

2025 SOCIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LMU SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

SPRING 2025

UNH 4300

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER

SOCIOLOGY AT LMU.....	1
IN THE CLASSROOM	2-3
DEPARTMENT EVENTS.....	4-7
ALPHA KAPPA DELTA.....	8
STUDENT AWARDS.....	9
STUDENT GRADUATION HONORS.....	10
DEAN'S LIST.....	11
STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS.....	12
BEYOND THE CLASSROOM.....	13
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT.....	14-16
NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT.....	17-18
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT.....	19
FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS.....	20-21

Let us hear from you:
Newsletter Editor: Dr. Sylvia Zamora
sylvia.zamora@lmu.edu
Student Editor: Stephanie Pacheco

Learn more about the Department:
bellarmine.lmu.edu/sociology/

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Congratulations to the LMU Class of 2025 Sociology majors and minors!

You have persevered through many challenges during your educational journeys, and we are so proud of all that you've accomplished. It has been an honor to have you in our department, and we are excited to see where your path leads as you move forward from LMU.

This year has been a wonderfully successful and productive one for our department. Our faculty have collectively published six books and one peer-reviewed article, and we've been recognized with over \$86,000 in awards and grants. These achievements reflect the dedication, creativity, and collaborative spirit that make LMU Sociology such a vibrant community.

A big shoutout to the 22 new inductees of the Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society—your commitment to academic excellence is inspiring!

We also extend our heartfelt congratulations to our seniors who have been accepted into graduate programs, including LMU's School of Education and Law School, USC's School of Social Work, and Master of Urban Planning programs at UCI and USC. Please stay in touch and let us know about your next adventures—we look forward to celebrating your future successes. We know the world today can feel uncertain, but remember that you will always have a home here in sociology at LMU.

In other exciting news, we're thrilled to announce that the Sociology Department is growing! Dr. Christopher Hansen will be joining us as a new tenure-line faculty member. Dr. Hansen is a survey methodologist with special expertise in sexual and gender minority health and population research. He will be teaching SOCL 1000 Principles of Sociology in Fall 2025. We're also welcoming Dr. Rodolfo Lopez Moreno, whose research addresses climate change, social movements in South America, and sociological theory. Dr. Lopez Moreno will be teaching SOCL 3000 Sociological Theory and a new course on Sociology of Climate Change. These courses are currently listed as being taught by "Faculty." Please join us in welcoming them both to our community!

Finally, we extend our deepest gratitude to Richard Morris for his continued generosity in supporting the Loretta Morris Endowed Scholarship for sociology majors. Loretta Morris, who taught at LMU from 1975 to 2005 and was inducted into the LMU Faculty Hall of Fame in 2017, left a lasting legacy as a passionate educator and civil rights advocate. Her impact lives on through this scholarship, awarded to rising seniors who demonstrate academic excellence. Thank you, Richard, for helping future generations of sociology students thrive.

Once again, congratulations to the Class of 2025. We are so proud of you, and we can't wait to see all that you will achieve.



Warmest regards,

Rebecca Sager

Chair, Department of Sociology
Loyola Marymount University

SOCIOLOGY AT LMU

What is sociology?

Sociology is the study of the processes and structures that shape social life. Sociologists are interested in social interaction and relationships as well as groups and institutions. We use a variety of methods to investigate the social world, including conducting large surveys, interviewing individuals, examining texts and historical documents, and observing interactions between individuals and groups. Through these methods, sociologists provide critical insights about social reality and the human condition.

The sociology major at LMU serves as a foundation for a broad range of career paths and graduate and professional studies. Our graduates have gone on to careers in social work, community service, communications, project management, mental and public health, and corporate development, among others. The major also prepares students for graduate studies in law, social services, criminal justice, business, health sciences, social sciences, and the humanities.

Careers in sociology!

Discover Ideas of What You Can Do with a Sociology Degree Careers in the Public, Private and Nonprofit Sectors

Race, Class & Gender	Conformity, Deviance & Crime	Education & Religion	Groups, Networks & Organizations
Political Activist Speechwriter/Grant Writer Labor Union Head Civil Servant Vocational Counselor Environmental Public Policy Coordinator Development/Fundraising for Non-Profit Community Organizer Political Campaign Manager Executive Assistant	Housing Advocate Victim Services Advocate Substance Abuse Program Leader Probation Officer Corrections Supervisor Conflict Negotiator Crime Scene Technician Police Officer	Education Coordinator Student Life Administrator Admissions Coordinator Chaplain Teacher Director of Alumni Relations Clergy person Youth Development Specialist School Counselor	Chief Executive Officer Quality Assurance Manager IT Consultant Human Resources Manager Risk Analyst Office Manager Customer Service Representative Organizational Consultant Market Research Analyst DEIA Consultant
Methods & Data Analysis	Aging & The Life Course	Health & Society	Media & Culture
Pollster Data Scientist Ethnographer Behavioral Strategist Resource Planner & Data Analyst UX Researcher Workforce Planner Statistician	Long-Term Care Facility Activities Director Hospice Worker Geriatric Specialist Home Health Aide	Food Pantry Administrator Public Health Researcher Crisis Counselor Health Care Provider Hospital Administrator Epidemiologist Abuse/Addiction Counselor	Event Manager/Planner Sales & Marketing Coordinator Book or Magazine Editor Public Relations Specialist Marketing/Advertising Manager Copywriter Journalist Media Planner
Population, Urbanization & The Environment	Families & Intimate Relationships	Sociology	Law & Society
Demographer Transportation Researcher Urban Planner Immigration Specialist Policy Developer/Advisor	Child Welfare Worker Social Worker Guidance Counselor Marriage & Family Therapist	Sociologist Researcher Sociology Professor	Lawyer Paralegal Legal Assistant Fact Checker

