

69th Annual PSS Conference 2018

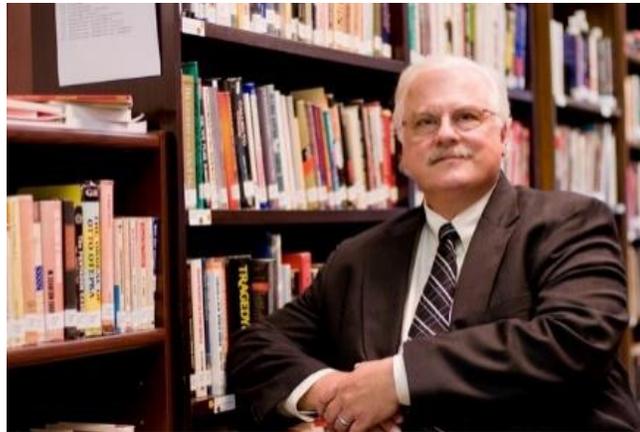
Northampton Community College

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, October 26, 2018

7:00pm

Keynote Lecture: Chip Berlet
Lipkin Theatre, Kopecek Hall



Chip Berlet is an award-winning independent scholar and investigative journalist who for over 35 years has written about right-wing groups and movements. He uses sociological theories of recruitment and mobilization and the development of frames and narratives, and has presented papers at regional and national sociology conferences. His byline has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Boston Globe*, and *Chicago Sun Times*. Berlet has written for the *Progressive Magazine*, *In These Times*, and *Utne Reader*, as well as dozens of smaller print publications and scores of online websites. With Matthew N. Lyons, Berlet co-wrote the book *Right-Wing Populism in America: Too Close for Comfort* (Guilford, NY: 2000), which received an award from the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights. His national television appearances include *Nightline*, and the *Today Show*, and he was an adviser to the PBS multi-part TV documentary series “With God on Our Side: The Rise of the Religious Right in America.” A recent major study is online as Alex DiBranco and Chip Berlet, “The Ideological Roots of the Republican Party Shift to the Right in Election 2016,” (<https://www.academia.edu/37299452/>) presented at an ASA annual meeting and included as a chapter in his forthcoming edited collection for Routledge: “Trumping Democracy in the United States: From Ronald Reagan to Alt-Right,” (<https://tinyurl.com/trumping-democracy-2018>).

Saturday, October 28, 2017

8:30 am-2:00 pm –Registration Laub Lounge, College Center Building

8:30 am-10:00 am--Continental Breakfast Room 220, College Center Building

9:30 am – 10:45 am

Session 1A- Developing the Discipline: Teaching, Assessment, and Program Development

Presider- TBA

Room XXX

Assessment of Sociology Programs, Challenges and Rewards

Joleen Greenwood, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

Developing an Entirely New System of Assessment (When the Accreditor Says You Have To)

Jeffrey Langstraat, Community College of Allegheny County

Surprise Attack: Students' Bullying of Professors

Janice Park, Mansfield University

Ying Yang, Shippensburg University

"See How It Sounds? A Little Un-rational": White Privilege and Authenticity in a Hip Hop Classroom

Andrew McIntosh, Northampton Community College

Session 1B- Undergraduate Paper Session

Presider- TBA

Room XXX

Deconstructing Fascism as a Sociological Phenomenon for the Twenty First Century

Shamus Andrek, Northampton Community College

Tell God I Quit: The Effects of Social Connectedness and Spirituality on Views of Suicide

Stevie Caronia, Elizabethtown College

Can't Live With Them, Can't Live Without Them: The Effects of Relationship Type on Relationship Quality

Stephanie Hanus, Elizabethtown College

The "F" Word No One Wants to Hear: The Effects of Sex and News Source on Views of Police Use of Force

Emily Modrak, Elizabethtown College

Mother Doesn't Always Know Best: The Effects of Sex, Views of Sex Education, and Religiosity on Views of Teen Access to Birth Control Without Parental Consent

Emilee Rell, Elizabethtown College

Session 1 C: Undergraduate Poster Session

Laub Lounge, 2nd Floor

Student Brandywine Project: A crash course in sustainability for mobilizing a paradigm shift
Andrew Bathemess, Westchester University

We request that posters remain on display until 2 pm

11:00 am-12:15 pm

Session 2A: Workshop: Accessing Social and Economic Census Data for Pennsylvania: State, County, Municipal and Smaller Geographies.

Presider- Joseph P. Quartullo, U.S. Census Bureau

Room

Session 2C: General Paper Session

Presider: TBA

Room

The Good Life

Erin Reilly, Hope Horowitz, and Donna Acerra, Northampton Community College

Arranged Marriages Among Chinese College Students: Lingering Effects of an Ancient Cultural Tradition

Timothy Madigan, Mansfield State University

Sampson Blair, SUNY Buffalo

Gendered Responses for Public Support for a New Police Station: Findings from a Pennsylvania Suburban Township

Steven Jacob and Linsey Altland, York College of Pennsylvania

Religious Coping of LGBT Individuals: The Relationship Between Religious Social Activity and Sexual Identity and Acceptance

Alex R. Maccarrelli, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Working Paper Title

Chelsea Clark, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

12:30-1:45

LUNCH: College Center Building, 2nd Floor

Election

Awards & Election Results

2:00 pm-3:15 pm

Session 3: General Session: Practicing Sociology in the Trump Era

Presider: Jeffrey Langstraat, Community College of Allegheny County Room

Panelists: Chip Berlet

TBA

TBA

3:30 pm

PSS Business Meeting

Room

Papers

(In Alphabetical Order by Last Name)

Chelsea Clark, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

email

Working Paper Title

Correctional facilities are hyper-masculine settings where men are expected to behave in traditionally gendered ways (i.e. tough, aggressive) and their performance of masculinity is more strongly policed than when they occupy more gender neutral spaces. When men suffer from physical abuse or sexual assault in prisons, they may be unlikely to report their victimization due to these gendered expectations and the stigma associated with being a victim (i.e. wimp, weak). This study examines helping professionals', who provide victim support service, perceptions and interactions with male inmates. I draw on Symbolic Interactionism as the theoretical framework for my study. I conducted mixed gendered interviews among ten helping professionals in the state of Pennsylvania. This study will inform helping professionals to better assist incarcerated men who are victims of sexual assault.

Joleen Greenwood, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

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Assessment of Sociology Programs: Challenges and Rewards

Assessment often carries a negative connotation which leads to resistance on the part of faculty members. To some faculty members, assessment is something that administration is requiring faculty to complete—a matter of more work for faculty with no real rewards or compensation for the work required of assessment. What is “good” assessment? What is “poor” assessment? How can department chairpersons and chairpersons of department assessment committees convince faculty that ultimately it is the students, the program, the department, and even the faculty members in the program who will benefit from assessment done properly? These questions are answered in this paper. I argue that getting faculty members to “buy into” assessment is the first step to success with assessment. In this paper, I present strategies for doing high quality assessment of sociology programs, discuss the importance of student learning outcomes (SLOs) (how many to include and how to assess them), discuss the use of rubrics, and discuss ways of collecting and assessing data in a simple manner. As a model, I discuss the challenges that my university, college, and specifically my Sociology program has faced in recent years. I also discuss the evolution of our Sociology program’s assessment over the past decade to demonstrate the evolution of assessment and how it can be used to modify the curriculum, based on the needs of students as determined by the assessment of program SLOs at regular intervals (each semester or annually).

Steven Jacob and Linsey Altland, York College of Pennsylvania

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Gendered Responses for Public Support for a New Police Station: Findings from a Pennsylvania Suburban Township

Springettsbury Township is located near York City. It serves as regional retail hub, including a mall and numerous strip malls. It is also an important residential sector and housing developments range from high density suburban to low density rural places for the area. The Township has an aging and inadequate police station that may cause the department to soon lose certification. If certification is lost the township would have to hire police services from a regional cooperative, which is expensive and would increase emergency response times.

A survey was conducted as part of the Township's five year planning process. Results indicated that men and women differ greatly in their support of a new police station. This research explores these gendered responses through multivariate analysis and shows that men in the township typically respond "no" about things they are uncertain about, while women respond "unsure." The correlates and implications of these response characteristics for municipal planning and funding are discussed in the conclusions.

Jeffrey Langstraat, Community College of Allegheny County

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Developing an Entirely New System of Assessment (When the Accreditor Says You Have To)

In the spring of 2017, Middle States placed the Community College of Allegheny County on "Warning" due to what it deemed to be inadequate systems of assessment, both of student learning and institutional effectiveness. The College went on a crash course of evaluating and revising the entire system of assessment, using a faculty-driven process. This paper will review the process CCAC went through, and highlight key lessons from the process.

