

Sarah L. Whitley

Department of Sociology, Washington State University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY, Sociology, 2012

Dissertation: “Changing Times in Rural America: The Effects on Food Insecurity and Hunger”

Committee Members: Jennifer Sherman (Chair), Gregory Hooks, Raymond A. Jussaume
Qualifying Exams: Stratification & Education

M.A. WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY, Sociology, 2007

Thesis: “Environmental Education: Factors behind Curriculum Adoption”

B.A. UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA, Sociology, minor History 2003

Graduated with Distinction

Independent Study: “Homeless not Hopeless”

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Career Track

Department of Sociology, Washington State University

August 2017 – Present

- Teach courses at 100-400 levels—Social Problems [SSCI], Degree and Careers, Sociology of Food, Internship, Internship Capstone [CAPS] [M]
- Design new courses—Degree and Careers and Sociology of Food
- Teach large 100+ student courses, department core courses, and writing in the major courses
- Complete assessment for department core courses-introductory and senior levels
- Use scaffolding assignment design to help students develop student learning outcomes
- Use experiential learning to connect course material to community support projects
- Assessment Coordinator—organize department assessment plan, analyze and report on assessment data, and present assessment findings to faculty
- Career and Internship Advisor—meet with students to discuss career tracks and strategies for identifying and securing internship opportunities
- Act as Chapter Representative for Alpha Kappa Delta honor society
- Member of the Teaching Academy working on assessment initiatives

Instructor

Department of Sociology, Washington State University

August 2016 – July 2017

- Taught courses at 100-400 levels—Introduction to Sociology [SSCI], Development of Social Theory, Sociology of Education, Internship, Internship Capstone [CAPS] [M]
- Used experiential learning to connect course material to community support projects

- Assessment Coordinator—organized department assessment plan, analyzed and reported on assessment data, and presented assessment findings to faculty

Assistant Professor

Department of Sociology, California State University, Fresno

August 2013 – July 2016

- Taught introductory to intermediate level courses—Critical Thinking About Society, Contemporary Social Issues, Sociology of Education, Rural Sociology, Urban Sociology
- Designed new courses—Rural Sociology and Sociology of Food
- Used scaffolding assignment design to help students develop student learning outcomes
- Used experiential learning to connect course material to community support projects
- Co-founded the Fresno State Food Recovery Network
- Provided academic and career advising
- Completed qualitative research investigating food insecurity and hunger in the San Joaquin Valley

Teaching Fellow

Department of Sociology, Washington State University

August 2012 – July 2013

- Taught courses at 100-400 levels—Introduction to Sociology [SSCI], Development of Social Theory, Sociology of Education, Internship Capstone [CAPS] [M]
- Used experiential learning to connect course material to community support projects

PROFESSIONAL STATEMENT

I am an exemplary assistant professor with 10 years of experience teaching sociology undergraduate courses. Extensive knowledge of social problems, sociology of food, inequality, sociology of education, stratification, urban and rural sociology, qualitative methods, and experiential learning. Commitment to helping students develop their full potential in their studies and career tracks. Strong philosophy of teaching and methods to motivate student development of disciplinary knowledge and application of this knowledge to professional settings. Dedicated partner to university programs that promote learning and community support. Active participant in the scholarship of teaching through participation in a variety of professional working groups.

SKILLS

- Strong critical and analytical skills
- Skilled at explaining material to students of varying academic levels and interests
- Passion for connecting students to learning techniques that apply discipline knowledge
- Dedication for helping students connect sociological knowledge to professional interests
- Devotion to using experiential and active learning opportunities
- Strong lecturer and effective written communicator
- Skilled at using my approachable style when interacting with students and colleagues
- Exemplary skills in the scholarship of teaching that help me advance the field of sociology

- Capable of managing simultaneous tasks related to teaching, assessment coordinator, and career and internship advisor

SCHOLARSHIP

Refereed Article

Whitley, Sarah. 2013. "Changing Times in Rural America: Food Assistance and Food Insecurity in Food Deserts." *Journal of Family Social Work*, 16:1, 36-52.

Refereed Book-Case Study

Whitley, Sarah. 2017. "Food Insecurity and Hunger in the Rural West: Case Study." *Rural Poverty in the U.S.A.* Editors Jennifer Sherman, Ann Tickamyer and Jennifer Warlick. Columbia University Press.

Articles in Progress

Whitley, Sarah. "Using Brief Behavioral Interventions to Improve Student Engagement, Connection, and Learning." Submitting to *Teaching Sociology* Fall 2022.

Whitley, Sarah. "Preparing Applied Sociologists: Incorporating Aspects of Career Professionalization in Undergraduate Courses." Submitting to *Teaching Sociology* Spring 2023.

Whitley, Sarah. "Food Education Programming: The Importance of Understanding Structural Constraint of Access to Food Choices." Submitting to *The Journal of Rural Health* Fall 2022.

Invited Presentations-Refereed

2021 "Using Brief Behavioral Interventions to Improve Student Engagement, Connection, and Learning," presented at *Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, March, San Diego, CA. *Virtual due to COVID.*

2018 "Distribution with Dignity: Rural Food Insecurity and Moral Stigma," presented at *Rural Sociology Society Annual Meeting*, July, Portland, OR.

2017 "Challenges to Rural Food Assistance: A Case Study of One Rural County's Loss of Food Pantries and a Transforming Food Assistance Model," accepted at *Rural Sociology Society Annual Meeting*, July, Columbus, OH.

2016 "Distribution with Dignity: Lessons from Food Banks in the Rural and Urban West," presented at *American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting*, March, San Francisco, CA.

2015 "The Significance of Moral and Social Capital for Food Security of Rural Low-Income Populations: Limitations and Obstacles for Relying on Strategies Which Symbolize Moral Capital," presented at the *Rural Sociology Society Annual Meeting*, August, Madison, WI.

2015 “Food Deserts, Food Insecurity, and Retail Change: The Effects of a Supercenter Opening in a Rural County for Food Insecure Residents Acquiring Strategies and Diets,” presented at the *Rural Sociology Society Annual Meeting*, August, Madison, WI.

2014 “Food Deserts and Food Security: The Opening of a Supercenter in a Rural County and the Effects on Low-Income and Food Insecure Residents Food Acquiring Strategies and Diets,” accepted for *Rural Sociology Society Annual Meeting*, July/August, New Orleans, LA.

2013 “The Benefits of Experiential Learning: A Comparison of One Class Section with and One Class Section Without Experiential Learning for Understanding the Topic of Food Insecurity and Hunger,” presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association*, March, Portland, OR.

Invited Presentations-Non-Refereed

2021 “Preparing for the Marketplace: Navigating the Internship Capstone Experience,” presented at Alpha Kappa Delta webinar sponsored by Teaching and Learning committee. April, virtual.

2019 “The Challenges and Effects of Food Insecurity and Hunger: A Rural Eastern Washington Case Study Comparison,” presented at Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine Washington State University, Department of Nutrition and Exercise Physiology, March, Spokane, WA.

2015 “Capacious, Complex and Contested: Student Learning Through Challenges and Engagement,” presented at the *18th Annual Continuums of Service Conference*, April, Long Beach, CA.

GRANTS

2019 College of Arts and Sciences Interdisciplinary Research and Innovation Seed Grant, “Understanding Urban and Rural Food Insecurity in Eastern Washington: A Mixed-Methods Study,” with Dr. Pablo Monsivais, Associate Professor, Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine, Department of Nutrition & Exercise Physiology. Submitted, but was not funded.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Faculty Groups

- WSU LIFT Transformational Change Initiative Faculty Fellow, Washington State University
- Teaching Academy, Washington State University; active member in Assessment subcommittee

Conference Session Co-Organizer and President

- 2022-Alpha Kappa Delta sponsored Teaching and Learning Sessions *Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, April, Sacramento, CA.
 - “Decolonizing Classes and Class Materials”
 - “Teaching Sociology”
 - “Teaching Race, Power, Privilege, and Anti-Racism”
 - “Teaching Sociology and Advising”

“Teaching at the Community College: Be the Change You Want to See in the World”

- 2021-Alpha Kappa Delta sponsored Teaching and Learning Sessions *Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, San Diego, CA. *Virtual due to COVID*.
“Teaching for Student Success”
“Utilizing Active Learning Strategies to Enhance Teaching and Learning”
“Teaching Race and Racism”
“Balancing Teaching and Graduate Study: Lessons by and for Graduate Students”

Trainings and Workshops

- 2021-2022 Academic Outreach and Innovation- Distance Delivery Master Certificate, Panopto and Canvas, Panopto Basics; American Sociological Association- After the Degree: Career Options for Sociology Majors
- 2020-2021 Academic Outreach and Innovation- Preparing Students for Success, Effective and Quality Instruction, Syllabi Design, Best Practices for Remote Teaching; through the summer participation with working group on Remote Learning
- 2019-2020 Academic Outreach and Innovation-Making Teaching Matter, Produce.Learn.Achieve.Network, Motivating Students to be Interested and Prepared, I want to Connect with as Many Students as Possible What Should I Keep in Mind?, Using Group Work Effectively, Building an Environment of Success, Preparing Students for Success

Office of Assessment of Teaching and Learning-Designing a Syllabus to Enhance Student-Faculty Relationships and Decrease Workload

LIFT-COPUS Evaluation System, Mentoring Evaluation

- 2018-2019 Teaching Innovation Forum-Documenting Your Teaching, Teaching Today’s Students

SERVICE

External (elected positions):

Regional Representative Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) Honor Society, 2019-present

Committee on Committees Pacific Sociological Association, 2021-present

University:

Teaching Academy, Washington State University, 2020-present

Catalog Subcommittee, Washington State University, 2017-2020, **Co-Chair** 2019-2020

Center for Civic Engagement Advisory Board, Washington State University, 2016-2020

Faculty Lead Service-Learning Study Abroad to Fiji, Winter 2015-2016

Library Subcommittee, Fresno State, 2015-2016

Annual Fresno State National Hunger and Homelessness Week Advisory Committee, 2013-2016

Annual Fresno State Hunger Banquet Advisory Committee, 2013-2016

College:

College of Arts and Sciences Program Assessment committee, Washington State University, 2016-present

College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Studies Advisory Council, Washington State University, 2016-2019

Curriculum Committee, College of Social Sciences, Fresno State, 2015-2016

Departmental:

Undergraduate Studies Committee, Washington State University and California State University, Fresno, 2013-present

Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) Honor Society Beta of WA Chapter Representative, 2016-present

Assessment Coordinator, Washington State University, 2016-present

Awards Committee, Washington State University, 2011-2013

Sociology Club Faculty Advisor, Washington State University, 2016-present

Search Committee Nutrition Hire, Fresno State, 2015-2016

Search Committee Joint Hire with Africana Studies, Fresno State, 2014-2015

Co-Founder/Advisor Fresno State Food Recovery Network, 2013-2015

Community:

Communication Action Center Program Evaluator, Pullman, WA, 2016-2017

Guiding Coalition and Board Member Circles Fresno, Fresno, CA, 2014-2016

Member Fresno County Food System Alliance, Fresno, CA, 2013-2015

AWARDS

College of Social Sciences Research/Creative Activities Award, Fresno State, College of Social Sciences 2015-2016

Distinguished Faculty Service Award, Fresno State April 2015

College of Social Sciences Research/Creative Activities Award, Fresno State, College of Social Sciences 2014-2015

CSU Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Award, Fresno State, 2014-2015

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Alpha Kappa Delta, International Sociology Honor Society

American Sociological Association

Pacific Sociological Association

Rural Sociological Society