Dear Students:

To those of you returning, welcome back, and to our new students joining us, welcome to the fields of Sociology, Criminology and Dispute Resolution, all in one department at John Jay!

I hope your studies are going well this year. Our Sociology Department Newsletter highlights many of the activities and accomplishments of our students and faculty. We hope you enjoy reading it, and that it leads you to inquire, learn, and discover more about sociology, as well as other related areas of study. In the following pages you'll find interesting stories about our past and planned events, students and faculty, awards, ongoing research, and more.

Our second International Sociology Honor Society Induction Ceremony, will be held this April. Our Dept. Student-Faculty Town Hall was held in February, and ideas and advice were exchanged over pizza and snacks. We have two superb speakers this spring in our Sociology Talks Series, former NYS prosecutor Malcolm Bell and Professor Colleen Eren. Professor Jan Yager has continued to offer professional skills building workshops that are attracting an increasing number of students. Watch for future announcements so that you can sign up, as space is limited. We are also excited about hiring two new full-time faculty, Rochelle Arms and Liza Steele, who will be joining us next fall. The Department is also looking forward to our end-of-year Award Celebration, which honors our excellent adjunct faculty and students and will be held in May.

Again, welcome back, I wish you all the best for continued success in your studies, and to those of you who are graduating this year, CONGRATULATIONS!

Henry N. Pontell
Distinguished Professor
The Sociology Department of John Jay College has a distinguished faculty of internationally known scholars in sociology, criminology, dispute resolution, and related areas and offers outstanding academic programs and opportunities for learning, service, and research. The department’s wide array of foundational specialized, and interdisciplinary courses encourage students to develop a broad sociological understanding of the nature and structure of society and its institutions.

**Professor Crystal Jackson**

Professor Jackson used the Faculty Student Engagement fund to take ten students from SOC 243, Sociology of Sexualities, to lunch in the Faculty Dining Hall in Fall 2017.

She also gave three research talks over winter break based on survey data of "porn super-fans" who travel to Las Vegas each year, and her analyses were presented at the same event, The Adult Entertainment Expo. She also gave talks to colleagues at the University of California, Santa Barbara and the University of California, Los Angeles. Preliminary findings challenge stereotypes of male porn consumers as sexist and misogynistic by comparing their answers to national findings from the General Social Survey on gender egalitarianism.

**Professor Richard Lovely**

BSidesNYC 2018, a cyber security conference, was held at John Jay on January 20, 2018. The event was hosted by Professor Richard Lovely on behalf of John Jay’s Digital Forensics and Cyber security graduate program (D4CS). Professor Lovely, the co-founder of D4CS, opened the conference with remarks to set the stage and welcome visitors to the college. BSides is a loosely organized national web of volunteers who locally organize and run unique free cyber security conferences in cities around the U.S. as a counterpoint to expensive commercially run conferences. This was the second BSides NYC conference hosted by Professor Lovely and D4CS. A mix of over 600 cyber security professionals and graduate students attended who hailed mostly from the New York region. They enjoyed three venues of presentations in the New Building and some “village” workshops on topics such as lock-picking, soldering, and NYC Mesh community Wi-Fi. You can view streams of the BSides program and Professor Lovely’s opening remarks at https://bsidesnyc.org
Professor Maria Volpe

Training

For the last two summers, Maria Volpe has assumed a leadership role in a partnership with Mediators Beyond Borders International – New York Regional Group and the Union Of Liberian Associations (ULAA) in the Americas to provide conflict resolution skills to ULAA leaders in the NYC and nearby states. Participants gained knowledge and skills they aspired to use in their diaspora communities and in managing post-conflict divisions in Liberia.

Conflict Resolution and Mediation Workshop, Center for Employment Opportunities, Aug 2017


Grants and Awards

The New York State Council on Divorce Mediation awarded Professor Maria Volpe their Lifetime Achievement Award at its annual conference in May. She was recognized for her leadership in the mediation field.

In July, the NYS Office of Mental Health Anti-Stigma Fund awarded Maria Volpe and Dan Berstein of MH Mediate a grant to combat stigma towards mental health in both mainstream and social media. This project creates and disseminates a web-based toolkit that helps users have empowering conversations about mental health. This project furthers the work that Maria and Dan have been undertaking since last year that was funded by the AAA-ICDR Foundation.

Previous Presentations


Invited Presenter, Addressing Mediation’s Elusiveness. Annual Conference, Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution, Greenbelt, Maryland, June 16, 2017.

Invited Presenter, Constructive Approaches to Conflict Resolution, Supportive Housing of New York, NYC, June 1, 2017.


Conflict Resolution Workshop for Hip Hop Artists from Algeria, Brazil, Colombia, Croatia, Indonesia, and Tunisia, part of a US State Department cultural diplomacy program called Next Level hosted by the University of North Carolina’s Department of Music and the US Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, June 30, 2017.

Professor Rosemary Barberet

Professor Rosemary Barberet received the Saltzman Award for Contributions to Practice and the Sarah Hall Award for Service Contributions from the Division on Women and Crime at the American Society of Criminology Meetings in Philadelphia last November. The Saltzman Award recognizes criminologists whose research and work significantly contribute to the quality of justice and safety of women. The Sarah Hall Award recognizes scholarship and contributions to the Division on Women and Crime in addition to other professional interests in the field of feminist criminology.

Professor Diana Rodriguez-Spahia

The Sociology Department has been home to the Sage Journal, *Feminist Criminology* (The official journal of The Division on Women and Crime of the American Society of Criminology) for the past four years. Professor Rosemary Barberet (editor) and managing editor, Diana Rodriguez-Spahia celebrate the numerous milestones the journal has achieved under their term at their last editorial board meeting held at the American Society of Criminology. In the tradition of John Jay College of Criminal Justice, *Feminist Criminology* has taken an interdisciplinary and international approach to the understanding the nexus of women and crime.
Professor Robert Garot

Professor Garot attended a visual and filmic sociology conference in Paris in March, 2017 and presented a paper contrasting the experience of negotiating over content when creating film versus writing an ethnography. He showed two short documentaries there. He is also collaborating with colleagues in Europe on various projects and papers.

Inmates he works with at Sing Sing Prison invited him to speak at their annual Peace Day event in October, which commemorates the murder of a former inmate, and a yearly pledge since then of nonviolence. He talked about his work with youth in South Central Los Angeles in the 1990’s, many of whom were involved with gangs, and how they learned to walk away from fights and to avoid violence.

Professor Amy Adamczyk

Amy’s book, Cross-National Public Opinion about Homosexuality, received the 2018 ACJS International Section Outstanding Book Award. With her coauthor, Professor Amy Adamczyk was recently awarded the Best Paper Award for 2016 from the Journal of Management, Spirituality, and Religion.

See more of Professor Adamczyk’s publications on the 'RECENT FACULTY PUBLICATIONS' page in our newsletter.
Co-authored with John Jay undergraduates, Nicolle Ramirez, Brian Moriarty and Ivan Yeung, Professor Pontell gave a presentation at the November 2017 Meetings of the American Society of Criminology in Philadelphia entitled, “Predictable Corporate Crime Scandals? Poor Corporate Governance and Criminogenic Environments at Wells Fargo and Volkswagen.” He also served as a discussant at an Author Meets Critics Session on Greg Barak’s award-winning book, Unchecked Corporate Power: Why the Crimes of Multinational Corporations Are Routinized Away and What We Can Do About It (Routledge, 2017).

Last spring he gave an invited lecture to over 100 students and faculty at the Department of Sociology of the University of Macau entitled, “Casinos and Economic Crime: The Paradox of Enforcement.”

Casinos and Economic Crime: The Paradox of Enforcement

Henry Pontell
Distinguished Professor
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Date: 13th April 2017
Time: 11:30am—12:45pm
Venue: E21-G016

Abstract:

Notwithstanding the results of some empirical studies, casinos and gambling are widely considered to be breeding grounds for a range of deviant behavior and criminal offenses. The casino industry in Macau, by far the largest in the world, offers a unique opportunity to examine issues of economic crime. Using the literature on white-collar crime from criminology, and casino regulation from sociology, this presentation highlights major issues regarding the methods of control of the gambling industry and the paradoxes of enforcement that face the policing of white-collar and corporate crimes. The paradox arises from the central sociological insight by Skolnick (1978) that two positions need to be reconciled in the regulation of the casino industry. The first is that the criminal law be employed to enjoin conduct that some find pleasurable and some think repugnant. The second concerns the more generic question of the limits that ought to be employed to regulate different kinds of enterprises. Case studies are examined that illustrate both this central debate, and the resulting paradoxes that face enforcement of major economic crimes.

In her spare time, Professor Andrea Siegel curates an inner city art collection, where she's permanently installed over 600 works in thematic groupings throughout the 14 campus buildings of Hudson County Community College in Jersey City. Due to a massive influx of recent art donations (including our first Picasso), the collection now contains over 1000 works (the remaining 400 or so are slated for installation in the next few months). When Andrea started on the job—about the same time she started at John Jay—the collection included 25 installed works. If you'd like a tour, please let Andrea know. She's happy to show what can be done to turn an inner city college into an educational art museum, including a gallery of fine art about the African diaspora, art about Social Justice and Totalitarianism since 1945, contemporary Hispanic American art, Feminist Art, etc. Go to https://www.hccc.edu/foundationartcollection/ for more information.
“Kwan-Lamar Blount-Hill and Victor J. St. John are recipients of the 2017 American Society of Criminology’s Division of Critical Criminology and Social Justice Best Journal Article Award titled “Manufactured Mismatch: Cultural Incongruence and Black Experience in the Academy,” a qualitative exploration of the Black experience in Criminal Justice doctoral programs in the U.S. Blount-Hill and St. John utilize critical race theory to focus on the issues surrounding the underrepresentation of racial minorities in higher education, the barriers that contribute to this, and provide insights on how to ameliorate the situation.

Sociology Department Student Advising

The Department offers several options to students who have questions about criminology, sociology, or dispute resolution.

