



On Borders: Reflections of a European Border Scholar

by MARTIN VAN DER VELDE
Co-Editor, *Journal of Borderland Studies*



MARTIN VAN DER VELDE

Living in a world where national borders play an increasingly paradoxical role, studying borders can be for many a fascinating job. In the last five years especially, the topic has blossomed as never before. In the second half of the last century, borders were more and more considered to be outdated, outdated and soon to be extinct (mostly because of the unstoppable and almost autonomous process of globalisation). The first years of the new millennium made quite clear that borders are (still) major instruments in dealing with global developments, especially the geopolitical ones. This is mainly so because the world's organisation is still largely based on territorial principles, and the basic "national instincts" when dealing with threats (e.g. terrorism, but also environmental issues) are protecting the territory at its outer limits, its borders. Recent history shows, however, that the current threats are very often not territory-based but have more global and/or network dimensions. A major issue in this respect is therefore how territorial organisations are dealing with non-territorial issues and how

this is reflected in borders and border-regimes.

This dilemma has also not gone unnoticed in the social sciences, being firmly rooted in society. Be it in publications, conferences or research-projects, very often border and security issues are touched upon. Not only is the border-issue "creeping" into all kinds of disciplines, the area of border-studies itself becomes more encompassing. So one could say that the thematic or disciplinary boundaries around the field of "border studies" are blurring.

The observation that scientific study of borders is getting more and more "borderless" does not mean that they have disap-

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DISTANCE LEARNING IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

by DENNIS CATLIN
WSSA Council

Below is the first part of a two-part article. The second part will appear in the Spring 2006 issue.

Distance learning in higher education is a controversial issue for faculties in almost every institution of higher education. The focus of much of the research in higher education distance learning has been on whether there is a significant difference between live classroom



DENNIS CATLIN

instruction and the various forms of distance learning, including exclusively on-line instruction. The controversy has not been settled. Brown and Liedholm (2002) found that undergraduate students in a principles of microeconomics course who participated in a virtual classroom performed significantly worse than their counterparts did in a live classroom setting. Conversely, Navarro and Shoemaker (1999) found those economics graduate students who were "cyberlearn-

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Changes to the WSSA NEWS

by LARRY GOULD
WSSA Executive Director

During recent discussion among the members of the Executive Council it was decided to reduce the publication of WSSA News to two issues per year, but increase the size of each issue. The rationale for this was that we no longer used the Winter issue for announcing the elections and distributing the ballots. This is now done by direct mail to each member. The net result of this change has been

a tremendous increase in voting. There were, however, other considerations, primary of which was to make WSSA News more informative concerning social science and related issues. To this end we are publishing selected pieces such as the article by Dennis Catlin on teaching and the article by Martin van der Velde on crossing borders. Through articles such as these, we hope to bring important social science issues to the attention of our members.

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An End to Poverty?

BY JIM PEACH
New Mexico State University

In the last Presidential Soapbox (Spring 2005), Lisa Nelson discussed the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a broad set of inter-related goals adopted by UN member nations in 2000 and repeatedly endorsed by world leaders in several subsequent international conferences. The full set of MDGs and numerous reports on progress towards achieving the goals can be found at www.un.org/millenniumgoals/.

I would like to continue Lisa's discussion by focusing on the first goal: to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. Specifically, the goal is to reduce by half the number of people living in extreme poverty by the year 2015 and to eradicate extreme poverty entirely by 2025. The UN and the World Bank define extreme poverty as living below \$1.00 per day (in 1993 purchasing power adjusted dollars). The 2001 estimates from the World Bank indicate that 1 billion people or approximately 1/6 of the world's population still live in extreme poverty and that about 2.5 billion people or 40 percent of the world's population lives on less than \$2.00 per day.

PRESIDENTIAL SOAPBOX



So, is it possible to eradicate extreme poverty? The 191 nations that have adopted the MDGs seem to think so as do a growing number of economists. What seems obvious to most everyone who examines the problem is that extreme poverty is not the inevitable result of the classic Malthusian dilemma of a growing population pressing against finite resources. Put differently, the world has the resources and technology to eliminate extreme poverty. That we haven't yet done so is a matter of deliberate public policy choices.

Jeffrey Sachs (2005) has just published a book with the intriguing title of *The End of Poverty*. For many years, Sachs was an economist at Harvard and is now at Columbia University's Earth Institute. He is probably best known for the market shock therapy he recommended to Russia in the early 1990s. Some of his colleagues (but not Sachs) were accused of taking advantage of the reforms they were advocating by speculating in Russian financial markets. Harvard recently settled a lawsuit for \$26.5 million in connection with these dubious activities. However, we should take Sach's book seriously. He makes a strong case that cutting extreme poverty in half by 2015 and eliminating it entirely by 2025 can be accomplished. He also suggests that market reform and trade liberalization will not do the trick. It's a powerful argument and a very readable book.

