



NEWSLETTER

College of the Holy Cross
 Sociology and Anthropology Department
 Worcester, MA 01610
 508-793-2288

October 2023

This newsletter provides sociology majors and anthropology majors and minors with important updates including registration information for Spring 2024 and happenings in the department.

KEY DATES

Spring 2024 Advising: Oct. 24
 Enrollment: Nov. 6 - Nov. 17

Expected Graduation	STAGE 1	STAGE 2	Open Enrollment
Spring 2024 & Fall 2024	Mon, Nov. 6 7 am - 2 pm	Tues, Nov. 7 7 am - 11:59 pm	Tues, Dec. 5 8 am
Spring 2025 & Fall 2025	Thurs, Nov. 9 7 am - 2 pm	Fri, Nov. 10 7 am - 11:59 pm	Tues, Dec. 5 8 am
Spring 2026 & Fall 2026	Mon, Nov. 13 7 am - 2 pm	Tues, Nov. 14 7 am - 11:59 pm	Tues, Dec. 5 8 am
Spring 2027	Thurs, Nov. 16 7 am - 2 pm	Fri, Nov. 17 7 am - 11:59 pm	Tues, Dec. 5 8 am

Spring '24 COURSES

For schedule of classes and course descriptions, refer to the College Catalog or STAR online.

- ANTH 101 Anthropological Perspective (6 sections - in STAR)
- ANTH 250 Arab Womens' Worlds TR 12:30 - 1:45pm
- ANTH 251 Informal Economies TR 2:00 - 3:15pm
- ANTH 262 Anthropology of Religion MW 3:00 - 4:15pm
- ANTH 277 Coming of Age at the Border TR 9:30 - 10:45am
- ANTH 299-S01 Africa Infrastructure TR 11:00 - 12:15pm
- ANTH 299-F03 Reproductive Justice TR 2:00 - 3:15pm
- ANTH 310 Ethnographic Field Methods TR 2:00 - 3:15pm
- ANTH 491 Honors Colloquium
- ANTH 493 Directed Honors Research
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- SOCL 101 The Sociological Perspective (6 sections - in STAR)
- SOCL 205 Social Class & Power WF 12:30 - 1:45pm
- SOCL 219 Deviance, Normalcy & Control (2 sections - in STAR)
- SOCL 223 Logics of Inquiry WF 8:30 - 9:45am
- SOCL 226 Social Statistics WF 8:30 - 9:45am
- SOCL 241 Development of Social Theory TR 12:30 - 1:45pm
- SOCL 254 Girls and Violence WF 12:30 - 1:45pm
- SOCL 299-F01 Are Prisons Obsolete? TR 2:00 - 3:15pm
- SOCL 299-S03 Social Justice in the Anthropocene MW 4:30 - 5:45pm
- SOCL 299-F04 Social Change MW 3:00 - 4:15pm
- SOCL 299-S04 The Contemporary City MWF 12:00 - 12:50pm
- SOCL 299-S06 Food Justice, Racial Justice WF 2:00 - 3:15pm
- SOCL 375 End of Life R 3:00 - 5:30pm
- SOCL 399-S02 Race, Racism, and Whiteness M 11:00 - 1:30pm
- SOCL 399-S03 Black Feminist Sociology T 9:30 - 12:00pm
- SOCL 491 Honors Colloquium
- SOCL 493 Directed Honors Research

Department Contact Information



Department Chair
 dharvey@holycross.edu
 Beaven 231

Prof. Daina Cheyenne Harvey

Please check STAR for up-to-date course info.

[Go to Spring 24 seminar form](#) to apply for 300 level courses

MAJOR & MINOR REQUIREMENTS

Anthropology Major Requirements

Requirements (10 course minimum):

Recommended sequence of courses:

- Anthropological Perspective (ANTH 101)
- Anthropological Theory (ANTH 320)
- Ethnographic Field Methods (ANTH 310)
- One advanced anthropology course at 300 or 400- level
- Six anthropology electives (two electives may be sociology courses)

Anthropology Minor Requirements

- Anthropological Perspective (ANTH 101)
 - Ethnographic Field Methods (ANTH 310)
- OR**
- Theory in Anthropology (ANTH 320)
 - Four additional anthropology courses, by student interest

