

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Department of Sociology

Sociology Matters



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GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings from the Chair – Dr. Beth Lyman

Happy Fall! I hope that everyone has had a good semester so far. We have lots of good things going on this year. We are particularly pleased to welcome Dr. Paula Prince as a new colleague. Dr. Prince taught at Jefferson College of Health Sciences, now Radford University Carilion. Her background in medical sociology and community engagement makes her a great addition to the department. Dr. Prince invites students to visit with her at the RUC site in Roanoke, contact her regarding internships in the Roanoke area, and, of course, take her courses that are new to our curriculum. Please welcome Dr. Prince to the department, and have a look inside for more information both about her and all the other good things going on in Sociology.

Current & Upcoming Events:

- ❖ Advising for Spring 2020 has begun. Dr. Page has appointment sign-up sheets on his office door.
- ❖ RU Homecoming, October 25-26.
- ❖ Sociology Department Alumni Day, October 29.
- ❖ Commencement, December 14.

SOCIOLOGY COURSES OFFERED SPRING 2020

Required Courses:

- SOCY 110** – Introduction to Sociology
- SOCY 250** – Social Inequality
- SOCY 360** – Sociological Theory
- SOCY 365** – Society and the Individual
- SOCY 480** – Survey Research Methods

Elective Courses:

- SOCY 121** – Understanding Cultures
- SOCY 210** – Social Problems
- SOCY 213** – Social Issues & Healthcare Delivery *
- SOCY 326** – Men & Women in Society
- SOCY 331** – Race & Ethnic Relations
- SOCY 342** – Race, Ethnicity, and Healthcare *
- SOCY 389** – Sociology of Family
- SOCY 411** – Appalachian Cultures
- SOCY 443** – Deviance

Courses that Satisfy the Major Applied/Practical Experience Requirement:

- SOCY 499** – Internship

* New courses taught by Dr. Prince

SOCIOLOGY ADVISING NEWS

Pre-registration advising for Spring 2020 is under way.

Sign up now for an advising appointment with Dr. Page (on his office door, CHBS 3110) to decide on courses for this spring, plan for semesters ahead, and target a graduation date. Appointment times are available throughout October and into November. Prepare for your advising appointment by reviewing your Degree Works, the new Spring '20 Sociology courses flyer, and the university-wide schedule for upcoming classes.



Dr. Roby Page,
Sociology
Department
Advisor

If you are thinking about doing an internship in spring, start planning now. Visit the Internships page on the Department of Sociology website to help generate ideas. Meet with Internship Coordinator Dr. Lyman soon; don't wait until late this semester.

For more advising information and links, visit the Department of Sociology Advising webpage:

<https://www.radford.edu/content/chbs/home/sociology/about/SociologyAdvising.html>

Email Dr. Page at erpage@radford.edu.

Notes:

Graduating in Spring or Summer 2020? You should now have your paper application submitted to Dr. Page, and your online application completed.

Considering a course withdrawal? The deadline is Friday, November 1. Remember that you are permitted five withdrawals while at Radford.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 2019 ALUMNI DAY, OCTOBER 29

The department's annual Alumni Day event will take place on October 29th in Heth 043. The graduate school panel will occur during 2:00-3:15pm and the career panel will take place during 3:30-4:45pm. Alumni and graduate school administrators will provide insights into the graduate school experience, including questions to ponder when considering graduate school, the application process, and tips for graduate school success. The career panel features alumni who will share their advice and experiences related to the job market, interviewing, and networking, among other career-focused insights. This event is open to all students regardless of major.

Please contact Dr. Stephanie Bradley at sbradley20@radford.edu with any questions or to express interest in being a future panelist.

WELCOME DR. PAULA PRINCE TO RU/RUC SOCIOLOGY



Welcome to Paula L. Prince, PhD, Assistant Professor of Sociology. Dr. Prince was with Jefferson College of Health Sciences (JCHS) for 16 years before joining the faculty of the Sociology Department at RU/RUC. Her academic focus is on those issues that affect the delivery of health care, particularly to underserved populations.

Dr. Prince will be teaching two exciting new courses for the Spring 2020 semester: SOCY 213, Social Issues and Healthcare Delivery, and SOCY 342, Race, Ethnicity and Healthcare.