IN THE CLASSROOM

SOCL 3160 - SOCIOLOGY OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILIES

With the support of Dr. Angela Parker who teaches the Domestic Violence class in the Sociology Department, Dr. Anna Muraco's Summer 2024 class partnered with the Jenesse Center for our engaged learning experience. Students in the class visited each of the Jenesse Center's community sites including emergency housing sites, the Emergency restraining order clinic in the Inglewood Courthouse, and the community outreach center in Leimert Park. For their final projects, students created informative social media posts for the Jenesse Center that integrated course materials, featured below.

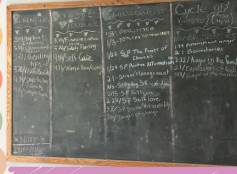
My biggest takeaway

Observing the complete and socially attentive approach the Jenesse Center took to addressing domestic violence was the biggest takeaway I had from my visits. Their full services include long-term support for victims, such as housing aid, job training, mental health services, and children's programs, as well as go beyond emergency crisis intervention. I was grateful to meet these wonderful team members that were the engine to the Jenesse Center, and it was super motivational to see how passionate they are to these victims' success in life. Seeing how every aspect of a victim's life are affected by domestic abuse and how important it is to have organizations that recognize and serve these diverse needs was amazing.

Dom Harris

JENESSE CENTER'S TRAUMA INFORMED CARE

- Family Wellness
- Youth Program
- Legal Services
- Permanent Housing
- Workforce Development Programs



Jenesse Center Home page. (2020, May 20). Jenesse Center. <https://jenesse.org/#who>

Hanna Visser

Jenesse's Work from a Sociological Perspective

As a student in a Sociology of Marriage and Families course, I was able to observe and expand my knowledge about domestic violence's impact on family dynamics and how Jenesse Center aims to provide resources and opportunities for its clients. In learning about the programs Jenesse provides survivors of domestic violence, we can see how this center and others like it become support systems necessary for survivors to get back on their feet.

One of the things that stuck out to me was the pandemic's role in the increase of domestic violence, as this is a new circumstance for everyone and has never been dealt with before.

Similar to the unconditional love often received from familial support systems, the Jenesse Center can serve the same purpose by accepting clients as they are in their current state and situation and providing them with resources and their freedom to accept or deny the help.

Covid 19 Impact

During the pandemic, there was a significant increase in the domestic violence rate in the United States. The pandemic made it more difficult for those experiencing domestic violence to escape their circumstances. Many social, economic, and political factors contributed to such struggles, suggesting greater nuance in our understanding of and approach towards domestic violence.

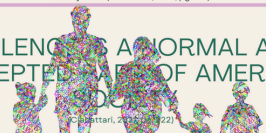
With the current rising cost of living and the global impact the pandemic has had and continues to have on our communities, the Jenesse Center and other DV centers' work is even more crucial to fill the gap that is family and its purpose as a social institution. (Ciabattari, 2021)

Sophia Simon

RISK FACTORS

Communities with High Poverty and Low Social Support, Societies that Condone Violence, Exhibit Gender and Income Inequality, and Have Weak Safety Nets. (Ciabattari, 2021, pg. 231)

Violence is a Normal and Accepted Part of American Society



Family Violence is Rooted in Patriarchal Ideas Represented in the Separate Spheres Ideology

"Violence is a PRIVATE Matter" (Ciabattari, 2021, pg. 222)

Social Conditions Shape the Risk and Experience of Violence:

Organization of Families
Idealization of the Family
Family Norms
Cultural Norms
Structural Inequalities

(Ciabattari, 2021, pg. 224)



IN THE CLASSROOM

SOCL 3230 -APPLIED COMMUNITY INTERNSHIP

The Applied Community Internship course taught by Clinical Assistant Professor, Dr. Nathan Sessoms, matches students as interns with community-based organizations in South Los Angeles. In the course, students learn about historical and contemporary South LA, while building upon their existing knowledge of social inequalities, urban community dynamics, and the various anti-racist strategies that partnering organizations employ to create more equitable conditions. Students intern with the organizations for 6-8 hours per week for several weeks during the semester. Additionally, students participate in a community tour of South LA and discuss many of the common challenges and opportunities associated with providing critical services and resources to community members and community institutions. This course is being taught again in the Fall of 2025.



While participating in the community tour, students visited and learned about the history, symbolism, and significance of the Watts Towers.