Alex R. Maccarelli, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

email

Religious Coping of LGBT Individuals: The Relationship between Religious Social Activity and Sexual Identity and Acceptance

Social scientists have become increasingly interested in religious coping strategies exercised by lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) individuals who deal with stigma (Maynard & Gorsuch, 2001). Scholars divide religious coping into "positive" and "negative" types. However, few studies examine the relationship between LGB individuals who use religion as a method of coping and social activity within religious communities. This study explores how LGB persons of faith experience and perceive social involvement, and the function faith plays in their lives. Particularly, when constructing relationships within social communities

Timothy Madigan, Mansfield University and Sampson Blair, SUNY Buffalo

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Arranged Marriages Among Chinese College Students: Lingering Effects of an Ancient Cultural Tradition

Chinese society has been undergoing dramatic social, economic and political changes in the past half a century. As a result, researchers have noted a drastic decline in the tradition of arranged marriages among cohorts of couples. Little is known, however, about the extent to which young men and women in China are open or opposed to the old tradition of arranged marriages for themselves or what factors encourage or suppress it from recurring. As part of an ongoing study of the dating and marriage views of Chinese and American young adults, supplemental survey questions probing the willingness of having an arranged marriage were constructed and employed on small subgroups of respondents (n=116 and 118 respectively). As expected, the results reveal almost no support for the idea of arranged marriage among American college students. One out of five Chinese college students were moderately or strongly willing to have their marriages arranged. Nearly half of the Chinese subjects desired a small amount of input from parents while the remainder, nearly a third, expressed zero willingness. Having parents who had an arranged marriage was the best predictor of willingness of the respondent to have an arranged marriage.

Andrew McIntosh, Northampton Community College

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"See How It Sounds? A Little Un-rational" : White Privilege and Authenticity in a Hip Hop Classroom

This paper is a first person attempt to tackle the dueling notions of authenticity and privilege as a white male

sociology professor of Hip Hop. The ability to utilize Hip Hop culture as a lens to understand contemporary American urban history and forms of economic, racial and gender stratification can be an invaluable classroom or curriculum tool. If we consider Hip Hop culture as a viable means to promote political awareness and tangible action, we must begin to understand and champion its academic value. The paper addresses the questions of whether my “whiteness” has made the idea of “teaching” Hip Hop more palatable to chairs, deans and fellow professors; how “authenticity” is measured in Hip Hop circles and how that notion changes in academic contexts; how one remain critical of Hip Hop discourse without falling into traps of ethnocentrism; how respect of students is earned by being simply more than an “expert” on the subject; and, importantly, if Hip Hop is being taught in a college classrooms, who decides the core curriculum and what would those decision-making processes look like. These lines of inquiry underlie the desire to understand Hip Hop in academia and the youth who identify with the culture and are curious to study it.

Janice Purk, Mansfield University, and Ying Yang, Shippensburg University

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Surprise Attack: Students' Bullying of Professors

Life in higher education has often been difficult. Today, as probably in the past, the issue of bullying is more than just a peer issue but includes students. Students with the belief of “Academic entitlement” now reported threatening the faculty. Though this issues may not be new, it important to examine as it seems to be increasing. Part of the change can be related to the changing society. Greenberger et. al (2008) found 66.2% of students believe that “trying hard” should result in a good grade and over 23% believe that a professor should respond an e-mail in the same day it was sent. Regardless of which measure of entitlement is used, researchers have demonstrated convincingly that entitlement is associated with a wide array of maladaptive and socially-problematic traits, including greed, aggression, and lack of forgiveness (Campbell et al. 2004).

The increase in bullying being reported may also be related to the focus by the media at all levels of schooling and in the workplace actions that now have a title placed on them. Faculty now look beyond the contrapower harassment focused on sexual harassment and sexually aggressive behavior addressed by Benson (1984) to a range of behaviors that are uncivil, rude, or disrespectful: challenge a professors authority; using bullying, threats, or intimidation: are hostile or aggressive: or involved racial/ethnic or sexual harassment (May and Tenzeh, 2017).

This study aims to examine how prevalent issues of bullying are today in a classroom. It is important not only to look at the literature but to examine the individual experiences. The goal of this research is to determine what bullying is going on in the academy as well as the reactions of the institutions and effect on performance through both quantitative survey information and qualitative interviews.

Erin Reilly, Hope Horowitz, and Conna Acerra, Northampton Community College

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The Good Life

As we experience an increase in mobilization for change in a variety of societal sectors, it's useful to explore alternative social systems. Ranked as the happiest country in the world by the 2018 World Happiness Report, Finland's social security system seeks to promote freedom and individuality by providing robust social services. This session will explore the connection between Finnish cultural values and its social systems. We will examine how “the good life” is made possible through universal healthcare, high quality education (from early childhood through university), and comprehensive family support policies. Lastly, we'll consider what we can learn from the Finnish model in the pursuit of social justice.