Sociology Major Requirements

Requirements (10 course minimum):

Recommended sequence of courses:

- Sociological Perspective (SOCL 101)
 - Development of Social Theory (SOCL 241)
 - Social Statistics (SOCL 226)
 - Logics of Inquiry (SOCL 223)
- One advanced sociology course at 300 or 400- level
- Five sociology electives (two electives may be anthropology courses)

NEW SPRING '24 COURSES

SOCL 299-03

Social Justice in the Anthropocene

The 'Anthropocene' marks the current geological epoch in which humans are the primary cause of permanent planetary change. While the proposed term is contentious and still being debated, this course will focus on theorizations and critiques of the Anthropocene and its implications for social justice. Debates on nomenclature raise important questions regarding which geopolitical groups bear disproportionate responsibility for environmental crises, and which groups bear the brunt of their consequences. Scholars have proposed alternative terms such as the Capitalocene, Plantationocene, and Chthulucene to highlight the class, race, and gender injustices that are obscured by the term. Drawing on decolonial, feminist, and anti-racist scholarship, course readings encompass intersectional theorizing, political manifestos, and creative visual work from the Global South and Global North alongside case studies on the effects of climate change, social justice movements and activism in this geohistorical era, and the forging of transnational solidarities around alternative visions to the Anthropocene. Through in-class discussions, collaborative group activities, and creative activist projects, students will apply this knowledge towards a critical intersectional praxis that is relevant for our times.

SOCL 399-03

Black Feminist Sociology

This seminar centers on recently released edited volume of the same name, asking students to explore what we consider Black feminist work and why. Per Routledge, "Black Feminist Sociology offers new writings by established and emerging scholars working in a Black feminist tradition. The book centers Black feminist sociology (BFS) within the sociology canon and widens it to feature Black feminist sociologists both outside the US and the academy. Inspired by a BFS lens, the essays are critical, personal, political and oriented toward social justice. Key themes include the origins of BFS, expositions of BFS orientations to research that extend disciplinary norms, and contradictions of the pleasures and costs of such an approach both academically and personally. Authors explore their own sociological legacy of intellectual development to raise critical questions of intellectual thought and self-reflexivity. The book highlights the dynamism of BFS so future generations of scholars can expand upon and beyond the book's key themes."

NEW SPRING '24 COURSES

ANTH 299-01

Africa Infrastructure

This course aims to develop students' ability to think ethnographically and comparatively about urban life in contemporary Africa, using the theme of "infrastructure" as a starting point. For purposes of the course, the term "infrastructure" points to both material connections—like utilities, transport, and financial systems—and the diverse social connections that constitute everyday life. While engaging the literature about infrastructure in African cities, we will consider the way that specific local experiences fit into wider political, economic, and social trends on the continent. We will also discuss matters of culture, race, gender, generation, migration, and representation, and the ways that each is implicated in African cities and urban spatiality more generally. The joint result is a course that provides an introduction to both contemporary Africa and the literature on urban life in the global South.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

We are delighted to announce that one of our faculty members from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology has been promoted to Full Professor at the College of the Holy Cross.

Please congratulate Professor Melissa F. Weiner on achieving this important milestone!

CONGRATULATIONS



SOCL 299-06

Food Justice - Racial Justice

Our current food system is predicated on food insecurity, rooted in racial capitalism. The most precarious populations have always been the primary producers of America's food. Our course begins with the agrarian origins of American capitalism which has its origins in slavery and the dispossession of composite farmers in Appalachia. Here we look at how profit seeking behavior and market practices created a dependence on cash and credit and fractured the ecological balance that existed between land, food, and a peasant way of life. We move on to looking at the history of agricultural labor and migrants—including today's processing facilities and slaughter houses. We will also look at the environmental effects of our neoliberal food system, namely how we have created an ecologically and economically unsustainable system; and also, how we relate to nonhumans. Finally, from a community-based perspective we trace the development of food apartheid in the US and its outcomes--racialized health and economic precarity. Using critical race studies, indigenous studies, urban studies, environmental studies, gender studies, community-based studies, and social justice as lenses students will leave the course with a broad understanding of the failure of the American food system. As an activist oriented course, students will work with local organizations on food justice efforts. Food justice is racial justice!

SOCL 399-02

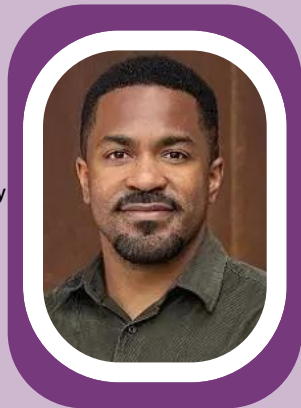
Race, Racism, and Whiteness

Embracing the maxim advanced by the journal *Race Traitor* (1992–2005) that "Treason to Whiteness is Loyalty to Humanity," this course offers students an opportunity to pursue a critical study of whiteness from an anti-racist perspective. By engaging and assessing key contributions to the field of critical whiteness studies, students will familiarize themselves with the historical origins, epistemological characteristics, and practical effects of whiteness as a sociological phenomenon. By considering themes including racial formation, culture, privilege, and the role of allies in anti-racist struggle, students will work to denaturalize whiteness and reflect upon what its abolition might mean both for white people and for communities impacted by white supremacy. Combining lectures, case analyses, and interactive dialogue, this course requires careful reading, active participation, and ongoing reflection.

MEET THE NEW FACULTY!

Prof. Anthony Williams

Post Doctoral Teaching Fellow, Sociology
Email: awilliams@holycross.edu
Office: Beaven 202



Moving to New England as someone who spent almost all of my life in California means my acclimation has been a little difficult. But as a lover of lush landscapes, the flora of Worcester really catch my eye every day. I'm quite happy I made the move because there is a clear desire for knowledge among my students in the SCAN Department @ Holy Cross that pushes me to get more creative with how I teach. For example, I have always taught and spoke at large public institutions, so I'm constantly shifting my pedagogy to help me better serve my students through our limited time in class.

As an undergrad, I first got interested in sociology because of how my professors analyzed systems, power, and relationships in ways applicable inside and outside of the classroom. I became a sociologist in order to do that same thing, using my research and teaching as tools to dismantle interlocking systems of oppression and uplift the resistance of historically marginalized populations. I'm an abolitionist, which often elicits the question: "well what do we do about [fill in the blank]," so I love teaching my "Are Prisons Obsolete" course where we get to debunk popular myths, build empathy, and deconstruct our collective investment in punishment. Class becomes a space where we can use empirical research, real-life events, and creative writing to freedom dream what we need to do now to create a less violent world for ourselves and those who came after us.

Prof. Jayati Lal

Visiting Associate Professor
Ph.D., Cornell University
Email: jlal@holycross.edu
Office: Beaven 213
Office Phone: 508-793-3622



I'm still not quite settled in Worcester and haven't had much time to explore the city yet. But I have had the opportunity to visit a local microbrewery with department colleagues and am looking forward to discovering more that the city has to offer. And not just in the microbrewery scene, but also the farmers market, city parks and hiking trails, museums, and local arts and politics. I'm also looking forward to trekking around town to take in the Fall splendor before the long, snowy winter arrives. Although I've lived in the NE snow-belt before, that's one thing I'm NOT looking forward to in Worcester!

My route to becoming a sociologist was a bit circuitous: my undergraduate degree was in Psychology from Delhi University, but I became increasingly aware in those years that the theories we were reading were not just out of date but were all 'imported' Western theories that had little to no relevance in the Indian sociopolitical and cultural context. Furthermore, the issues I was most passionate about concerning social inequalities of class, gender, and caste were neither central to the discipline nor easily changed through a psychological approach. I switched to Sociology for my master's degree and added Women's and Gender Studies as a concentration along the way to my PhD. This was the beginning of my journey towards a decolonial feminist materialist approach to social justice issues that continues to animate my research and teaching to this day.

I'm delighted to be in the SCAN department among colleagues with shared interests in several substantive areas. As an ethnographer and feminist scholar, I am deeply committed to interdisciplinary work. In scholarship on India and other peripheral sites in the Global South, the epistemological boundaries between anthropology and sociology are much less clearly drawn than they are in the US and other metropolitan locations in the Global North. In other words, we could say that the Anthropology of the Other devolves into the Sociology of the Self in knowledge production on India and other postcolonial contexts. So, I welcome the physical and institutional proximity with Anthropology at Holy Cross, and I hope to share many invigorating conversations with colleagues in SCAN about these and other interdisciplinary entanglements. As for my teaching, I love being in the classroom and am still learning about Holy Cross students and their experience of being at a LAC. I'm enjoying the small class size and the opportunities it provides for discussion-based learning, even in my introductory course. I bring my commitment to social justice issues to all the courses I teach and hope that students learn and continue to engage with these principles over the long term in the future and not just the duration of a single semester.