Leimert Park Village Vendors



Fighting Oligarchy Rally featuring Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (AOC) and Bernie Sanders

DEPARTMENT EVENTS

2024 & 2025

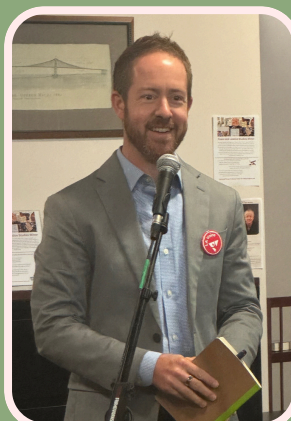
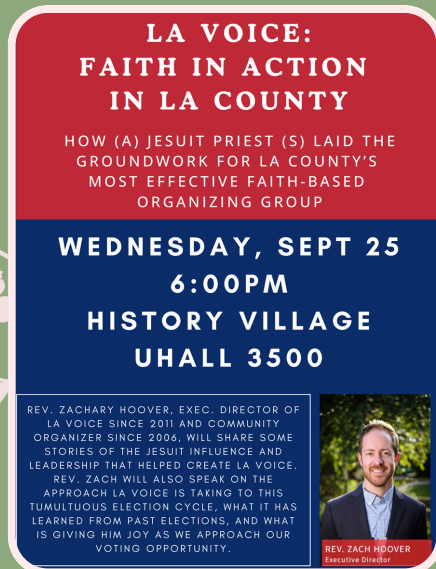
FALL WELCOME BACK EVENT



PIZZA, POLITICS, AND POSTCARDS



LA VOICE: FAITH IN ACTION



DEPARTMENT EVENTS


2024 & 2025

BLOOD, INK, AND PRAYERS

THE SOCIOLOGY AND THEOLOGICAL STUDIES DEPARTMENTS PRESENT

BLOOD, INK AND PRAYERS

TATTOOS ARE RELIGIOUS PRACTICES...




Are tattoos legitimate religious practices? Are they real religion? For many, among Gen Z but also in the past, tattoos have been a way to connect with the supernatural. In this talk, we will explore the connections between tattoos and religion, their conflictive story and their thriving present: tattoos help us to better understand our religious world.

Speaker
Gustavo Morello, SJ, Casassa Chair of Social Values Lecturer & Professor of Sociology at Boston College

Wednesday, Oct. 9
6 p.m. | Reception
7 p.m. | Lecture
Ahmanson Auditorium (UH 1000)

LMU
Bellerme College of Liberal Arts


POST ELECTION CONVERSATION



SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT POST ELECTION CONVERSATION (with pizza!)

Sociology students, we invite you to gather in community with other sociology students and faculty to discuss the recent election results

Friday, November 15
1-2:30 pm in SOCL Village (4th Floor UHALL)



SOCIOLOGY ALUMNI TALK

SOCIOLOGY ALUMNI TALK

FEATURING:
JUDITH CHAVEZ- CARDENAS & TAYLOR BREWER

MONDAY, NOV 18
2:30-4:30
UHALL 4304
ALL STUDENTS WELCOME

Judith Chavez- Cardenas is an Officer of Learning and Advancement at Rising Communities in LA. She majored in Sociology and Spanish and minored in Peace and Justice Studies. At LMU, Judith was a McNair Scholar and worked as a BCCLA Peer Leader.

Taylor Brewer is an attorney at the California Women's Law Center in El Segundo. She majored in Sociology and minored in Theological Studies at LMU. After graduation, she earned her law degree at University of San Diego.



SPRING WELCOME BACK EVENT



Join us for the Sociology Department's Spring Welcome Event

Chat with faculty and classmates!

Tuesday, February 4th, 2025
5:30-7:00pm
Sociology Village - University Hall 4300

Pizzas, Salads, Drinks, Fun!

Sociology majors, minors, and students interested in sociology, please attend! First-year and transfer students, come meet new friends & connect with faculty—your chance to expand your network starts here!

DEPARTMENT EVENTS

2024 & 2025

THERAPIST ALUMNI CAREER PANEL

So, You Want to be a ...Therapist?

LMU Sociology alumni discuss their pathway to becoming a mental health therapist

Tuesday, February 18th, 2025

6-7:30 pm

University Hall 4300 (Sociology Village)

Everyone is welcome!

Pizza and drinks will be provided!



FEDERAL BUDGET DISCUSSION

March 18, 2025
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM
University Hall Executive Conference Center (ECC) 1857
Food and drinks will be provided!

Join Us for a Discussion on the Federal Budget: Making Sense of DEBT, Government Spending Freezes, and Job Cuts

FEATURING

- Sarah Adeyinka-Skold**
Assistant Professor of Sociology
Addressing the impacts on national social services.
- Clare Beer**
Assistant Professor of Urban and Environmental Studies
Addressing the impacts on environmental policy and public lands.
- Rachel Washburn**
Professor of Sociology and Director of Health and Society
Addressing the impacts on human health in the U.S. and abroad.
- Richard Fox**
Dean of Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts
Addressing the impacts on higher education.
- Rebecca Sager (Discussant)**
Professor and Chair of Sociology



CO-SPONSOR FOR GUEST SPEAKER

Global Policy Institute
Co-Sponsored by:
International Relations and Sociology Departments

JOIN US WITH:
RICH BENJAMIN

Join Rich Benjamin as he uncovers his family's untold history - one shaped by political upheaval, migration, and resilience. His mother fled Haiti as a child after a U.S.-backed coup toppled her father, a champion of the Black working class. But in America, silence replaced the past. In Talk to Me, Rich Benjamin delves into his family's turbulent history.

01 APRIL, 2025
12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.
POLITICAL SCIENCE VILLAGE HALL

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

<https://bellarmine.lmu.edu/gpi/>


DEPARTMENT EVENTS

2024 & 2025

SOCIAL WORKER ALUMNI CAREER PANEL

So, you want to be a Social Worker?

Join us! Dr. Sarah Adeyinka-Skold will join LMU Sociology alumni to reflect on their paths to becoming social workers.



Tuesday, April 22, 2025
6:00 - 7:30pm
St. Robert's Hall - Room 239
Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83132845353>
All interested students are welcome!


LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI CAREER PANEL

SO, YOU WANT TO GO TO LAW SCHOOL?

ALUMNI PANEL DISCUSS THEIR JOURNEY FROM LMU SOCIOLOGY TO LAW SCHOOL AND BEYOND.

FEATURING: ANDREW KUNKA, J.D. ('08), NINA MARZAI, J.D. CANDIDATE UC COLLEGE OF THE LAW, SAN FRANCISCO ('21)

ALL INTERESTED STUDENTS ARE WELCOME!



MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1:45-3:15PM VIA ZOOM:
[HTTPS://LMULA.ZOOM.US/J/83132845353](https://lmula.zoom.us/j/83132845353)

END OF YEAR GATHERING

LET'S CELEBRATE!

SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT'S YEAR-END FACULTY AND STUDENT GATHERING

MAY 2, 2025
12:30 - 2:00 PM
UNIVERSITY HALL SKYWAY, 3RD FLOOR (BESIDE MARYMOUNT INSTITUTE)
FOOD AND DRINKS ARE PROVIDED!



ALPHA KAPPA DELTA



INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGY HONORS SOCIETY

The Department of Sociology has an active chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Sociological Honor Society, which was founded in 1920. Its stated purpose is to promote interest in the study of sociology, research of social problems, and other social and intellectual activities leading to the improvement of the human condition.

Each spring the department recognizes those students who meet the academic requirements for membership in Alpha Kappa Delta. The ceremony is a special recognition of the dedication & accomplishments of our students and the support of their families.



2025 INDUCTEES

Natalie Bazik
Riley Broughton
Destiny Bushman Reyes
Isabella Castro
Cassandra Efole
Michelle Feda
Andrea Felix

Emma Ferreyra
Sarah Gutknecht
Riley Johnston
Reed Jones
Yasmin Kim
Elizabeth Lindahl
Amelia Rodrigues
Charlotte Saunders

Ruby Song
Alexia Southern
Garnik Sudzhyan
Ava Toone
Cheyenne Wahlheim
Katherine Wastila
Isabella Wiswall

2025 STUDENT AWARDS

BEST STUDENT PAPER

Each year, the Best Student Paper is awarded to one of the papers accepted to be published in the Sociological Eye. The student author of the Best Paper award will receive a check prize of \$100 and a plaque honoring their work. We look forward to receiving future submissions for the 2026 edition of the Sociological Eye!

Best Paper Award

Congratulations, Hannah Robins!

“The Intersectionality of Sex Trafficking, Law Enforcement, and Legislation: Where Are We Today and Where Do We Need to Go?”



Honorable Mention

Congratulations, Amelia Rodrigues!

“Fraternity Culture: A Literature Review and Research Proposal”



STUDENT PARTICIPATION AWARD

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Congratulations, Lauryn Pettus!



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HIGHEST MAJOR AND OVERALL GPA

Congratulations, Elisabeth
Annette Gothelf!



STUDENT GRADUATION HONORS

Summa Cum Laude

Aliza Davis
Elisabeth Gothelf
Maya Kramon
Lauren Swenson-
Lennox
Alexa Vidal

Magna Cum Laude

Ruth Arino Ruiz
Natalie Bazik
Riley Broughton
Nicole Dritsas
Michelle Feda
Alexa Gomez
Chaiya Jeffries
Sophia Meyers
Jessica Nial
Hannah Robins
Marley Stark-Moniz

Cum Laude

Victoria Bartels
Gabriella Benjamin
Xochilt Bushman Reyes
Andrea Felix
Riley Johnston
Reed Jones
Charlotte Saunders
Gianna Segura
Nate Shippey
Alexia Southern
Isabella Wiswall

LORETTA MORRIS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

The Loretta Morris Scholarship is the first and only endowed scholarship specifically for sociology students. Each academic year, the faculty of the Department of Sociology selects a sociology major, based on academic merit, as the recipient. If necessary, the department also may consider financial need and community service activity.



CONGRATULATIONS,
BRODY TOMLINSON!

ALPHA SIGMA NU



Alpha Sigma Nu honors students of Jesuit colleges and universities who distinguish themselves in scholarship, loyalty, and service. Candidates must rank in the top fifteen percent of their class. All must meet qualifications of service and loyalty to the Jesuit ideals of higher education.

CONGRATULATIONS,
LEO MALDONADO AND
CHEYENNE WAHLHEIM!

DEAN'S LIST

F
R
E
S
H
M
E
N

Ava Arriaga
Daylin Diaz
Morgan Gaede
Adia Jackson

Emma Kiralla
Alan Procuna-Mujica
Elle Rodriguez
Paige Tagliaferri

Michelle Balasu
Mason Fowler
Sasha Gold-Moritz
Aniyah Green
Mya Gutierrez
Mikaela Hammer-Longosz

Morgan Keating
Anaya Loving
Yalda Navab
Zahir Pineda
Jovan Ristic
Tanon Rosenthal
Brooke Rosten

Aubrey Sanders
Allegría Sandino
Tyler Tanga
Ayanna Vandewalle
Ruby Wall
Sophie Yih

S
O
P
H
O
M
O
R
E
S

J
U
N
I
O
R
S

Isabella Abalos
Blake Asilzadeh
Tiffany Chang
Rio Donovan
Symone Douglas-Holmes
Emma Ferreyra

Adrien Gameiro
Ella Jackson
Isabelle Jamgotchian
Nora Krikorian
Sydney Lee
Elizabeth Lindahl
Ansley McKechnie
Eden Mehrotra

