Message From The Chair

Congratulations to the LMU Class of 2024
Sociology Majors and Minors!

As you stand on the threshold of a new chapter in your lives, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to each and every one of you for reaching this significant milestone. The journey you’ve undertaken as sociology majors and minors has been marked by resilience, determination, and intellectual curiosity, and we are immensely proud to have been a part of your educational experience. Throughout your time in the Sociology Department, you have navigated through various challenges, both personal and academic, with perseverance and dedication. We have no doubt that you will continue to make meaningful contributions to your communities and beyond.

As we reflect on the past academic year, we are pleased to highlight some of the memorable events and achievements within the department. From the warm welcome events for students and faculty in both the fall and spring semesters, to the insightful alumni panel held in spring 2024, it has been a year filled with enriching experiences and opportunities for connection.

In April, we held our annual honors banquet, where we celebrated the outstanding accomplishments of our students. This year, we were proud to recognize a number of students; your commitment to academic excellence and passion for sociology are truly inspiring.

In addition to celebrating your successes, we have been thrilled to welcome two new tenure-line faculty members to the Sociology Department: Dr. Sarah Adeyinka-Skold and Dr. Sara Villalta. Their expertise and enthusiasm have enriched our academic community, and we are excited to see the contributions they will make to our department in the years to come.

Furthermore, we recently completed our Program Review, which will inform our efforts to enhance the sociology department for the future. We are committed to providing an exceptional educational experience that prepares our students for success in a rapidly changing world, and your feedback and insights are invaluable as we strive to achieve this goal.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Richard Morris for his generous donation to fund the Loretta Morris Endowed Scholarship for sociology majors. Loretta Morris’s legacy continues to inspire us, and we are deeply grateful to Richard for his commitment to supporting the next generation of sociology students at LMU.

Lastly, we would like to recognize and celebrate Professor Jim Faught who will be retiring this Spring after 50 years of teaching at LMU. His dedication to the students, the department and LMU has been remarkable, and we will miss Jim in our department. Happy Retirement Professor Faught!

As we look forward to the future, I am pleased to announce that I will be staying on as Sociology Department Chair for the next three years. Continuing students are encouraged to reach out to me with any questions or signature requests. Once again, congratulations to the Class of 2024! We wish you all the best in your future endeavors, and we look forward to seeing the incredible impact you will undoubtedly make in the world.

Dr. Rebecca Sager
WHY STUDY 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.

EXPLORE CAREER OPTIONS!
Clinical Assistant Professor, Dr. Nathan Sessoms course, SOCL 3230 Applied Community Internship, 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 attend a field trip to various locations in Los Angeles and discuss many of the common challenges associated with providing critical services and resources to community members and community institutions. This course is being taught again in Fall 2024.

Dr. Anna Muraco built her Spring ‘24 class, SOCL 2000 Qualitative Research Methods, around a collaborative research project with students in the course to understand how current LMU students' learning and social needs were affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The class designed the study, wrote interview questions, received IRB approval, and collected interview data from 47 LMU students. For their final semester projects, students are analyzing the interview data and Dr. Muraco will share some of the findings with the department and BCLA faculty. Dr. Muraco plans to continue using this project in future courses to collect additional data and ultimately, she hopes to publish an article about the findings.
Dr. Zamora’s Book Party

September 7, 2023

Welcome Back Event

October 5, 2023

Holiday Lunch

December 8, 2023

Join us to celebrate

Sylvia Zamora

NEW book publication

Racial Baggage: Mexican Immigrants and Race Across the Border

Winner of the American Sociological Association Latino Sociology Section Book Award

Thursday

September 7

5:15pm

Sociology Village

UHall 4300

Pizza, cake and cookies

Sociology Majors and Minors

Holiday Lunch

Join the Sociology Department for some Holiday Cheer

December 8th at 12:30pm

Sociology Village

UHall 4300

RSVP to Pam Thomas by Tues 12/5

Pam.Thomas@rmo.edu

Sociology Society

Welcome Back Event

THURS, OCTOBER 5
5:15-6:15PM
UHALL 4300
SOCIOLGY VILLAGE

Meet other Sociology majors/minors
Learn about the Sociology Society
Become a member
Have tacos from Benny’s Toco
Co-Sponsor for LGBTI Rights Revolutions
February 12, 2024