MEET THE NEW FACULTY!

Prof. Andrew Thompson

Visiting Assistant Professor
Ph.D., York University (Toronto)
Email: athompson@holycross.edu
Office: Beaven 223



What do you think about Worcester? Favorite foods or places to visit here?

I'm still finding my bearings here, but I've been excited to learn a bit about local histories of struggle. From the principled collective violence that pushed the Ku Klux Klan out of town in 1924 to the very recent strike by nurses at St. Vincent's who stayed strong on picket lines for more than 300 days before the boss caved, this town has been an important site for struggles against oppression and exploitation. I hear that Emma Goldman even lived here once! On the other hand, highway construction during the twentieth century really deformed the city, and I think it's made it more difficult for people to converge. As a result, it feels like there's a shortage of welcoming third spaces, and a lot of the countercultural scene seems to gravitate toward or operate out of collective houses. It's a neat adaptation, but it also reflects how inhospitable the terrain is. So far, my favorite spots are the Crompton skatepark and that stretch of Millbury Street running south from Kelley Square. Both remind me of Brooklyn in different ways, and both help me feel more at home. I also love the Firehouse, a performance space that seems consistently to run great programming.

What about teaching in the SCAN Dept @ Holy Cross excites you the most?

Students here are motivated and ready to learn. I also appreciate my colleagues' commitment to academic rigor and social justice, and the work that administrative assistant Paula Hall does to keep this place running is really beyond compare.

Why'd you become a sociologist?

I didn't think much of sociology until I discovered the work of scholars, like Dorothy Smith and Himani Bannerji, who came out of movements and who demonstrated how sociology itself could be made useful to those in struggle. When I began to understand how political confrontation could be approached as a viable research method, I was sold. Still, sociology remains an ambivalent enterprise. From its inception, it's been torn between divergent emphases on functionalism and conflict. In the United States, it succumbed for a long time to what C. Wright Mills once described as a "bureaucratic ethos," which undermined research by emphasizing technical problems of data collection over principled commitments to substantive inquiry. Although practically every sociology department in this country claims to be driven by the promise of Mills' "sociological imagination," many ignore his recommendation that sociologists break with "grand theory" and with projects in which methodological considerations end up determining the research question. In opposition to these approaches, Mills offered a vision of the sociologist as craftsman, and it's this vision that I try to realize in my work.

What made you interested in this study?

We are living through a period of intensified conflict on nearly every front, and I don't think it's possible to remain detached or neutral. Sociology can help us to make sense of these conflicts; a little further, and it can help us to envision the means by which they might be overcome. For me, that's where its true promise can be found. As Mary Romero made clear in her Presidential Address to the American Sociological Association in 2019, partisanship is not antithetical to scientific inquiry, nor is it absent from the American sociological tradition—though it has been suppressed through reiterations of our Chicago School-centered origin story. Still, the fact remains: there simply is no American sociology without W.E.B. Du Bois' elegant and partisan study of Philadelphia's Seventh Ward, or without Ida B. Wells-Barnett's indicting analysis of the factors that enabled lynching in the Jim Crow South. We have a chance to be part of this tradition, and to further its aims. It's a great honor, but it's also the case that current conditions don't really allow us any other choice.

Are there any specific courses you are passionate about teaching?

Because I'm here as a Visiting Professor, I'm excited to offer courses in my areas of expertise, which students might not get a chance to encounter otherwise. In Spring '24, I will be teaching my course on social change and leading a seminar on race, racism, and whiteness. Given the crises of our current interregnum and the revanchist nature of white supremacy, I hope students will feel motivated to join these classes and participate in the discussion.

What do you hope to gain from this experience?

I'm not sure. The last time I worked at a Jesuit institution, I helped organize contingent faculty to win a union. Perhaps I'll get a chance to participate in something similar here.