But my point is not to try to sell you a copy of Sach's book. My guess is he doesn't need the royalties. My point is that, as social scientists, we have an obligation to use our considerable analytical skills on important problems such as the possibility of eliminating extreme poverty. The small problems (e.g., a new method for dealing with heteroskedastic and autocorrelated disturbances in seemingly unrelated regressions) are amusing intellectual puzzles and their solutions are sometimes useful. But our first priority should be to examine important, difficult questions. Joseph Schumpeter stated that we all have "pre-analytic visions" that we bring to our analysis. Problem selection is the ultimate pre-analytic vision. What we choose to study matters.

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On Borders: Reflections of a Border Scholar

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peared already. In this respect, one specific dimension of “scientific” borders, to wit the geographical one, is particularly interesting. Studying borders may be a global phenomenon, but between regional clusters of scholars there seem to be marked differences when it comes to the specific issues of borders that are under scrutiny, the way borders are perceived, and the scientific approaches. In this sense, the Association for of Borderlands Studies (ABS) and its *Journal of Borderlands Studies* (JBS) are two interesting arenas to witness the confrontation between different styles of border research. The ABS, founded in 1976 at a WSSA meeting, and the *JBS* (established in 1986), having their roots in the U.S.-Mexico border region, originally focused of course on the American continent. In that sense, they both voiced the American tradition very strongly. In the mid '90s the ABS tried to broaden its horizon to become an association that gathers border scholars from all around the world. The basic idea behind this effort is that there are lessons to be learned from each other. Traditionally, American scholars looked at the European integration process and the consequences for the inner borders as examples for their situation. In 1985, Hansen stated that the U.S. and Mexico should be able to derive mutual benefits from the lessons of the European experience because, although there are obvious differences between European and U.S.-Mexico border situations, there also are many significant similarities (Hansen, 1985). This may be so, but one could also conclude that the opposite is true. The EU may also use the internal NAFTA borders (especially that of U.S.-Mexico) as showcases for their outer borders.

In contributions to two special issues of the *JBS*, the question was raised whether indeed some value added could be accomplished by stimulating a dialogue between scientists from both sides of the Atlantic (Van der Velde, 2000 and Van der Velde and Van Houtum, 2003). The argument there was that in order for a dialogue to be fruitful, some interesting and potentially fruitful complementarities as well as a common language have to exist between both continents. In the case of the European-American case complementarities potentially exist both with regard to research themes and topics as well as with regard to methodological issues. In the next sections, I would like to focus on some issues that to my impression are responsible for differences among the studies of borders.

Continental context: A first major difference is the genesis of the border-influencing integration processes in the two continents. In Europe this project (also the EEC) has always been more politically driven, whereas on the American continent the economy has always been on the forefront. Full-fledged integration here never has been on the agenda. This also influences the role that is ascribed to borders. Although NAFTA is also aiming at a certain level of integration, borders within the treaty region are still serving as separators and protectors at least for certain categories of cross-border flows. Within the EU, the ultimate goal is (at least for the Eurocrats in Brussels) to eradicate the national borders completely and come to a complete integration.

Cross-border interaction, in the EU (being very much a toy of the political elite) is much more top-down. The EU--and especially its border regions--has been, still is and probably for a long time will be, a laboratory for supra-national and trans-national institution building. The effectiveness of this laboratory is largely based on what some call the negotiated suspension of sovereignty (Scott 1999), or the willingness to waive part of their sovereignty at the expense of a uniting Europe. In this respect, integration is really brought to the (border)-region. On the other side of the Atlantic, actual cross-border cooperation is more often initiated from the bottom-up in order to tackle specific problems. The age-old International

Boundary and Water Commission (est. 1889) is an interesting example. Projects launched within the NAFTA framework, however, often do not take into account the local and regional needs. Also there has hardly been any transfer of mandates, power, responsibilities and financial means from the national to the local and regional levels. NAFTA therefore can largely be characterised as a state-centred initiative aiming at supra-national goals like increasing the global competitiveness of North America; as such it hardly seems a fertile base for regional cross-border cooperation.

Another marked difference between Europe and North America is the way (especially socio-economic) asymmetries are considered. In Europe there's a tendency to level the asymmetries on both sides of the border. The main argument is that the EU should create equal living conditions for all. In North America, from an economic perspective the differences or asymmetries serve as the basis for cross-border interaction. NAFTA is much more about creating as much wealth as possible, and implies “producing” in the cheapest place and “selling” at the highest price.

The historical context is also important. As there are far more borders on the European continent, and as there have been many more wars over them (the continent was in a constant state of war during the first half of the 20th century), border regions have been ascribed with notions of being marginal, and of buffer zones between states where as little (strategic economic) activity as possible should be localised. In many cases, this legacy of being, perceived as marginalised and peripheral, led to a sort of cross-border solidarity between people, cities and regions on both sides, creating a favourable atmosphere to come to cooperation.

Scientific approaches: Coming to the issue of a common language we have to emphasise the importance of methodological issues accompanying border research. This may be one of the most important and difficult topics when trying to set up a dialogue between researchers from different continents and (possibly different) research traditions. A major question is the possibility of contextuality of differences among our border studies (dependent on local situations, e.g. a European vs. American approach). Perhaps because integration (and the softening of the border) has progressed further in Europe, the attention has shifted from more descriptive questions about what's happening at/across the border to more analytical questions concerning why things are happening at/across the border.

What about learning from each other then? In the 1990s, one might have gotten the impression that Europe (or maybe better the EU) was taking the lead in adapting a largely territorial-based Westphalian world structure into something else in which the influence of states and their borders were fading. This decade has witnessed a resurrection of the state or at least the protective role of their borders. Even within the EU, borders are better guarded again. In this sense maybe North America is the “leading” continent. Or are we just watching the final convulsion of the state and its borders as we know them? Either way, the ABS (www.absborderlands.org) and the *JBS* are interesting venues to participate in the dialogue between scholars dealing with the important topic of border studies. Since the ABS meets annually with the WSSA, you too can take part in this process.

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DISTANCE LEARNING IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

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ers" did significantly better than traditional learners on a course final exam.

In spite of the ongoing controversy about the efficacy of distance learning, it has continued to proliferate in higher education to the point that "almost all institutions of higher education offer some form of distance teaching and learning in the United States" (Saba, 2005, p. 258). By one estimate there could be well over six million students who receive some part of their education via distance learning (Saba, 2005). Given the wide spread nature of distance learning, a look at its application to the social sciences seems appropriate for the membership of WSSA. This article takes a brief look at the application of distance learning to the social sciences and discusses specifically the experience of Northern Arizona University.

A quick search of the Internet indicates that there are complete degree programs offered on-line in the social sciences. Here are a few examples:

Economics

MBA in Economics from the Ellis College (<http://www.worldwide-learn.com/ellis-mba/online-mba-degree.htm>):

The Ellis MBA provides working adults with a powerful way to earn an MBA online in as few as 18 months-through courses developed in association with some of the most respected business schools in the world: Columbia Business School, Stanford University, The University of Chicago Graduate School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University, and The London School of Economics and Political Science.

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History

University of Maryland University College offers the following online bachelor of arts degree in history (<http://www.worldwidelearn.com/social-science/history-degrees.htm>):

The major in history provides students with skills in historical

research and analysis, a chronological understanding of the past, and factual knowledge of specific historical periods. Study yields an appreciation of U.S. history as well as the histories of other peoples and cultures that enhances multicultural understanding in the workplace and in everyday society. Such skills and knowledge prepare students for careers in education, law, government, business, management, public relations, writing, and research.

Criminal Justice

New Mexico State University offers a Masters of Criminal Justice online (http://www.nmsu.edu/~crimjust/web_courses.htm):

The Department of Criminal Justice at New Mexico State University offers a variety of graduate courses leading to a graduate degree. The online degree program follows the same curriculum, and uses the same faculty, as the campus-based Master of Criminal Justice program. The web-based degree program is intended to serve students who are unable to relocate to Las Cruces and wish to enroll in graduate courses leading to a graduate degree. The courses offered each semester are delivered over the Internet and use WebCT and other platforms to deliver course assignments. Course assignments may include a variety of assigned readings, exams and quizzes, research papers, critical commentary on readings, a variety of learning exercises, discussion forums and real time chat groups.

Political Science

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University offers the following online master of arts degree in political science (<http://www.worldwide-learn.com/social-science/political-science-degree.htm>):

Virginia Tech's online Masters of Arts in Political Science is identical in course content, requirement, and work load to the widely respected and high-quality residential MA degree program that has been offered in Blacksburg since 1969. The M.A. degree program features a broad array of methodologically sophisticated, theoretically grounded, and empirically oriented graduate courses to new audiences anywhere in the world.

Stay tuned for *part 2 of this article, which will appear in the Spring 2006 issue.*

2005 STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION AWARD-WINNERS

Once again the Student Paper Competition attracted some strong entries this year. Papers were received from numerous disciplines ranging from Political Science and Sociology to Geography and Communications Studies.

The winner in the Graduate category was Daniel Foster from the School of Communications, Northern Arizona University. His paper was called "How to Perceive Feminine Beauty: A Criticism Derived from Jean Kilbourne's *Critical Studies of Advertising*."

In the Undergraduate category, the winner was Melissa Scaman from the Department of Political Science at the University of Calgary, Canada. Her paper was entitled "Alberta Water Policy: Who Has a Say?"

