MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Students and Faculty,

First, congratulations to the class of 2020! Though this school year has not gone as planned, I hope that you are taking the time to celebrate and reflect upon your accomplishments. Many of our majors and minors are going on to exciting new opportunities, entering graduate programs and starting new jobs. I also want to congratulate the rest of us for making it through the spring semester. Learning and teaching remotely has been quite a challenge for most of us and I’ve been impressed by how well students and faculty have adapted to this unexpected and mostly unwelcome shift. I am grateful that we have a shared lens of sociology to apply to the Coronavirus and the effects on our communities, including those that have a history of marginalization and oppression. ... Continue on Page 2

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Learn more about the Department:
https://bellarmine.lmu.edu/sociology/
https://www.facebook.com/lmusociologysociety/
As we near the end of the semester, it’s a good time to reflect on the path we’ve traveled together this year. We welcomed Dr. Roberto Cancio as an Assistant Professor to the Sociology Department this year. The new Health and Society minor launched with Dr. Rachel Washburn at the helm. Professor Gary Adler visited LMU sociology and spoke about his work on International Student Immersion trips. The Sociology Department also co-sponsored a talk about the history of testosterone by Drs. Rebecca M. Jordan Young and Katrina Karzakis. Our very own faculty members, Drs. Cancio, Moore, and Washburn also shared their research with us over tacos early in the spring semester. This semester, we say thank you and goodbye to Dr. Natasha Miric who has been a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in the department for the past three years. Thank you for teaching so many of our students, Dr. Miric! You will be missed.

Sociology students have had a strong academic year across LMU. While this is not a comprehensive list, I’d like to highlight a few student academic accomplishments: Noemi Fernandez Luna (’20) is graduating as a McNair Scholar and Camille Grundy (’21) is a continuing McNair Scholar. Sophomores Mirian Melendez (’22) and Lizbeth Ramales Arango (’22) were inducted into the 2019 cohort of ACE Scholars. Seven sociology students were celebrated at the BCLA Dean’s List reception. Six sociology students presented their research at the Undergraduate Research Symposium. Students Nakia King (’21) and Nina Mirzai (’21) co-published encyclopedia entries with Dr. Ravaris Moore. We applaud all of you and the work of faculty mentors for supporting you through this process.

Our strength as a department comes from our amazing students and faculty. We’re always happy to have more students involved in departmental activities; please keep an eye out in the fall for announcements from the Sociology Society and contribute your work to the Sociological Eye, which is a publication of student work from sociology courses. While we don’t know what lies ahead, we wish you a great summer and look forward reuniting with students in the fall!

- Professor Muraco
Dr. Roberto Cancio has received degrees from East Los Angeles College, University of California, Berkeley, University of Florida, and the University of Miami. As a researcher, Dr. Cancio has focused on the intersection of biological and behavioral mechanisms, pathways underpinning resilience and susceptibility to adverse mental health conditions, and the impact of racism and discrimination on health behavior and strategies for veterans and their families. Concurrently, Dr. Cancio contributes to the design and implementation of community-based research that takes into account how culture, context, and the social determinants of health affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes for under-resourced communities of color.

Fun Fact
Dr. Cancio is an Iraq War Veteran

Fun Fact
Dr. Cancio loves dogs and has 4 of his own!

Fun Fact
Dr. Cancio is an avid backpacker!

FOLLOW DR. CANCIO'S INSTAGRAM
@lmu.mil.research
**FACULTY SPOTLIGHT**

**SYLVIA ZAMORA**


Additionally, Dr. Zamora received the Career Enhancement Fellowship from Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. The fellowship Program seeks to increase the presence of minority junior faculty members committed to eradicating racial disparities in core fields in the arts and humanities. This fellowship is funded by Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, whose mission is to strengthen, promote, and defend the contributions of the humanities and the arts to human flourishing and the well-being of diverse and democratic societies. The fellowship provides each Fellow with a six-month or one-year sabbatical grant; a stipend for research and travel or publication; and participation in an annual conference/retreat. Only 30 Fellowships are awarded each year. Congrats, Dr. Zamora!