FALL EVENTS

OCT. 18 SCAN Grad Student Info Session
6:30 PM Beaven 118

OCT. 19 SCAN Fireside Chat
8:00 - 9:30 PM Hoval Firepits

Informal gathering with faculty, majors, and minors. Come eat s'mores and chat with friends and faculty!

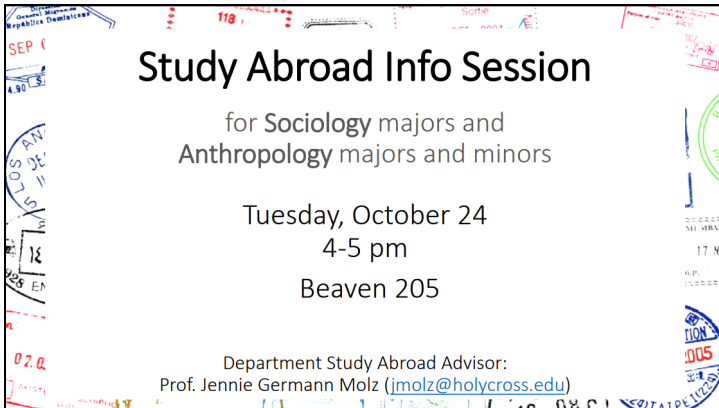
OCT. 24 SCAN Study Abroad Info Session
4:00 - 5:00 PM Beaven 205

Join us to hear about study-abroad opportunities with Professor Germann Molz

OCT. 24 Food Insecurity Panel Discussion
4:30 - 5:30 PM PAC Media Room

NOV. 10 Occupy the University Talk
4:00 - 6:00 PM Hogan Suite B - 4th Floor

Join authors Marisa Holmes and Conor Tomás Reed to discuss the legacies and lessons of Occupy Wall Street and the historic struggle to transform CUNY into a people's university.



Study Abroad Info Session

for Sociology majors and Anthropology majors and minors

Tuesday, October 24
4-5 pm
Beaven 205

Department Study Abroad Advisor:
Prof. Jennie Germann Molz (jmolz@holycross.edu)




SCAN DEPT
INVITES YOU TO

PANEL DISCUSSION: FOOD INSECURITY/ FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

OUR SPEAKERS



Performing Arts
Center (PAC)
Media Room


**Tuesday, Oct
24th**
4:30-5:30 PM

Any Questions? Reach Us At
scanstudent@holycross.edu

**10
NOVEMBER
4-6PM**

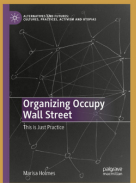
PLACE OF THE EVENT
HOGAN SUITE B - 4TH FLOOR



OCUPY THE UNIVERSITY!

HOW CAN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS
TRANSFORM EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS?

Join authors Marisa Holmes and Conor Tomás Reed to discuss the legacies and lessons of Occupy Wall Street and the historic struggle to make CUNY a people's university!



Drawing on insights from their recently published books *Organizing Occupy Wall Street: This Is Just Practice* (2023: Palgrave Macmillan) and *New York Liberation School: Study and Movement for the People's University* (2023: Common Notions), Holmes and Reed will speak to the liberating potential of education both within and beyond university walls.

Sponsored by The Department of Sociology & Anthropology and the Department of Political Science

For more information, please contact Dr. Andrew Thompson at athompson@holycross.edu

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Books, Articles & Chapters

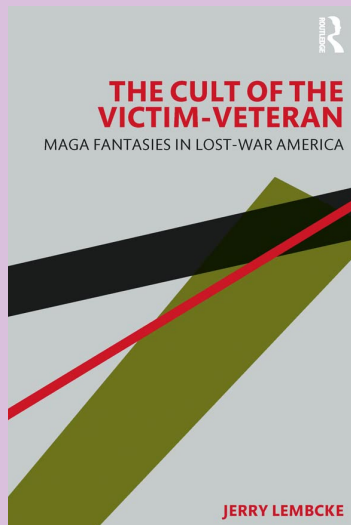
Fabiola Mancinelli & **Jennie Germann Molz** (2023) Moving with and against the state: digital nomads and frictional mobility regimes, *Mobilities*, 1-19. DOI: 10.1080/17450101.2023.2209825

Lembcke, Jerry. *Choice*, October 2023. Abu El-Hai, Nadia. Combat Trauma: Imaginaries of War and Citizenship in Post-9/11 America, Verso.