At the Student Reception, Vice President Doreen Barrie pre-

sented the two winners with a check for \$500, an engraved plaque, a subscription to the *Social Science Journal* for a year and free registration at the Albuquerque Conference. She congratulated the winners on their two fine papers and thanked the other judges, Phadrea Ponds of the United States Geological Survey, David Thiessen from Lewis-Clark State College, and Rich Greene from Northern Illinois University, for the difficult task of choosing the winning entries.

Both winners presented their papers at a special panel at the April conference and received positive feedback from the audience. The competition thus provides a useful opportunity for students to present their papers and gain valuable experience especially if they are pursuing graduate studies.

-- Doreen Barrie

Conference Hotel Rate Cut-Off: March 21, 2006



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WESTERN SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

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PHOENIX, ARIZONA

APRIL 19-22, 2006

The Western Social Science Association invites proposals for papers to be presented at its 48th Annual Conference, to be held in Phoenix, Arizona from April 19th to 22nd, 2006. Please submit paper proposals and abstracts to the most appropriate section coordinator(s) listed below by December 1st, 2005.

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NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA STUDIES

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RURAL STUDIES

Professor Anthony Amato
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SLAVIC STUDIES

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Utah State University
College of Humanities
Phone: (435) 797-1196
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Fax: (435) 797-1196
E-mail: Ed.glatfelter@usu.edu

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

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University of Colorado-Colorado Springs
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Colorado Springs, CO 80933
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E-mail: halbanes@uccs.edu

URBAN STUDIES

Professor Thomas Sammons
University of Louisiana - Lafayette
202 Wallings Ford Circle
Youngsville, LA 70592
Phone: 337-482-5310
Fax: 337-482-1128
E-mail: tcs3147@Louisiana.edu

WOMEN'S STUDIES

Diane Calloway-Graham
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Social Work Program
Logan, Utah 84322-0730
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Fax: 435-797-1240
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Karen Mitchell
Ottawa University
324 East Dartmouth Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64113
Office: (913) 266-8634
E-mail: mitchell@ottawa.edu

PLEASE NOTE: Acceptable formats include papers, panels and roundtables. The DEADLINE for all proposals and abstracts is December 1, 2005. Please include the following in your proposal: (1) Title of Presentation, (2) full name, affiliation, address, telephone number, fax numbers and e-mail addresses of each author (3) Abstract not exceeding 200 words. Scholars willing to serve as moderators or discussants should indicate their interest by December 1, 2005. All participants are required to pre-register for the conference by March 1, 2006. For more information, contact: GENERAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR, Doreen Barrie, Department of Political Science, University of Calgary, 2500 University Drive NW, Calgary, Alberta, CANADA T2N 1N4, Phone: 403-220-3624, Fax: 403-282-4773, E-mail: dpbarrie@ucalgary.ca. Additional info is available at: <http://wssa.asu.edu/>

CALL FOR PAPERS!

CALL FOR PAPERS!

Student Paper Submission Deadline: Feb. 1, 2006



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POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS



As a service to the membership of the WSSA, WSSA News publishes position announcements for a nominal fee of \$25.00. To submit your announcement, e-mail as an attachment to WSSA Executive Director Larry Gould at larry.gould@nau.edu.

As a service to the membership of the Western Social Science Association, WSSA News publishes position announcements for a nominal fee of \$25.00. WSSA News accepts these announcements as sent by the institution or its representative(s). WSSA News assumes no liability for any misrepresentation by the submitting institution or its representative(s).

Tenure Track Assistant Professor, Political Science -- Northern Arizona University **Area: American Politics**

The Department of Political Science at Northern Arizona University invites applications for a full-time, entry-level, tenure-track assistant professor position in American politics. The position begins in August 2006.

Minimum requirements include a Ph.D. in Political Science completed by August 1, 2006. Candidates must demonstrate broad academic preparation in the institutions and processes of American national politics, have the ability to teach American politics at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, and have a research agenda in American politics.

Preference will be given to candidates who can teach in at least two of the following sub-fields: Congress, the Presidency, parties and interest groups, and/or participation and elections. Preference will also be given to those who provide evidence of teaching ability, the potential for publication, and working effectively within a diverse university community. In addition, we encourage applications from candidates who are willing to incorporate web-based delivery strategies in their teaching, and are willing to help fulfill broad university commitments, such as offering courses in liberal studies, U.S. and global diversity, and/or the Honors program.

To apply, please send a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, transcripts, three recent and original letters of reference, evidence of scholarship and publications, evidence of teaching effectiveness (e.g., teaching evaluations and syllabi) and a writing sample. The review of applications will begin on October 1, 2005 and will continue until the position is filled. Please send applications to Chair, American Politics Search Committee, Northern Arizona University, Department of Political Science, P.O. Box 15036, Flagstaff, Arizona 86011-5036.

