Abel AUSSANT

PhD Candidate & Teaching Fellow in Sociology

+ CONTACT

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+ AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Sociology of culture; Social inequality; Digital sociology; Social stratification; Public policy evaluation; Sociology of youth; Quantitative sociology.

+ EDUCATION

January 2023 – present **PhD in Sociology, Sciences Po, Centre for Research on Social Inequalities (CRIS) & ENSAE, Center for Research in Economics and Statistics (CREST)**

Dissertation: "**La reproduction des inégalités culturelles à l'ère numérique. Enquêtes sur l'enfance et la jeunesse en France et en Norvège**" [The Reproduction of Cultural Inequalities in the Digital Age: Studies of Childhood and Youth in France and Norway], supervised by **Philippe Coulangeon** (CREST, CNRS) & **Samuel Coavoux** (University of Geneva). Defense expected in September 2027.

This work draws primarily on quantitative survey data, both from official statistics—the French Cultural Practices Survey (Enquête sur les pratiques culturelles des Français), 1973–2018—and from *ad hoc* quantitative surveys conducted as part of the dissertation, in France and Norway.

This PhD is funded by the French Court of Accounts (Cour des comptes). My research includes a public policy evaluation designed to measure the effects of the pass Culture, France's culture voucher for young people, on their cultural consumption.

2020 – 2022 **Master's in Quantitative Social Sciences (QESS), École normale supérieure – PSL & École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS)**

Second-year master's thesis, supervised by **Julien Duval** (CESSP), on the influence of music streaming platforms on musical tastes and listening practices. Statistical analysis based on the 2018 French Cultural Practices Survey.

2019 – 2020 **First year of Master's in Sociology, École des hautes études en sciences sociales**

2017 – 2019 **Bachelor's degree (Licence) in Sociology, Université Paris 8**

2015 – 2017 **Two-year technical degree (DUT) in Computer Science, Université de Nantes**

+ PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed journal articles:

2026 "**What Do Culture Vouchers Really Buy? Evidence from France's 'pass Culture' Policy Uses**", *Poetics*, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.poetic.2026.102124

2025 (with Samuel Coavoux) "**Streaming Platforms, Filter Bubbles, and Cultural Inequalities. How Online Services Increase Consumption Diversity**", *Sociological Science*, https://doi.org/10.15195/v12.a24

Working papers:

Submitted (with Andreas Roaldsnes) "**Unequal Parenting across Childhood: How Class Differences in Parental Control of Screen Use Reverse with the Child's Age**", preprint: https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/e7qv5_v2

In preparation "**Flux et programme, une double mise à distance : les conditions de possibilité sociotechniques d'une légitimation de la télévision**" [Flow and Program, a Double Distancing: The Sociotechnical Conditions of Possibility for the Legitimation of Television] (working draft available upon request)

Reports:
2024 (for the French Court of Accounts) "**Premier bilan du pass Culture**" [A First Assessment of the pass Culture], public report, https://www.ccomptes.fr/fr/publications/premier-bilan-du-pass-culture

+ CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"**Parenting practices in the digital age: An omitted interaction between children's age and social position**" (with Andreas Roaldsnes)

- British Sociological Association 75th Annual International Conference, Manchester, April 10, 2026.
- British Journal of Sociology Conference, London, April 23, 2026.

"**The Role of Financial Constraints in Cultural Consumption Inequalities: Evidence from France's 'Pass Culture' Policy Effects**"

- Political Studies Association 75th Annual International Conference, Birmingham, April 15, 2025.

"**Des nouvelles cultures de classe à l'ère numérique. La stratification sociale des technologies d'accès à l'audiovisuel chez les jeunes**" [New Class Cultures in the Digital Age: The Social Stratification of Audiovisual Access Technologies among Young People]

- CREST Socioday, Paris, May 22, 2024.
- CRIS Scientific Seminar, Paris, November 15, 2024.
- DEPS Seminar, French Ministry of Culture, Paris, January 23, 2025.

