

Sociology@maine.edu – Phone: 581-2380

FACULTY NEWS

-Dr. Brian Pitman was recently quoted in a BDN article, *A small Maine town saw 3 police shootings in less than 13 months*. [Click here](#) to read the article.

-Check out Dr. Karyn Sporer's research on grief, family violence, and identity construction, that was published in the *Journal of Family Trauma, Child Custody, & Child Development*. [Click here](#) to read the article.

-Dr. Karyn Sporer recently did an interview with WMTQ about mental illness and grief, which connected to her most recent publication (see above). The article also includes a mother's experience that contextualizes Sporer's findings. [Click here](#) to read the article!

SOCIOLOGY CLUB

"While Sociology Club is currently inactive, we are in the process of getting it up and running again. In the past, the sociology club has been a place for students with an interest in sociology to gather, build community with like-minded peers, and discuss all things sociology related! In the future, we would like for the sociology club to also be a group through which students can volunteer in the community, do homework and study together (upperclassmen can help with courses they have already taken!), prepare for next steps in their schooling or careers, and hear from professors about their experiences and research. Further, we want to make sociology fun and accessible, so we have plans for game nights (in the past we have played "cards against sociology"), watching horror movies to discuss the embedded sociological themes, and taking club run field trips. If students have any ideas for the sociology club that they would like to see implemented, are interested in joining, or want to help reactivate the club (there are officer positions open, and participation would look great on a resume/CV!) they can contact me (President) Mikayla Padilla, at mikayla.padilla@maine.edu!"

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CLASSES/FACULTY PUBLICATIONS/ARTICLES

Important Dates:

-**March 13th**: Spring Break begins

-**March 20th**: Classes Resume

-**March 27th**: Enrollment for Fall 2023 begins (tentative)

Upcoming Events:

March 1st: 'This Land is Your Land and This Land Is My Land': The Role of the Roman Catholic Church in the Political and Cultural Lives of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Nations in the Twentieth Century

On Wednesday, March 1 at noon in Class of 1944 Hall, Room 102, outgoing MHC Undergraduate Fellow Tom Pinette will present the results of his MHC project. Over the course of his Fellowship, Pinette has worked with faculty mentors John Bear Mitchell and Paige Mitchell to explore an area of Wabanaki history virtually ignored by Western academic institutions — the presence of the Church on Penobscot and Passamaquoddy reservations in the twentieth century.

This free, open-to-the public discussion will be a culmination of a year's worth of archival and ethnographic research. In addition to addressing the Wabanaki context of Christian missions, a presentation of Pinette's research findings will engage with larger questions of Catholic theology, Indigenous worldviews, and the ongoing campaign of colonisation.

March 21st: Human Dimensions of Climate Change – Eternal Amazon

The Amazon is a vast laboratory for sustainable experiments that are revealing new relationships among human beings, corporations, and the natural heritage crucial for life on the planet. This is where the guidelines are being drawn up for a new global economic model: the green economy. With an astonishing soundtrack and cinematography, *Eternal Amazon* presents a critical analysis of how the world's largest tropical rainforest is understood and utilized. Exploring the Amazon's five million square kilometers—home to 20% of the world's freshwater reserves—the film asks whether it is possible for humans to make sustainable use of the rainforest by featuring nine successful projects for sustainable forest use that directly benefit the local population and foster good economic partnerships. Experts like economist Sergio Besserman, ecologists Bertha Becker and Virgilio Viana, and Amazonians themselves explain activities such as agriculture, fisheries, and animal husbandry. The film portrays the daily lives of the forest people as the guardians of this great natural heritage that, if properly managed, could last into eternity.

There will be a post-film discussion by the filmmaker, Belisário Franca, in collaboration with Human Dimensions of Climate Change Film Series

Located at Folger Library Classroom 1 from 6:00pm-8:00pm

CLASSES/FACULTY PUBLICATIONS/ARTICLES

More Upcoming Events:

March 23rd: Community is Care

Community is Care, a series of community wellness events intended for all students, staff and faculty, will be presented by UMaine Student Life and hosted by the 2SLGBTQ and Allies Council throughout the spring semester.

These meetups will take place on the fourth Thursday of every month from **11am-12pm** at the Career Center in the **Memorial Union, located in Room 300**

March 28th: Human Dimensions of Climate Change Film Series -Reciprocity Project

Facing a climate crisis, The Reciprocity Project embraces Indigenous value systems that have bolstered communities since the dawn of humanity. To heal, we must recognize that we are in relationship with Earth, a place that was in balance until the modern industrial age. These short films invite learning from time-honored and current Indigenous ways of being, with filmmakers responding to the question: What does 'reciprocity' mean to your community?

There will be a post-film discussion by Dr. Tony Sutton, Assistant Professor of Native American Studies and Food Systems and Dr. Darren Ranco, Chair of Native American Programs.

Located at Folger Library Classroom 1 from 6:00pm-8:00pm

Pre-Law Society!

UMaine Pre-Law Society wants you to join! The group is for students who are interested in or considering any career involving the law, not just law school. While many of our members do end up applying to law school, our events do not center around it. We primarily host guest speakers on topics the group is interested in and gather for what the group needs: help registering for useful classes, test prep, editing homework assignments, etc. Last semester we hosted an international sports attorney, a paralegal from Pine Tree Legal, a law school coach, a health care attorney, and more. This semester, we are looking to host a diverse group of guest speakers from the government, legal education, and law enforcement. The society is also planning a Careers in Law & Justice Fair in the spring, with guests from local law enforcement, government representatives, specialized attorneys, law school admissions counselors, and more. Please consider joining to further your interest in legal studies! We meet from 5-6pm on Tuesdays in the Career Center. Please contact our President, Paige Allen (paige.allen@maine.edu), to be added to the google space or for any questions.



THE MAINE POLICY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Interested in a \$5,000 scholarship to research a real-life policy issue currently facing Maine?



The Maine Policy Scholars program is accepting applications to work with a faculty advisor and community mentor on an independent research project during the 2023–24 academic year.

The scholar's findings will take the form of a policy memo to the Governor and a presentation to other researchers and policy makers. Funding is also available to cover up to \$1,000 in research expenses.

The scholarship is open to students who have completed at least two years of college as of August 2023. All majors are eligible. The program runs from August 2023 to May 2024. Funding is provided through the Maine Community Foundation.

Previous scholars have researched issues such as forestry regulation, addiction prevention, wind power, energy efficiency, school nutrition, proficiency-based learning, civic education, habitat conservation, and the nursing shortage.

For more details about the program, see

<https://mcpolicycenter.umaine.edu/for-students/maine-policy-scholars/>

To apply, visit: <https://forms.gle/59CZvkepciug1SBe7>

Applications are due Friday, April 7th at 5:00p.m. Contact Brian Pitman at brian.pitman@maine.edu for any questions.

