



**Center for Study of Working Class Life
How Class Works—2008: Conference Schedule
A Conference at SUNY-Stony Brook
June 5-7, 2008**

0. Opening Party, University Café, Student Union

Wednesday, June 4, 8:30pm-

Poetry, music, cash bar

Jeanetta Calhoun Mish

Fred Ho

Barb Jensen

Dave Lippman

Registration begins at 9:30am

1. Concurrent Sessions, Student Union

Thursday, June 5, 10:30am-noon

1.1. Borrowed Light: Ted Allen and Whiteness Studies

Jonathan Scott, English, Bronx Community College

Steve Martinot, Interdisciplinary Programs, San Francisco State University

Anamaría Flores, English, Hostos Community College

Fred Ho, Big Red Media: *Why the Emphasis on White-Skin Privilege is White Chauvinist: The Problematic of "Race" Needs to Be Replaced by the Restoration of the National Question/s*

1.2 Issues in Social Mobility

Deborah J. Safron, Psychology, Michigan State University: *'Suck It Up and Deal With It': Parenting Adolescent Part-Time Workers: Social class and Workplace Constraint*

Marquita Walker, Labor Education, University of Arkansas-Little Rock: *Perceptions of Educational Attainment on Intragenerational Social Mobility*

Michele L. Rossi, Sociology, UC-Berkeley: *Slacking and Sufficing in the Suburbs: or, Why Many Members of the U.S. Middle Class Are Not Worrying About Globalization (Even If They Should Be)*

2. Concurrent Sessions, Student Union

Thursday, June 5, 1:45-3:15pm

2.1. White Working Class Anger in Britain

Bill Adams, Regional Director, Trades Union Congress, UK

John Lewis, Regional Policy Officer, Trades Union Congress, UK

2.2. Meanings of Class

Jack Metzgar, Humanities and Social Justice, Roosevelt University: *Are 'The Poor' in a Class by Themselves or Part of the Working Class?*

Sam Pizzigati, Institute for Policy Studies: *Long Live the Statistical Middle Class*

Vicky Hill, American Studies, University of Texas: *Postwar Psychology, Class and 'Middle Classness'*

Troy Rondinone, History, Southern Connecticut State University and **Graham Cassano**, Sociology, Oakland University, Michigan: *Class War Talk, American Style*

**Wednesday
June 4**

**Thursday
June 5**

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2.3. Class, Race and Gender and the Crisis of Political Economy

Harry Targ, Political Science, Purdue

Meta Van Sickle, Education, College of Charleston: *Organizing Around Class, Race, and Gender in the South: the 21st Century*

Carl Bloice, The Black Commentator.com: *Political Economy and the 2008 Election Season: Class, Race, and Gender*

Ira Grupper, Socialist Education Project (CCDS): *Work, Workers, and Building a Progressive Movement in 2008*

Mark Soloman, Historian: *The Intersections of Race, Class, and Nationality in the 1930s and the Indispensability of Black-White Working Class Unity Today*

3. Concurrent Sessions, Student Union

Thursday, June 5, 3:30-5:00pm

3.1. White Supremacy in U.S. History

Manning Marable, History, Columbia University

Mike Goldfield, Political Science, Wayne State University

David Roediger, History, University of Illinois

3.2. Labor Law and Union Strategy

Funmi Adewumi, Industrial Relations & Personnel Management, University of Lagos: *Workers' Rights and the Global Economy. How Protective are International Labour Standards?*

George Lafferty, Industrial Relations Centre, University of Wellington: *Responding to Neo-Liberalism: Union Strategies in New Zealand 1991-2007*

John B. (Ben) Sears, Political Affairs Magazine: *Hard Choices; The Electrical Unions and the AFL-CIO Merger 1955-56*

3.3. Topics in Race and Class

Elizabeth Aries, Psychology, Amherst College: *The Role of Race and Class in Daily Experience at an Elite College*

Melissa Swauger, Sociology, Carlow University: *Whatever Her Little Heart Desires: How Social Class and Race Influence Adolescent Girls' Perceptions of the Future*

Grace-Edward Galabuzi, Politics and Public Administration, Ryerson University: *Anti-Racism as Working Class Politics*

Mark Thomas, Sociology, York University: *Neoliberalism, Racialization, and the Regulation of Employment Standards*

3.4. Representations of Class

Nazia Kazi, Cultural Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center: *Islamophilia: Race, Class, and the 'Good' American Muslim*

Estye Fenton, Sociology, Northwestern University: *From Roseanne to Carrie Bradshaw: White, Working-Class Women Respond to Women on Television*

Cenk Saraçoğlu, Sociology, University of Western Ontario: *The Ethnicization of Middle Class Antipathy Towards Migrants in Turkish Cities*

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3.5. Creating a Home Away from Home: The Migration Stories of African American Workers

Christine F. Zinni, Sociology, Buffalo State College
Latisha Randle, Buffalo State College
Kevanne Dobbs, Buffalo State College
Alethia Hokes, Buffalo State College
Sitsofe Keaku Agebemenu, Buffalo State College

Graduate Student Meeting

Student Activities Center, Thursday, June 5, 5:15-6:15pm

**4. Plenary: Putting Single-Payer Health Care in the Mix,
Student Activities Center Auditorium, Thursday, June 5, 7:30-10pm**

Moderator: Martha Livingston, UUP/AFT 2190
Claudia Fegan, Physicians for a National Health Program

Coffee, light breakfast and registration begin at 8:30am.