"**The effect of streaming platforms on the diversity of cultural consumptions**" (with Samuel Coavoux)

- 10th Congress of the French Sociological Association (AFS), RT 11 "Sociology of Consumption and Digital Technology" and RT 14 "Sociology of Arts and Culture", Lyon, July 7, 2023.
- European Sociological Association midterm meeting, RN5 Sociology of Consumption, Paris, August 28, 2023.
- European Consortium for Sociological Research General Annual Conference 2023, Prague, September 19, 2023.

"**Un désir de vérité hors champ. Sociologie d'une libido sciendi amateur**" [A Desire for Truth Outside the Field: A Sociology of Amateur Libido Sciendi]

- 10th AFS Congress, RT 29 "Science and Technology in Society", Lyon, July 5, 2023.

+ TEACHING

Since 2023, I have taught **368 TD-equivalent teaching hours** (the French unit of teaching load, counted in tutorial hours), distributed as follows:

2026 – 2027 **Sorbonne Université, Department of Sociology** – Temporary Teaching and Research Fellow (ATER), 192 TD-equivalent teaching hours

Year 1 BA	Sociological Tradition 2	Lectures	20 h
Year 1 BA	Sociological Tradition 1	Tutorials	20 h
Year 1 BA	Statistics 1	Lectures	13 h
Year 1 BA	Statistics 1	Tutorials	20 h
Year 3 BA	Statistics 3	Tutorials	2 × 26 h
Year 3 BA	Sociological Fieldwork 2	Tutorials	2 × 26 h

2025 – 2026 **Université Paris Cité, BA program in Social Sciences** – 48 TD-equivalent teaching hours

Year 3 BA	Quantitative Data Analysis 1 & 2	Tutorials	2 × 24 h

2023 – 2025 **ENS-PSL, Master's in Quantitative Social Sciences (QESS)** – 128 TD-equivalent teaching hours

Year 1 MA	Data Management with R	Lectures	2 × 22 h
Year 2 MA	Survey Design and Analysis	Tutorials	2 × 20 h

+ ACADEMIC SERVICE & OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

2023 – present **Board member, RT 14 “Sociology of Arts and Culture”, French Sociological Association (AFS)**

Participation in the scientific committee and organization of the sessions of the thematic network (RT) at the 2025 & 2027 AFS congresses. Participation in the review and selection of submissions for the 2024 joint RT 14 & RT 38 conference “La ‘transition écologique’ dans les arts et la culture” [The “Ecological Transition” in the Arts and Culture].

August 2025 **Reviewer for *Social Forces***

April 2025 – June 2025 **Visiting researcher, University of Bergen (UiB), Norway**

Participation in the design of a sample survey on the cultural practices of children in the Vestland region. A paper based on these data is in preparation. Visit funded by a **research grant from the Centre Universitaire de Norvège à Paris**.

2024 – 2025 **Admissions reviewer for the Master’s in Quantitative Social Sciences, ENS-PSL & EHESS**

+ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

October 2022 – December 2022 **Statistical analyst, Directorate for Evaluation, Forecasting and Performance (DEPP), French Ministry of National Education**

Within the Office for Statistical and Psychometric Studies on Student Assessments, I carried out statistical analyses based on longitudinal data, on topics related to trends in the achievement levels of primary school students.

April 2022 – August 2022 **Research assistant (intern), CREST**

Implementation of a causal identification strategy aimed at estimating the effect of streaming platforms on the formation of tastes in music and film.

July 2021 – October 2021 **Research assistant (intern), French National Library (BnF)**

Research conducted within the Delegation for Strategy and Research. Study of the amateur practice of science, based on qualitative fieldwork material (15 interviews conducted).

2016 – 2017 **Apprentice software developer, Eurofins Analytics, Nantes**

+ TECHNICAL SKILLS

Statistical methods **Questionnaire design, database construction and cleaning, descriptive analysis, regression models, geometric data analysis, causal identification.**

Qualitative methods **Design of sociological interview protocols, interviewing, computer-assisted text analysis.**

Programming **R, SQL, Java, Bash**

Advanced agentic development workflows (Claude Code, Google Antigravity)

Languages **French – native; English – C1 (fluent, written and spoken).**