The department offers the BA, BS, MA, MPA, and PhD degrees. Northern Arizona University is an 18,000-student institution with its main campus in Flagstaff, a four-season community of about 57,000 at the base of the majestic San Francisco Peaks. The university is

committed to a diverse and civil working and learning environment.

Northern Arizona University is a committed Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution. Minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and veterans are encouraged to apply.

Assistant Professor of Political Science **Lewis and Clark State University**

Starting Date: August 2006, Interviews begin in September 2005

Salary: Based on experience and qualifications, \$35,000-40,000

Qualifications: Ph.D. in Political Science, ABD with an expected completion date no later than June 15, 2007, will be considered.

Responsibilities: The primary responsibilities include teaching a 12 hour course load per semester, continuing research, advising students, and campus service.

College: Lewis-Clark State College is a regional undergraduate institution offering an alternative learning environment within the Idaho system of higher education. It offers liberal arts and sciences, professional programs in education, nursing, business, and criminal justice and constitute a distinct mission for the college. The institution currently enrolls approximately 3,500 students. Founded in 1893 by act of the state legislature as a Normal school, it has evolved into a baccalaureate institution offering a variety of two- and four-year degrees.

Deadline: Letter of application, curriculum vitae, three current letters of references, sample syllabi, and teaching evaluations should be submitted to Lori Gaskill, Human Resource Services, Lewis-Clark State College, 500 8th Avenue, Lewiston, Idaho 83501, telephone number: (208) 792-2269, e-mail: lgaskill@lsc.edu. Application deadline is October 3, 2005.

For further information, please contact David Thiessen, Search Committee Chair: (208) 792-2362 or thiessen@lsc.edu.

Lewis-Clark State College is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer which promotes the free exchange of ideas in an environment that celebrates the dignity, worth, and contributions of all individuals. In that spirit, we seek a broad spectrum of candidates, including women, people from all cultural backgrounds, and individuals with disabilities.

Tenure Track Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice -- Northern Arizona University

The Department of Criminal Justice is seeking qualified applicants for a tenure stream position at the level of Assistant Professor beginning August 2006. Minimum requirements are:

(1) a Ph.D. by the time of appointment in criminology, sociology or a closely related academic discipline, (2) evidence of quality teaching, (3) a willingness to participate in instructional technology including televised and web-based delivery, (4) willingness to deliver courses in the core curriculum, and help fulfill broad university commitments, such as, liberal studies, and honors, and (5) a demonstrated commitment to working effectively with a diverse university community. All applications and specializations will be considered, but preference will be given to candidates with specializations in: (1) race/ethnicity with an emphasis on peoples and issues of the Southwest (e.g., Latino/a justice issues; immigration policy), or (2) legal studies (e.g., international human rights law), or (3) justice policy. This position is subject to funding availability.

The University offers a range of bachelors, masters, and doctoral programs to an increasingly diverse population of 19,000 students at its main campus in Flagstaff and through statewide educational programs. Interdisciplinary initiatives include programs in Latin American Studies and Women's Studies, and a Native American Institute. Flagstaff, Arizona is a mountain community of 60,000 residents that enjoys a four-season climate and easy access to a variety of cultural and recreational amenities.

The Department offers BS and MS degrees in criminal justice and contributes to statewide programs through interactive instructional television and web-based course offerings. Due to the increasing ethnic diversity of the Arizona population, the department encourages applications from individuals with a commitment to creating a welcoming educational environment for students from all ethnic, racial, and cultural backgrounds.

Northern Arizona University is a committed equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution. Minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and veterans are especially encouraged to apply. Please visit Northern Arizona University's website at www.nau.edu. Applicants should send a letter of interest, a curriculum vita, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three professional references, and transcripts of graduate coursework to: Chair, Screening Committee, Department of Criminal Justice, Northern Arizona University, P.O. Box 15005, Flagstaff, AZ 86011. The department will begin reviewing applications beginning September 1, 2005. The search will remain open until the position is filled.





POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS



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Tenure Track, Assistant Professor -- California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

DEPARTMENT: The Political Science Department seeks an Assistant Professor to teach Public Law and Political Theory. The position requires excellence in teaching and advising, professional and scholarly work, and service to the department, university, and the community. The successful applicant will demonstrate commitment to students and campus-wide initiatives such as learning centeredness, service learning, obtaining external funding to support teaching and scholarship, international education, and graduate education. The Department has nine full time faculty members, and currently serves 220 majors. The Department offers a BA in Political Science and a Master's of Public Administration.

