BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Sociology Newsletter

Fall 2016

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Thanks to our generous supporters!

Your donations change students' lives.

Steve & Linda Johnson

Barbara Carter

Tracy L. Dubs

David Maines

Anthony Ladd

AKD National Office

You help fund scholarships, student travel and conference attendance, professional development and immersive learning experiences, research projects and more!

Chairperson Greeting

We hope that the summer has been engaging and positive.

This has been a year marked by change and accomplishement. As you read through this issue, we hope you will once again share in the excitement of the many great accomplishments of our BSU Sociology community.

We continue to connect with the community with our immersive learning and internship experiences, and our campus and disciplinary leadership is unmatched. We hope that you will be inspired when you read about the stellar research our faculty are conducting.

We offer our sincerest welcome to new and returning students and congratulate our recent graduates. Please share your news with us. We would love to include your updates in our next newsletter!

We have had a stellar year and look forward to 2016-17.

Melinda Messineo,
Chairperson, Sociology

Scholarship Recipient Named

Leilani Pearce was named the 2016 Tamney Scholarship, Recipient. Presented in honor of the career and contributions of departed faculty member, Dr. Joseph Tamney, the award recognizes students who have demonstrated, through papers and projects in their sociology courses, sound sociological ideas about the causes of social behavior. Congratulations Leilani!

Dr. Joseph Tamney

Left: Leilani Pearce with Dr. Steve Johnson

Congrats to our recent grads!

BA/BS Recipients

Alexis Beane
Meagan Brant
Sonia Brewer
Brett Donley
Tori Foster
Sam Hebenstreit
Tom Henry
Nathan Hueber
Ciara Jones
Grace Kelly
Justin Jacobs
Hallie Johns
Alicia Klingerman
Patrick Kluger
Rachel Kucera
Samuel Lawson
Lillian Luttringer
Sunni Matters
Brad Morrison
Jessica Oracheff
Savanna Paddock
Erin Phelps
Matthias Tankersley
Simeon Tesfagiorgis
Lara Schneider
Dawn Spencer
Christina Valdez
Mackenzie Weisweaver
Brianna Williams

MA Recipients

John Anderson
Brendan Dugan
Wes Heath
Cole Heady
Michael Light
Jordan Meyer
Matthew Sommerville

We are so proud of you!

(left to right) Simeon, Nathan, Ciara, and Rachel

Photo: Ferguson participants (top down) Jasmine Paige, Kameo Kirby, Ramona Simmons, Arlesha Moore with Yvonne Thompson

Students Study Socio-History and Justice of Civil Rights in Ferguson

Drs. Ione DeOllos and Bryan Byers (CJC) led a 6.0 credit hour Immersive Learning course on civil rights and justice issues in Indiana, and Ferguson, Missouri.

In addition to classroom preparation on these topics, students were trained in qualitative interview methods and gathered data in Ferguson, Missouri in the aftermath of the Michael Brown shooting and the Department of Justice Civil Rights Report as a result of the events there. Display panels were created from the interviews and shared at numerous events and venues throughout the spring.

Professors DeOllos and Byers received a Provost Immersive Learning Initiative Grant to fund the summer research and fall course implementation. Yvonne Thompson, a representative from their community partner, the Muncie Human Rights Commission, joined them for part of the field-work experience.

Photo: (left to right) Kristyn Hobbs, Jamell Johnson, Dr. DeOllos , & Buddy Jones

Students Present Research at North Central Midwest Annual Meeting

Each year the Department of Sociology sponsors a team of Graduate and Undergraduate students to attend the North Central Sociological Association Annual Meeting . This year the meeting was held with the Midwest Sociological Society in Chicago, IL , and five students presented their original research.

The trip was funded in part through a grant from the National AKD office.

Brendan Dugan

Robust Regression for Testing Fundamental Causes: A Demonstration of Alternatives to Standard OLS Models

Rachel Stenger

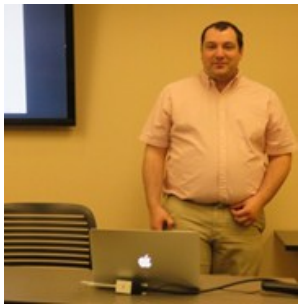
The Rationalization of Transracial Adoption

Wes Heath

An Analysis of LGBT Youth Organizations and their Effectiveness at Reducing Anxiety and Empowering LGBT Young Adults

Jordan Reinoehl

College as a Factory: Application of Marxist Theory to the Modern College Student Experience



Jordan Meyer (above)

The Effects of Race, Class, and Gender on HPV Vaccination Uptake

NCSA Conference Themes

2016

"Inequality, Injustice, and Intersectionality"

2017

"Peace in a Time of Polarization"

Photo: AKD members (left to right) Rachel Stenger, Donnie Watkins, Wes Heath, & Dr. Melinda Messineo

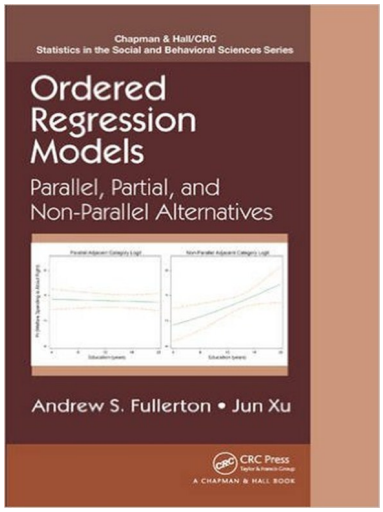
Faculty Books Abound—Three New Books from Sociology Faculty

We are extremely pleased to announce that our faculty will have three books coming out in 2016-17. There will be an official book release party in September and if you are in the area, we hope you will attend. We would love to have you join us Be sure to look for updates on Facebook.

Ordered Regression Models: Parallel, Partial, and Non-Parallel Alternatives

By Andrew S Fulerton and Jun Xu

This work presents regression models for ordinal outcomes, which are variables that have ordered categories but unknown spacing between the categories. The book provides comprehensive coverage of the three major classes of ordered regression models (cumulative, stage, and adjacent) as well as variations based on the application of the parallel regression assumption.



Text from https://www.crcpress.com/Ordered-Regression-Models-Parallel-Partial-and-Non-Parallel-Alternatives/Fullerton-Xu/p/book/9781466569737 Find out more online!

Gendered Bodies and Leisure: The Practice and Performance of American Belly Dance

by Rachel Kraus

With its roots in Middle Eastern and North

Photos: (column top down) Dr. Jun Xu, Dr. Roger Wojtkiewicz, and Dr. Rachel Kraus

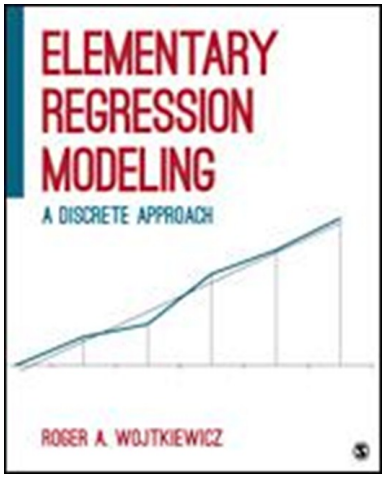
leisure activity in the West with women (and some men) of all ages and body types pursing the activity for diverse reasons.

Drawing on empirical research, fieldwork, and interviews with participants, this book investigates the social world and small group cultures of American belly dance, examining the various ways in which people use leisure to construct the self and social relationships.

Elementary Regression Modeling: A Discrete Approach

by Roger A. Wojtkiewicz

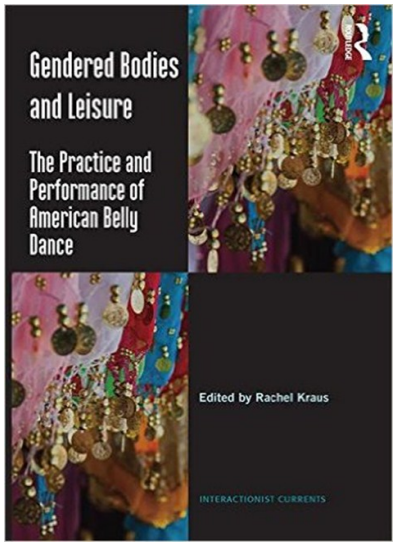
This user-friendly book gives the reader a thorough understanding of concepts like nestedness, higher-order differences, and constraints



by providing a conceptual basis for some of the things quantitative researchers ordinarily do when conducting regression analyses.

Text from https://study.sagepub.com/wojtkiewicz

Find out more online!



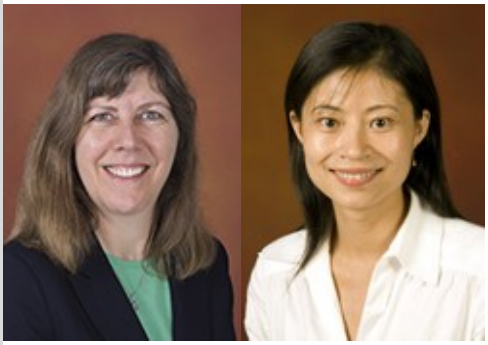
Text from https://www.routledge.com/Gendered-Bodies-and-Leisure-The-Practice-and-Performance-of-American-Belly/Kraus/p/ book/ Find out more online!.

Faculty Promotions to Celebrate

The Ball State University Trustees recently approved the placement of Dr. Richard Petts on tenure and the promotion of Dr. Rachel Kraus and Dr. Chadwick Menning to full professor. These promotions recognize the tireless commitment to scholarship and teaching that these faculty embody. The BSU community is extremely fortunate to have these faculty as members. Congratulations and thank you for your countless contributions!

15 Years of Service Recognized

Dr. Lisa Pellerin was recognized for her 15 years of outstanding service at Ball State University as both faculty member and Director of Women's and Gender Studies. Thank you for your leadership!



2016 Sabbatical Presentation

In March, Dr. Fang Gong gave her research leave presentation titled "The Model of the Model Minority? Explaining Ethnic Differences in Mental Health Outcomes Among Asian Americans."

The study revealed considerable amount of ethnic variations in self-reported mental health and psychiatric disorders. Socioeconomic status and social support turned out to be important mediating factors that help explain the mental health advantage of Asian Indians compared to other ethnic groups.

Year 1 Graduate Student Cohort

Congratulations to our first year cohort on an outstanding start! Well done!

Photos:above Dr. Richard Petts (top) Dr. Rachel Kraus w/ coauthor and BSU MA grad Zak Palmer

Photos left: Dr. Lisa Pellerin (left) Dr. Fang Gong (right)

Bottom photo: (left to right) Terri Manring, Jessica Poore, David Nickel, Gulzar Jalal, Jordan Reinoehl, and Rachel Stenger

Not pictured: Derick Brady and Gage VanDine

Faculty Scholarship Highlights

Petts, Richard J. 2015. "**Parental Religiosity and Youth Religiosity: Variations by Family Structure.**" Sociology of Religion 76:95-120.

Kraus, Rachel, Scott Desmond, & Zachary Palmer. 2015. "**Being Thankful: Examining the Relationship between Young Adult Religiosity and Gratitude**." Journal of Religion and Health. 54(4):1331-1344

Holtzman, Mellisa & Chadwick Menning. 2015. "**Primary Prevention and Risk Reduction Programming for College-Level Sexual Assault Prevention: Illustrating the Benefits of a Combined Approach**" *eJournal of Public Affairs* 4: 12-38.

Dr. Mellisa Holtzman

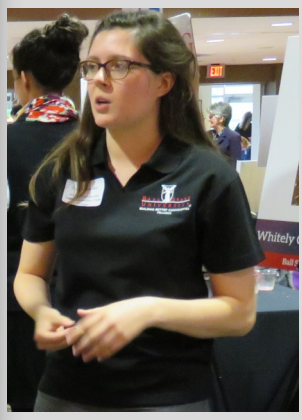
Holtzman, Mellisa. 2015. "**Tales from a Classroom Ninja: What Martial Arts Can Teach Us About Transformative Student Experiences."** *Sociological Focus* 48: 300-307.

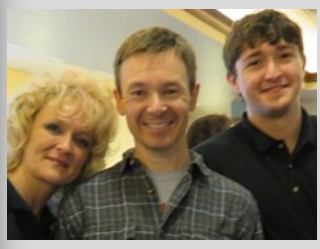
Holtzman, Mellisa and Chadwick Menning. 2015. "**Integrating Experiential Learning and Applied Research to Promote Student Learning and Faculty Research**." *College Teaching* 63: 112-118.

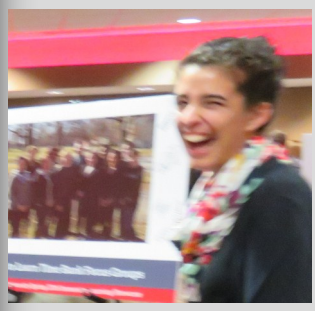
Dr. Chadwick Menning

Holtzman, Mellisa & Chadwick L. Menning. 2015. "**A New Model for Sexual Assault Protection: Creation and Initial Testing of Elemental."** *Journal of Applied Social Science* 9: 139-155.

Menning, Chadwick & Mellisa Holtzman. 2015. "**Combining Primary Prevention and Risk Reduction Approaches in Sexual Assault Programming**." *Journal of American College Health* 63: 513-522







Photos from the 2015-16 Immersive Learning and Voices of Ferguson Showcases

Alpha Kappa Delta Welcomes New Members

The Zeta Chapter of AKD, the International Sociological Honors Society, is pleased to announce the 2015-16 initiate class:

Meagan Brant (Vice President)
Tom Henry
Jessica Hesch
Rachel Kucera
Leilani Pearce
Erin Phelps
Savanna Paddock
Jordan Reinoehl (President)
Danielle Staley
Rachel Stenger (Secretary/ Treasurer)

Photo: (left to right) Tom, Jordan, Meagan, Leilani, Savanna, Rachel, & Erin

Students Are Making an Impact Working with Community Partners

Our immersive learning experiences continue to connect students to community partners. Ferguson, Capstone and Research Methods students created and distributed surveys, facilitated focus groups, conducted an ecological content analysis, led community based discourse analysis and coded hours of interviews all with community partners.

The 2015-16 Community Partners included:

*TEAMwork For Quality Living

*Hancock County Drug Court

*United Way Literacy Campaign

*Edible Muncie Food Scarcity Program

*Pathstone Meth Use Reduction Unit

*Muncie Human Rights Commission

*Muncie Downtown Redevelopment

*Whitely Community Council Safety Subcommittee

*Whitley Community Council "Serve to Learn" TimeBanking Initiative

Thank you to all of our community partners for making these learning experiences possible!

Sociology Main Office

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E-mail: mmessine@bsu.edu

Please do not hesitate to contact our administrative coordinator Lisa Etchison with questions.

Congratulations to our

2015-16

Outstanding Seniors

Tom Henry & Meagan Brant

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Want more BSU Sociology news?

Check out our weekly updates on Facebook!

https://www.facebook.com/BSUSociology

Theses and Recognitions to Celebrate

We have three fantastic theses to recognize this year:

"An Analysis of LGBT Youth Organizations and their Effectiveness at Reducing Anxiety and Empowering LGBT Young Adults"

Wes Heath, MA thesis,

"The Effects of Race, Class, and Gender on HPV Vaccination Uptake"

Jordan Meyer, MA thesis

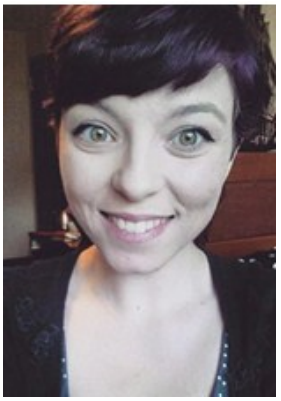
"Who Wears the Cape in This Relationship?: An Analysis of Gender in Superhero Films"

Tori Foster, Honors Thesis

Congrats to our thesis writers!

Photo: (Left) Dr. Jun Xu and Rachel Stenger (bottom corner) Tori Foster (bottom left to right) Jon Anderson, Brendan Dugan, Wes Heath, Michael Light and Jordan Meyer

We are pleased to announce that the 2015-16 Outstanding First Year Graduate Student is

Rachel Stenger

Well done!