

SocSource

ALUMNI ISSUE | OCTOBER 2014

In honor of homecoming weekend, this issue features alumni stories, photos, insights, and suggestions for students. See what our alumni have to say about sociology, professional development, and life in the "real world" on page 2, 3, and 4 of this issue!

DEPARTMENT NEWS

New! Sociology Department Student Research Methods Colloquium

On Thursday, October 9th from 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m. students from the Block 1 Qualitative and Quantitative research methods courses will present their final research papers. The goal of the colloquium is to provide a venue for these students to share the exciting research they have done with their Sociology peers and faculty.

RSVP to Steph by Wednesday, October 8th to reserve your spot and food: Steph.Olivas@ColoradoCollege.edu

Senior Thesis Decompression Hour

Starting this block (and continuing through Block 7), Steph will be holding Senior Thesis Decompression Hour in her office (Palmer 129) every Thursday from 2:00p.m.-3:00p.m. Enjoy some snacks and Steph's sympathetic ear while you vent, share your concerns about, or deny your next impending thesis deadline.

Sociological Imagination: First-Year Edition

Culture. Norms. Social networks. Interactions. Gender roles. Identity. These are all familiar topics for us here in the Sociology Department. But these sociological perspectives are relevant for students across this campus. Particularly those who are beginning their CC journeys, figuring it out, and finding their place: First-Years. The Sociological Imagination: First-Year Edition will be a lunch gathering available to any and all first-years interested in learning about some basic sociological concepts and how they can be employed to take a critical look at first-year experience. RSVP to Steph by Monday, October 6th to reserve your spot and food: Steph.Olivas@ColoradoCollege.edu

Exciting Block 3 Course: Science, Business and Innovation in Modern America

Looking for a great Block 3 course? Look no further! This course explores the following: How has our knowledge about the natural world been shaped by personal and commercial interests? What do the links between science and commerce mean for the idea of science and the idea of business? The relationship between science and business has been and continues to be one of the most notable features of our modern economy and culture. This course will survey examples of concrete links between science, innovative thinking, and business, while also looking at the science-business relationship in cultural historical terms. -Mateo Muñoz

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Sociological Imagination Luncheon: First-Year Edition Wednesday, October 8th

12:00p.m. – 1:00p.m.

Sociology Seminar Room (Lunch Provided)
First-years gather over lunch to learn about sociological habits of thought and how they are applicable to the first-year experience.
First-years only.

Sociology Department Student Research Methods Colloquium Thursday, October 9th

12:00p.m. – 1:00p.m.

Palmer 122 (Lunch provided for those who RSVP)

Thesis Decompression Hour Thursday, October 9th & 16th

2:00p.m.-3:00p.m.

Steph's Office (Palmer 129)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

- **Tuesday, 10/14:** Fulbright Scholarship Application Deadline
- **Wednesday, 10/15:** Gates Cambridge Scholarship Application Deadline
- **Friday, 10/24:** Teach for America application deadline (Round 3)

If a tree falls in the forest and no one is around...

Marx	Bulldozers. Bourgeoisie bulldozing the forest to make a profit.
Durkheim	Maybe the tree felt some anomie.
Foucault	I may have seen it fall.
Weber	There's going to be paperwork about this.
Mead	Am I the tree and everyone else the forest? How does the forest see me? How do I see the forest?
Mills	You can't look at the tree without looking at its interaction with the forest. I wrote a whole book about it.

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CC Sociology Alumni around the World!

CC Sociology Alumni are doing great things all over the world! The following pages present a selection of featured alumni. For a more extensive list of what alumni are up to, visit the "Alumni News" section of the "News & Events" tab on the Sociology website!

Sociology Class of 2014 Public Interest Fellowship Program (PIFP) Yearlong Fellows

"The Public Interest Fellowship Program (PIFP) mission is to provide opportunities for Colorado College students and recent graduates to pursue meaningful work with public interest nonprofit organizations, thereby increasing the capacity of those organizations and fostering a new generation of nonprofit leaders."

Colorado Center on Law and Policy

Aubrey Hasvold

"I'm working as the public affairs fellow for the Colorado Center on Law and Policy. We focus on healthcare and family economic security. I do communications work, do research, make infographics, do social media etc., and I will be a lobbyist during the legislative session."

