Fall 2012

Newsletter

Rutgers-Camden Sociology, Anthropology, Criminal

Mojo Workin'

Katrina Hazzard-Donald, Associate Professor, explores African Americans' experience and practice of the herbal, healing folk belief tradition known as Hoodoo in her new book, *Mojo Workin': The Old African American Hoodoo System* (University of Illinois Press: 2012). Working against conventional scholarship, Hazzard-Donald argues that Hoodoo emerged first in three distinct regions she calls "regional Hoodoo clusters" and that after the turn of the 19th century Hoodoo took on a national rather than a regional profile. With a full glossary of Hoodoo culture, the book lays out the movement of Hoodoo against a series of watershed changes in the American cultural landscape. Throughout, Hazzard-Donald distinguishes between "Old tradition Black Belt Hoodoo" and commercially marketed forms that have been controlled, modified, and often fabricated by outsiders; this study focuses on the hidden system operating almost exclusively among African Americans in the Black spiritual underground.

New Faculty Arrive

Louis Tuthill, a newly arrived assistant professor, teaches Theories of Crime and **Delinguency**, Violent Crime, and Methods and Techniques of Social Research. Prior to coming to Rutgers-Camden, Dr. Tuthill worked for the Department of Justice as a Social Science Analyst where he managed and advised on the portfolio which included gangs, drug markets, firearm trafficking, evaluation research, terrorism, and neighborhood and violent crime. His research continues to focus on community-level factors

which contribute to violent crime across various domains to include families, schools, communities, peer groups, businesses, availability of social services, and the physical environment. In addition, he is building research partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies to strategize and evaluate violent crime reduction efforts. He has coauthored chapters in The Cambridge Handbook of Environment in Human Development (2012), Treating the Juvenile

Offender (2008), and Preventing Youth Violence in a Multi-Cultural Society.

Another new faculty member, Stephanie Bush-Baskette, instructor, coordinates off campus criminal justice programs and teaches Theories of Crime and Delinguency, Ethics and Policy in Criminal Justice, and Methods and Techniques of Social Research at Atlantic Cape Community College and Camden. Dr. Bush-Baskette's publications include Misguided Justice: The War on Drugs and Black Women. Her articles appear in Feminist

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New Faculty Arrive (continued)



Criminology and Rutgers Law Review as well as a research brief on women in criminal justice for the NAACP. Before coming to Rutgers-Camden, Dr. Bush-Baskette taught at the graduate school of criminal justice (Rutgers-Newark), directed the Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies (Rutgers Newark), and served as a New Jersey State Legislator and New Jersey Gubernatorial Cabinet member.

Joanna Cohen is an instructor who teaches Introduction to Sociology, Sociology of the Family, Medical Sociology, and Methods and Techniques of Social Research. Her dissertation research focuses on the experiences of parents with infants in neonatal intensive care. Professor Cohen expects to receive her Ph.D. in December 2012.





Our Strength Is in Our Unity

Joan Maya Mazelis,

Assistant Professor, is working on a book Our Strength Is in Our Unity: The Limits of Human Capital and the Rewards of Social Capital for the Poor. Her work explores the tradeoff between mobility and survival strategies among the poor by considering two groups of poor people with whom she conducted in-depth ethnographic interviews: some she met through the Kensington Welfare Rights Union (KWRU),

an organization in Philadelphia providing day-to-day support for poor people and dedicating itself to structural change to end poverty, and some she met through social service agencies.

A notable difference between the two groups is that KWRU members invest in *social* capital as a survival strategy; respondents she found through social service agencies invest in *human* capital through education, job training, or work experience.

People who invest in

social capital have to abandon mobility strategies. People able to focus on human capital experience mobility, but see little return on their efforts. Policies and agencies that benefit the poor promote the development of both human and social capital, says Mazelis.

