

Sheri-Lynn S. Kurisu, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology
California State University San Marcos
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2018
B.A. Sociology, with honors, University of California, Santa Cruz, 2008
B.A. Psychology, University of California, Santa Cruz, 2008

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Penology/Corrections
Critical Race Theory
Intersectionality and Inequality
Critical Criminology
Law and Society
Participatory Action Research and Mixed Methods Research
Social Movements and Rights Mobilization

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

California State University San Marcos

Sociology 105: Introduction to Justice Studies
Sociology 325: Criminology
Sociology 444: Perspectives on Corrections and Penology

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Instructor

Sociology 275: Criminology
Global Studies 100: Introduction to Global Studies
Global Studies 296: Human Rights in Prisons: A Global Perspective

Teaching Assistant

Sociology 378: Law and Society
Sociology 380: Social Research Methods
Sociology 310: Sociology of Deviance
Sociology 280: Introduction to Social Statistics
Sociology 275: Criminology (online and traditional classroom)
Sociology 273: Social Perspectives on the Family (online)
Sociology 226: Political Sociology
Sociology 100: Introduction to Sociology
Religious Studies 110: World Religions

Danville Correctional Center, Illinois Department of Corrections

All academic programming via the Education Justice Project, a college-in-prison program in the College of Education of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Guest Lecturer

2013 Fall Introduction to Marx, Weber, and Durkheim: Discovery Course

Workshop Facilitator

2018 Acts of Resistance in a Dystopian World: *The Handmaid's Tale & Fahrenheit 451*
2017 Zombie Sociology: Communities, Society, and Law in the Zombocalypse
2016 Marx, Weber, and Durkheim: Classical Sociological Theory and Law
2014 Beyond the New Jim Crow—Critical Readings on Mass Incarceration

Resource Partner

2013-present Volunteer in the Language Partners program, an English as a Second Language (ESL) learning community of peer instruction where incarcerated teachers instruct incarcerated students.

Other Institutions

Invited Talk

“The US Prison System and Citizenship Rights”, Graduate course: Rights and Responsibilities (SOC 590), Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice Studies, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, March 2013.

Teaching Awards: UIUC Instructors Ranked as Excellent

2018 Human Rights in Prison: A Global Perspective
2017 Introduction to Global Studies
2015 Social Research Methods, *Outstanding Ranking*
2013 Introduction to Sociology, *Outstanding Ranking*
2011 Introduction to Social Statistics
2010 Introduction to Social Statistics

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Kurusu, Sheri-Lynn S. “Shots Fired, Class Cancelled: Challenges of Teaching and Researching In Prison”

Kurusu, Sheri-Lynn S., Joseph Mapp, and Orlando Mayorga. “Privilege, Power, Positionality: Critical Reflections on Volunteer Work in Prison Education”, Collaboration with two UIUC undergraduate students who are currently incarcerated.

Kurusu, Sheri-Lynn S., Orlando Mayorga, Joseph Mapp and Jim Sosnowski. “English Phrasebook for Incarcerated People: Everyday Phrases to Help You Survive in Prison”, Collaboration with two UIUC undergraduate students who are currently incarcerated.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

2019 “They Herded Us Like Cattle” Strategies for Maintaining Dignity in the Face of Dehumanizing Practices in Prison” to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Washington DC.

2018 “Building from the Bottom-Up: Collaborative Research and Teaching through Participatory Action Research (PAR)” Presented at the National Conference for Higher Education in Prison, Indianapolis, Indiana.

2018 “Where Are All The Teachers Of Color? Critical Reflections on Volunteer Work in Prison Education” Presented at the National Conference for Higher Education in Prison, Indianapolis, Indiana.

2018 “Creating Kinship Behind Bars: Chosen Families in a Men's U.S. Prison” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

2018 “Protesting while Incarcerated: Social Movement Mobilization Tactics as an Expression of Agency in Midwest U.S. Maximum-Security Prisons” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Toronto, Canada.

2017 “Building Bridges ‘Behind the Wall’: Stories of Civic Engagement in Prison” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Ciudad de Mexico, Mexico.

2016 “Civil Society in Prison: Citizenship Theories and Incarceration” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, New Orleans, Louisiana.

2016 “Obstructed Inquiry: Barriers to Critical Qualitative Research on Prisons” Presented at the International Conference of Qualitative Inquiry, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

2015 “Critical Reflections on Volunteer Work in Prison Education” Presented at the National Conference on Higher Education in Prison, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

- 2015 “Language Education as a Tool of Resistance Inside an Illinois State Prison.” Roundtable presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2015 “We are neither “Prisoners” nor “Offenders”, We are Teachers and Students: Incarcerated Men and Peer ESL Instruction in an Illinois State Prison.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Seattle, Washington.
- 2014 “Creating a Reciprocal Learning Community Inside a Prison Classroom: Incarcerated Men Peer-Teaching an ESL Course at Danville Correctional Center.” Presented at the 2014 Annual Convention of the Midwest Modern Language Association, Detroit, Michigan, November.
- 2014 “Rights Consciousness, Collective Identity, and Mobilization Strategies in Prison.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2013 “Rights Mobilization Strategies in the California Prison Hunger Strike.” Roundtable at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, New York.
- 2012 “The US Supreme Court and California Prison Reform.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2011 “Human Rights Behind Bars: Rights Mobilization in the California Prison Hunger Strike.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Honolulu, Hawai'i.
- 2010 “Racial Desegregation in the Prison System.” Presented at the International Conference on Social Sciences, Honolulu, Hawai'i.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ACTIVISM

- 2018 Kurisu, Sheri-Lynn and Jim Sosnowski. “Higher Education in Prisons” *My WEFT Show* with Brian Dunn, WEFT 90.1, Urbana Illinois.
- 2012 Kurisu, Sheri-Lynn. “Families of the Incarcerated” Forum presented as part of *Beyond Lines: Limited Expressions from the Men within Danville Prison Art Exhibit* at the University YMCA, Urbana, Illinois.
- 2011 Kurisu, Sheri-Lynn, James Kilgore, Anke Pinkert, et al. “Mass Incarceration Reading Group” Reading group sponsored by the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities. Champaign-Urbana, Illinois
- 2011 Kurisu, Sheri-Lynn and James Kilgore. “Michelle Alexander’s *The New Jim Crow*” Reading group sponsored by the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities. Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

- 2017 For Dr. Anna-Maria Marshall, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2013 For Dr. Anna-Maria Marshall, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2010 For Dr. Adrienne Lo, Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2008 For Dr. Hiroshi Fukurai, Department of Sociology, University of California, Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

California State University San Marcos

Department of Sociology

2018 to present Assessment Committee

University Service

2018 to present Faculty Mentoring Program

Fall 2018 Panelist: *Deported* Documentary Film Screening, presented by the Cross-Cultural Center

Guest Lectures

Fall 2018 Soc 500: Professional Seminar in Sociological Practice

Fall 2018 Soc 515: Introduction to Research Methods

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Sociology Department

Top Ten Innovation Initiative: Introduction to Sociology, Summer 2014

Created teaching curriculum and pedagogical manual for both Instructors and Teaching Assistants for Soc100: Introduction to Sociology. Resources included: lesson plans, classroom exercises, homework assignments, an image database, and illustrations of complicated concepts using everyday examples.

Sociology Graduate Student Advisory Committee, 2009-2011; 2013-2014

Graduate Student Representative

Department Faculty Meetings

Curriculum Committee: Undergraduate and Graduate Courses

Served as a liaison between graduate students and the department head; created the first funding program for graduate students to attend conferences.

Department of Sociology Newsletter Committee, 2013-14
Assisted faculty and department head in the design and editing of the biannual newsletter.

Education Justice Project

Member, 2009 to present
Language Partners Program: Resource Partner, 2013 to present
Webmaster, 2011-2012
Coordinator, Family and Community Engagement (FACE) 2010-2012

Asian Pacific American Graduate Student Organization

Current Member
Treasurer, 2009 to 2012

Graduate College Focal Point Initiative: Collateral Consequences of Incarceration

Sponsored by the UIUC Graduate College, this group coordinated seminars, guest lectures, and other events around the impacts of incarceration upon families and communities.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association

Current Member
Sections Member:
Collective Behavior and Social Movements
Crime, Law, and Deviance
Race, Gender, and Class
Sociology of Law

Critical Ethnic Studies Association

Current Member

Law and Society Association

Current Member
Collaborative Research Networks Member:
Law and Social Movements
Punishment and Social Control

Society for the Study of Social Problems

Current Member
Division Member:
Crime and Juvenile Delinquency
Law and Society
Poverty, Class, and Inequalities
Racial and Ethnic Minorities

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2013 Sociology Department Travel Grant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2013 Runner-up: Social Science Research Council: Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship
- 2008 Recognition from Professor Hiroshi Fukurai for library research assistance: Peterson, Nicholas D., Hiroshi Fukurai, James Barton Jr., Chrystelle Browman and Mabel Lam. 2008. "The Dichotomy of Lynching and "Popular Justice": A Comparative Analysis of white and African-American Lynching Incidents, 1882-1930"
- 2007 Recognition from Professor Hiroshi Fukurai for assistance collecting and processing data: Fukurai, Hiroshi. 2007 "The Rebirth of Japan's Petit Quasi-Jury and Grand Jury Systems: A Cross-National Analysis of Legal Consciousness and the Lay Participatory Experience in Japan and the U.S." *Cornell International Law Journal* 40:315-354

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- 2006-2009 Interlibrary Loan Coordinator, University of California, Santa Cruz
- 2005-2006 Caseworker, Friends Outside: Serving people incarcerated in Santa Cruz County Jails