

# Matt Bassett

[matt.bassett@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:matt.bassett@bristol.ac.uk)

[www.mattbassett.co.uk](http://www.mattbassett.co.uk)

Areas of expertise: digital sociology, gender and feminist theory, interpretive methodology, online research ethics, social media

## EDUCATION

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**PhD in Sociology, University of Bristol** (No corrections) Sep 2022 – Feb 2026

- Thesis: Gender Identification and First-person Authority on Digital Platforms.
- Supervisors: Professor Terrell Carver and Professor Susan Halford.

**MSc in Sociology, University of Bristol** (Distinction) Sep 2018 – Aug 2020

- Dissertation: Reconciling Gender Ambiguity with Cisgender Identities on Reddit.

**BA in Modern and Medieval Languages, University of Cambridge** (2.i) Oct 2011 – Jun 2015

- Dissertation: From Child to Adult and Beyond: Exploring Gender in Medieval French Literature.
- Focus on French and German, with extra papers in Catalan and Portuguese.

## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

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**Associate Fellow, Advance HE** May 2026

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Research Assistant, University of Bristol** Jun 2023 – Jul 2023

- Assisted Professor Jo Haynes with a quantitative data analysis project.
- Analysed data supplied by local music festival production company Team Love, who sought to understand the diversity of their workforce and how they might improve it.
- Discussed needs and priorities with the contact at Team Love.
- Cleaned and processed data generated through a Google Forms survey, importing to SPSS.
- Produced descriptive statistics and crosstabulations, represented with tables and charts.
- Co-wrote a 25-page report for Team Love to refer to in funding applications:  
**Bassett, M., Haynes, J. and Warner, P. (2023). *Team Love Workforce Survey 2023*.**

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Graduate Teacher, University of Bristol** Sep 2023 – Dec 2025

- Taught weekly first-year undergraduate discussion seminars on the following units:
  - Thinking Sociologically (introductory sociology unit)
  - Social Identities and Divisions (introductory sociology unit)
  - Key Social Thinkers (social theory unit)
  - Data Matters (research methods unit)
- Provided one-to-one student support and feedback in a weekly office hour.
- Marked essays, presentations and posters as both formative and summative assessments.
- Participated in CREATE scheme pedagogy workshops to develop my teaching practice and support my AFHEA application.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES IN PREPARATION

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Carver, T. and **Bassett, M.** Gender Trouble at the UK Supreme Court: Binaries, Biologies, Boundaries. Submitted to *Political Studies*.

**Bassett, M.** Authoritative and negotiative gender identification. Submitting to *Gender & Society*.

**Bassett, M.** Affordances and community regulation on Gender Wiki. Submitting to *Societies* special issue.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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June 2026. Shaping the politics of ‘cisgender’: Platform affordances and governance on Tumblr and X. *The Digital Conference*, King’s College London.

April 2026. Marking the unmarked: Shaping ‘cisgender’ on Tumblr and X. *British Journal of Sociology Conference*, London School of Economics.

April 2026. Theorising the content-flow cycle: Digital platforms, affordances and audiences. *British Sociological Association Conference*, University of Manchester.

April 2026. Understanding gender identity: Authoritative and negotiative gender identification. *British Sociological Association Conference*, University of Manchester.

October 2023. Gender identification as shaped by and through online contexts. *Faculty of Social Sciences and Law PGR Conference*, University of Bristol.

June 2023. Understanding gender identity through online social spaces. *Digital Media and Social Change in the 2020s PGR Conference*, University of Manchester [online].

## RESEARCH CULTURE

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**Panel Event: 35 Years of Gender Trouble** Nov 2025

SPAIS Sexualities Research Group, University of Bristol

- Organised, planned and chaired a panel discussion to celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Judith Butler’s *Gender Trouble* and reflect on the book’s legacy.
- Recruited panellists: Dr B Camminga, Professor Terrell Carver, Professor Rebecca Coleman, and Dr Rosie Ola-Marie.

**Research Seminar: Gender and Sexuality in Digital Spaces** Apr 2025

SPAIS Sexualities Research Group, University of Bristol

- Organised a seminar to showcase research on this theme by two PGR colleagues and me.

**SPAIS PGR Conference** May 2024

School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies, University of Bristol

- Co-organised the inaugural annual conference as a member of the organising committee.
- Advertised the conference, encouraged submissions, reviewed abstracts, designed panels.

## SKILLS

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Analysis software      NVivo, SPSS

Languages                English (native), French (fluent), German (proficient), Catalan (intermediate), Spanish (basic)