

SOCIOLOGY at CAROLINA

USC Sociology Department Newsletter Fall 2010

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

May 2010: Audrey C. Ball, Valerie A. Barton, Brandon Beacham, Kristen D. Belton, Dawn M. Berry, Ashley N. Blalock, Natalee Carroll, Ryan D. Corley, Edward M. Crosland Jr., Lydia Disabatino, Renee M. Dukes, Caitlyn M. Gallagher, Tess C. Justice, Yea Ri Lee, Carolyn Lindsay, Tinesha S. Moten, J. Andrew Nguyen, Julianne O'Donnell, Richard Patrick, Dilcia Rodriguez, Brianna L. Strunck, Lauren D. Thomas, Emily A. Torchia, Kathryn T. Woods, Kristen N. Woods, Tyler M. Couch, James Davidson IV, Rena Stallworth.

August 2010: Caroline M. Bedol, Kimberly L. Bracy, Vanessa H. Clark, Stephanie Dawes, Jacob T. Edwards, Leslie D. Hutson, Auntoinette S. Jenkins, Danny Ray Lucas, Angelica Meyers, Shanovia L. Owens, Christian J. Pace, Brandis R. Ross, Angela R. Teal.

The Department of Sociology wishes you Good Luck!

MAJORS OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Lydia Faith Disabatino and Caitlyn Marie Gallagher for being selected by the sociology faculty to receive the Outstanding Senior Major in Sociology Award (2009 – 2010) at the University's Awards Day Ceremony, April 15, 2010.

RISING SENIOR OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Caitlin Chewing for being selected by the sociology faculty to receive the Rising Senior Award (in Sociology) for 2010 – 2011 from the College of Arts and Sciences.

INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES?

Earn money by participating in studies in the sociology lab 205/206 on the second floor in Sloan. Most pay between 5 and 20 dollars. Volunteering in studies is a fun way to learn what goes on in sociological experiments.

To sign up, go to <http://lab.socy.sc.edu>. You will need to register in the system to sign up for studies. To register click on the "request an account" link in the bottom left corner. After providing your information, you will receive a confirmation email. Once you are in the system, you can sign up for available studies and monitor your class credits. Signing up does not obligate you to enroll in any studies. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at socylab@gmail.com.

WAY TO GO, SOCIOLOGY MAJORS!

We are very proud of our student athletes. We have six players on USC's National Champion Baseball Team: Robert Beary, Blake Cooper, Bobby Haney, Jose Mata, Adam Matthews and Matt Price! We have student athletes in many sports. Sociology is very proud of the athletic and academic achievements of our athletes.

GO GAMECOCKS!

SOCIOLOGY WELCOMES DR. NATHAN MARTIN

The Sociology Department welcomes new colleague Dr. Nathan Martin. Dr. Martin earned his PhD from Duke University in 2010. His research areas include economic sociology, education, globalization, inequality and stratification, labor and work, and sociological theory. His current projects include a study of achievement and inequality at elite, private universities and a cross-national examination of labor unions and global social change. Dr. Martin teaches courses on the sociology of education and educational inequalities.

NEW COURSES TO SOCIOLOGY Spring 2011

SOCY398D: Lady Gaga and the Sociology of The Fame

In the upcoming Spring semester, Professor Mathieu Defflem will teach a new course called "Lady Gaga and the Sociology of the Fame" (SOCY398D). The first of its kind, the course will rely on the sociology of popular culture to analyze sociologically relevant dimensions in the rise of Lady Gaga's popularity to her current status as a burgeoning pop music icon. Specific attention will be devoted to such issues as marketing, the entertainment media, live concerts, gay culture, religion and politics, sexuality, and New York. An overview of the course, including the required readings, assignments, and the course prerequisites, can be found online via the course webpage: www.gagacourse.net.

SOCY 102: Introduction to Macrosociology

The new course designation, Socy 102, officially recognizes and advertises the fact that *this* introductory sociology course, which will count towards Social Science, and Cultural Awareness "C" requirements, is broadly comparative, historical, and "macro" in focus. In so doing, it distinguishes it from Socy 101, which focuses more directly on contemporary societies and the forces and systems operating within them.

Although individual professors will undoubtedly bring their own unique approaches to this course, when taught by Professor Nolan this Spring, it will examine the major types of societies that humans have developed and lived in over the last 20,000 years, and will attempt to explain the emergence and development of a number of their most important features. Special attention will be paid to the causes and consequences of the increasing size and complexity of societies, and to the relationship between technological development, patterns of social organization, and various forms of social inequality in them (e.g., economic, political, sexual).

The second half of the course will examine the effects of the wide-reaching effects of Industrial Revolution, modern industrial societies (especially the United States), and thus will provide an important historical perspective on the current state of American society and its position and role in the modern global (world) system of societies.

THE FACULTY CORNER

Congratulations to Dr. Mathieu Deflem on his promotion to Full Professor!

The American Sociological Association recently awarded Dr. Shane Thye the 2008-09 Best Book Award and Honorable Mention for "*Social Commitments in a Depersonalized World*". Congratulations Dr. Thye.

Dr. David Willer will be on sabbatical this 2010 – 2011 academic year.

Our Faculty - Recent Publications

Dr. Mathieu Deflem – *The Policing of Terrorism: Organizational and Global Perspectives* (Routledge, 2010).

Dr. Lala Carr Steelman – "*Counted Out: Same-sex Relations and Americans' Definitions of Family*", co-authored with Brian Powell, Catherine Bolzendahl, and Claudia Geist (Russell Sage Foundation)

Dr. Shane Thye – "*Social Commitments in a Depersonalized World*", co-authored with Edward J. Lawler and Jeongkoo Yoon (Russell Sage Foundation)

Get Your Flu Shot

We encourage all of our students to get the seasonal flu shot as soon as possible. For more information on flu shot clinics and student health services please visit <http://www.sa.sc.edu/shs/>.

CAREER EXPLORATION: Not Just For Seniors!

Every semester, devote some time (perhaps one hour each week) to career exploration. Use the services of the Career Center; visit the American Sociological Association (www.asanet.org) homepage "Careers and Jobs" link; search the web to learn about careers; where possible, tie a course assignment to a potential career; phone interview people in careers that interest you and shadow them for part of a day; go to USC's Career Festivals to learn more about careers and employers; consider taking SOCY 399 (Independent Study in Sociology) and tie what you do in it to career interests; use volunteer activities and part-time jobs for learning about careers and developing career skills, and more!

Ask supervisors to write recommendation letters for you when you end a volunteer activity or part-time job. When you look for your first job, you'll have those recommendation letters to show to potential employers. But don't wait until you graduate to look for that first job! Start looking at least several months in advance, even the semester before you graduate.

Career Center

Check out the Career Center early in your career at Carolina. The Career Center can help you with career exploration, resume writing, job shadowing, job interviewing, placement, and more. The Career Center is on the 6th Floor of the Business Administration Building, 777-7280; www.sc.edu/career/. If you have career questions, go to www.sc.edu/career/cascdp and use the "Exploring Career Options" Section.

Website for Sociology Majors

Check out the American Sociological Association's website for students. Career and other information is available. Go to www.asanet.org/ and click on "students" or "Careers and Jobs"

Sociology Department Website

Checkout the revised website for your Sociology Department at Carolina: www.cas.sc.edu/SOCY/. Thanks to Professor Mathieu Deflem for his efforts.

**The entire Sociology faculty wishes all of you a successful end to the fall semester.
Have a great winter break!**