Gilliard-Matthews Scores Two Grants

Stacia Gilliard-Matthews, Assistant Professor, teaches Police and Policing. Methods and **Techniques of Social** Research, and Poor. Minorities, and Justice. Her research focuses on the impact of politics and policies on race, gender, and class inequalities in society and police behavior and discretion. She has published work in Feminist Criminology, Police Quarterly, and

Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Currently, Dr. Gilliard-Matthews is Principal Investigator of the Navigator's Project, a study that contextually examines how adolescents negotiate risk-taking behaviors. She is also a co-Principal Investigator of the South Jersey Strengthening Families Initiative in collaboration with the Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs. This is a multiyear, multi-site grant funded by Pascale Sykes Foundation that evaluates the relationship between collaborative agencies and family well-being. She aids in evaluating organizational outcomes and designs the qualitative interviews and analyzes their outcomes. Prior to joining the Rutgers-Camden faculty, she was a faculty member at West Virginia University.



Applied Anthropology is Real World Anthropology

Want to know what RU-Camden students who took Applied Anthropology last spring thought about the course? According to a Spring 2012 survey conducted by Professor Dell Clark, students thought that "hands-on fieldwork" and the chance to intern in a "real world setting" were very important parts of the course. "Hands on fieldwork deepened our understanding of anthropology, a particular community, and the work involved in this field." responded one student. In response to the question, how important are internships in "real world" settings students comments include "Hands-on is the best

teacher" and "Only this way can you get a real feel of the situation." Students also said that fieldwork revealed how important it was to study anthropology's concepts and theories. As one student said, "You don't know how to do fieldwork if you don't know what concept to apply." These concepts and theories used in real life settings help anthropologists solve real, often pressing problems. Last spring the students worked with Philabundance, a hunger relief organization in Philadelphia, and learned advocacy skills, understood a community and in a modest way improved the lives of some

people. One student put what he learned this way: "The ability for you to work so closely with people helps those people have their opinions heard."

Students in the humanities, social sciences, and the sciences found that this course gave them skills and insights that are valuable in dealing with all kinds of people, and will continue to be helpful as they develop careers.



"Hands on field work deepened our understanding of anthropology and a particular community. . ."

Winterim Courses

Winterim meets Dec 21, Jan. 2-17, Mondays-Thursdays, with two Fridays (1/11/13, 1/18/13) to make up for closings due to snow days. Our department is offering the following 3-credit courses:

50: 070: 317-W1 Gods Cults and Rituals M-Th, 8:30am -12:10, Instructor: McCarty

Introduction to basic

approaches used to study religions, symbols, and practices.

50: 202: 354 W3 S/T CJ: Jail & Prison Violence M-Th 1-4:40pm. Instructor: Caputo (Prerequisite 202:201)

Violence in correctional institutions with a focus on causes and control: rape, riots, and the social world of confinement.

50: 920: 344 W2 Sociology of Deviance M-Th 6:00-9:40 pm. Instructor: Epstein.

What makes something deviant? Study of deviance with emphasis on social reactions to it.



Are you short credits to

graduate? Take a

walk in May."

Winterim course and

It's one thing to watch CSI, the popular primetime forensic crime series aired on television; it's quite another to acquire the specialized knowledge necessary to do forensics. This fall, instructor Kimberlee Moran, a forensic archeologist, is teaching a course in forensics (50:202:457).

Starting in the spring, Professor Moran offers a course that introduces the science behind forensics (50:202:454: Forensics: Methods and Techniques) and this course has a 1 credit optional lab (50:202:455:01). Students who complete Forensics:

Methods and Techniques

can take her summer

Forensics: Fall. Spring. and Summer

school course that will engage students in applying recovery and other techniques in digging up a site and analyzing its contents. For more information contact Kimberlee Moran (k.moran@camden.rutger s.edu).

Use Spring Break to travel and learn something about the larger world you live in."

Education Outside the Classroom Spring Break '13

Spring Break in Guatemala

Join other sociology students and nursing majors as they head for Guatemala during spring break. Health and Healing in Guatemala: A Service Learning Journey (50:070:381) focuses on the historical, sociopolitical, economic, and cultural influences on health and health care delivery in Guatemala. Students attend five 3-hour seminars in addition to the 8 day trip. On site, students work in local Maya communities on health education and stove building projects. They visit traditional

and Western healers, learn about cosmology from a Mayan scholar, and participate in a Mayan ceremony. For more information, contact Dr. Tim Martin, Inter-national Studies Program, timartin@camden.rutgers.edu.