Dr. Prince came to JCHS from 10 years at the Council of Community Services, a human service planning agency, where she was Vice President of Planning and Consultation. Dr. Prince is presently Chair of the Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness which provides oversight to the Blue Ridge Continuum of Care and advocates for policies that address homelessness. She is a member of the data analysis committee of Healthy Roanoke Valley. In addition, Dr. Prince is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Salvation Army Turning Point Domestic Violence Shelter and member of the Board of the Girl Scouts of the VA Skyline Council, Good Samaritan Hospice, Renovation Alliance, and the Roanoke Prevention Alliance. An opera lover, she recently joined the Board of Trustees for Opera Roanoke. Dr. Prince and her husband Norm, a retired steel industry automation engineer, have four children and five grandchildren.

Dr. Prince Guides Homeless Research

Twenty students and two faculty members from the Radford University Carilion (RUC) Department of Physician Assistant Studies joined other volunteers to conduct the Summer 2019 Point in Time Survey. The survey is administered once or twice per year, across the country, including all jurisdictions of Virginia. In Roanoke, it is conducted by the Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness, using almost exclusively volunteers to count and collect information on sheltered (residing in emergency shelters) and unsheltered (residing outdoors) people experiencing homelessness in the city.

Dr. Paula Prince initiated participation by the students. She serves as chair of the Council and felt the students could bring a fresh perspective to the survey while also benefiting them as future healthcare professionals. "The students are incredibly valuable in gathering this information," Prince said. "I can't say enough about their energy and intelligence. They have done an excellent job, and we couldn't ask for better volunteers to help us accomplish this survey." For more information about this project, see:

<https://www.radford.edu/content/radfordcore/home/news/releases/2019/august/PA-support-homelessness.html>



CSCR NEWS

CSCR Hosts Women's Resource Center for Annual Lunch

On September 27, the Center for Social and Cultural Research hosted Laura Beth Weaver (Assistant Director) and Danté Morrison (Peaceline Coordinator) from the Women's Resource Center. For nearly a decade the CSCR has partnered with the WRC to conduct the annual evaluation of the Peaceline Curriculum. Danté and his team deliver a multi-session, multi-grade curriculum to New River Valley middle and high school students. The Peaceline Curriculum focuses on violence prevention and foundations for healthy relationships. Peaceline educators collect data at each session and the CSCR processes and analyzes the data for the annual report on the efficacy of the program.

During the lunch, new CSCR work-study students had a chance to get to know Laura Beth and Danté and learned about the history of the program. Laura Beth discussed how the work they do in the CSCR bolsters WRC grant applications that support the program and provided students with an overview of the many important services provided to the NRV community. Danté, a Radford University alum, discussed his background and answered students' questions about the delivery of the program in NRV schools.



Laura Beth Weaver, Assistant Director of the Women's Resource Center, discusses the importance of the partnership between the CSCR and WRC with CSCR work-study students.



Danté Morrison answers students' questions about the delivery of the Peaceline Curriculum in NRV schools.



Members of the CSCR (around the table from near left): Dr. Allison Wisecup, Dr. Stephanie Bradley, Shennaë Spence, Cody Meador, Taylor Marrs, Olivia Frost, and Taylor Price, enjoy lunch with Danté Morrison and Laura Beth Weaver from the WRC; also pictured Ms. Sidra Kaluszka.

Director's Corner: Center for Social and Cultural Research

The CSCR is looking forward to another exciting and busy year! The CSCR continues to work with The Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley, our longstanding community partner. The CSCR processes nearly 7,000 surveys each year and provides the WRC with an annual report about the effectiveness of the violence prevention education programming (Peaceline) delivered to middle and high school students in the New River Valley.

Drs. Wisecup, Bradley, and Lyman recently visited the Center for Social Science Research at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia to learn more about the infrastructure and software requirements for engaging in more applied work done in CSCR. We are looking forward to pursuing grants to advancing our capabilities to assist community and campus partners in their research needs.



Dr. Allison Wisecup,
CSCR Director

CSCR Research Assistants:

Desirae Booth	Shennaë Spence
Olivia Frost	Taylor Price
Taylor Marrs	Cody Meador

INTERNSHIP SPEAKER SERIES

INTERNSHIP SPEAKER SERIES

SHENNAE SPENCE

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF METRO
RICHMOND

HANNAH JORDAN

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
RAPPAHANNOCK REGION

SOCIOLOGY INTERNSHIPS
&
REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 9TH

12-12:45PM

HB 3002

REFRESHMENTS WILL FOLLOW
PRESENTATION

RADFORD
UNIVERSITY
Department of Sociology



Two students presented details about their summer internships during the Fall 2019 Internship Speaker Series event, October 9. Shennae Spence (photo above, top right) discussed her experiences working at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Richmond and Hannah Jordan (photo above, lower right) talked about her time with the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Rappahannock Region.

