



**2021 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SYMBOLIC  
INTERACTION**

**AUGUST 5-8, 2021**

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE [DRAFT - June 17]**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 5TH: 10:00-11:30AM EASTERN U.S.**

*Paper Session #1: Socialization and Inequalities*

Zoom Link:

“Cognitive Reasons for Social Inequalities?” Eve Gardien, Rennes University.

“How The Legalization Of Marijuana May Effect Educational Attainment and Mass Incarceration,” Lillian Platten, Loyola University Chicago.

Presider: TBD

*Paper Session #2: Meaning Making through Media Representations*

Zoom Link:

“Skipping the Main Course: Depictions of Single Women in Film,” Kimberly Phillips, Memorial University in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

“A Place for Contention: The Representation of The Places of Contention in Iranian Cinema During The Reform Era (1997-2005),” Pouya Morshedi, Memorial University in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

“The Neighbours’ Relationships Transformation along with the Dwelling Pattern Shifts in Iran: A Qualitative Content Analysis of Iranian Movies (1969-2009),” Foroogh Mohammadi, Memorial University in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

“Al-Hollywood: Narratives of Despair and Glorification of the Caliphate from ISIS Affiliated Women in the Al-Hol Camp,” Henriette Frees Esholdt, Lund University.

Presider: TBD

*Paper Session #3: Identities, Intersectionality, and Meaning Making in Total Institutions*

Zoom Link:

“Intersectionality and Military Identity,” Kenya Massey, University of Missouri - Columbia.

“U.S. Military Members’ Perceptions of Male Sexual Victimization,” Aspen Dyer, Cal State Fullerton.

Presider: TBD

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 5TH: 12:00-1:30PM EASTERN U.S.**

*Paper Session #4: Symbolic Interaction, Racism, and Anti-Racism*

Zoom Link:

“Anti-Black Biases in Jury Selection,” Elise DeCamp and Whitney DeCamp

“Growing Up with Racism in Southern Iran,” Nasim Basiri and Richard Mitchell, Oregon State University.

“James Baldwin and Symbolic Interaction,” Staci Newmahr, Buffalo State University.

Presider: TBD

*Paper Session #5: Interactionist Studies of Health Professions and Caregiving*

Zoom Link:

“An Interactionist Approach to the Professional Socialization of Work Devotion,” Alexandra Vinson, University of Michigan.

“Anomalous Bereavement Patterns in Caregivers of Terminally Ill Cancer Patients’ in Underserved Communities,” Lillian Platten, Loyola University Chicago.

“The Impossibly Good Doctor,” Tania M. Jenkins, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill.

“Maintaining Cisnormative Accountability: Medical Providers’ Negotiation of Transgender Healthcare,” William C. Stallings a,b , Nik M. Lampe c, e, and Emily S. Mann d,e  
a South Carolina Honors College, University of South Carolina.

Presider: TBD

### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 5TH: 1:45-3:15PM EASTERN**

#### *Paper Session #6: Interaction and Intimacy*

Zoom Link:

“‘I Just Don’t Feel Any Pride in It.’ The Politics of Identifying as Asexual,” Mary Underwood, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

“Touch me if you can: Intimate bodies at Cuddle Parties,” Cornelia Mayr.

“AI and Sex Robots: An Examination of the History and Technologization of Sexuality,” Keif Godbout-Kinney, Memorial University in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

Presider: TBD

#### *Paper Session #7: Interactions, Organizations, and Institutions*

Zoom Link:

“‘I say I work at the University’. Norwegian Professors, Non-academic Encounters, and Passing as Interaction Ritual,” Anders Vassenden, University of Stavenger.

“Inhabited Institutions and Geographic Arbitrariness in Capital Prosecution,” Jeffery T. Ulmer and Gary Zajac, Penn State University.

“Emotional Work as an Element of Organizational Identification,” Beata Pawlowska, University of Lodz.

Presider: TBD

#### *Special Session #1: Teaching Symbolic Interaction*

Zoom Link:

The underlying goal for symbolic interactionists is to produce theoretical accounts that promote mutual understanding in order to facilitate cross-group communication. Pioneers of the

perspective saw promise in its potential to overcome social problems stemming from a problem in communicating between groups. Papers in this session will explore symbolic interaction to show how the perspective can be utilized in the classroom to instill a greater sense of appreciation for diversity. These papers argue for continued use of the perspective towards overcoming ideological barriers to learning, or papers that introduce new pedagogical techniques taking a SI approach. These papers also examine the use of SI in promoting discussion on current political divides, sex and sexuality, race, gender, social theory, rural and urban issues, issues in online teaching, and other topics.

“Lynda Barry and Other Graphic Novelists in Teaching Social Problems,” Laurie Linhart, Des Moines Area Community College

“Pragmatism, Praxis, and Pedagogy,” Lukas Szrot, Bemidji State University

“Applying a Sociological Imagination towards Understanding the College Classroom,” Aimee Zoeller, Indiana University Columbus

“Roleplaying as Pedagogy,” Christopher T. Conner, University of Missouri Columbia

Presider/Organizer: Chris Conner, University of Missouri, Columbia and David R. Dickens University of Nevada, Las Vegas

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 5TH: 3:30-5:00PM EASTERN**

##### *Paper Session #8: Police, Policing, and the Social Construction of “Danger”*

Zoom Link:

“Police(ing) Danger: Construction and Management of Risk by Law Enforcement when Responding to Intimate Partner Violence,” Devon Thacker Thomas, California State University, Fullerton.

“Police, Mental Illness and Stigma: The Unresolvable Contradiction of Othering,” Stacey Hannem, *Wilfrid Laurier University* and Christopher J. Schneider, *Brandon University*.

Presider: TBD

##### *Paper Session #9: Culture, Identities, and Interaction*

Zoom Link:

“Conventional Culture, Subcultural Institutions and Subcultural Careers as Backdrops to Identity Work in Singapore's Esports Scene,” J. Patrick Williams & Victoria Puay Ru Chua

“Music Across the Life Course,” Joseph Kotarba, Texas State University.

“Study of Simulacra in Adult Dolls Owners’ Communities of North America,” Ehsan Mohammadi, Memorial University in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

Presider: TBD

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 5TH: 5:00-6:00PM EASTERN U.S.**

Cocktail Hour - All are Welcome (BYO, obviously)

Zoom Link:

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 6TH: 9:00-10:30AM EASTERN U.S.**

*Paper Session #10: Meaning Making and Politicalization*

Zoom Link:

“Mask Burning Protests as Disalignment Ceremonies,” Eric Silva, Georgia Southern University.

“Signifying Aggrieved White Selves: Trump Supporters’ Racial Identity Work,” Douglas Schrock, Shantel Gabrieal Buggs, Bertan Buyokozturk, Kristen Erichsen, and Andre Ivey, Florida State University.

“The Less Agreeable Side of Charisma: Incredulous Onlooking and Anti-structural Power,” Paul Joosse, University of Hong Kong.

Presider: TBD

*Paper Session #11: Moralities and Identities*

Zoom Link:

“The Moral Economy in Homeless Communities,” Sarah Werman, Tulane University.

“‘I Didn’t Think it Could Ever Happen to Me’: Perceptions of Identity Theft Victims,” Dylan Reynolds, University of Guelph.

“Moralizing Reentry Work: How Ex-offender Reentry Workers Use Identity Talk to Present a Moral Self,” Andre Ivey, Florida State University.

Presider: TBD

Session #12: Professional Socialization and Life Course Transitions

Zoom Link:

“‘Everybody thinks that I’m crazy’: Biographical Disruptions among Former Elite Athletes,”  
Deana Simonetto, University of British Columbia, Okanagan.

“Embodiment, Sensibility, and Anticipatory Socialization,” Jacqueline Low, University of New  
Brunswick.

“The Horizontal Call: Social Factors and Social Influences on the Call to Ministry,” Erin F.  
Johnston, Duke University.

Presider: TBD

Special Session #2: Gay Urban Place Making From The Gayborhood and Beyond

Zoom Link:

This session examines gay urban enclaves known colloquially as gayborhoods.

“The Sociology of the Gayborhood: An Overview,” Christopher T. Conner, University of  
Missouri, Columbia, and David Dickens University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

“The Whiteness of Queer Urban Placemaking,” Theo Green, Bowdoin College.

“Beyond the Homonormative Framework,” Magdalena Wojciechowska, Lodz University

Presider: Daniel Okamura, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Organizer: Christopher T. Conner, University of Missouri, Columbia

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 6TH: 10:45AM-12:15PM EASTERN U.S.**

SSSI Business Meeting

Zoom Link:

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 6TH: 1:00-2:30PM EASTERN U.S.**

Special Session #3: Honoring the Life and Career of Dr. Kathy Charmaz

Session Organizer: Adele Clark, University of California, San Francisco

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH: 9:00-10:00AM EASTERN U.S.**

Coffee Hour

Zoom link:

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH: 10:30AM-12:00PM EASTERN U.S.**

***Special Session #4: Antiracism in Academia: Ideas and Applications***

Panelists:

Stacey Hannem, Wilfrid Laurier University

Matthew Hughey, University of Connecticut

Staci Newmahr, SUNY Buffalo State

We invite everyone to join us for a discussion of doing antiracist work in the everyday academic life. This panel session has three aims and components. First, we will draw from three contemporary works, critically engaging with trends in antiracist literature and discourse. We encourage anyone interested to read these books in advance of the session: *How to Be Less Stupid about Race*, by Crystal Fleming, *Me and White Supremacy* by Layla Saad, and *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo. Second, we will critique these works in conversation with classic and canonical antiracist works, including Du Bois' "The Souls of White Folk" and *Black Skin, White Masks* by Franz Fanon, and various works by James Baldwin. Finally, we will draw on these ideas and arguments to explore about how to do antiracist work in our classrooms and our scholarship, and offer suggestions for further reading.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH: 12:45-2:15PM EASTERN U.S.**

***Paper Session #13A: Theorizing Symbolic Interaction and Social Psychology***

Zoom link:

"Symbolic Interactionism and the Social Psychological Knowledge," Yolanda Zografova, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

"Authenticity and agency: a qualitative study of university students," Ramón Menéndez, La Trobe University.

"Socialization of Witch-Believers in Early Modern Europe: In Relation to Episodic, Cultural Manifestations," Gordon Chang, Western Illinois University.

Presider: TBD

*Paper Session #13B: Theorizing Symbolic Interaction and Social Psychology*

Zoom Link:

“Culture in Situational Stratification: Social Inequality in Face-to-Face Encounters,” Roscoe Scarborough, College of Coastal Georgia.

“Micropolitics of Interaction Ritual: Microaggression as Power and Disruption,” JL Johnson, Bethel University.

Presider: TBD

*Paper Session #14: Interactionist Studies of Culture and Cultural Objects*

Zoom Link:

“I Spent Two Minutes Sightseeing, Three Hours Retouching My Photos”: The Shifted Tourist Gaze as Self-Examination,” Fangheyue (Amber) Ma, University of South Florida.

“How materials shape the interactions between architecture and its users?,” Piotr Pawłowski, Lodz University of Technology, Poland.

“Aesthetic Inspiration as a Micro Foundation for Action: Anticipation and Receptivity in Fashion Design,” Alexander Hoppe, University of Pennsylvania.

Presider: TBD

*Special Session #5: Neglected Theorists of Color in Symbolic Interaction*

Zoom Link:

This session examines social theorists of color and other marginalized backgrounds, whose ideas have been forgotten, lost, or misrepresented. Papers presented here will address those theorists whose work has been undeservedly marginalized (i.e. Sojourner Truth, Web Du Bois, Anna Julia Cooper, Charles S. Johnson, E. Frankl Frzier, Audre Lorde, and others). While our focus here is on theorists marginalized based on their racial identity, in the spirit of togetherness we welcome papers from other marginalized backgrounds (queer scholars, women, and other minority groups). Our preference is for papers oriented towards interpretive social science (i.e. pragmatist philosophy, symbolic interaction, critical interactionism, queer interactionism, feminist interactionism, and many others). Papers will first provide a brief biographical sketch (including an explanation as to why they are a marginalized theorist), a summary of theoretical contribution(s), and a social problem or issue that can be explained by utilizing the theorists' work.

“The Importance and Marginalization of Theorists of Color in Sociology,” Jonathan Jiménez, University of Nevada, Las Vegas



“Bridges or Boundaries? W.E.B. Du Bois and a Sociology Hesitant,” James M. Thomas, University of Mississippi

“Black Interactionists Matter: Black scholarly contributions on language, meaning, and interaction,” Jasmon Bailey, University of Maryland

“Pragmatism and Black Political Consciousness,” Julien C. Grayer Lecturer University of Missouri, Columbia

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH: 4:00-5:30PM EASTERN U.S.**

*2021 SSSI Distinguished Lecture*

(Zoom Link: )

Ruby Mendenhall, Ph.D.  
University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign

Title: “Racial Inequalities Across the Life Course: Meaning Making & Resilience”

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH: 5:30-7:00PM EASTERN U.S.**

Awards Ceremony and Reception

Zoom Link: