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2012 Annual Meeting of the ASA

Comparative and Historical Sociology at the ASA

The Comparative and Historical Sociology section organized the following events for the 2012 Annual Meeting of the ASA.

Friday, August 17; 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Joint Reception: Section on Comparative and Historical Sociology and Section on Global and Transnational Sociology

Sunday, August 19; 8:30am - 10:10am*
Council and Business Meetings

* Note that Council will meet for the first part of this session; the Business Meeting will convene at approximately 9:20am.
Sunday, August 19; 10:30am - 12:10pm

Modernity Reconfigured: Postcolonial Theory and Comparative-Historical Sociology
Session Organizer: Isaac A. Reed
Session Presider: Monika Krause
  • Yael H. Berda, "Administrative Memory and Colonial Legacy: Colonial Emergency Defense Regulations in Israel and India"
  • Claire Laurier Decoteau, "Historicizing Hybridity: The Field of Health and Healing in South Africa"
  • Mounira Maya Charrad, "Modernity, Islam and Gender: Post-colonial Perspectives"
  • Gurminder K. Bhambra, "Rethinking Modernity: A Post-colonial Analysis"
Discussant: Julian Go

Sunday, August 19; 2:30pm - 4:10pm

Roundtable Session
Session Organizer: Colin J. Beck
Table 01. Comparative and Historical Identities
Table 02. State Formation
Table 03. Asia and Global Dynamics
Table 04. States and Society: Actors and Actions

Sunday, August 19; 4:30pm - 6:10pm

Party, State, and Society in Comparative and Historical Perspective
Session Organizer and Presider: Cedric de Leon
  • Gabriel Hetland, "Parties and the Construction of Real Utopias in Venezuela and Bolivia"
  • Barry Eidlin, "Repression and Rebirth: Red Scares and the New Left in the United States and Canada, 1946-1972"
  • Cheol-Sung Lee, "The Origins of Participatory Democracy and Elite Transformation in Argentina, Brazil, South Korea, and Taiwan"
Discussant: Cedric de Leon

Monday, August 20; 8:30am - 10:10am

Revolutions "New" and "Old"
Session Co-Organizer and Presider: Mounira Maya Charrad
Session Co-Organizer: Danielle Kane
  • Elizabeth Lynn Young, "Civic Secession: Framing in Yemen's Southern Mobility Movement"
  • Colin J. Beck, "Reflections on the Revolutionary Wave in 2011"
  • Yang Zhang, "Revolutionary Ecology and the Rise of Taiping Rebellion, 1846-1853"
  • Pavel I. Osinsky, "Similar Beginnings, Different Endings: The Semiabsolutist States and Revolutionary Outcomes in Germany and Russia"
Discussant: Danielle Kane

Member Award

Congratulations to Hiroe Saruya (University of Michigan) whose work entitled “The Rise of Japan's First New Left: Bourdieusian Field Dynamics and the Emergence of Movement Organizations” won the 2012 Graduate Student Paper Award given by the Collective Behavior and Social Movements section of the ASA.
Fellowship Announcement

Abe Fellowship

The Social Science Research Council (SSRC) and the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP) announce the annual Abe Fellowship competition. The Abe Fellowship is designed to encourage international multidisciplinary research on topics of pressing global concern. The Abe Fellowship Program seeks to foster the development of a new generation of researchers who are interested in policy-relevant topics of long-range importance and who are willing to become key members of a bilateral and global research network built around such topics.

For more information on fellowship research themes, eligibility, and the application process, visit http://www.ssrc.org/fellowships/abe-fellowship or contact SSRC staff at abe@ssrc.org.

Member Publications


Section Members on the Job Market

Wesley Hiers
University of California – Los Angeles

Political Institutions and Legal Racial Exclusion: The US in Comparative Perspective, 1600s to 1900s

Using a long-run, comparative approach, this dissertation directs sociology’s political-institutional turn to the puzzle of “legal racial exclusion” (LRE)—i.e., enduring arrangements whereby states classify their populations by race and assign unequal rights to dominants and subordinates on this basis (e.g. apartheid South Africa). Part one employs a comparative approach to explain why LRE emerged in some former European settlement colonies but not others. The basic argument links LRE to colonial contexts where settlers established autonomous, representative governments. The next two parts focus on the US and examine the political institutions and alliances that sustained LRE until the 1960s. LRE first made it onto the national political agenda in the aftermath of the Civil War, but the effort to eliminate LRE failed in the face of a powerful pro-exclusion alliance. The second part argues that the institutional logic of the two-party system explains why such a powerful pro-exclusion alliance emerged and dominated racial policy for over a century. Once this exclusionary alliance broke apart in the 1930s, LRE returned to the national political agenda. The third part explores the break-up of this alliance and examines how, even after this dissolution, the structure of legislative veto points prolonged LRE and fundamentally shaped the process by which it was eventually overcome.
In relation to explanatory approaches that emphasize working class competition, elite conflict, racial demography, or public opinion, this dissertation demonstrates the indispensable explanatory contribution that a political-institutional approach makes to our understanding of the emergence, endurance, and demise of LRE.

Dissertation Committee: Andreas Wimmer (Chair), Rogers Brubaker, Michael Mann, Karen Orren (Political Science)

Research Interests: My next two projects will examine (1) the historical roots of country-specific patterns of xenophobia across Europe; and (2) the re-making of race and power in the post-civil rights US South. The first project will be carried out with the generous support of the Foundation for Population, Migration and Environment.

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Website: http://www.soc.ucla.edu/students/WESLEY%20HIERS/?id=97

Other Information

Please join us at the CHS reception (joint with the Section on Global and Transnational Sociology) at the ASA Meeting in Denver on Friday, August 17 from 6:30pm - 8:00pm where we will give out the section awards.

At the business meeting on Sunday, August 19 from 9:20am - 10:10am, we will discuss plans for a CHS mini-conference at the 2013 Annual Meeting in New York.

Call for Member Information

Let’s make sure that the website of the Comparative and Historical Sociology section remains a vibrant hub of intellectual exchange! Please keep the Web Editor updated with your latest information, including: (1) the current link to your professional webpage; (2) citation information and links to your latest article and book publications; (3) announcements and calls for upcoming jobs, conferences, and publications pertaining to comparative and historical sociology. And be sure to visit the website (http://www2.asanet.org/sectionchs/) to learn about recent and upcoming section activities – and to browse current and back issues of the newsletter.

Please e-mail your information to Robert Jansen, CHS Web Editor:
rsjansen@umich.edu

Contributions to Trajectories are always welcome. Please contact the editors at atesaltinordu@sabanciuniv.edu and seio@hawaii.edu.