In addition to describing the tasks they each completed during their internships, they shared sociological reflections about their experiences and presented tips for making the most of an internship. Both spoke about how their internships helped them gain a better understanding of race and class issues, and how rewarding their internship experiences were for them.



Dr. Bradley introduces Hannah Jordan (left) and Shennae Spence (right).

Contact Dr. Lyman, the Internship Coordinator, at elyman@radford.edu for more information about Sociology internships, and view the Sociology Internship page online at <https://www.radford.edu/content/chbs/home/sociology/about/internships.html>

Dr. Bodenhamer and Cody Meador Travel to the Coalfields of Southwest Virginia to Study Black Lung



Cody Meador participates in a Pulmonary Function Test to see what miners endure as part of their black lung screening.

Cody Meador completed over 200 hours with Dr. Aysha Bodenhamer over the summer to complete his SOCY 499 Internship. Cody got to experience firsthand research as he helped Dr. Bodenhamer finalize an IRB submission, develop an online survey using Qualtrics, and gain valuable interpersonal skills while working with a client, Stone Mountain Health Services. Cody and Dr. Bodenhamer traveled to two black lung clinics for a week conducting this research. They interviewed and surveyed over 20 miners, gaining valuable insights to the resurgence of black lung in central Appalachia.

Roots with Wings Oral History Project

Dr. Melinda Bollar Wagner, Professor Emerita of Anthropology and Appalachian Studies, participated in the VA ENGAGE conference, held at Radford University on October 4, 2019. "The VA Engage Network builds the capacity of Virginia colleges and universities to prepare students for lives of engaged citizenship and to mobilize community-campus partnerships that strengthen communities." Dr. Wagner was asked to contribute to a panel discussing "Sustaining Community Partnerships" because of the long-term association with a community partner, The Floyd Story Center at the Old Church Gallery, begun by Drs. Mary LaLone and Melinda Wagner



Shaylee Hodges, Sharmaine Ramirez, Dr. Melinda Wagner, Cora Bland, and Amanda Burroughs. The four students were awarded the Outstanding Research in Service to the Community Award at the Spring 2019 Department of Sociology Awards Ceremony.

in 1998. Dr. Wagner discussed the 13-year history of the partnership's Roots with Wings: Floyd County Place-based Education Oral History Project. She offered encouraging advice to faculty and students to "Be a Bridge" between university and community.

If you are interested in a Spring 2020 internship opportunity (SOCY 499) in the Roots with Wings Project with Dr. Wagner and the Floyd Story Center, talk with Drs. Lyman and Page. See the Project blog at: <https://floydstorycenter.blogspot.com>

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SPRING/SUMMER 2019 GRADUATES

Spring & Summer 2019

graduates:

Khorl Bennett
 Chad Boxley
 Amanda Burroughs
 Jocelyn Faul
 Shayna Gutcho
 Benjamin Leigh
 Mya Murphy
 Katelyn St. Clair
 Teaira White



To view more graduation photos by Dr. Page, Sociology Department photographer, go to <https://www.radford.edu/content/chbs/home/sociology/news/stories/2019/Graduation2019.html>

Photo above: Khorl Bennett celebrates.

Photo below: Some of the new Sociology graduates gather backstage at the Dedmon Center before the Spring 2019 Commencement ceremony Saturday, May 11. Commencement was moved indoors from the usual Moffett Lawn location due to the rainy weekend forecast. From left: Jocelyn Faul, Katelyn St. Clair, Amanda Burroughs, Chad Boxley, Shayna Gutcho, Khorl Bennett, and Dr. Bradley.

Photo on page 1: Left to right, Shayna Gutcho, Mya Murphy, and Chad Boxley backstage at the Dedmon Center.

NEWS FROM SPRING 2019

Since the spring newsletter rolled off the press, the Sociology Department's students engaged in two late Spring 2019 events: the Honors Celebration and Student Engagement Forum.

Sociology Department Honors Celebration, 2019



The Department of Sociology held its annual banquet and awards ceremony Wednesday, April 24 in Heth Hall. The year-end gathering celebrates the outstanding accomplishments of the past year, and marks the near-end of another academic year and the departure of graduating seniors. Amanda Burroughs (left) received the Extraordinary Academic Achievement Award. She also won the Dr. Carole Seyfrit Award for Excellence in Research.