Dr. Adeyinka-Skold as a panelist for AI event
February 21, 2024

Spring Pizza Party
March 12, 2024

Sociology Society Alumni Panel
April 4, 2024

Resume Building Workshop
April 16, 2024
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 evening is a special recognition of the dedication & accomplishments of our students and the support of their families.

Please contact Dr. Eric Magnuson at eric.magnuson@lmu.edu for more information!
Best Paper Award
Caroline Andrews
"The Impacts of Overturning Roe v. Wade on College Students"

Honorable Mention
Brody Tomlinson
“Decolonizing Education: Discussing the Colonial Roots of American Education”

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 cash prize of $100 and a plaque honoring their work. We look forward to receiving future submissions for the 2025 edition of the Sociological Eye!
The Pacific Sociological Association’s 95th Annual Conference was held in San Diego, California on March 21-24, 2024.

Monet Cajayon, a sophomore psychology major/sociology minor, presented her research poster, “Looking at Eco-Conscious Shopping Through a Sociological Lens.”

Shani Marzuca, a senior sociology major and McNair Scholar, presented her research poster, “How does the perception of police differ among various sociodemographic communities, and what factors shape these perceptions?”

Dr. Stephanie Anckle is a Sociology Department part time lecturer and the Program Co-chair of the Pacific Sociological Association.

Shani Marzuca also presented her research poster "Police Reform and How Citizen Review Boards May Alleviate The Problem of Police Misconduct" at the National Convention on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) which was held in Long Beach, CA on April 8-10, 2024.
**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Will Brennan** (‘23) was accepted to California State Northridge’s Master Program in Counseling!

**Veronica Gomez** (‘23) was accepted to UCLA’s Master's Program in Student Affairs!

**Shani Marcuza** (‘24) was accepted into USC’s Master’s Program in Public Policy!

**Nicole Michelle Rodriguez** (‘24) was accepted into SMU’s Business School of Cox in Sports Management. She will also be playing basketball for SMU!

**Jonnae Serrano** (‘24) was awarded a Presidential Citation!

**Madina Shabazz** (‘24) was accepted into NYU Wagner’s Master’s Program in Health, Policy and Management!

**Anna Tullie** (‘24) was accepted into Columbia University’s Master’s Program in the School of Social Work!

**Emily Wallack** (‘23) won third place in the National AKD Undergraduate Paper Competition for her paper, “Invisible Illness, The Silent Epidemic for Women.” She earned a cash prize and invitation in the ASA Honor program at the annual conference in Montreal!
Congratulations, Megan Mingo!

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.

Loretta Morris Endowed Scholarship

Magna Cum Laude
- Miles Jack Breen
- William C. Brennan
- Kelly Marie Donatucci
- Emerson Jiwo Harris
- Lucinda Grace Restall
- Jonnae Deanna Serrano
- Emily Jordan Wallack

Cum Laude
- Mariana Barajas
- Gabrielle Renee Fontenette
- Dara Mary Galvan
- Akiko Anna Iwata
- Olivia F. Mangan
- Alyssa Reign Simmons
- Noah Taitz
- Anna Marie Tullie
- Christian Yonan

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!!
Megan Mingo - Secretary
Tessa Gin
DEAN’S LIST 2024

Freshmen
- Lara Beyatli
- Sasha Gold-Moritz
- Mya Gutierrez
- Anaya Loving
- Oliver Mass
- Lorelei Narula
- Stephanie Pacheco
- Elizabeth Rico
- Isabella Serex
- Ayanna Vandewalle
- Ruby Wall

Sophomores
- Rinske Bolander
- Emma Ferreyra
- Cassidy Heard
- Ella Jackson
- Isabelle Jamgotchian
- Sydney Lee
- Elizabeth Lindahl
- Pauline Luedorf
- Frida Manubens
- Isabella Mathis
- Amelia Rodrigues
- Ruby Song
- Jack Urena
- Erika Valencia
- Cheyenne Wahlheim
- Katherine Wastila

Juniors
- Yara Alireza
- Victoria Bartels
- Natalie Bazik
- Madeline Boerstra
- Riley Broughton
- Marysol Cazarez
- Aliza Davis
- Jadan Edwards
- Cassandra Efole
- Elias Everts
- Michelle Feda
- Alexa Gomez
- Riley Johnston
- Eliza Montgomery
- Jessica Nial
- Arthur Craig Pantino
- Charlotte Saunders
- Gianna Segura
- Nate Shippey
- Madison Smith
- Alexia Southern
- Marley Stark-Moniz
- Alexa Vidal
- Isabella Wiswall

Seniors
- Sofia Abelar
- Caroline Andrews
- Mariana Barajas
- Miles Breen
- Katherine Chauza
- Eva Fleet
- Gabrielle Fontenette
- Dara Galvan
- Simret Habte
- Akiko Iwata
- Reed Jones
- Cody Kask
- Olivia Mangan
- Shani Marzuca
- Devan Ornela
- Lauryn Pettus
- Lucina Restall
- Ashley Sarshar
- Mia Schafer
- Madina Shabazz
- Elizabeth Sullivan
- Noah Taitz
- Adan Tapia
- Anna Tullie
- Christian Yonan
- Ali Zane
- Nell Zarrella

Spring 2024
The Sociology Society

The Sociology Society is a student group composed of sociology majors that sponsor regular gatherings for sociology students. The Sociology Society is open to all sociology majors and minors. The Sociology Society hosts 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 Professor Nate Sessoms at nathan.sessoms@lmu.edu.

Elisabeth Gothelf (President), Michelle Feda, and Lauryn Pettus

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 cash prize of $100 and a plaque at the spring Alpha Kappa Delta induction ceremony in April.

For more info email the faculty advisor for the journal, Professor Stacy Burns at stacy.burns@lmu.edu.
Andrea Long (LMU Class of 2010) serves as Legal Counsel at Adobe and is responsible for negotiating enterprise licensing agreements with some of Adobe’s largest digital experience and digital media customers. She recently served as a co-chair of the nation’s first LGBTQ+ bar association, the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF) from 2021 to 2023; and is most proud of founding a support group for undocumented students during her undergrad years at LMU (IDEAS at LMU, now Resilience at LMU). Andrea was an honoree in Modern Counsel’s list of “35 Under 35” rising stars in the legal industry for 2024. She is an immigrant from Peru, raised in the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles, happily residing in San Francisco.

At Estolano Advisors, Leah’s primary focus is on affordable housing and community development projects that foster socio-economic and racial equity, environmental sensitivity, and economic development that benefits all. She brings diverse experiences in the public, nonprofit, and philanthropic sectors of Los Angeles, and beyond. She has worked with a wide range of stakeholders from grassroots to grasstops. Leah brings a problem-solving approach to every engagement, working collaboratively with stakeholders to identify and implement effective plans and policies. Leah has worked on advancing a variety of housing and homelessness strategies for the Westside Cities Council of Governments and the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, as well as for the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles as part of its 25-year Visioning Plan. In economic and community development, she continues to provide support for the LA Bioscience Hub’s Biotech Leaders Academy and the implementation of the City of Glendale’s Tech Strategy. She also provided technical assistance for California Climate Investment grant programs. Leah utilizes GIS software to map and analyze geospatial data for projects that are heavily place-based. Born and raised in Minnesota, Leah relocated to Southern California to complete dual degrees in sociology and music at Loyola Marymount University. After a year of serving as an AmeriCorps VISTA at Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity, she completed her Masters of Public Administration at University of Southern California’s Price School of Public Policy. She currently volunteers as a mentor with the nonprofit Las Fotos Project.
Happy Retirement!

Dr. Jim Faught

Professor Jim Faught is a LMU Sociology Department legend, starting and ending his teaching career at the same academic institution over a span of 50 years. The two most important experiences in his life that helped mold and develop his self-confidence to succeed in his career were the army and baseball.

Jim was born in 1942 during the war years in Visalia, CA. He had a passion for studying geography books and maps with his uncle and enjoyed reading the Willie and Joe WWII books by Bill Malden together. These experiences with his uncle grew his interest in the military and just two weeks after his high school graduation, he enlisted in the army. While at basic training at Fort Ord, he was asked to become a cryptographer – someone who writes or cracks the encryption code used for data security. This position required top secret clearance and extensive FBI background checks. Once completed, he received a cryptographic clearance and a cosmic top secret (NATO requirement) clearance. Jim served three years in the army as a cryptographer.

Jim’s favorite sport is baseball. At 13 years old, he was selected to play for a Babe Ruth team which ended up winning the southern Santa Clara Valley championship and he was named MVP of the tournament. Even at the early age of 13, Jim was recognized by the head coach of Santa Clara University for his playing ability. Not only did Jim play highly competitive baseball but he was also the quarterback of his high school team.
Professor Faught will be retiring after the Spring ’24 semester. He is excited to see more of his two grandchildren who live in the Bay Area and maybe become involved in something baseball related. He also has a few items of the shelf that are waiting to be edited.

Jim, we thank you for your 50 years of dedication to LMU, the Sociology Department and to your students. We wish you well in your retirement and you will be missed in the department.

FUN FACTS!

- Walked the 7 Hills of Rome in 7 days!
- Has a passion for building and remodeled his own home.
- Enjoys reading espionage novels.
- Took 4 semesters of German as a student at LMU while teaching.
- Favorite baseball position to play was catcher because he loved calling the pitches.
- Favorite place to visit is Stockholm, Sweden.
PUBLICATIONS


HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS


Stephanie Limoncelli: 2024 BCLA Faculty Research and Writing Grant. The Business of Advocacy: Companies and NGOs in the Fight against "Modern Slavery."

Rebecca Sager: National Science Foundation Grant- $568,773 Gary Adler, Jonathan Cooley, Damon Maryl, Eric Plutzer, Rebecca Sager. Summer 2023 - Summer 2025.

Rebecca Sager: 2023/2024 Team Teaching Award (with Brett Hoover, LMU Theology)


Sylvia Zamora received an LMU Ascending Scholar Award in April, 2023. This award was created in 2019 by the Office of the Provost to recognize excellence and promise in faculty scholarship.

BOOK REVIEWS AND ENDORSEMENTS


PROFESSIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS

Rebecca Sager: 2023-2025 Department Chair, 2024 Cabinet Associate for the Provost Office.


Sylvia Zamora: Research Advisor, LMU Honors Program; LMU Grievance Committee 2022-2025, Council Member of the American Sociological Association Latino Sociology Section, 2021-2024; Awards Committee Chair, ASA Latino Sociology Section 2023-2024; LMU McNair Program Mentor.

Stacy Burns: Fall 2022-Spring 2023: Chair, BCLA Faculty Development Committee.

NEWS, MEDIA, AND PUBLIC TALKS

Sarah Adeyinka-Skold, March 2024: The Influencer Shera Seven, Guru of Corrupt Male-Female Relationships: Ultra Radical Feminist or Puppet of the Patriarchy (Causette, a French magazine)

Sarah Adeyinka-Skold, March 2024: “Should Black Women Stop Going on Love Is Blind,” (Vox)

Sarah Adeyinka-Skold, August 2023: “Live, Laugh, Love: Just So You Know,” (Gold Comedy)


Sylvia Zamora, April 2024. Keynote Address, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program, CSU San Bernardino.