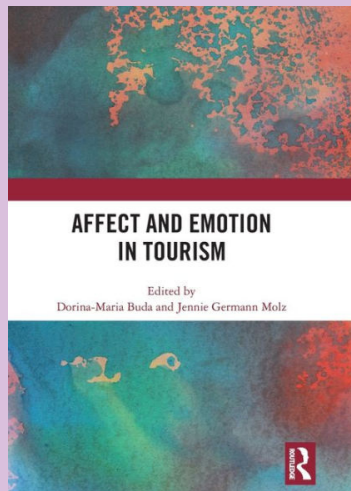
Lembcke, Jerry. *Choice*, September 2023. Peter Bergren et.al. *Understanding the New Proxy Wars: Battlegrounds and Strategies Reshaping the Greater Middle East*, Oxford.

Lembcke, Jerry. *Choice*, August 2023. Jennifer Mittelstadt and Mark Wilson. *The Military and The Market*, Pennsylvania.

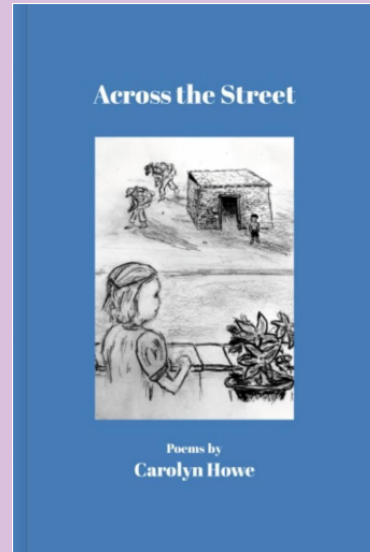
Lembcke, Jerry. (2023) *The Cult of the Victim-Veteran: MAGA Fantasies in Lost-war America*. Routledge, 2023.



Buda, Dorina Maria, and **Germann Molz, Jennie** (2023). *Affect and Emotion in Tourism*. Routledge, 2023.



Howe, Carolyn. (2023) *Across the Street*. (A Book of Poetry)



Jarrin, Carmen Alvaro. (2023). *A Biopolítica da Beleza: Cidadania Cosmética e Capital Afetivo no Brasil*. Rio de Janeiro: Editora FIOCRUZ



STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS!



Edgar Román Almánzar '24
Location: Madrid, Spain

Over the summer, I was given the opportunity to travel to Spain under a Maymester course! I arrived in Madrid, which is the capital and located in the center of the country. In Madrid, we took Spanish and History courses to offer us help with the language and to learn insight into the histories of the places we would visit. Our group traveled from Madrid to eight different cities spanning the whole country which included Barcelona, Bilbao, Málaga, Seville, Toledo, Cadaqués, Granada, and Figueres. Our traveling served as a segway for us to learn more about the history and cultural aspects of the country, consequently discovering how different each city was from one another. This experience taught me so much about local traditions, rituals, and national identity across Spain; it was an experience Holy Cross gave me that I will never take for granted!



Litzy Mejia '24
Location: Ecuador

My time in Ecuador was nothing short of amazing! I studied abroad with a program called Pachaysana Rehearsing Change. In this program, I traveled to several different communities and engaged in several community-based projects. We were able to immerse ourselves in the Ecuadorian culture and learn about Kichwa practices and the language. It was an experience like no other where I had the opportunity to apply the knowledge I learned as a SCAN major at Holy Cross. It's one thing to learn about the resistance of communities in textbooks but it is completely life-changing to be immersed with these strong individuals and experience it in person. What I enjoyed most about the program was that we all had something to teach and learn, no one was treated as higher than, but instead as equals.

STUDY ABROAD

Prof. Jennie Germann Molz is the department's study abroad advisor.



Please contact her with any questions about how you can incorporate a study abroad experience into your sociology major or your anthropology major or minor.

jmolz@holycross.edu

CREATED BY:

This newsletter was created by the SCAN Publication Committee: Professor Daina Harvey, Professor Ellis Jones, Paula Hall, and Edgar Roman Almanzar '24

October 2023