Many other students were also honored. See page 7, and go to our web page to learn more about the honorees:

<https://www.radford.edu/content/chbs/home/sociology/news/stories/2019/HonorsCelebration2019.html>

2019 Student Engagement Forum



Students in the Roots with Wings project prepare for their presentation at the Student Engagement Forum Tuesday, April 23. Above, left to right, Cora Bland, Sharmaine Ramirez, Shaylee Hodges, and Amanda Burroughs.



Visual Sociology students presented posters of their research projects on the second day of the Student Engagement Forum--Wednesday, April 24--in Kyle Hall. In the photo to the right, Molly Mattox (right) discusses her poster with Dr. Wagner.

SOCIOLOGY CLUB NEWS



Following the momentum created during a successful spring, Fall 2019 brought lots of excitement to the Sociology Club. The last events of the spring semester included a food drive and officer elections. Sociology Club members collected food donations from dorms across campus and consolidated them for pickup by Bobcat Backpacks. Members also elected officers to lead the Sociology Club in the 2019-2020 school year. Elections ended with Sharmaine Ramirez as president, Shaylee Hodges as vice president, Russel Alvarez as treasurer, Desirae Booth as secretary, and Cierra Staton as social media chair. Each of the new officers is integral to this well-organized student-run club. The club's first membership meeting of the fall semester was held on Thursday, September 26th. As with most membership meetings, members were encouraged to engage with each other about pressing social issues. Discussion topics are generally chosen and led by club members. Details about membership meetings are posted on the Sociology Club's page on RU Involved. Please follow the Sociology Club @rusociologyclub on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.



Group photo following a presentation by Jenny Riffe (standing fourth from right), Bobcat Backpacks, at a membership meeting.

Club Fair and Sociology Club Interest Meeting

On August 30th, Radford University held its annual Fall Club Fair on Moffett Quad. Held on the first Friday of the semester, the Fall Club Fair serves as one of the first opportunities of the school year for students to get involved with extracurricular activities. The Sociology Club had a great afternoon at the fair, with club members interacting with passersby, adding curious students' names to the ever-expanding mailing list, and inviting students to attend the interest meeting the following week. The interest meeting allowed prospective members to engage with current members in a more traditional meeting-style setting. The current president of the Sociology Club, Sharmaine Ramirez, created an open dialogue with potential new members wherein they addressed the purpose and upcoming goals of the club. Both events served as a stellar jumpstart for the 2019-2020 school year. For more information about becoming a member of the Sociology Club, please contact Sharmaine at sramirez6@radford.edu.

(Stories above contributed by Taylor Marris, student, and Dr. Stephanie Bradley.)

More from the Sociology Club



Sociology Club table at the Club Fair.



Club members Taylor Marris and Miranda Salgado collecting food donations from a dorm.

Sociology Club Participates in Radford Gives Back

Radford Gives Back is an annual community service project hosted on Radford University's campus. The campuswide food drive and packing event benefits Bobcat Backpacks, a local organization providing Radford City Public School students with food to eat outside of school. RU students, faculty/staff, and volunteers gather each year to accept, sort, and pack donated food items. Collected items include canned veggies, fruit, beans, ravioli, and chunky soup; medium sized jars of peanut butter; boxed mac'n'cheese; oatmeal packets; microwave popcorn; and granola bars. More than 15,000 food items were collected during last year's event, which supplied about a third of the annual needs for Bobcat Backpacks.



The Sociology Club partnered with Bobcat Backpacks for the Spring 2019 end-of-semester food drive. This relationship led to the Sociology Club being the lead student organization for this year's Radford Gives Back campuswide event on October 8th and 9th. Dr. Bradley, the club's faculty advisor, Sharmaine Ramirez, and Desirae Booth attended planning meetings leading up to the event. Club members volunteered for shifts during which they trained other volunteers and led packing efforts to keep the event organized and efficient. For more information, follow the Bobcat Backpacks Program on Facebook or Instagram.

(Story contributed by Taylor Marris and Desirae Booth, students, and Dr. Stephanie Bradley.)

