

Sociology Source

"Go as far as you can see; when you get there, you'll be able to see farther."
~J.P. Morgan

Welcome back!

We hope your spring break revitalized you for the second half of the spring semester. Please take a few minutes to read this newsletter thoroughly—it includes important information regarding scheduling, advising information, and graduation. As always, feel free to contact an adviser if you have any questions.

Scheduling is underway, so begin planning **now**. Don't wait until the last minute to see an adviser—stop by today.

Summer Advising Hours:

Remember when you went through FTCAP? (It probably seems like ages ago!) Part of our advising responsibilities in the summer includes afternoon FTCAP advising sessions. This means that we will have limited availability from the middle of May through the middle of July. We send out more information closer to summer about our advising hours for the summer.

ATTENTION:

SPRING ADVISING HOURS

WALK-IN HOURS: Monday & Wednesday 1:00-4:00 pm; Friday 8:30-11:00 am

All other advising by Appointment ONLY.

To schedule an appointment, please visit: www.la.psu.edu/advising-appt/

Please understand that advisers are unable to see students during appointment hours, who HAVE NOT scheduled an appointment. Please respect your peers and your advisers by scheduling an appointment or coming during our regularly scheduled walk-in hours listed above. Advisers' time between appointments is spent entering contact reports, completing substitution requests, responding to student e-mails, and other important administrative work.

Scheduling an appointment versus walking-in:

Walk-in advising is a great option if you have questions that can be answered in a relatively short amount of time. Appointments are meant for issues that you know will take longer than 10 or 15 minutes. Examples of topics that could be covered in an appointment include:

1. Change of major or concurrent major paperwork
2. Long-range planning
3. Study Abroad plans
4. Major/career exploration
5. Class schedules for the upcoming semester
6. Other topics that you want to discuss in detail and would like a designated time to do so

A few important points about scheduling an appointment:

- Appointments are made in $\frac{1}{2}$ hour blocks.
- If you are assigned a specific adviser, you must schedule an appointment with that adviser. You can see any adviser during walk-in advising hours.

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Internship Central

Summer Internship Information

If you haven't already contacted Caren Bloom about completing a summer internship, you will need to postpone your plans until the fall semester. For those students who have discussed their plans with Caren Bloom, the remaining deadline date for the summer internship is as follows:

April 12 Placements should be finalized by this date. E-mail Caren Bloom (ceb112@psu.edu) with your internship site placement. See Sheri Miller in 214 Oswald to complete the orange placement card.

Funding is Available for Summer Internships

One of the goals of the Sociology Department is to involve undergraduates in internship opportunities. Accordingly, the department now has modest funds to provide some financial assistance to students who participate in internships. Students with demonstrated need are given preference for funding as are students who will be interning during the summer. Students must also be receiving academic credit for their internship experience. If you're interested in applying for these enrichment funds, please stop by the advising offices to pick up an application form and instructions.

Fall Internship Information

If you're considering a fall internship, the internship dates are planned for **August 22-December 2, 2011**. Be sure to contact **Tisha Edor** by **April 27** regarding fall internships. Following are key deadline dates:

April 27 Indicate your intent to complete an internship by this date and e-mail Tisha Edor (tth5005@psu.edu) to let her know your plans.

May 25 Letters must be sent to three possible internship sites by this date. Send an e-mail to Tisha Edor with the names of the three sites.

August 3 Placements should be finalized by this date. Send an e-mail to Tisha Edor with your internship site placement. See Sheri Miller in room 214 Oswald to complete the orange placement card. We will then send a letter to your internship site with information and instructions about your internship duties/activities.

For more information about the internship process, take a look at this section of the departmental Web site: www.sociology.psu.edu/undergraduate/internships.shtml. Karen, Melissa, and Shery are available to discuss the internship process, how an internship fits into your academic plan, potential sites, and answer questions you have about internships.

Information about Summer Courses

Summer Scheduling

Thinking about taking a few credits this summer? Summer scheduling for all students began on February 1, so schedule now. Head to <http://schedule.psu.edu> to check out what summer courses are offered.

Not sure if you can commit to a resident instruction course? Why not get ahead by taking an online course wherever you are? See a list of summer online courses offered by the College of the Liberal Arts at www.la.psu.edu/CLA-onlinecourses/. You can also take courses offered through the World Campus; select "World Campus" when viewing courses at the Schedule of Courses Web site.

Transferring Courses from Other Institutions

Summer is often a convenient time for students to complete courses at an institution near their homes. If you're thinking about taking a summer course elsewhere, please take the following steps to make sure the class will transfer to Penn State:

Go to: <http://admissions.psu.edu/>

Click on "Transfer Students" and then "Transferring Credit Tool"

Follow the instructions

Print out transfer evaluation form from the Admissions Web site



After you complete the course:

Have an official copy of your transcript from the college/university you attended sent directly to the Penn State Admissions Office. When Admissions receives the transcript, they will post the course(s) to your Penn State transcript..

Fall Scheduling

Fall scheduling has also begun, so please review your audit and consider the degree requirements that you still need to satisfy. Below are a few scheduling tips to keep in mind:

- Remember you need to schedule SOC 207 and successfully complete it before you are permitted to complete an internship.
- SOC 470 **MUST** be successfully completed prior to SOC 400W. Keep in mind that you'll take SOC 400W during your senior year; it's a senior seminar course. Students often think SOC 470 is also a course for seniors only, but taking SOC 470 as a junior is fine. Once you've completed SOC 207 and STAT 200, go ahead and schedule SOC 470.

ADDITIONAL NOTE: SOC 207 and SOC 470 **must** be completed with a "C" or better before a student is permitted to take SOC 400W. This is a **firm** departmental policy.

**Important
DATE!**

Late Drop Deadline

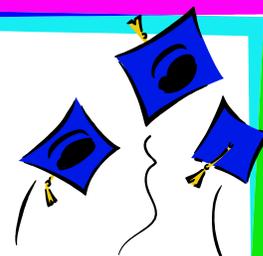
The deadline to late drop a course for this semester is **April 8, 2011**, and it's a firm deadline. If late-dropping a class sounds like an option you want to consider, make an informed decision about it. Meet with your professor to accurately assess your progress in a course before you late-drop it. Discuss with your adviser the possible consequences of late-dropping a class, such as the amount of late drop credits available to you and how it may affect your full-time status (which can, in turn, affect your student aid and/or health insurance). If you determine that late-dropping a course is in your best interest, you can late-drop through eLion at <https://elion.psu.edu/> or in the advising or Registrar's offices.

Withdrawals

Those who are experiencing significant difficulties this spring may consider withdrawing for the semester. The last day to withdraw from the spring 2011 semester is **April 29, 2011**. After this date, no student will be permitted to withdraw. You can easily process a withdrawal using eLion at https://elion.psu.edu, but please consider talking to Karen, Melissa, or Shery about your plans first.

ANNOUNCING THE 2011 SOCIOLOGY STUDENT MARSHAL

Every year a Student Marshal is selected to represent all graduating seniors in Sociology during commencement. We are proud of all who were nominated and are pleased to announce that **Amanda Craig** has been selected to serve as the 2011 SOC Student Marshal. As the Student Marshal, she will receive her diploma on stage during the graduation ceremony. Student Marshals must select a Faculty Marshal to accompany them during commencement, and we're happy to announce that Amanda has asked **Dr. Marylee Taylor** to take on this role.



Amanda will graduate with degrees in Sociology and International Politics. She has participated in numerous enrichment activities, such as, a research assistantship with the Center for Diverse Families and Communities since 2009, a legislative internship with a lobbying firm in Washington D.C., and co-authoring publications with faculty and contributing to grant proposals. Amanda is also the Liberal Arts Undergraduate Council Vice President and has participated in a number of volunteer activities.

Get Involved!

The Sociology Club

The purpose of the Sociology Club is to better serve our students and the club focuses on perennial questions asked by sociology majors including:

- What can I do with a sociology degree when I graduate?
- How do I get into graduate school?
- What do graduate students think about graduate school?
- What can I do to make myself more marketable after graduation?
- Where can I find a forum to interact with and make friends with other sociology students?
- What kinds of volunteer and service activities will help me get a job and can the club provide them?

The club sponsors faculty-student mixers, reviews films, raises money for THON, and participates in a Careers in Sociology evening and a Graduate School night. If you would like more information, please contact the SOC club president, Chris Alphen (cja5055@psu.edu).

Alpha Kappa Delta

Sociology majors and minors can strive for membership in the Penn State chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta, the international sociology honor society. To be eligible for membership, majors/minors must be a junior or senior with an overall grade point average of 3.00 as well as a 3.00 grade point average in the sociology major or minor. Qualified applicants must also have completed four sociology courses. Application forms for Alpha Kappa Delta are available outside of 315 Oswald Tower. For more information, contact the president of AKD, Chris Alphen (cja5055@psu.edu).

Sociology and Crime, Law and Justice are now on FACEBOOK. Find us and LIKE us!

Search:

Penn State Department of Sociology and Crime, Law, and Justice

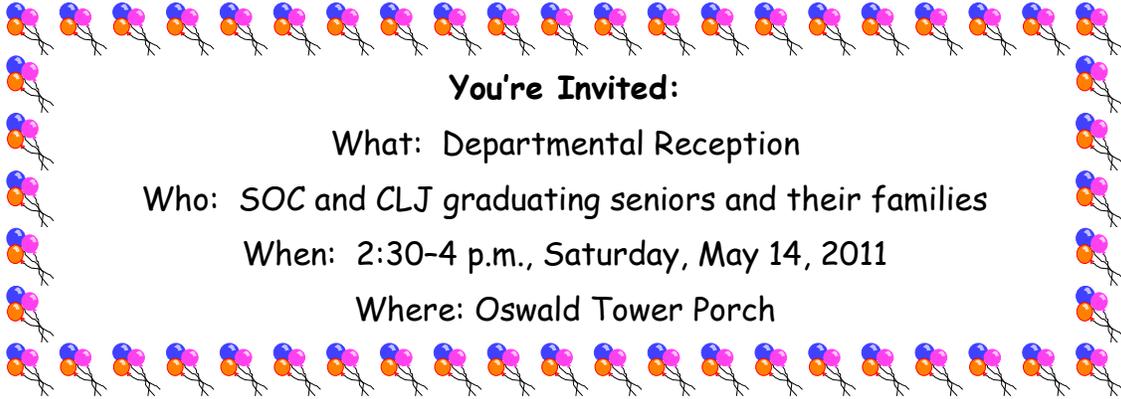


Congratulations Graduates

Seniors, you're in the home stretch. The graduation ceremony for the College of the Liberal Arts is scheduled for Saturday, **May 14, 2011 at 6 p.m.** in the Bryce Jordan Center. If your family and friends ask about needing tickets to attend, please tell them that tickets are not required for the ceremony. However, we recommend you and your supporters arrive early to find your seats. Karen and Shery will be attending the ceremony. Hope to see you there. Any last minute questions about the ceremony? Be sure to check this Web site:

<http://commencement.psu.edu/future.html>.

You've worked hard, and it's time to acknowledge the end of your undergraduate career at Penn State and the beginning of the next phase in your lives. We'd like to celebrate with you and your families, so please plan to join us at our departmental reception before the graduation ceremony at 2:30 p.m. on the "front porch" of Oswald Tower. Faculty and staff will be on hand to congratulate you and wish you well. Enjoy some food, fellowship, and fun before we head to the Bryce Jordan Center for the ceremony.



You're Invited:

What: Departmental Reception

Who: SOC and CLJ graduating seniors and their families

When: 2:30-4 p.m., Saturday, May 14, 2011

Where: Oswald Tower Porch

August 2011 Graduation

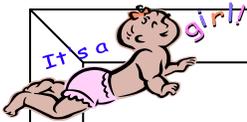
If August is when you hope to graduate, please **activate your intent to graduate by June 17, 2011**. Activating your intent to graduate is very simple and very important. If you don't activate your intent, we have no way of knowing that you're planning to graduate and your audit will not be checked to make sure you have met all the requirements for graduation. Activate your intent to graduate as soon as the summer session starts via eLion at <https://elion.psu.edu/>. Summer commencement will be held Saturday, **August 13, 2011**, in the Bryce Jordan Center.

*Remember if you are walking in May, but are taking summer classes to finish requirements this applies to you.

Important Semester Dates At-A-Glance

April 8	Late drop deadline
April 11	Finalize su11 internship site
April 27	Deadline to file fa11 internship intent
April 29	Withdrawal deadline
	Classes end
May 2-6	Final exams
May 14	Spring commencement

Adviser Fun Fact



DID YOU KNOW?

Adviser Shery Crater grew up in the Midwest and lived on the West Coast before moving to Pennsylvania with her husband almost 3 years ago. She also played tennis in college and coached on the college level after she got her master's degree. This December she had her first baby, Baylee. Life has never been the same since!



This publication is available in alternative media on request.

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