Accusation.” In *Accusation.* George Pavlich and Matthew Unger, Eds. UBC Press.

2015. Unger, Matthew P. “Contingency and the Symbolic Experience of Christian Extreme Metal” in *The Oxford Handbook of Music and World Christianities*. Suzel Reily and Jonathan Dueck, Eds. Oxford, London:

2015. Book Review. “Understanding the unthinkable: *Beyond the Banality of Evil: Criminology and Genocide* (2013).” *Theory and Psychology*. 2015, Vol. 25(5) 697 –700.

(Under contract UAP Press, TBP 2017): Unger, Matthew P. “Right to Speech: Accusation and Criminal Entryways in the Thomas Poole Murders of 1879.” in *Entryways and Criminalization.* Pavlich, George and Matthew Unger, Eds.

(Under contract UAP Press, TBP 2017): Pavlich, George and Matthew P. Unger. “Introduction.” in *Entryways and Criminalization.* Pavlich, George and Matthew Unger, Eds.

2005. Unger, M.P. “Intersubjectivity, Hermeneutics, and the Production of Knowledge in Qualitative Mennonite Scholarship.” *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*, 4(3), Article 4 (2005). http://www.ualberta.ca/~iiqm/ backissues/4\_3/html/unger.htm.

### In Process

2017. Unger, Matthew P., Jean-Philippe Crete, George Pavlich. “Beccaria.” *The Wiley Handbook of the History and Philosophy of Criminology*. Ruth Triplett, Ed. Wiley (contracted 2017). (Invited and submitted)

Unger Matthew P. “Ode to a Dying God: Debasement of Christian Symbols in Extreme Metal” (Invited for special issue summer 2017) *Théologiques.*

Unger, Matthew P. “Winter is Coming: Law, Winter, and the Colonial Encounter.” In *Seasonal Sociology.* Eds. Tonya Davidson and Ondine Park. (Contracted University of Toronto Press).

Unger, Matthew P. and Paul Joosse. “Ernst Troelstch and the Beginnings of Protestantism.” *Anthem Companion to Enrst Troeltsch.* Christopher Adair-Toteff, Ed. London: Anthem. (Invited)

**Edited Collection:** Unger, Matthew, Daniel Brophy, and Ruth Guechtal, Eds. (In development) *Sonic Transgression and Social Aesthetics.*

Unger, Matthew P. “Fyodor Dostoyevsky and Paul Ricoeur on the Critique of Religion.”

Unger Matthew P. “Forgetfulness, The Phenomenology of Accusation, and the Politics of Recognition.”

### ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2016 | Right to Speech: Accusation and Criminal Entryways in the Thomas Poole Murders of 1879. Law and Society Association, New Orleans, LA. |
| 2016 | “’A Most Mysterious Affair’: Accusation, Entryways and Colonial Law in Early British Columbia.” *Entryways, Criminalization, and Criminal Governance*; A Canada Research Chair Social Theory, Culture, and Law Symposium. University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB. |
| 2015 | Unger, Matthew. “Fyodor Dostoyevsky and Paul Ricoeur on the Critique of Religion” Western Canadian Theoretical Psychology Association, Victoria. |
| 2014 | “Camus, The Ghent Altarpiece, and the Ethical Moment of Accusation.” Presentation at the *Accusation, Criminality, and The Legal Person Symposium*, University of Alberta. |
|  2014 | "Defilement, Extreme Metal, and Aesthetics." Presented at the Sociology Graduate Students Association Annual Conference, University of Alberta. |
| 2012 | “Paul Ricoeur and the Symbolic Constitution of Extreme Metal Aesthetics.” Presented at the Crossroads for Cultural Studies Conference; Paris, France. |
| 2010 | “Regression, Authenticity, and Contingency in Paul Ricoeur’s Early Works and Dostoyevsky’s *The Idiot,*” Presented at The Society for Ricoeur Studies New Scholar Roundtable Session (full article peer reviewed section), Montreal, QC. |
| 2008 | “Paul Ricoeur and Jacques Derrida on the Contemporary Experience of Defilement,” Presented at The Western Canada Theoretical Psychology Society, Edmonton, AB. |
| 2008 | “Paul Ricoeur and Jacques Derrida on the Contemporary Experience of Defilement,” Presented at The Society for Ricoeur Studies, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA. |
| 2008 | “Corrupting Music: Paul Ricoeur and the Contemporary Experience of Defilement,” Presented at University of Alberta Sociology Graduate Student Conference, Edmonton. |
| 2007 |  “Paul Ricoeur, Defilement, and Death Metal as a Discourse of the Grotesque,” Presented at the Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference, Columbus, Ohio. |
| 2007 |  “Death Metal, Religion, and the Grotesque,” Presented at the CSA Annual Meeting, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.  |
| 2006 | “Contingency and the Irreducibility of Religious Experience in Contemporary Social Theory,” Presented at the SSSR Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon. |
| 2006 | “The Trauma of Mennonite Scholarship: Mennonite Sociology and the Secularization Thesis.” presented at the CSSR Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ontario. |
| 2005 |  “Theology and the Secularization Principle in Mennonite Social Thought.” presented at the W. David Pierce Research Colloquium, Department of Sociology, University of Alberta, November |
| 2001 | “Trauma and The Contingency of Identity in Patrick Friesen's *The Shunning*,” presented at the Religious Studies Graduate Students' Colloquium, University of Alberta. |
| 1998 | “Willed Into Being: The Identity Crisis in Puccini's 'Madame Butterfly' and David Henry Hwang's *M.Butterfly*.” in *Concord College Music Journal*, Linda Schwarz, Ed. Summer. |

### Invited Lectures:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  2013 | “Paul Ricoeur and the Symbolic Constitution of Extreme Metal Aesthetics.” Koç University Social Science Seminars. Istanbul, Turkey. April 18, 2013. |
| 2008 | “Death Metal, Black Metal, Religion and the Occult.” University of Alberta, (2008) Introduction to Popular Music, 103, Morning and Evening Section, March 26 2008.  |

### PUBLIC presentations and MEDIA/Press publications:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2012 | “Matthew Unger: Striking students are misunderstood and deserve our support” Full Comment, National Post, May 30, 2012. URL: <http://fullcomment.nationalpost.com/2012/05/30/matthew-unger-striking-students-are-misunderstood-and-deserve-our-support/> |
| 2010 | “Noise….Genre” Video display presentation for Intermedia Research Studio Fluxbox. |
| 2009 | “The Fetishization of Life and Death in Saltwater Fish Keeping” in *TAKE*, SGSA zine. |

## ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

##### Professional Memberships, Qualifications And Experience

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2016-Current | *Assistant Professor,* Department of Sociology and Anthropology; Concordia University, Montréal. |
| 2014-2016 | *Postdoctoral Fellow* with Canada Research Chair in Social Theory, Culture, and Law, Dr. George Pavlich.  |
| 2013 | *Assistant Editor, Social Practice, Psychological Theorizing.* Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey. |
| 2008 | Research Assistant for Dr. Kevin Haggerty, assisting with the migration of *The Canadian Journal of Sociology* to online open source format, University of Alberta, Department of Sociology. |
| 2008 | Research Assistant/Operator, Intermedia Research Studio, University of Alberta, Department of Sociology. |
| 2004-2006 | Research Assistant for Dr. Stephen Kent in the Stephen A. Kent and Gordon Drever Collections on Alternative Religions, University of Alberta, Department of Sociology |
| 2000 | Teaching Practicum, University of Alberta, Department of Comparative Literature/Religious Studies/Film Media Studies, Practicum advisor: Earle Waugh |

##### Academic Service

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2016 | *Conference Organizer,* “"Entryways, Criminalization and Criminal Governance", University of Alberta, January 2016.  |
| 2015 | *Organizer, Visiting Guest Lecture and Grad Seminar,* Dr. Jonathan Goldberg-Hiller, University of Alberta, January 2015. |
| 2014 | *Conference Organizer, “*Accusation, Criminality, and the Legal Person Symposium.” University of Alberta, September 2014. |
| 2012 | *Panel Organizer*, “Social Conditions of Aesthetic Judgment in Extreme Musics.” Crossroads for Cultural Studies conference, Paris, France, July 2012. |
| 2010 | *Moderator*, Society for Ricoeur Studies, Montreal, November 2010. |
| 2007 | *Organizer*, Guest Lecture, Jonathan Dueck, Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland, co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Intermedia Research Studio. |
| 2005-2006 | *SGSA Social Events Coordinator*, University of Alberta, Department of Sociology.  |
| 2005 | *Organizing Committee Member*, Space, Fear and the Subject of Violence Conference University of Alberta, Department of Sociology. |
| 2004-2005 | *GSA Representative for the SGSA*, University of Alberta, Department of Sociology |
| 2004 | *Committee Member*, Belaboring Derrida Conference, University of Alberta, Department of Sociology |
|  | *Member* of the Space and Culture Reading Group, Department of Sociology, University of Alberta |
|  | *Member* of several reading and writing groups at the University of Alberta |

##### Awards

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2014-2016Winter 2011Fall 20102009-2010Summer 2008Fall 2007Fall 2007Spring 2007Fall 2006Spring 20062005-20062004-2005 | Postdoctoral Fellowship with Canada Research Chair in Social Theory, Culture, and Law, University of Alberta, Department of SocioogyFaculty of Arts Graduate Student Travel AwardDepartment of Sociology Travel Award Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship Department of Sociology Research GrantDepartment of Sociology Travel AwardJ Gordin Kaplan Graduate Student Award Department of Sociology Travel Award Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Student Travel Grant Department of Sociology Travel Award Provost Doctoral Entrance Award (Renewal)  Provost Doctoral Entrance Award |

##### Membership in Academic Associations

Law and Society Association

Crossroads for Cultural Studies

Society for Ricoeur Studies

Western Canada Theoretical Psychology

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

Canadian Sociological Association

Canadian Society for the Study of Religion

Society for Ethnomusicology