



Sociology Matters

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Spring into Summer

The grass is turning green, the days are getting longer, and fall registration is about to begin. It's been a busy

semester in the Department of Sociology, and there's much more to come in the following months. Look inside to

see what's been happening, what's new, and what is ahead.

A Degree in Sociology...And Then What?

The number of graduates with bachelor's degrees in sociology continues to climb, with an increase by 139% of sociology graduates between the mid-1980s and 2007. Only about 13% of students graduating with bachelor's degrees went on to get graduate degrees in sociology by 2009. So, what do the rest of sociology graduates do?

Over one quarter go into social services, counseling, and psychology, with nearly another quarter going into management and marketing. Of the students going on to graduate school only a minority get graduate degrees in sociology. Most do graduate work in a wide range of fields, including counseling, social work, edu-

cation, business, and law. The bottom line? Sociology leads to a broad range of experiences, both academic and professional. You have many opportunities out there! To learn more about what you can do with your degree in sociology and about careers and graduate programs in sociology, visit www.asanet.org.

Types of Occupations of Sociology Degree Recipients, 2007

Occupation	Example	%
<i>Social Services, Counselors, Psychologists</i>	<i>Oversee AIDS outreach team</i>	26.50%
<i>Administrative support</i>	<i>Scheduler for State Representative</i>	15.80%
<i>Management</i>	<i>Handle employment and labor relations</i>	14.40%
<i>Marketing</i>	<i>Planning and developing marketing strategies</i>	10.10%
<i>Services</i>	<i>Crime scene technician</i>	8.30%
<i>Teachers, Librarians</i>	<i>Provide reference, research, and database search-</i>	8.10%
<i>Social Science, Researchers</i>	<i>Research climate change policies</i>	5.70%
<i>Others Professionals</i>	<i>Website design</i>	6.80%
<i>Other</i>		4.40%

**Famous
Sociology
Majors:**

Rev. Jesse Jackson

Saul Alinsky

Ronald Reagan

Alonzo Mourning

Sen. Barbara Mikulski

Rep. Maxine Waters

Bobby Taylor

Joe Theisman

Ahmad Rashad

*Cardinal Theodore
McCarrick*

Top Honors

On **Wednesday, April 27th**, the Department of Sociology will honor our outstanding and most promising students. Among those recognized for their scholarship will be this year's Dean's Scholars, **Jess Bella-**

my and **Jessica Albrecht**, and 2011 Alpha Kappa Delta initiates, **Mary Dickerson** and **Whitney Harrison**. Awards will also be given to students who the faculty of the Department of Sociology have determined as

being outstanding in their work and having shown that they are among the most promising of our students. Stayed tuned for details for the awards ceremony.

Club Soc



The Sociology Club has had a busy semester, with a co-sponsored event, a bake sale, and elections among their activities. The new club officers are: **Chafi McNeeley** (president), **Michael Gibbs** (vice president), **Jess Cushman**

(historian), **Aaron Sorenson** (treasurer), and **Ellie Gaither** (secretary). The club co-sponsored an event with a panel of speakers who contributed to the book "Shaping Memories: Reflections of African American Women Writers," and have

another co-sponsored event coming up, "The Vagina Monologues," which will be on **March 29th-31st at 7pm** in the Bonnie Auditorium. The next meeting of the Sociology Club will be at **6:30 on Thursday, March 31st**.



Check out the club's facebook page ("Radford University Sociology Club") to keep up with what the club is up to.

Internships: Plan Ahead

As you think about what kind of internship experience you would like to have while completing the sociology major, check out the department's sociology internship information site (<http://soc.asp.radford.edu/Internships.htm>), Hire a Highlander (www.myinterfase.com/radford/student/) and www.internships.com. These can give you ideas about what you might like to do and what opportunities are currently out there. For questions, contact the department's Internship Coordinator, Dr. Mekolichick.

Happenings

The Floyd County students in **Dr. Melinda Wagner's** Floyd County Place-Based Education Project have made their mark on the internet: they created a YouTube video that was part of a "TechSoup" contest for using technology on projects. You can see it at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hvQGrGMOIk>. They also have a blog, which you can check out (or subscribe to!) at www.floydstorycenter.blogspot.com.

