

Dear colleagues,

I am writing to encourage your outstanding students to apply to our [PhD program in Sociology](#). Syracuse University's [Department of Sociology](#) is part of the [Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs](#), a unique interdisciplinary school of social sciences. Our program offers graduate students five years of funding, annual travel funding, and many opportunities for research, teaching, and professional development. In an effort to recruit and support a diverse graduate student body, **Syracuse University waives the application fee for all McNair Scholars and the department does not accept GRE scores.** Instead, we base admission decisions on a comprehensive review of the applicant's materials including their personal statement, resume, writing sample, transcripts, and three letters of recommendation. Our first priority is ensuring a good fit between the graduate student's interests and the training provided by our program.

Faculty and graduate students in our department have core expertise in [several research areas](#):

- Globalization, Immigration, and Transnational Studies
- Population and Place
- Education and Family
- Health, Aging and Life Course, and Disability
- Inequalities
- Power, Capital, and Politics

Our sociology faculty are affiliated with numerous interdisciplinary programs and centers. Our department provides opportunities for joint degrees or collaborative study with those programs and centers, including:

- [Aging Studies Institute](#)
- [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Studies](#)
- [Women and Gender Studies](#)
- [Disability Studies](#)
- [African American Studies](#)
- [Center for Policy Research](#)
- [Lerner Center for Public Health Promotion](#)
- [Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflict and Collaboration](#)
- [Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs](#)

Our [faculty](#) are renowned scholars and teachers. They win prestigious awards for their teaching, such as [Prof. Jackie Orr](#) and [Prof. Madonna Harrington Meyer](#) who are both Laura J. and L. Douglas Meredith Professors for Teaching Excellence, the highest teaching award offered at Syracuse University. Our faculty are engaged in cutting-edge research, as exemplified by [Prof. Sean Drake's](#) forthcoming book entitled "Academic Apartheid: Race and the Criminalization of Failure in an American Suburb" and [Prof. Marc Garcia's](#) ongoing research on Latinx health and aging. They receive major grants for conducting exciting research with student research assistants, such as [Prof. Shannon Monnat](#) who has received funding from the Department of Justice to study the rural opioid epidemic and [Prof. Rebecca Schewe](#) who has received funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to study the resilience of racial and ethnic minority fishing communities. They receive national and international recognition for their research such as [Prof. Prema Kurien](#), who received a book award from the Asia and Asian American Section of the American Sociological Association, [Prof. Yingyi Ma](#), who is a member of the National Committee for US-China Relations and [Prof. Jennifer Karas Montez](#) who was awarded a Carnegie Fellowship to study inequalities in life expectancy across U.S. states.

Our students also flourish. They [receive jobs](#) at institutions such as the University of Illinois at Chicago (Liat Ben Moshe, 2012), University of Connecticut (Fumi Showers, 2013), Colgate University (Ynesse Abdul-Malak, 2017), DePaul University (Karyn Stewart, 2013), Minnesota State University (Aaron Hoy, 2018), University of Ankara, Turkey (Gokhan Savas, 2013), Singapore Management University (Yasmin Ortega, 2015) and the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (Natalee Simpson, 2017). They develop distinguished careers ([Pamela Herd](#), 2002 and [Don Sawyer](#), 2013). They win awards for their research such as the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award from the Disability and Society Section of the ASA (J. Dalton Stevens), the Syracuse University STEM Fellowship (Bremda Acosta), and the Lerner Center for Public Health Promotion Fellowship (Yue Sun and Claire Pendergrast). They win awards for their teaching such as the Outstanding Teaching Assistant award (Dustin Satterfield and Dalton Stevens) and teaching mentorships (Jacob Bartholomew). Our students publish widely and receive extramural funding for their graduate study.

If your students are looking for a supportive graduate school environment in which they can develop strong relationships with faculty, be prepared for a wide range of academic and professional careers, and be part of a diverse and collaborative group of graduate students, we encourage them to apply for a PhD in Syracuse University's Department of Sociology. The deadline to apply for the 2021-2022 academic year is January 10. Details about the application and instructions for applying can be found at [www.maxwell.syr.edu/soc/Admissions/](http://www.maxwell.syr.edu/soc/Admissions/).

Please contact me with any questions!

Best,

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Director of Graduate Studies

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