Jonas Ohayon
Stephanie Pacheco
Ruby Song
Erika Valenica
Cheyenne Wahlheim
Tanner Warady
Katherine Wastila

Yara Alireza
Beau Ankeney
Niko Avetisian
Victoria Bartels
Natalie Bazik
Gabriella Benjamin
Pearl Boyette
Riley Broughton
Destiny Bushman-Reyes
Lewis Clutton
Aliza Davis
Cassandra Efole

Andrea Felix
Clement Finney
Carly Heidger
Riley Johnston
Bryce Kim
Leo Maldonado
Sophia Meyers
Eliza Montgomery
Scott Morales
Jessica Nial
Arthur Craig Pantino

Koroush Parsa
Lauryn Pettus
Hannah Robins
Alexis Rodriguez
Charlotte Saunders
Gianna Segura
Nate Shippey
Alexia Southern
Garnik Sudzhyan
Lauren Swenson-Lennox
Alexa Vidal
Liam Walker

S
E
N
I
O
R
S

STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Last summer, **Pauline Luedorf** ('26) worked as a High Noon Sales Summer Merchandisers with the GALLO Republic National Distributing Company (RNDC) High Noon Street Team. The internship offered them hands on industry experience, the chance to develop valuable professional skills, and the opportunity to collaborate with a dynamic team.



Elisabeth Annette Gothelf ('25) won 5 awards at the Student Academic Service Leadership Awards (SASLA)

- University Scholar of the Year
- Presidential Citation
- College and School Scholar [College of Communication and Fine Arts]
- Program Scholar [Sociology]
- Program Scholar [Theatre Arts]



Matilda Beltz ('23) was accepted into LMU's School of Education!



Alexia Southern ('25) was accepted into LMU's Law School!



Chaiya Jeffries ('25) was accepted into USC's Masters in Social Work Program and King's College London Intelligence and International Security MA Program!



Tessa Matson ('25) was accepted into Johns Hopkins University's Master Program of Strategy, Cybersecurity, and Intelligence!



Nicole Dritsas ('25) was accepted into UCI and USC's Masters of Urban Planning!

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

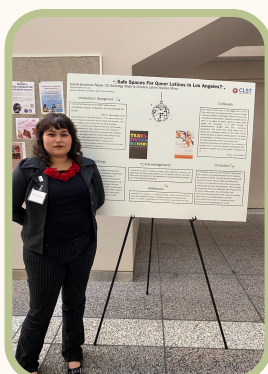
The annual Undergraduate Research Symposium is a chance for undergraduate students to present what they have learned through their research experiences to a larger audience. The

Undergraduate Research Symposium provides an excellent opportunity for all members of the LMU community to actively engage with students who have been immersed in thought-provoking questions and challenging global issues. The Symposium includes an art showcase, poster sessions, and presentation sessions by students from all academic disciplines.



Hannah Robins: "The Intersectionality of Sex Trafficking, Law Enforcement, and Legislation: Where Are We Today and Where Do We Need To Go?"

Destiny Xochilt Bushman Reyes: "The Preservation of Space and Place"



Andrea Felix (third from right): "Dolores Mission Engaged Learning from THEO 3232 [US Latinx Theology Class]"

Isabella Castro: "The Role of Self-Compassion Moderating the Relationship between Rumination and Anxiety"



Morgan Keating: "Validating the 'T' in LGBTQ: How Our Labor Markets and Economic Institutions Can Better Support Transgender Employees"

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



The Pacific Sociological Association's 96th Annual Conference was held in San Francisco, California on March 27-30, 2025.

PACIFIC SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

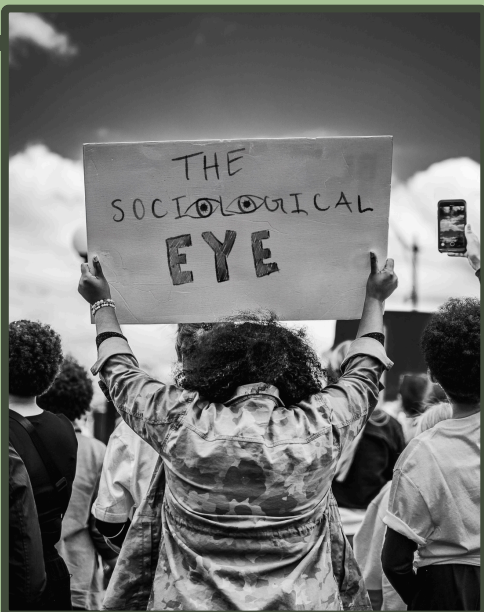
These LMU Sociology students were invited to present their research at the 2025 Pacific Sociological Association conference.

- Kathryn Parmenter - "Nepalese Agriculture and Its Effect on Ecological and Cultural Sociology"
- Carla Worrell - "The Study of Murder"
- Adia Jackson - "Gender Roles in Romcoms"

THE SOCIOLOGY SOCIETY

The Sociology Society is a student group composed of sociology majors and minors that sponsor regular gatherings for LMU students. The Sociology Society is open to all sociology majors and minors and typically hosts several events per year, including a Welcome Back event and Career Night, an annual event for sociology students to hear from a panel of recent alumni about their experiences after graduation.

If you would like more information about the Sociology Society and its events, please contact Dr. Nate Sessoms at nathan.sessoms@lmu.edu.