1. The Department of Sociology Advising website is home to major and minor worksheets for students, advising videos, and a Student Advising Guide with answers to most questions: www.jjay.cuny.edu/student-advisement-0

2. Students can email socadvising@jjay.cuny.edu with further questions.

3. Appointments with a faculty advisor can be made using AdvisorTrac https://jjcadvisortrac.jjay.cuny.edu


In 2017 the Sociology Department founded a chapter of The International Sociology Honor Society, Alpha Kappa Delta at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. To be Eligible to join, students must be an officially declared Sociology or Criminology major, be at least a junior, have a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or better, have maintained a 3.0 or better average across all SOC classes, and have completed at least 4 SOC courses at John Jay College.

### 2017 and 2018 Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society Inductees

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<tr>
<th>2017</th>
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<td>Shalena Ali</td>
<td>Carolina Acon</td>
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<td>Oluwatobi Adeleke</td>
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<td>Erika Coello</td>
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<td>Lisandra De Fraga</td>
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<td>Anjelica D’Emilio</td>
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<td>Ana De Melo</td>
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<td>Melissa Despot</td>
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<td>Michelle DiLiberto</td>
<td>Gavriella Arias</td>
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<td>Amanda Dookee-ram Katiria</td>
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<td>Denice Vidal</td>
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<td>Melinda Yam</td>
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The 2018 Ceremony Will be Held on Tuesday April 24, 2018
2017 Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees
This Ceremony recognizes the exceptional dedication and accomplishments in teaching and mentoring by our adjunct faculty. We honor the adjunct faculty whom the Sociology Department heavily relies on to teach our classes, and celebrate our students who have shown excellence in service and research.

2017 Sociology Department Student-Faculty Awards

Faculty Teaching Excellence Awards

◊ Eileen Clancy
◊ James Ditucci-Capppiello
◊ Marquita James
◊ Brian Maule
◊ Diana Rodriguez-Spajia
◊ Ritchie Savage

Faculty Mentoring Awards

◊ Brian Maule
◊ Jan Yager

Jock Young Award
For the best paper in critical criminology and/or social activism
◊ Ashante Joseph

Student Research Excellence Award

For exceptional research by current seniors majoring in criminology or sociology

◊ Melissa Despot
◊ Angela Mavrou
◊ Samantha Schenkel
◊ Diana Chacon

Sean Wheeler Award
To the outstanding student in criminology
◊ Elizabeth Luder

The 2018 Award Ceremony Will be Held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018
Sociology Talks and Workshops

Sylvie Frignon, Professor of Criminology and Social sciences at the University of Ottawa presented a symposium entitled “The Art of Doing Criminology.”

Paul Magin, Ph.D., University of Western Australia, presented “The Regulation of Commercial Sex in Northern Ireland.”

Professor Jan Yager hosted a student skills building workshop, “Put Time on Your Side.”
Get to Know Our Students

Mohammed Amid
My goal is to join the NYPD and to serve the public. I thank my sociology professors for sparking my appreciation for law enforcement. One of the biggest focal points in my Sociology 203 class was the importance of improving police practices and building relationships between civilians and the police and that law enforcement runs more smoothly when there is an established harmony with citizens. The class taught me that we can resolve and prevent many crime issues by tackling them from a "social perspective" and by working to improve societal conditions for society's most "at-risk" individuals in order to stifle crime at its roots. We must help those vulnerable in order to see positive results in the overall community. I agree, and will be taking this knowledge with me a few years from now when I join the police force and work to build this connection between the community and law enforcement.

Elisa Ironova
I had a really great experience in Sociology 101 with Professor Manoj. We learned about race, socialization, feminism, and hate crimes. He taught us so enthusiastically and with great patience. He made it very informative and interesting at the same time. We discussed a lot of topics relating to global social problems, including hate crimes, racism, white-collar crimes, resocialization, globalization and mass migration. I think sociology is a very important subject for understanding our world, as it examines relationships among people, communities, society, and nation-states. Even if you don't fully understand a language or culture, there are still a lot of ways sociology helps you to comprehend societies, norms, and different lifestyles!

Raymond Hilker
In SOC 341, International Criminology taught by Professor Patrick Mondaca, students study international crime problems and develop critical thinking about national and international anti-crime policies. One particular assignment called upon students to write a high-quality analytical research paper demonstrating a thorough understanding of a crime category. Raymond’s paper, which analyzed an aspect of international crime in the context of chemical weapons, considers both human and environmental impacts and examines past and present warfare, contemporary treaties, and ideas for a future without such weapons. As the assignment required, Raymond utilized a range of sources tracing the first recorded ancient use of chemical weapons from the Athenians siege of Kirrha in 600 BC where he recounts the poisoning of the city’s water supply with the herb hellebore, to WWI, WWII, up to the present conflict in Syria. Raymond’s paper was featured in a recent issue of John Jay’s Finest.
The Roger H. Davis Scholarship, the first LGBTQ endowed scholarship at John Jay, carries a $1000 per year award for LGBTQ research and/or activism, and is named in memory of Stonewall Inn Rebellion participant and activist, Roger H. Davis. It was created in the Sociology Department and funded by the Davis and Pontell families.
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