Colorado Children's Campaign

Lily Gil

"I'm working for the Colorado Children's Campaign in Denver. Mainly I manage our website, help with the transition to a new website host/platform, support the communications and outreach team by compiling, editing and writing articles for our weekly e-newsletter, and generally helping out on any projects that colleagues need additional support with."

Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved

Aditi Ramaswami

"As a program assistant at CCMU, I am running the organization's social media presence, traveling around Colorado to collect stories for the Health is Local project, and engaging in work surrounding health care policy."

Denver School of Science and Technology (DSST) Public Schools

Caila Criss

"As the Home Office Fellow I will be primarily working on the Communications Team--producing internal and external newsletters, blogs, giving tours, and helping with their social media campaign. I will also be assisting with enrollment and recruitment duties."

The Bell Policy Center

Sarah Freeman

Amelia Cate '14

Amelia is working as an AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer for an organization called College Horizons in New Mexico. College Horizons is a non-profit organization and pre-college program that encourages and facilitates the higher education of Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian youth. Each summer, College Horizons is hosted at a university/college where representatives from 40-50 colleges, including CC, participate and work with students. Representatives help students with the college application process (essays, resume, the Common Application), test taking strategies for the ACT and SAT, and financial aid/scholarship information. This year, Amelia will be doing local outreach to Native American high schools to encourage students to apply for College Horizons, as well as fundraising for the program.



Alejandra Chavez '14

Ale is working at Vanguard Skin Specialists, a dermatology company in Colorado Springs as Patient Care Coordinator. Vanguard does everything related with skin from cosmetology to skin cancer surgery. Ale believes her job has allowed her to merge both of her majors (Sociology and Economics). She does business management as the HIPAA privacy officer while trying to understand a particular cohort of people who are more prone to skin cancer, helping her provide a better patient experience.



Angela Komar '13

Angela is working for CASA of the Pikes Peak Region as a Child Abuse Case Supervisor in Colorado Springs. CASA of the Pikes Peak Region is a nonprofit organization that trains and supervises volunteers to represent the best interests of victims of child abuse, neglect, and severe domestic conflict. CASA volunteers are appointed by judges to be a voice for these children in court and in the community. The desired result is that children be

placed in safe, loving homes where they can thrive. Angela's role is to supervise the volunteers that are appointed to these cases and coach and guide them throughout the length of the case.

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Lauren Schneider '13

Lauren is currently in Chennai, India working as a 4th grade EAL (English as an Additional Language) teacher at the American International School-Chennai.

Kathleen Callahan '13

Kathleen is currently on Jeju Island in South Korea, working at Branksome Hall Asia, an all-girls international boarding school. Her main focus is in residence life in the 9th and 10th grade dorm. She supports student's emotional well-being, academic life, and initiates activities in the residence program.

Photograph: CC graduates Kate Leaf ('13) and Kathleen Callahan on top of Mt. Halla – the highest peak in Korea!



Carmn Rodi '13

After graduation, Carmen completed a year of service with AmeriCorps in Boston and worked through a non-profit called Tenacity, which runs a tennis and literacy program in the public schools. She worked at the Curley K-8 School and helped with the after school program that Tenacity runs there. This year, Carmen is working as a tutor at a public charter high school called City on a Hill. Specifically, she tutors students in literacy and math, and helps juniors get ready for the college process.

Photograph: Carmen (far right) with a few of her Tenacity students.

Toni Pizza '12

Toni received her Masters of Fine Arts in Game Design from the New York University Game Center this past May. In addition to playing games, she is currently an adjunct instructor at NYU. Follow her work at tonithepizza.com.

Sarah Riordan '11

Sarah currently lives in New Hampshire working as a Field Organizer at the Community Outreach Group for the Planned Parenthood Action Fund. She works for the campaign and advocacy branch of Planned Parenthood – working to get candidates elected who support Planned Parenthood and women's health.

Lauren Robertori '10

Lauren is currently living in a 57-person cooperative student house in Berkley, California. She is attending classes at community colleges in the area to complete her prerequisites for physical therapy school, and plans on applying in the fall. Her goal is to build healing yoga practices and mindfulness into physical therapy, and/or work with the Spanish-speaking population.

Sarah Diefendorf '09

Sarah just began her fifth year of graduate school as a PhD student in Sociology at the University of Washington. Sarah's research interests include sexuality, gender, masculinities, religion, and sex education. These interests emerged while Sarah was a student in the sociology department at CC. While at CC, Sarah interviewed men who pledged sexual abstinence until marriage. In 2011, when Sarah began her master's thesis, she went back to this same group of men and interviewed them after they were married to further investigate their understandings of gender and sexuality; specifically, Sarah was and is interested in the ways in which we can use this data to better understand how masculinities shift over the life course. Sarah's work has been featured in The Washington Post, The New Republic, New York Magazine, CNN, MSNBC, CBS, Fox, Think Progress, Salon, The Pacific Standard, Dan Savage's Blog, and others.



Chris Jain '04

Chris is currently a first grade teacher at The San Francisco Friends School (Quaker School). He began teaching for nine years ago, starting the year immediately after graduating from Colorado College. His thesis was about the absence of men in elementary education.

ALUMNI

Reflections on the Colorado College Department of Sociology, and Words of Advice for Students:

If you are really interested in a discipline try to seek out summer research internships at a university because after you graduate those are often no longer available to you. Also, try as many different activities that you think may be interesting in college; the "real world" has less opportunities to try things you have never done before, like directing a play! –Sarah Riordan '11

As a CC sociology student, I learned to critically analyze complex issues in which there is never just one "correct" answer. I learned to be discerning, to ask lots of questions, and to always look for the side of the story that isn't being told - because it's that side that tends to be the most important. –Nick Hawks '11

My sociology classes taught me so much: how to think critically, write well, present myself, and quite a bit in the data realm. I encourage current students to dig into everything at CC! I have great instructors at the state university where I'm studying now, but the opportunities are nowhere near as amazing or as extensive as what was available to me at CC. –Alice Gallmeyer '08

Absorb. Question. Learn. Pass on the knowledge. –Deme Lee Yuan '02

Throughout my career, the writing, research, and communication skills I learned and developed as a sociology major at CC have been hugely useful. Being able to research, write about, and present information in a clear and concise way has instrumental in all of the work I have done since leaving CC. –Andy Olds '98

My advice to current undergraduates: Stay flexible, take the path less traveled, your academic background has prepared you for a wide range of career opportunities. Don't forget what you learn at CC it will come in handy when you least expect it! –Alistair Lucks '93

Sociology major prepared me for the multi-faceted aspects of my career in health care/long term care law, public policy and operations. From research design, interview skills, data analysis, writing, critical reading and thinking, and viewing issues from individual, community and societal perspectives, I really can't think of a better major to prepare a liberal arts graduate for the "real world." –William Altman '81

STUDENT STORIES

Sociology Department Offers Unique Block Break Excursions!

Following block 1, the Sociology Department offered a series of excursions around Colorado Springs to showcase local attractions and cultural events, and provide fun, free, and unique programming for any students staying on campus for the break. On Wednesday, students visited the IvyWild School Summer Farmer's Market. Students perused the seasonal produce and local goods, explored the IvyWild School Community Spaces, and enjoyed delicious food from different vendor stands. On Thursday, students enjoyed burritos from Azada Mexican Grill, everybody's new favorite Mexican restaurant in downtown Colorado Springs. Afterwards, students visited the Fine Arts Center. On Friday, students took advantage of the beautiful weather and strolled downtown for Josh & John's famous ice cream and a movie at Kimball's Peak movie theater. Over 30 students enjoyed the events over the course of three days, all of whom expressed enthusiasm about the program. The department plans to offer similar excursions following blocks 2, 3, 5, and 7. A big thank you to the Campus Activities office for making these events possible!

"I really enjoyed how friendly everyone was, and though I was not with familiar faces I actually had a really good time. It was really nice to get off campus, and to see a bit of Colorado Springs since I am new to this area. This trip was one of my highlights during this block break, and I am very excited to see that this program will continue in the near future." –First-year student

Upcoming Block Break Excursions		
Thursday, October 23 rd	Friday, October 24 th	Saturday, October 25 th
Join us for lunch and a trip to the Colon Orchards in Cañon City, Colorado!	Spend the day volunteering and playing with wolves at the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Foundation (the Wolf Sanctuary) in Commerce City, Colorado! We will enjoy a late lunch on the way back to campus.	Come help prepare and enjoy a delicious group brunch! (Location TBD)