Student Editor: Aliza Davis
Faculty Editors: Dr. Stacy Burns
Design and Layout: Aliza Davis

THE SOCIOLOGICAL EYE STUDENT JOURNAL

The Sociological Eye is an academic journal, published by the Sociology Department, focusing on the scholarly work produced by LMU undergraduates. Any paper or research is eligible for consideration of inclusion in the journal, so long as the subject matter is sociological in nature.

In addition to being an exciting opportunity to publish your research and academic work, the "Best Student Paper" award recipient will be selected from the papers accepted for publication. The recipient of this award will receive a check prize of \$100 and a plaque at the spring Alpha Kappa Delta induction ceremony in April.

For more details, please email the faculty advisor for the journal, Dr. Stacy Burns at stacy.burns@lmu.edu.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



MEGAN MINGO '24

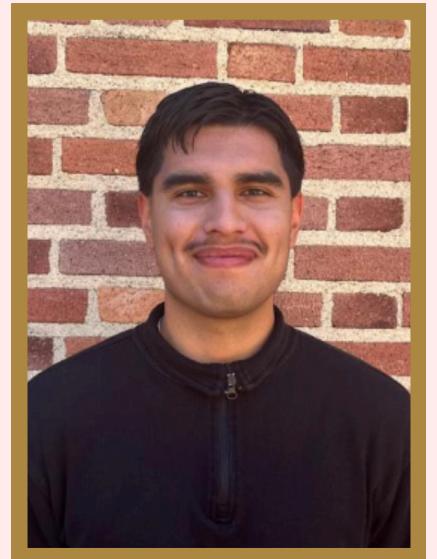
Megan Mingo graduated from LMU's Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and African American Studies. Throughout her time at LMU, Megan engaged in several internship opportunities with organizations such as Women in Government Foundation, Daley Strategies and Brothers in Law Inc. Since graduating in Spring 2024, Megan has served as a Law Clerk and Advocate at A2Z Educational Advocates, a law firm that supports families of children with disabilities. Megan is committed to exploring the intersection of education and law, and hopes to continue to advocate for students' rights as she pursues her legal education.



LEONARDO DOMINGUEZ ORTEGA '23

Leo Dominguez Ortega graduated from LMU in 2023 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Psychology. As an undergrad, he engaged in psychological research focused on understanding health disparities in minority youth and the transition to parenthood at LMU and USC, respectively. He was also involved with First To Go, RESILIENCE at LMU, and was a founding member of BoundlessLMU.

He currently works as a research coordinator at the UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART) and continues to engage in research at USC. In the Fall, Leo will begin graduate school as a PhD student at USC's Clinical Science Program whilst researching how family structures affect the development and treatment of anxiety, depression, and irritability in youth. His goal is to obtain a faculty position at a research university and become a licensed clinical psychologist. Outside of research, Leo enjoys watching movies, going on walks and runs, and watching sports.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



KB Perry, MHA, is a dedicated public health professional with extensive experience in emergency preparedness and response, program management, and political campaigns.

KB's career in public health emergency preparedness and response was inspired by her LMU Alternative Break service trip to New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

KB PERRY '09

Throughout her career, KB has held key roles with organizations such as International Medical Corps, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Maricopa County Department of Public Health, and the Gila River Indian Community, where she managed complex emergency response operations, developed health policy, and coordinated services for underserved populations. As Executive Director of the Tribal Healthcare Coalition, she brought together stakeholders across Arizona to build healthcare resilience and strengthen regional collaboration.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, KB supported regional operations that resulted in the successful vaccination of millions of people against COVID-19. KB has also held critical leadership roles on preparedness and response efforts ranging from infectious disease outbreaks to natural disasters. Her passion for social justice also led her to political organizing, where she has served on two presidential campaigns.

KB holds a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration (MHA) from California State University, Long Beach; a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with a minor in Chicano/a Studies from Loyola Marymount University. She also attended the Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical Programs at the University of Southern California and University of California, Los Angeles. While at LMU, KB was the Co-President of the Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) and Vice President of Interculturalism of ASLMU. During her tenure, KB fought to establish the LGBTQ Student Affairs office as well as organized the local No on Prop 8 Campaign, California's same-sex marriage ban. KB now resides in her home town of Phoenix, Arizona with wife and their three fur babies.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: CHAT UPDATE

Could you please provide an update on your recent activities (featured in Spring 2021 newsletter)?

I've become a research fellow at the UCSF Osher Center for Integrative Health. In addition to mentorship for my dissertation, teaching opportunities, and general professional development, I'm also on a mixed-methods applied research study that explores and evaluates integrative group medical visits and group acupuncture for people living with chronic pain with English and Spanish speaking cohorts. I produced my first evening-length immersive interdisciplinary production called "rosewater sundaze" that used my dance, music, film, research, herbalism, and social organizing skills. My family and I went to Barcelona for the World Parkinson's Congress, where my dad and I performed with an intergenerational dance company for people with Parkinson's Disease and we also presented a poster about our "Daddy Matters" dance, class series, and exhibition. I began dancing for a feminist aerial dance company called Flyaway productions and have toured with them nationally.



JHIA JACKSON '12

Could you please share a brief summary of your PhD dissertation?

My dissertation is an interpretive phenomenological study exploring healthcare decision-making for adolescents and young adults living with non-cancer serious illnesses while in pediatric palliative and/or hospice care. I am interviewing patients and providers, collecting observations at conferences and lectures, doing content analysis, and developing a "kinesthetic analysis" that integrates contemporary dance techniques for a more embodied approach.

What current research or important projects are you working on?

I'm co-author on a research article that just came out that reflects the telehealth version of the current study I'm on. That study (also described above) is on an integrative pain management program and we are currently in year 1 of the 3 year study. Since I joined, we have been using flexible coding and thematic analysis which has been fun and challenging. I just performed with Flyaway in *If I Give You My Sorrows*, which explores the experiences of currently and formerly incarcerated women and the video of it is on view at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco through June as part of an immersive art exhibit. I'll be performing excerpts from that work this spring and we will begin rehearsing a new piece in the summer. I'm presenting at the California Arts and Culture Summit in April.

What are your plans after completing your PhD?

Vacation! Otherwise, I hope to keep doing what I'm doing. Applied research, interdisciplinary art, teaching, writing...I'm really happy with my current professional life and I basically just want more.

NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

WELCOME, DR. CHRISTOPHER HANSEN!



Dr. Christopher Hansen (he/him) is thrilled to be joining the Department of Sociology at LMU! As a sociologist, Dr. Hansen uses quantitative survey methods to advance the health and well-being of sexual and gender minority (SGM) and other historically marginalized groups. His research focuses on sexual orientation and gender identity measurement in the context of SGM and general population survey studies. He is particularly interested in how SGM status intersects with other systems of stratification, including age and race/ethnicity. Dr. Hansen's current projects explore the measurement of gender expression in surveys of youth, strategies to improve the health of people aging with HIV, and the contributions of W.E.B. Du Bois to U.S. survey science.

Dr. Hansen earned his Ph.D. in sociology from Loyola University Chicago and was most recently a Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Illinois Chicago. He has longstanding ties with NORC at the University of Chicago, a social science research firm, where he has had the opportunity to collaborate on projects funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Health Resources Services Administration, and National Institutes of Health. Teaching is one of Dr. Hansen's most singular passions, and he is excited to engage LMU students on the use of sociological theory and method to answer their questions about the social world.

FUN FACTS

- He is originally from Arlington, Virginia, but has lived in Chicago, Illinois, for the last 13 years.
- He has family ties to Los Angeles; his dad grew up in Westchester about a block from LMU campus.
- He has six nieces and nephews ranging in ages from one to ten years old.



NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

WELCOME, DR. RODOLFO LOPEZ MORENO!



Rodolfo Lopez Moreno earned his Ph.D in sociology from the University of California, Irvine and was a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Southern California and a postdoctoral researcher at the Center for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies in Chile. Using a mixed-methods approach, his research examines the interaction between social movements and the state. Specifically, he analyzes how social movement activists and leaders navigate Congress and employ strategies to influence legislative and constitutional outcomes in Latin America.

FUN FACTS

- Although he's a dog person, he recently adopted a cat and decided to train her as he would a dog. She now sits, plays fetch, sits pretty, and even gives fist bumps. He's quite proud of what she can do!
- He picked up origami as a hobby for when he needs a distraction. It takes longer than expected, but he enjoys creating the same object using different folding patterns.
- He loves cooking and baking and is always on the lookout for new recipes to try—though some first attempts don't always turn out as expected.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



As the inaugural Director of Leadership and Professional Development at LMU's Center for Faculty Development, it has been a privilege to collaborate with faculty across the university to build meaningful leadership programming and foster a strong sense of community. Over the past year, I launched the ILead leadership series, a space for reflection, skill-building, and connection among current and emerging campus leaders. In this role, I developed and implemented new initiatives focused on three key areas: Leadership Development, Strategic Planning, and Trust Building.

DR. REBECCA SAGER

Based on these areas, I created a series of eight workshops designed to strengthen shared governance, support strategic planning within departments and among chairs, and offer informational sessions on leadership advancement. As I prepare to step down from this role at the end of July, I do so with immense gratitude for the energy, insight, and openness that so many of you brought to these programs. It has been an engaging and rewarding year, and I am proud of what we've accomplished together in support of faculty leadership at LMU. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this role—I look forward to seeing how this important work continues to grow and evolve in the years ahead.

Professor Anna Muraco joined the LMU Sociology Department in 2007. Recently, she has taught qualitative research methods and sociology seminar classes, but also teaches classes related to sociology of families during the summer session. In addition to her work in the sociology department as Department Chair (2014-17, 2020-23) and co-organizer of the Sociology Society, she has been a BCLA Advising Specialist (also known as a "Super Advisor") since 2023. Like all faculty advisors, Advising Specialists advise majors in their department about possible courses to take in the major and discuss possible professional interests. However, Advising Specialists also work with undeclared BCLA students in



DR. ANNA MURACO

choosing classes and exploring possible majors. Other responsibilities of Advising Specialists are to answer Faculty Advisors' questions, help them problem-solve during Summer New Student Registration, conduct workshops with incoming LMU students during New Student Orientation. Beyond her work in the sociology department and BCLA, Dr. Muraco is working on three research projects. With students in her 2024 qualitative research methods class, she initiated an interview study and collected data. After, Dr. Muraco employed sociology majors Eli Everts and Ruth Arino Ruiz as RAINS Research Assistants to continue working on the project. She is also working on a book manuscript about LGBT older adults, which was the first grant funded by the National Institute on Aging about LGBT older adults. Sociology major Xochilt Bushman Reyes was a RAINS assistant on that project this year. Finally, she has a collaborative project about older Latino immigrants in LA with Professor Sylvia Zamora. When she's not working, she's probably driving on the 405, walking her dog, Rocky, or hanging out with her partner, Adrian, and step-kids, Noah (15) and Ellie (12).

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



PUBLICATIONS

Adeyinka-Skold, Sarah and Austin Colby Guy Lee. 2024. "Navigating Romance: The Enduring Challenges of Black College-Educated Women." Forthcoming in S. L. Blair & Z. Mu (Eds.), *The Retreat from Marriage and Parenthood. Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research*, pp. 229-258). Emerald Publishing.

Adeyinka-Skold, Sarah and Celeste Curington. 2024. "The Search for Interracial Love Online: Black Women's Experiences." Forthcoming in *Routledge International Handbook of Interracial Relationships and Mental Health*.

Burns, Stacy. 2024. "Michael Lynch's Law and Science Studies: A Context and Foundation for Understanding Ethnomethodology," *20 Ethnographic Studies*: 13-32 (Lead article).

Limoncelli, Stephanie A. 2024. "Business as Usual: Framing Labor Exploitation in the UN Global Compact." *Globalizations* <https://doi.org/10.1080/14747731.2024.2407207>

Vezaldenos, Victoria, David R. Schaefer, Deborah Rivas-Drake, Adriana J. Umaña-Taylor, Sara I. Villalta, and Bernardette J. Pinetta. 2025. "Predictors of Biracial Adolescent Ethnic-Racial Identity Salience." *Journal of Research on Adolescence* (forthcoming).

Schaefer, David R., Sara I. Villalta, Victoria Vezaldenos, and Adriana Umaña-Taylor. 2024. "Some Birds Have Mixed Feathers: Bringing the Multiracial Population into the Study of Race Homophily." *Sociological Science* 11(38):1046-1083.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

Limoncelli, Stephanie A. 2024. Research and Writing Grant (\$7,500). Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts, LMU.

Sager, Rebecca. Lynn Scarboro Cabinet Associate, Spring 2024 to Fall 2025.

Sager, Rebecca. 2025 Iggy Award- Dr. Michael Mulvihill Difference Maker Award.

BOOK REVIEWS

Adeyinka-Skold, Sarah. 2024. Review of *Grandmothering While Black: A Twenty-First Century Story of Love, Coercion, and Survival* by LaShawnDa L. Pittman. *American Journal of Sociology*, 130(3).

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Muraco, Anna, 2024. "LGBT Older Adults and their Aging Bodies." American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada.

Villalta, Sara I. 2024. "Above and Beyond Racial Homophily: How Overlooked Skin Color Stratification Masks Racial Segregation in Adolescent Friendship Networks," paper presented at Annual Meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management, National Harbor, Maryland.

Villalta, Sara I. 2024. "Interracial Dating Among Adolescents: Correlates and Impacts on Relationship Quality," invited talk at the Center for Research on Child and Family Wellbeing at Princeton University.

Rebecca Sager and Jonathan Coley. 2024. "Local-level Religion-State Relations on the Eve of the 2024 U.S. Presidential Election." Remarks to Eighth Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture. Indianapolis, IN (with honorarium). Published in Proceedings of the Eighth Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture.

Washburn, Rachel. July 2024. "Signal Quality: Racial Bias in Pulse Oximetry," Society for Social Studies of Science, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

PROFESSIONAL & ACADEMIC SERVICE

Muraco, Anna. 2024. Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award Selection Committee, Section on Aging and the Life Course, American Sociological Association.

Sager, Rebecca, Director of Professional and Leadership Development, Center for Faculty Development. Fall 2024 to present.

Zamora, Sylvia. LMU Grievance Committee, Elected Member.

NEWS, MEDIA, AND PUBLIC TALKS

Adeyinka-Skold, Sarah. June 2024. Invited Guest. "Session 363: Black Women's Romantic Pursuits in the Media," Therapy for Black Girls.

Adeyinka-Skold, Sarah. March 2024. Interview in Causette entitled, "Shera Seven, Guru of Corrupt Male-Female Relationships: Ultra-Radical Feminist or Puppet of the Patriarchy?"

Limoncelli, Stephanie A. The Business of Advocacy: Companies and NGOs in the Fight against "Modern Slavery." History, Culture and Society Workshop. Harvard University. March 29, 2024.

Washburn, Rachel. November 2024. "Mapping Relationalities with Situational Analysis" at Fulda International Autumn School, Fulda University of Applied Sciences, Germany.

Washburn, Rachel. November 2024. "Analyzing Visual Discourse Materials with Situational Analysis," Otto Von Guericke Universität, Magdeburg, Germany.

Washburn, Rachel. June 2024. "Situational Analysis: Mapping Relationalities with Grounded Theory," Thinking Qualitatively: Time and Place, International Institute for Qualitative Methodology, Canada.

Zamora, Sylvia. 2024. Keynote Speaker, CSU San Bernardino Academic Research Week, Mellon Mays Program.

Book Talks:

- Racial Baggage: Mexican Immigrants and Race Across the Border
- UC Santa Barbara Sociology Department, Race, Ethnicity, Nation Working Group, November 2024
- Northeastern University, Guest lecture, Race and Migration course, November 2024
- UC Los Angeles, Center for the Study of International Migration, February 2024

FORTHCOMING BOOK

Rees, Chris, Ödül Bozkurt, Stephanie Limoncelli, and Jonathan Preminger (eds). Forthcoming 2025. Handbook of the Sociology of Work. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing.