

CURRICULUM VITAE

Charles T. O'Connell

Address:

Department of Sociology
University of California Irvine
Irvine, CA 92697-5100
cocon@uci.edu

Education:

Ph.D.	Sociology	UCLA	1990
M.A.	Sociology	UCLA	
B.A.	Philosophy	Loyola	

Employment:

Visiting Lecturer	UC Irvine	1995-2010
Visiting Lecturer	UCLA	1993-95
Adjunct Lecturer	Pierce College	1988-2010
Teaching Fellow	UCLA	1985-87

Awards:

- Outstanding Professor,
School of Social Sciences
University of California Irvine
2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1997
- 1998 Co-recipient "Last Lecture" Award
Student residents, University of California, Irvine
- 1996 Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher
Department of Sociology, University of California, Irvine
- 1989 Honorarium awarded by the University of North Carolina (Charlotte) to speak to the faculty on "Science and Politics at Harvard University during the Cold War" December, 1989
- 1986 Sociology Department, UCLA award of a Research Travel Grant for Dissertation Research at the Harvard University Archives, 1986

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

1. *Reader for Introductory Sociology* (Pearson/Prentice Hall, Third Edition, 2002)
(under revision)
2. *Reader for Race and Ethnicity* (Pearson/Prentice Hall, Third Edition, 2002)
(under revision)
3. *Soviet Studies at Harvard: Social Science in Service to the Cold War*
(in preparation)

The central analytical theme of my book is the process through which social organizations shape scientific research. The analysis of this process is important for understanding how the rationality of science can reflect particular organizational values and interests. I address this matter by examining the relationship between the philanthropic and military sponsors of Soviet Area Studies at Harvard and the scientific research carried out by the Harvard social scientists. The conclusions are first, the Soviet Studies program at Harvard was structured around the Cold War political interests of its foundation sponsor, the Carnegie Corporation; second, the Refugee Interview Project (the major scientific investigation undertaken by the Russian Research Center) was designed to provide for its military sponsor, the Air Force, data and analysis useful to Air Force needs in strategic intelligence and psychological warfare for atom bombing campaigns. The causal explanation of the penetration of organizational interests in social science is that the research problems, methods, and analysis were collectively negotiated by the Russian Research Center, and its patrons, the Carnegie Corporation and the Air Force, in the networks linking them together in academic, military, political, and social settings.

Articles:

“The Munich Institute for the Study of the USSR: Origins and Social Composition” (Published in the Carl Beck Papers from the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh).

Compact Disc:

NATO's Balkan War - a spoken word CD analyzing the NATO war of 1999 against Yugoslavia. The talk uses a class conflict analysis to develop an alternative explanation for NATO's first offensive war.

ESSAYS:

“Notes on the Class Struggle” - published in *Counter Punch*, October 16, 2008

“Predictions About the Iraq War” – published in *Counter Punch*, March 19, 2003

UNPUBLISHED ESSAYS (for students in my various courses):

“Historical Periods of Racism in the United States: an analysis of the paradoxes of race” – 2009

“Class Analysis of the Israel-Palestine Conflict” (three different versions by length) 2007-2009

“Capitalism and Fascism – Notes on Ian Kershaw, *The Nazi Dictatorship*” – 2009

“Viet Nam: Jane Fonda and the U.S. Marines – Sources of the Antiwar Movement” - 2009

“Hamas: Viewed through the lens of class analysis” – 2008

“Comments on the Concept of White Skin Privilege” - 2008

“Inter-imperialist Rivalries in the Middle East before World War One” - 2007

“A Forgotten History: Arab-Jewish Cooperation in Palestine Before 1948” – 2006

“Comments on Cesar Chavez” - 2005

“Thoughts on Terrorism” – 2005

PRESENTATIONS:

- 1) “A Class Domination Model of the State” – presented at a meeting of ICUJP (Interfaith Communities United for Justice and Peace), Los Angeles, November 13, 2009
- 2) “The Continuing War in Afghanistan” – presented at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Santa Monica, November 8, 2009
- 3) “Arab-Jewish Cooperation in Mandate Palestine, 1920-1948” – presented at a colloquium on the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions; sponsored by Jews for Peace between Israel and Palestine, Venice, California, October 18, 2009
- 4) “The Crisis of Labor” – presented at a panel on the sociology of the labor movement, Pierce College; sponsored by the Philosophy/Sociology Department, March 18, 2009.
- 5) “Whose Crisis? Whose Solution?” - presented at a conference “Whither the Levant? The Crisis of the Nation-State: Lebanon, Israel, Palestine”, UCI; co-sponsored by the Middle East Studies Initiative of UCI and the Levantine Center of Southern California, January 31, 2009.
- 6) “Arab-Jewish Cooperation in Mandate Palestine, 1920-1948” – presented at a meeting of ICUJP (Interfaith Communities United for Justice and Peace), Los Angeles, October, 2008.
- 7) “Peak Oil and Mideast War” – presented at the Los Angeles Social Forum conference,

USC, June 28, 2008.

- 8) “War in the Middle East: the geopolitics of oil” – presented at a Pierce College forum; sponsored by the Political Science Department, Spring 2003.
- 9) “A sociologist looks at Sept 11” – presented at a forum on the war on terror, Cal State Fullerton; sponsored by the Muslim Public Affairs Council, November 2001.
- 10) “Multiculturalism within modern society” – presented at the UCSB Multicultural Center, October 29, 2001; sponsored by the Multicultural Center, UCSB.
- 11) “Politics and Knowledge Production at the Harvard Russian Research Center: The Social Organization of the Refugee Interview Project” - presented at the annual meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Washington, D.C., 1990.
- 12) “The Development of the Russian Research Center: A Study in the Sociology and Politics of Knowledge” -presented at a conference on “Sociology and Soviet Area Studies: Historical Current, and Future Relations,” Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Texas (Austin), 1989.
- 13) “Talcott Parsons and the German Summer of 1948: The Sub Rosa Professional Affairs of a Sociological Theorist” - presented at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, Atlanta, 1988.
- 14) “Corporate Pressure and Academic Freedom at Harvard University during the Cold War: Explaining the Dismissal of H. Stuart Hughes from the Russian Research Center” - presented at the annual meetings of the International Society for the History of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Princeton University, June, 1988.

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

The Viet Nam War
Race /ethnicity/nationality
International Relations/imperialism
Political Sociology
Science and knowledge
Social Movements
African-American political history
Fascism and the Holocaust
The Soviet Union
The Israel-Palestine Conflict
Labor studies

COURSES TAUGHT:

Introduction to Sociology
Race – Ethnicity - Nationality
Sociology of the Viet Nam War
Political Sociology
Social Change
African-American Protest: The Black Marxists
Sociological Theory
Readings in Marx
The War on Terrorism
Political Film and Social Theory
The Rise and Fall of Soviet Power

SERVICE TO THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT AT UCI:

Curriculum development: creation of seven new sociology courses - three of which are now in the official list of classes offered (Vietnam War, African-American Protest, The War on Terrorism), another three that have been taught as Soc 199 seminars (Readings in Marx, Political Film and Social Theory, The Rise and Fall of Soviet Power), and one that remains to be submitted for consideration (Sociology of Labor).

SERVICES TO UCI:

1995-2010: Presentations and discussions each academic term in response to invitations by faculty, students, campus organizations, clubs and houses. I give, on average, two to three talks per quarter. These entail participating on various panel discussions, moderating student discussions, debating professors and speaking on current events at campus forums. With the exception of invitations from Dean William Schonfeld (School of Social Science) to speak at a panel discussion of NATO's Balkan War (opposite a U.S. ambassador) and Dean Sally Peterson (Student Affairs) to participate on a panel focusing on the Israel-Palestine conflict, almost all other invitations have come from student organizations. These student groups have been of two kinds: campus clubs and residential halls. The clubs have included the Society for Arab Students, MECHA, Students for Peace and Justice, the Muslim Student Union, and the Worker Student Alliance. The residence halls extending invitations have included Middle Earth, Mesa Court, Campus Village, and Arroyo Vista as well as the Sociology theme house and the International Studies (IPAC) theme house.

Topics: campus clubs generally ask for political commentary on current events – particularly war. Consequently, some of the titles for my talks have been as follows –
The Politics of Empire

The War in Iraq – Another Vietnam?
The Antiwar Movement in the U.S. Military during Vietnam – Causes and Consequences
Iraq, Resource Wars, and the Global economy
Predictions for a post-war U.S. in Iraq and the Middle East

Residence halls generally ask me to speak on race, ethnicity, nationality, diversity, and multiculturalism; occasionally I serve as the moderator for their discussions on these topics. For example, I was the moderator at a “race relations workshop” at Mesa Court Housing (April 8, 2010), and was the moderator for similar workshops at Campus Village Housing (Spring 2007), and Middle Earth Housing (May 12, 2005). My usual role, however, is to speak for about 30-45 minutes and then take questions for another 45-60 minutes.

Further awards: students at the residence halls have periodically bestowed upon me awards such as “professor of the month” and “professor of the quarter”. I have not kept systematic record of these awards but can confirm that Campus Village awarded me Professor of the Quarter in Fall 2002 and Professor of the Month in April 2004 and January 2009.

SERVICE TO UCLA:

1993-95 Faculty participant in the UCLA Undergraduate Honors Program
1993-94 Faculty participant in the UCLA Student Scholars Program for at-risk students
1994 Faculty participant in the program “Crossing Cultures: Inter-Ethnic Communications and the Media’s Impact”
1994 Faculty participant at the UCLA Parents’ Weekend lecture series
1993-94 Faculty participant in the UCLA Campus Tours Lecture Experience
1994 Faculty sponsor for the UCLA Community Service Education in Action Program

REFERENCES:

Wang Feng, Chair
Department of Sociology
University of California, Irvine
Irvine, CA 92697-5100
(949) 824-1417
fwang@uci.edu

Judith Stepan-Norris
Department of Sociology
University of California, Irvine
Irvine, CA 92697-5100
(949) 824-6043
jstepann@uci.edu

Anna Bruzzese, Chair
Department of Philosophy/Sociology
Pierce College

6201 Winnetka Avenue
Woodland Hills, CA 91371
(818) 710-4280
bruzzeaa@piercecollege.edu