POSITION TITLE AND DESCRIPTION: Assistant Professor of Political Science with specializations in Public Law and Political Theory, salary commensurate with experience, beginning Fall 2006. In addition to teaching, duties will also include advising students, serving on department, college, and university committees, and scholarly activities. Finalists will be required to appear for interviews and to deliver a classroom presentation and a scholarly/research presentation.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: (Required and Preferred Education, Knowledge and Abilities, Experience)

- Earned Doctorate in Political Science, or one of its subfields by August 1, 2006; a Juris Doctorate is not sufficient
- Teaching and research interest in Public Law and Political Theory; evidence of excellent teaching potential; ability to teach introductory American Government
- Demonstrated ability to advise and mentor students; Mock trial experience desirable
- Evidence of scholarly achievement appropriate to a tenure track appointment
- Demonstrated responsiveness to the educational equity goals of the University and its increasing ethnic diversity and international character.

CLOSING DATE and HOW TO APPLY: To be considered for the position, applicants are required to submit a letter of application that includes a statement of their teaching philosophy within a multicultural environment; a completed application form; curriculum vitae; a transcript showing highest degree earned (from an accredited educational institution); a minimum of three recent (within the past two years) letters of reference; and names, addresses, and telephone numbers of two additional references. Note: If a candidate has ABD status,

Registrar's verification is required if status is not indicated on official transcripts. Initial review of applications will begin October 17 and will continue until the position is filled. Materials submitted by the candidate will be available for examination by all tenured and tenure-track faculty of the department. Please request an application form from:

The Search Committee OR for additional information, contact: Political Science Department Renford Reese, Chair, Search Committee, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona Political Science Department, 3801 West Temple Avenue, (909) 869-4665, Pomona, CA, 91768, E-mail: rrreese@csupomona.edu, (909) 869-3887 Fax: (909) 869-6995, Web: www.csupomona.edu/academic/faculty/positions/index.htm

THE UNIVERSITY: Cal Poly Pomona is a public university and one of 23 campuses in the California State University system. The campus is located approximately 25 miles east of downtown Los Angeles and is part of one of the most dynamic economic and cultural regions in the country. The university is noted for its scenic and historic 1,400-acre campus, once the winter ranch of cereal magnate W. K. Kellogg, located within an hour's drive of beaches, mountains and the desert. Within a 20-mile radius of the university is a multi-ethnic population of nearly 3.8 million people. Cal Poly Pomona has a rapidly growing student population currently at 19,000 (approximately 68% ethnic minorities). Students are enrolled in 62 baccalaureate and 18 master's degree programs with approximately 1,200 full-time and part-time faculty.

The University is committed to diversifying its faculty and staff, and has made educational equity one of its highest priorities. California State Polytechnic University, Pomona is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer. Cal Poly Pomona subscribes to all state and federal regulations and prohibits discrimination based on gender, race, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, marital status, age, religion, or veteran status. The University hires only individuals lawfully authorized to work in the U.S. As required by the Clery Disclosure Act, the university's annual security report is located at www.csupomona.edu/~public-safety.

Tenure Track Assistant Professor, Political Science -- Northern Arizona University Area: International Relations/Comparative Politics

The Department of Political Science at Northern Arizona University invites applications for a full-time, entry-level, tenure track position as

an assistant professor in international relations and/or comparative politics. The position begins in August 2006.

Minimum requirements include a Ph.D. in Political Science completed by August 1, 2006, with a primary field specialization in international relations and/or comparative politics and the ability to teach international relations theory and issues in global politics. The candidate must demonstrate research/scholarly abilities in international relations and/or comparative politics, and an ability to teach introductory courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels in either or both of these fields.

Preference will be given to candidates who have an ability to teach research methods and analysis as well as one or more of the following areas: security policy, European political issues, and development studies. Preference also will be given to those who provide evidence of a commitment to working effectively with a diverse university community, are willing to incorporate web-based delivery strategies into their teaching, and are will to help fulfill broad university commitments, such as offering courses in liberal studies, U.S. and global diversity, and/or the Honors program.

To apply, please send a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, transcripts, three original letters of reference, evidence of teaching effectiveness, a writing sample, and evidence of scholarship and publications. The review of applications will begin on October 1, 2005 and will continue until the position is filled. Please send applications to Chair, International Relations/Comparative Politics Search Committee, Northern Arizona University, Department of Political Science, P.O. Box 15036, Flagstaff, Arizona 86011-5036.

The department offers the BA, BS, MA, MPA, and Ph.D. degrees. Northern Arizona University with almost 20,000 students, is located in a mountain community of 57,000 people. It has a mission to provide NAU-delivered curriculum for increasing numbers of students statewide.

Northern Arizona University is a committed Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution. Minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and veterans are encouraged to apply.

Tenure Track Assistant Professor, Sociology -- Colorado State University

The Department of Sociology invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor (nine-month position) to begin August 15, 2006. Completion of Ph.D. in Sociology or related

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Conference Hotel Rate Cut-Off: March 21, 2006



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POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS



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social science is required by time of appointment. The Department is seeking a candidate who will teach a combination of courses associated with criminology and criminal justice. The candidate must be willing to teach either introductory sociology or lower-division social problems courses. The Department offers B.A., Master's, and Ph.D. degrees and consists of sixteen tenured and tenure track faculty who teach and do research in areas related to social change and development. Faculty are expected to participate in instruction, to develop a program of research and publication, be engaged in the graduate program, and to be active in service. The Department particularly welcomes applications from minorities and women.

Applications will be considered until the position is filled; however, applicants should submit complete applications by October 15, 2005, for full consideration. This is an "open search": once the search committee has identified semi-finalists, departmental faculty will have access to those files. Interested candidates should send (1) letter of interest outlining research agenda and teaching interests, (2) a curriculum vitae, (3) if available, evidence of teaching (e.g., syllabi and teaching evaluations), and (4) three letters of reference to: Paul Stretesky, Search Committee Chair, Department of Sociology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1784. CSU is an EO/AA employer.

Tenure Track Assistant Professor, Sociology -- Utah State University

Area: Social Change and Development

The Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Sociology, starting August 2006. We seek to fill this position with a candidate specializing in Social Change and Development. Preferred secondary areas of specialization include one or more of: Developing Societies, Religion, and/or Science. Ability to connect to existing departmental strengths is desirable. Teaching responsibilities will include undergraduate and graduate courses in these areas of specialization; additional ability to contribute to departmental instruction in the areas of introductory sociology, social theory, the sociology of religion, and/or race-class-gender is preferred. Candidates should be able to demonstrate significant accomplishments and/or clear potential for scholarly productivity, extramural research funding, and excellence in teaching. The PhD is required prior to appointment; applications from exceptional candidates who are very near to degree completion will be

considered. Strong oral and written communication skills are required. Candidates must send a letter of application describing teaching and research capabilities and interests, a current vita, graduate transcripts, three letters of reference, summaries of teaching evaluations, and examples of written work to: Dr. Douglas Jackson-Smith, Chair, Social Change and Development Search Committee, Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology, 0730 Old Main Hill, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-0730. Direct questions regarding this position to Dr. Douglas Jackson-Smith at (435)-797-0582 or by email at douglasj@hass.usu.edu. Screening of applicants will begin October 14, 2005 and continue until the position is filled. The Department offers bachelor degrees in sociology, social work and anthropology, as well as masters and doctoral degrees in sociology. For more information about the department, consult our web site at www.usu.edu/sswa/. Utah State University is a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University - Extensive institution of 20,000 students, nestled in a mountain valley 80 miles north of Salt Lake City, Utah. Opportunities for a wide range of outdoor activities are plentiful. Housing costs are at or below national averages, and Cache Valley provides a supportive environment for families and balanced personal/professional life. USU offers competitive salaries and outstanding medical, retirement and professional benefits (see <http://personnel.usu.edu/> for details). Women, minority, veteran and disabled candidates are encouraged to apply, and USU is sensitive to the needs of dual-career couples. Utah State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, with a National Science Foundation ADVANCE Gender Equity program, committed to increasing diversity among students, faculty, and all participants in university life.

Tenure Track Assistant Professor, Sociology -- Utah State University

Area: Criminology

The Utah State University Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Sociology, starting August 2006. We seek to fill this position with a candidate specializing in Criminology. Preferred secondary areas of specialization include Race/Ethnicity and/or Social Problems/Inequality. Teaching responsibilities will include undergraduate and graduate courses in the areas of specialization; ability to contribute to departmental instruction in one or more of the areas of deviance, juvenile delinquency, contempo-

rary theory, social psychology or sociology of religion is preferred. Strong oral and written communication skills are required. Candidates should be able to demonstrate significant accomplishments and/or clear potential for scholarly productivity, extramural research funding, and excellence in teaching. Completion of the Ph.D. in Sociology is required by August 2006. Candidates must send a letter of interest, a statement of teaching and research interests, a current vita, graduate transcripts (unofficial acceptable), three letters of reference, summary of teaching evaluations, and example(s) of written work to: Dr. E. (Eddy) Helen Berry, Chair, Criminology Search Committee, Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology, 0730 Old Main Hill, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-0730. Direct questions to Dr. Eddy Berry at (435)-797-1245 or eberry@hass.usu.edu. Screening of applicants will begin October 24, 2005 and continue until the position is filled. The Department offers bachelor degrees in sociology, social work and anthropology, as well as master's and doctoral degrees in sociology. For more information about the department, consult our website at www.usu.edu/sswa/. Utah State University is a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University-Extensive institution of more than 22,000 students in Logan, Utah. The University is nestled in a mountain valley 80 miles north of Salt Lake City, Utah where opportunities for a wide range of outdoor activities are plentiful. Housing costs are at or below national averages, and Cache Valley provides a supportive environment for families and balanced personal/professional life. USU offers competitive salaries and outstanding medical, retirement and professional benefits (see <http://personnel.usu.edu/> for details). Women, minorities, veterans and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. USU is sensitive to the needs of dual-career couples. Utah State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, with a National Science Foundation ADVANCE Gender Equity program, committed to increasing diversity among students, faculty, and all participants in university life.

For more info, contact E. (Eddy) Helen Berry, Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology, Population Research Laboratory, Utah State University, 0730 Old Main Hill, Logan, Utah 84322-0730, 1-435-797-1245, 1-435-797-1240 (fax), eberry@hass.usu.edu.





**WSSA
CALL FOR
STUDENT PAPERS
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**BOTH UNDERGRADUATE AND
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You can win **\$500**, a free one-year subscription to the *Social Science Journal*, free conference registration at the April 2006 WSSA conference in Phoenix, Arizona and the opportunity to present your paper at the WSSA 2006 Conference.

HOW TO WIN

If your paper on a social science topic is judged to be the best of the submissions for your class level, you win. Undergraduate and graduate papers are evaluated separately thus there is a winner for each level.

Papers are judged based on a) advancement of knowledge, b) appropriateness for a broad social science audience, c) quality and implementation of research design, d) definition and significance of topic, e) analysis of findings and discussion of their implications and f) clarity and cogency of writing.

Paper Requirements

- **Papers cannot exceed 25 pages (which include bibliography, tables, figures, appendices and other supporting materials).** Abstracts and cover sheets do not count as part of the 25 page maximum.
- **Papers longer than the 25 page maximum will not be read (strictly enforced).**
- All pages must be double-spaced and in 12 pt Arial font.
- Papers may not be theses or dissertations previously presented or published.
- Authors may wish to consult the *Social Science Journal's* style guide for formatting information.

Papers must be received on or before **February 1, 2006**. Please clearly indicate undergraduate or graduate status, institutional affiliation, address, phone number and e-mail address. Send an e-mail copy (Word or rich text) or three hard copies to:

**Phadrea Ponds
U.S. Geological Survey
2150 Center Ave,
Building C
Fort Collins, CO 80526
Phadrea_Ponds@usgs.gov
PLEASE POST**

Student Paper Submission Deadline: Feb. 1, 2006



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2005 Conference Report

By LISA NELSON AND LARRY A. GOULD

Albuquerque was kind to the Western Social Science Association this year, with sunny skies and many new downtown amenities. Approximately 650 attendees preregistered for the Conference and an additional 170 registered on-site. There were over 900 participants listed in the program in more than two hundred panels.

A highlight of the conference was the plenary luncheon with former U.S. Senator Fred Harris, who regaled the audience with tales of his experiences and observations on current events. Strong showings were made by the several affiliate groups, such as the Association for Borderlands Studies and the Association for Institutional Thought (AFIT). Executive Director Larry Gould and his staff from Northern Arizona University provided many innovations that made the registration experience go even more smoothly than in the past.

The WSSA also continues to be a good venue for graduate students as they prepare for their academic careers. Approximately 150 students attended with most presenting papers, including the winners of the WSSA Student Paper Competition. It was especially nice to see the large number of participants from outside the United States. We're sure the pleasant memories of our 2005 conference will serve to encourage many to plan on attending next year's WSSA conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

CHANGES TO THE WSSA NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We would like to encourage members to send articles for consideration for publication in the *WSSA NEWS*. Articles can be sent to larry.gould@nau.edu.

Additionally, we decided that *WSSA NEWS* should also provide a position announcement service to the members. Beginning with this issue a section has been set aside for the publication of advertised positions that might be of interest to the members. We hope to expand this section, particularly in the Fall issue. The cost of this service is \$25.00 per announcement. For the Fall issue of *WSSA NEWS* the announcement must be received electronically by August 25 of each year and for the Spring issue by February 15.

CALL FOR REVIEWERS FOR THE *SOCIAL SCIENCE JOURNAL*

Are you interested in reviewing articles for the Social Science Journal (SSJ), official journal of the WSSA? Serving as a reviewer is an excellent way to learn more about the latest research and advances in your area of specialization and to serve the social science profession and WSSA. If you wish to become a reviewer, send your name, institutional affiliation, contact info (mailing address, phone, fax, e-mail), your social science discipline (e.g., Economics) and your areas of research interest and specialization to Prabha Unnithan, Editor-Designate, SSJ, Dept. of Sociology, Colorado State Univ., Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-1784 or by e-mail to ssj@lamar.colostate.edu.



FUTURE
CONFERENCE
SITES

2007
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
April 11-16, 2007
Hyatt Regency

2008 - 50th Anniversary
Denver, Colorado
April 16-19, 2008
Hyatt Regency

2009
Albuquerque, New Mexico
April 15-18, 2009
Hyatt Regency

**Western Social Science Association
Northern Arizona University
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Box 15302
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5302
SBS 1100**