Graduate Papers
(In Alphabetical Order by Last Name)

Undergraduate Papers (In Alphabetical Order by Last Name)

Shamus Andrek, Northampton, Community College

Deconstructing Fascism as a Sociological Phenomenon for the Twenty First Century

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the history of fascism, identify the defining attributes, and apply these attributes to contemporary United States politics. This will be done through analysis of theoretical models of fascism derived from analysis of Benito Mussolini's reign in Italy and Adolf Hitler's reign in Germany. The characteristics of said regimes and subsequent political doctrines will provide a composite framework for what fascism is. These characteristics will then be recontextualized to understand them in a 21st century setting by discussing specifically the rise of Donald Trump to the presidency and, in general, the influence of internet technology and mass media on the growth of fascistic dogmas and practitioners. The flaws of liberalism as a political system and philosophy when confronted with the development of fascism will be discussed in context to fascism's development within twenty first century liberal democracies, specifically the United States. Antifascism and the abolition of capitalism will then be proposed to correct this issue.

Stevie Caronia, Elizabthtown College

Tell God I Quit: The Effects of Social Connectedness and Spirituality on Views of Suicide

There has been increasing prevalence of suicide presented in the media. Rates of suicide have been increasing over the past decades, as well as the number of individuals receiving treatment for suicide-related mental health conditions. Though research shows a general uptrend in support for physician-assisted suicide, limited research has been conducted on the general opinion of suicide for other factors. Previous research has found that religious affiliation, age, social support, and history of mental health influence views of suicide. Additionally, few studies have focused on the effects of spirituality, one dimension of religion, on views of suicide. This research examines the effects of spirituality and social connectedness on views of suicide. The data for this research were obtained from the 2014 wave of the General Social Survey (GSS) conducted by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago. After deleting missing cases, the total sample size consisted of 292 individuals. Descriptive statistics indicate that the majority of respondents (61.3 percent) are in favor of suicide in the case of incurable disease. Results of the bivariate and multivariate analyses suggest that spirituality is a predictor of views of suicide, but social connectedness was not. The results of this research are useful for policy makers and government organizations who impact health policies as well as mental health practitioners who specialize in the treatment of suicidal ideation. Additionally, this research is useful for school officials who have the responsibility of discussing the difficult topic of suicide in schools.

Stephanie Hanus, Elizabthtown College

Can't Live With Them, Can't Live Without Them: The Effects of Relationship Type on Relationship Quality

Relationship satisfaction is predictive of overall happiness, making the study of relationship quality relevant. Relationship satisfaction can be measured using happiness, communication, frequency of arguments, and amount of quality time spent together. Previous research has shown that relationship type is an indicator of relationship satisfaction. Marriage and cohabitation have been two common relationship types for comparison when examining relationship happiness. Currently, a new relationship type, living apart together or LAT, has become an area of focus. LAT individuals are in a significant committed relationship involving sexual behavior, but do not reside in the same household due to different circumstantial reasons such as children, jobs or other financial reasons. This research introduces LAT relationships to the comparison of happiness between married and cohabiting couples while controlling for the number of children present, age, and sex. The data for this research were obtained from the 2016 wave of the General Social Survey (GSS), conducted by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago. The GSS is a biennial nationally representative sample of the United States population. The majority of married individuals ranked their relationship happiness as very happy whereas LAT individuals were most likely to report lower relationship happiness. There was also a weak, negative, statistically significant relationship between relationship quality and marriage ($r=-.153$; $p=.000$). This suggests that married individuals have higher relationship quality than cohabiting or LAT individuals. With an R-squared of .023, married relationships are predicting relationship happiness as well as LAT individuals with an R-squared of .046.

Emily Modrak, Elizabthtown College

The “F” Word No One Wants to Hear: The Effects of Sex and News Source on Views of Police Use of Force

The National Institute for Justice (2016) has reported that there is no widely used definition of police use of force, but also recognizes that the type of force can vary depending on the situation.

Previous literature has suggested that there needs to be justifiable evidence that supports officer use of force in situations that involve self-defense or defense of another individual. Limited research has examined the influence of types of news outlet on views of police use of force; however, studies have examined the effects of race in depth. This research examined the effects of sex and source of news on views of police use of force. The data for this research were obtained from the 2016 wave of the General Social Survey (GSS) conducted by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago. After deleting missing cases, the total sample size consisted of 427 individuals. The majority of individuals supported a policeman striking an adult male citizen in any situation. Individuals also showed a majority of support for a policeman striking an adult male citizen if the citizen was attacking the policeman with his fists. The hypotheses of this research were both not supported by the results of the bivariate and multi-variate analysis. The results of this study are useful for police officers and individuals involved in the law enforcement field.

Emilee Rell, Elizabethtown College

Mother Doesn't Always Know Best: The Effects of Sex, Views of Sex Education, and Religiosity on Views of Teen Access to Birth Control Without Parental Consent

Many individuals are unaware of the legislation dictating the availability of contraceptives for minors. Each state's policy for teen access to birth control varies, but a total of 46 states and the District of Columbia allow minors to receive birth control without parental consent. The use of birth control methods among adolescents is on the rise, as well as increased sex education in public schools, and lower rates of teen pregnancy. Previous literature has found that minors who have easy access to birth control and parents who support the use of birth control are more likely to use contraceptives than teens with parents who are unsupportive of birth control methods. This research examines the effects of views of sex education, religiosity, and sex on views of teen access to birth control without parental consent. The data for this research were obtained from the 2016 wave of the General Social Survey (GSS) conducted by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago. After deleting missing cases, the sample size consisted of 1,521 individuals. The majority of respondents supported teen access to birth control without parental consent. Results from bivariate and multivariate analyses show that those who support sex education in public schools, are less religious, and female are more supportive of teen access to birth control without parental consent. There was a weak relationship suggesting that those who are more religious are less supportive of teen access to birth control without parental consent, thus supporting the hypotheses of this study. This research will add to the limited literature examining the public's views of teen access to birth control, as most of the previous literature is dated.

**Undergraduate Posters
(In Alphabetical Order by Last Name)**

Andrew Bathemass, West Chester University

Student Brandywine Project: A crash course in sustainability for mobilizing a paradigm shift

Sustainability is the most current and important movements of our time and is a robust avenue for students to travel when looking for extracurricular activities which improve their campus/community, and careers in their future. Some people have spent a large portion of their careers advertising, lobbying, and advocating for this paradigm shift; efforts which have been mitigated by large corporations and “the status quo” of society. However, the American society is finally gaining awareness of global crises, which center around the necessity for this paradigm shift (Göpel, 2016). Yet, like many socially engaging movements throughout history, it's the mobilization of the youth yearning for a brighter tomorrow that will spearhead. And with luck, triumph. The Student Brandywine Project is a student led half-day workshop to engage West Chester University students in helping design, implement, evaluate, and improve the various environmental, social, and economic sustainability initiatives happening on our campus. The project requires collaboration with The Office of Sustainability, SGA, faculty, and various other clubs/groups who host sustainably conscious projects. SBP includes: an overview of sustainability, the resources available to students interested in sustainability engagement, presentations from student organizations and some staff, interactive breakout sessions, networking opportunities, a tour of the campus geothermal pump house, and a waste audit.

SUB-SAC plans to continue hosting Student Brandywine Projects each semester and plans to host a part 2 for students interested in continuing their education in sustainability. This will dive deeper into one of the many facets that are incorporated under the umbrella term: Sustainability.

69th Annual Conference 2018

Northampton Community College

Directions to Northampton Community College
3835 Green Pond Road,
Bethlehem, PA 18020

- 1) Directions to Northampton Community College can be found at <https://northampton.edu/about/maps-and-directions.htm>

From North, East or West: Find your best route to Rt. 22. Take the Rt. 191 exit. At end of ramp, turn right onto Rt. 191 north. One tenth of a mile from the exit ramp, turn RIGHT onto Brodhead Road (before the Brodhead Road stoplight). Follow Brodhead until you come to a stop sign, turn right onto Hecktown Road. Proceed past the Hecktown Road Entrance and turn left onto Green Pond Road - the Green Pond Road Entrance to the campus will be on your right. The entrance to the Gates Center will be on your left.

From the South: Take Rt 78 to Rt 33 north. Go to second exit, William Penn Highway, and turn left. Pass Farmersville Elementary School on left, Municipal Building on right. Take the first right after the Municipal Building onto Oakland Rd. Stay on Oakland Rd until you see the entrance to NCC on your right.

- 2) Campus map is attached at the back page. The conference is primarily be held in the College Center Building (**D on the map**).
- 3) Parking is available in any lot.