FACULTY ACTIVITIES



In addition to activities described in the previous pages, our faculty have been engaged in the following things:

◆ Drs. Bradley, Lyman, and Wisecup traveled to Old Dominion University in September to tour that university's Social Science Research Center. The SSRC was started by Dr. Carole Seyfrit, who later taught in the Department of Sociology here at Radford University. The trip, supported by the RU Office of Sponsored Programs and Grants Management, allowed them to see how this larger, successful research center is operated. Their host, Dr. Tancy Vandecar-Burdin, gave them an in-depth view into the inner workings of a center that serves the university community, the ODU surrounding area, and the commonwealth at large, using the kinds of social research tools that we teach to our students at Radford.

◆ Dr. Bradley has been busy supporting and engaging with the campus and area community. In late spring, she received the 2019 Douglas Covington Pillar Award from the Radford University Black Student Alliance (BSA). Through the Pillar Award, BSA recognizes the faculty or staff member who propels students toward excellence and expresses their dedication to the work that they do within the community. Dr. Bradley also served as an invited panelist at the Collegiate Women's Leadership Brunch. Hosted by several student



Dr. Bradley at the Women's Equality Summit.

organizations, this event empowered, encouraged, and equipped women preparing for their professional careers. In the summer, Dr. Bradley was invited to participate in the Central by Southwest (CxSW) Women's Equality Summit. Her panel focused on how equity for women will improve the quality of life for women, families, and our community. These opportunities to support the student and broader communities all produced meaningful and sociological engagement.

◆ Dr. Hunter was invited to appear as a critic on an Author Meets Critics panel at the annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society in Atlanta, GA in April. She was one of three critics to address a recent book by SunAh Layborn and Devon Goss titled *Diversity in Black Greek-Letter Organizations: Breaking the Line*. Dr. Hunter also published a book review in the journal *Symbolic Interaction* on a recent book by Keith Berry titled *Bullied: Tales of Torment, Identity, and Youth*. Her review is currently available online and will be published in a future print issue of the journal. In addition, Dr. Hunter's teaching resource "Flash Data Collection and Analysis", published in June 2018 in the American Sociological Association's *Teaching Resource and Innovations Library for Sociology (TRAILS)* was the fourth most downloaded resource that year out of more than 3,600 available resources.

◆ Drs. Bodenhamer and Bradley were competitively selected to teach Governor's School at Radford University during Summer 2019. Bradley taught engaging classes on the Sociology of hip-hop and the use of existing data. Bodenhamer taught two courses on Environmental Sociology and Appalachian Studies. Classes were taught five days a week for a month with the best and brightest students from all over Virginia. Drs. Bodenhamer and Bradley also worked with undecided majors during Quest, Summer 2019. They worked one-on-one with students to coach them through the course registration process as they geared up for their first semester at RU.

◆ Drs. Hunter and Wisecup are working with a group of academic librarians to survey employees at academic libraries about their experiences with sexual harassment. The recent #metoo and #timesup movements have shifted the national narrative about workplace sexual harassment. Previous research suggests that female-dominated professions experience a high degree of sexual harassment, not only from co-workers but also from clients. Does librarianship fall into these patterns seen in other fields? Anecdotal evidence suggests it does, but a quantitative analysis has not been conducted - until now. Our research team administered an established survey intended to measure the prevalence and incidence of sexual harassment, collecting over 600 responses from academic library employees. Results from this survey were presented at the annual meeting of the Association of College and Research Libraries in Cleveland, Ohio in April 2019.

◆ Dr. Bodenhamer hit the Appalachian Trail with many colleagues and alumni from across RU this summer. They backpacked from Carver's Gap to 19E, about 20 miles in two days. Pictured right: Aysha Bodenhamer (Sociology), Anja Whittington (Professor RCPT), Jamie Lao (Professor Biology), and Sarah Jones (RU Alumnus). Bodenhamer also volunteered her time with the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC) clearing trails.



In addition, Dr. Bodenhamer has been hard at work publishing. In 2019 she published "The Resurgence of Black Lung in Central Appalachia: The Silencing of Coal Miners and Toxic Occupational Exposure" in the *Journal of the Social History of Medicine and Health (Chinese)* 4(1):137-163. Dr. Bodenhamer and co-authors, Andrew O. Behnke, Taylor McDonald, and Mayra Robledo, published "The Impact of the Juntos Program: A Qualitative Evaluation" in the *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences* 41(1):63-84. Additionally, she and her co-author, Scott T. Grether, published "Analyzing Police Violence Against Men" in *TRAILS: Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology*.

Washington, DC: American Sociological Association

<http://trails.asanet.org/Pages/SearchResults.aspx?all=police+violence+against+men&subjectarea=any&order=PublicationDate+DESC>.