With heartfelt sympathy, we share the passing of Dr. Loretta M. Morris, professor of Sociology and Faculty Hall of Fame inductee. Dr. Morris passed away on April 8, 2020. Throughout her 35-year career at LMU, she epitomized the teacher-scholar model, publishing the authoritative history of the American Catholic Sociological Society and its transformation into the Association for the Sociology of Religion. Professor Morris was the first woman to be appointed chair of a Loyola University academic department; served as chair of the Core Curriculum Committee (1984–1987); and was a member of the Rank and Tenure Committee for several years. She helped develop and establish LMU’s Center for Teaching Excellence, which continues to provide a range of faculty services. Professor Morris had such respect for her students and colleagues that she truly believed the aphorism: “To teach is to learn twice.”

Loyola Marymount University. “Loretta M. Morris, Ph.D.” Loretta M. Morris, Ph.D. - Loyola Marymount University, alumni.lmu.edu/connect/facultyhalloffame/lorettamorris/.

Senior Titania Davis participated in the 2019 McNair Symposium. Her research focused on the feelings of safety of homeless women accessing a hygiene center in SkidRow. She was motivated by a desire to learn more about how the issues that homeless people face are being addressed. Her findings point to feelings of safety among men and women when accessing the hygiene center. “This research opportunity has taught me the importance of conducting research and the impact it has on its participants as well as how research can influence change,” she says. Davis is currently involved as a mentor to girls in South L.A. and with an organization promoting health awareness for communities of color. Her research influenced her decision to attend graduate school and pursue a Ph.D. program in social work and psychology. Davis also has plans to be a leader in the Los Angeles Community College District and to open a community center of her own, providing health resources, education, and professional development to underserved populations. All of this, she says, is how she will go about, “answering the call for the holistic wellness of mankind.”

Jack Foley is a senior Sociology major with minors in Political Science and Spanish. He is currently the administrative assistant for the Sociology Department at LMU and research assistant to Dr. Washburn. After he graduates, he plans to gain work experience before returning to graduate studies in Public Policy. He feels lucky that he stumbled upon Sociology as a sophomore with no major declared: “Sociology has completely changed the way I think about anything; I think about underlying social currents shaping every corner of our world, as influential and as invisible as air. I think our society should take those social forces into account more than it does, which has led me to pair my major with a Political Science minor and Public Policy graduate studies if all goes well.” He has grown to be more organized and more critical during his time at LMU. His current research for his capstone project focuses on variation in access to public parks among disadvantaged ethnic and racial groups. He attributes his success to the support and guidance he has received from his family, friends, and department faculty.
Why Sociology?

When I started college, I struggled with what to major in because I have such a wide variety of interests. I took a sociology class while studying at Santa Monica College and realized it encapsulated all my interests perfectly. Sociology allows me to perform qualitative and quantitative research by teaching me statistics and the language needed to formulate questions that get the desired answer. It had also taught me how people interact with the world and each other. It opened my eyes to where I stand in the world and developed my own sociological imagination.

Q: If you won a paper award and would like to tell us about the experience, describe your research/project and any valuable skills and lessons you learned.

I performed research at a cosmetic store where I had previously worked, focusing on the emotional & physical hardships that employees unknowingly take on. Prior to this research assignment, I had never performed formal research beyond conducting interviews for a podcast assignment in high school. I was unsure of my skills and very nervous. In particular, I worried about my ability to effectively interview people and observe locations. Once I realized I had already learned how to conduct research (I had the tools), it came down to applying what I had learned - the actual doing - that was the key to overcoming my fears. Once I jumped that hurdle, the data stood out loud and clear and it was up to me to synthesize it and use it to further my research. All the while, my professor, Dr. Zamora, reassured me, helped guide me through my research, and later, helped me define what the data was telling me. After I turned in my work to Dr. Zamora, I was still unsure if I should enter it into the competition at LMU. Would my work hold-up under further scrutiny? Ultimately, I had to find out. This is the first award I have ever won. It is an honor and it means everything to me. The feeling of accomplishment and recognition by the AKD Sociology Society and the Sociology department at LMU has made all the long nights and nerves one hundred percent worth it.

Q: What are you hoping to do after graduating from LMU

My degree in Sociology allows me to work in almost any field I please, which is what makes this question so difficult. I’m not sure where I will begin, but being a leader at heart, a good communicator and someone who tries to bring the best out of people, I am considering a range of options from a career in criminal justice to marketing.

Fun Fact

I am obsessed with criminal law and crime in general! I find myself constantly searching for the next crime documentary on Netflix only to realize I have seen them all and being forced to wait a month for new uploads. I would love to research a case and rather than publish my results writing, turn them into a crime documentary.
Q: Why Sociology?

Through my experience in policy debate when I was in high school I became more aware of the issues affecting the world and started to understand how our political, economic and social structures can influence how we function as individuals who are apart of a larger society. The broad range of topics covered in debate, such as the Cuban embargo, Chinese diplomatic relations with the U.S., and domestic surveillance taught me how vast and interconnected social structures are. I then became interested in how social structures worked to marginalize certain populations, while privileging others, which is why I decided to major in sociology.

Q: What are you hoping to do after graduating from LMU?

After graduating from LMU, I hope to work for a non-profit organization that helps students from undeserved populations, whether domestic or international, have access to higher education.
Why Sociology?

After backing out of a major in physics I found sociology to be LMU's only department to fit the way I naturally thought, structurally but still humanly. What I appreciated was being given the tools to interact anywhere I choose in our societies. So many educational paths lead you to one enclosed field in which to contribute. When sociology is the frame you begin in the classroom and can end anywhere.

Q: Tell us about your experience as past Tell us about your experiences serving as Co-editor of the Sociological Eye. How the experience has prepared you for a career post-LMU, etc.

In the two years I helped edit the Sociological Eye, it was yet another opportunity to get practice in design and digital typesetting. More importantly, the project management involved in running the department’s home-spun journal gave me great insight for organizing and directing larger creative projects in publishing and beyond. That’s something I’m only getting to do more and more of now! I don’t remember how I originally got involved...I don’t think there’s any necessary advice besides keep your ears up and don’t hesitate to agree to the unfamiliar!

Q: What are you hoping to do after graduating from LMU?

I only hope to continue work on the projects I was lucky to seed at LMU. All the different corners of campus I was involved with helped me approach business, the arts, science, music, service, research, tech, design and more—all parallel but working together. It’s not gonna get any easier for people who don’t foster connection and confluence between disparate sides of their life.
Q: What are you hoping to do after graduating from LMU?

Ideally, I’m going to try and come back to LA and work there for 12 months on an employment authorization that I’m eligible for as an international student. In terms of what I would actually do work-wise, I’m open to almost anything as long it’s fulfilling in some way. My long-term ambition, however, is to be involved in the drive to make shipping a more sustainable industry. I love boats and the environment so I want both to flourish in harmony!

Before transferring to LMU I studied Criminology at City University of London. During my time there, I discovered that my major was essentially a branch of Sociology, and whilst I enjoyed it, I felt slightly uncomfortable with the idea of purely studying crime and deviant behavior for the entirety of my degree. Therefore when I left London for LA and LMU, the decision to major in Sociology came pretty naturally. I knew that over the course of the next few years, Sociology would allow me to study so many different fascinating aspects of society, not just crime. Lo and behold, that is exactly what it did... Since starting at LMU back in Fall 2017, I’ve taken classes on terrorism, globalization, poverty, human trafficking, drugs, environmental inequality, and the power of the media, to name but a few. I know I’m a bit biased but I really don’t think any other major provides its students with the opportunity to study such a fascinating and diverse range of topics.

Not that fun but I’ve had my nose broken 3 times... all playing rugby.
Class of 2019 grad, Maria Lopez Zamudio is making the most of her opportunities post-graduation. She worked this past summer at West Los Angeles College as a Career Guidance Counselor Assistant in the Dream Center, providing support and resources to community members. In September, Maria was hired as a Social Media Intern at FirstGenProfessionals. As she helps expand their platform on social media, Maria is also a full-time student working toward her Business Information Worker Stage 1 Certification at Santa Monica College. She says that her studies in Sociology helped guide her on her own path after graduating: “There is no ‘one’ right path, and you need to figure out what works for you.” Maria attributes her success to the support of her mentors and her family.

Loyola Marymount University class of 2019 graduate, Bradley Thomas, is currently working as a case analyst at the Housing Right Center in Los Angeles. In his current position, he is responsible for conducting “investigations into discrimination complaints based on a protected class such as race, gender, marital status, disability, and national origin.” Since graduating from LMU he also facilitated a bi-monthly housing rights clinic in the city of Inglewood. Bradley shares that his purpose in life is to utilize what he’s learned through his education, his skills, and gift to help positively impact the lives of individuals, families, and communities. Bradley believes the most important thing LMU taught him was “To be open to going in whatever direction your education and life take you.”
Día de Los Muertos is an annual Mexican celebration that takes place at the end of October and November 1st and 2nd each year in Mexico. Families gather to honor and remember deceased loved ones with ofrendas or offerings (see image).

Please Contact: Dr. Sylvia Zamora at sylvia.zamora@lmu.edu

SPRING 2020
In this time of uncertainty, physical distancing has not stopped our faculty from teaching and our students from learning. Faculty like Dr. Cancio have used Zoom as a resource to connect with students and create a sense of community.
JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING ALL SOCIOLOGY STUDENTS WHO PRESENTED AT THIS YEAR’S SYMPOSIUM!

**Denise Espinoza**
"IPV Reciprocation in Military Families"

**Ken Cavanaugh**
Implicit Theories of Social Conditions

**Additional Student Participants:**
Camille Grundy  
The Impacts of Social Media on Mental Health

Jack Foley  
Homeless Hygiene Center: Assessment of Safety Public Park Access in Los Angeles

Julia Pradel  
Disparities in Belonging: An Analysis of Angeleno Identity

Titania Davis  
Homeless Hygiene Center: Assessment of Safety

LMU UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
On January 30th, the Loyola Marymount University Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts hosted their Dean's List dinner for first-year and second-year students. We are excited to announce that seven Sociology majors were honored: William Brennan, Denise Espinoza, Veronica Gomez, Paige Horsley, Jessica Jimenez, Emily Solomon, Mackenzie Tabaldo. The Sociology department chair, Anna Muraco, joined the Sociology majors at the dinner to celebrate their diligence and perseverance. It is always great to hear updates and recognize students and alumni on their achievements!

Follow The Sociology department on LinkedIn!

- Over 500 of alumni and faculty connected
- Weekly posts on department events and newst
- Updates on what other alumni are up to

https://www.linkedin.com/in/lmusoc/
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. Over the years we have had a number of distinguished guest speakers for the occasion, including Dr. Laurence Bobo (LMU Sociology ‘79)—who has recently been appointed Director of the Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity at Stanford University—and Judge Frederick Lower, former Dean of the Loyola School of Law. The evening is a special recognition of the dedication and accomplishments of our students and the support of their families. Please Contact Dr. Eric Magnuson for more info!
PUBLICATIONS


Ravaris Moore: "Parental divorce is not uniformly disruptive to children’s educational attainment".

Anna Muraco: "Life Saving in Every Way": The Role of Pets in the Lives of LGBT Older Adults", "Iridescent Life Course: LGBTQ Aging Research and a Blueprint for the Future – A Systematic Review".

Sylvia Zamora: "Words of Passage: National Belonging and the Imagined Lives of Mexican Migrants".

PROFESSORSHIP

Stephanie Limoncelli received the 2020 the Daum Mid-Career Faculty Research Award. This award is given to a tenured associate professor in the Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts who has exhibited a record of excellence in teaching and advising, scholarship and/or creative work, and service to the department, college and university. This year marks 10 years that Prof. Limoncelli has been with the Sociology Department. She has served in a number of leadership roles, including serving on the department’s Curriculum and Assessment Committee, APRC and the UCCC Explorations Committee, BCLA Curriculum and Assessment Committee throughout 2019.
IN THE NEWS, MEDIA, & PUBLIC TALKS


APPRECIATING DR. JAMES FAUGHT 45+ YEARS AT LMU SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS

Stacy Burns has been appointed a founding member of the Editorial Board of Social Science Today, an international and interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed print and on-line journal for scholars across the social sciences (2019).
BOOK REVIEWS & ENDORSEMENTS


HONORS & AWARDS
Ravaris Moore: Recently received a Presidential Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at Princeton University, a program aimed at enhancing diversity in the professoriate. “The Presidential Postdoctoral Research Fellows Program is meant to encourage early-career scholars to pursue a career in academia by supporting their postdoctoral work here,” said Sanjeev Kulkarni, dean of the faculty.

Rebecca Sager was awarded the 2019 RGK-ARNOVA Presidential Award. Her research group’s submitted proposal was titled “The Contexts and Beliefs of Bureaucrats: Regulation of Local Church-State Relationships in a New Era”. The award is a prize to a member of ARNOVA to support basic research and theory building in the field of philanthropic, nonprofit and voluntary action studies.


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