A Week in the Gullah Sea Islands (S.C.) Tour the low country of the South Carolina Sea Islands to experience a rich island culture: Gullah basket weavers, beautiful beaches, and historic Penn Center on St. Helena Island. Students enrolled in African American Culture (50:920:430) for 3 credits may earn an additional 1 credit by spending a week touring the Gullah Islands, completing a paper and service project. The 1 credit tour is open to students, faculty and the community. For more information, contact Dr. Hazzard-Donald, sociology department, katrina.hazzard@gmail.com

Use a Class to Build a Career, Spring '13

Want experience in the criminal justice field? The Internship/Service in Criminal Justice (50:202:404:01) gives students an opportunity to earn course credit while working in an agency, applying concepts to the real workplace, and watching professionals make decisions. Practical knowledge and professional contacts will help you build a career in criminal justice. Open to juniors and seniors, the course requires a 2.5 GPA. Contact Dr. Stacia Gilliard-Matthews at

stacia.matthews@rutge rs.edu for more information.

Investigation Practicum (50:202:405:01) is taught by Kevin Murphy, a MA in criminal justice and investigator with the federal public defender's office. Students describe this class as doing "real investigative work" because students are assigned real cases from the Law School's clinic and investigates them under the supervision of the instructor.



Student Events

Careerquest offers students the opportunity to connect with people whose lives and career paths shed light on the promise and pitfalls of life after college. students got a lot out of last year's event. "I liked the fact that I could sit down with someone who is currently working in my field of interest." said one student in praise of the small group portion of the event. According to another student, "I thought the aims of Careerquest resonated well with many [who are] uncertain about the future; it provided guidance [about] how my college education

could be extended into the workplace." Watch for the announcement of this February program. Contact Dr. Cindy Dell Clark for information or to help in organizing this event.

cdellclark@gmail.com.

Annual Poster

Session: the 15th annual Undergraduate Research Poster Session, co-sponsored by the Department of Psychology and of Sociology, Anthropolgy, and Criminal Justice will be held in April during the free hour in the Multi-purpose Room of the College Center. Light lunch provided. Students and interested parties are invited. If you are presenting a poster, please email your name and poster title to Sherry at pisacano@camden.rutg ers.edu

Commencement for

graduates of Rutgers takes place on May 23 at 6:00 pm. For complete information for graduating seniors go to http://advising.camden.r utgers.edu/students/sen iors.html Need guidance on how your education at college could be extended to the workplace? Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Criminal Justice 405 Cooper Street Camden, NJ 08102

> PHONE: (856) 225-6470



About Our Department

We are a combined department spanning three disciplines, anthropology, criminal justice and sociology. Criminal justice provides students with an understanding of crime and sociology examines processes and structures that underlie society. The minor in anthropology equips students with cultural awareness to function in an array of settings.

We're on the Web! See us at: http://sociology.camden.rutg ers.edu

Spring and Winterim 2013 Registration

Registration for spring courses begins Sunday, Nov. 4 at 10:00 p.m. for undergraduate students with 90+ credits earned and all graduate students, Monday, Nov. 5 at 10:00 p.m. for undergraduate students with 58+ credits earned and all graduate students, and Tuesday, Nov. 6 at 10:00 p.m. for all students. Go to http://soc.ess.rutgers.edu/soc for the complete schedule of courses.

For more written guidance about course selections, sociology majors should go to <u>http://sociology.camden.rutgers.edu/advising.htm</u> and criminal justice majors should go to <u>http://sociology.camden.rutgers.edu/advising-cj.htm</u>

We recommend that students see their faculty advisor before registering for courses. If you are unsure who your advisor is, contact our department secretary, Sherry Pisacano by email <u>pisacano@camden.rutgers.edu</u>, by phone at 856-25-6470, or stop by the office at 405-407 Cooper Street, room 108.

Registration for Winterim is underway. For a full schedule of winterim courses go to <u>http://winterim.camden.rutgers.edu/</u>