Dr. Mary LaLone has started a new research project for the 2011 year with two colleagues in RU's Counselor Education program, Dr. Cathy Hudgins and Dr. Carla Emerson. They were awarded a \$20,000 RU Multidisciplinary Research grant to carry out "The Saint Albans Oral History Project," which will document the stories of staff and patients associated with Saint Albans Hospital, the mental health facility that used to be located high on the bluffs across the New River from Radford. Saint Albans was a private facility that provided important mental health services for southwest Virginia and neighboring states. Sociology

major **Whitney Harrison** is one of two research assistants working on the research project this year.

Dr. Carla Corroto will be presenting at the COUCHSTONE SYMPOSIUM on April 1st, which is sponsored by the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. The presentation is titled "Community Building(s): Sociological and Architectural Lessons"

On March 3, **Dr. Roby Page** co-presented with Tim Filbert of RU's Academic Engagement and Community Partnerships at the Gulf-South Summit on Service Learning and Community Engagement in Roanoke. They discussed visual sociology and the uses of photography for exploring community.

On February 3rd, **Dr. Jeanne Mekolichick** presented a paper, "Undergraduate Research and Professional Presentations: Variations in Mentoring Experiences by College Generational Status", at the Annual Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy in Blacksburg, VA.

Center for Social and Cultural Research

At the Center for Social and Cultural Research (CSCR), **Jessie Altice** is doing the website evaluation for the Department of Sociology. Jessie and **Dr. Corroto** are currently conducting interviews for **Drs. Corroto and Lyman's** research project on service learning in higher education. **Amy Dove** and **Caitie Hennessy** are working with **Dr. Mekolichick**

on the continuing program evaluation of Cornerstone, the 2 year transitional housing program of the Women's Resource Center. **Jess Bellamy** and Dr. Mekolichick are preparing a manuscript and continuing to collect data on mentoring experiences of undergraduate students who have presented their research at professional presentations. A

research team, headed by Dr. Mekolichick, recently began a new consulting project analyzing data for the Women's Resource Center's youth sexual assault and dating violence education. Team members include: **Jess Bellamy, Caitie Hennessy, and Michael Gibbs**. On **April 13th, 12pm-2pm**, the CSCR will hold an Undergraduate Research Celebration & Open House



on the second floor of Russell. This will be a great opportunity to make connections for future research with faculty.

Council on Undergraduate Research

The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) is a national organization that supports and promotes undergraduate student-faculty collaborative research and scholarship.

In February, Dr. Mekolichick facilitated a workshop at the Council for Undergraduate Research (CUR) Institute, on Mentorship, Collaboration, and Undergradu-

ate Research in the Social Sciences and Humanities. She also gave two presentations: Jeanne Mekolichick and Andrea Chapdelaine, “Community-Based Research and Service-Learning Research”; and Jeanne Mekolichick and Jenny Olin Shanahan, “Mentoring Undergraduate Research in the Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts.”



Students in Dr. Mekolichick’s “480” work on their surveys. The students will be presenting the results of their independent research projects at the Undergraduate/Graduate Student Engagement Forum this April.

Student News

Amy Dove was accepted into Virginia Tech’s Counselor Education program and earned a graduate assistant position at Virginia Tech in the Center for Survey Research, where she is currently interning.

Jess Bellamy has earned a summer internship at the National Opinion Research Center.



Registration Reminders

Registration begins on March 28th. There are two **Maymester** courses this summer: Introduction to Sociology (SOCY 110) and Social Inequality (SOCY 250). Tell your friends, and be sure to sign up for these during your normal registration period.

Mark Your Calendars!

Here are some important dates to keep track of:

3/28 Registration begins

4/13 CSCR celebration and open house, 12-2pm, Russell Hall

4/29 Last day of classes



Like Us!

We’re on Facebook! Come check us out at [Radford University Sociology](#). You can get department news and announcements here, as well as recaps of recent events.

You can also keep track of the Sociology Club happenings on their Facebook page, [Radford University Sociology Club](#).