**5. Plenary: The Legacy of Ted Allen for Understanding the Color Line
in the 21st Century,**

Student Activities Center, Friday, June 6, 9-10:30am

Moderator: Michael Zweig, Center for Study of Working Class Life, SUNY-Stony Brook
Bill Fletcher, Jr., blackcommentator.com
Jeffrey B. Perry, Ted Allen's literary executor
Meizhu Lui, co-author, *The Color of Wealth*

**6. Concurrent Sessions, Student Activities Center,
Friday, June 6, 10:45am-12:15pm**

6.1. Immigration and the Color Line

Manny Ness, Political Science, Brooklyn College
Joe Wilson, Political Science, Brooklyn College
Saru Jayaman, Restaurant Opportunities Center

6.2. Class Structures in Higher Education

Catherine I. Pouzoulet, American Studies, University Charles de Gaulle-Lille III: *The Hidden Class Agenda of the Reform of French Universities*
Elizabeth Hoffman, English, CSU-Long Beach: *The Politics of Class in the Ivory Tower: Vicious and High Stakes*
Vincent Tirelli, Political Science, Brooklyn College: *Contingent Academic Labor and the Political Economy of the Corporate University*
Anthony Tambureno, Ontario Institute for the Study of Education, University of Toronto: *The Role of Community Colleges in Reproducing Class Inequality--A Canadian Perspective*

6.3 Worker Profile of Eskisehir in Turkey

Deniz Kagnicioglu, Labor Economics and Industrial Relations, Anadolu University: *Profile of Unionised Workers in Eskisehir*
Yener Sisman, Labor Economics and Industrial Relations, Anadolu University
Zerrin Sungur, Labor Economics and Industrial Relations, Anadolu University: *Profile of Non-unionised Workers in Eskisehir*

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6.4. Call Us Activists: Nurturing Activism Among Union Members on a Community College Campus

Anne M. Wiley, Social Sciences, Greenfield Community College
Rosemarie Freeland, Women's Resource Center

6.5. The Power of Class: Organized Labor's Self Censorship in the Media

Frank Emspak, Workers Independent News
Howard Kling, Labor Education, University of Minnesota
Judy Ancel, Labor Education, University of Missouri-Kansas City
Steve Stallone, International Labor Communications Association

6.6. Music and Class

Bradley Walchuk, Political Science, Brock University: *Sing Loud! Sing Proud! Working Class Solidarity and Irish-American Punk Music*
Heather Howley, Communication, Cazenovia College: *Death by Metal: Unionizing a Disenfranchised Working Class Culture*
Sarah Attfield, Writing and Social Inquiry, University of Technology, Sydney: *Australian Rap Music and Working Class Agency*

6.7. Health and Class

Ed Slavishak, History, Susquehanna University: *Bodily Ease: Industrial Workers and the Labor of Health, 1890-1910*
Michelle Desanno, Health and Society, SUNY-Old Westbury: *Social Class and Mental Health*
Yanan Di, Economics, SUNY-Stony Brook and **Debra Sabatini Dwyer**, Health Technology and Management, SUNY-Stony Brook: *Health Disparities Across Class*

**Annual Meeting of the Working Class Studies Association,
Student Activities Center, Friday, June 6, 12:45-1:45pm**

**7. Concurrent Sessions, Student Activities Center,
Friday, June 6, 2:00-3:30pm**

7.1. How Do People Become White?

David Roediger, History, University of Illinois
Melanie Bush, Sociology, Adelphi University
Pedro Caban, Vice-Provost, State University of New York

7.2. The American McWriter, Globalized

Linda McCarriston, Creative Writing, University of Alaska-Anchorage
Richard Hoffman, Writing and Literature, Emerson College
Afaa Weaver, Zora Neale Hurston Literary Center, Simmons College
James Coleman, Three Rivers Community College, *Shrinking Democracy: 'You've Got It Wrong'*

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7.3. Class Identity as Politics, Past and Present

William Mello, Labor Studies, Indiana University-Kokomo: *The Myth of the 'Working' Middle Class: Class Identity in a Midwestern Auto Town*

Paul Mishler, Labor Studies, Indiana University-South Bend: *Labor Education and Religion: The Carpenter in the Union Hall*

Gerrie Casey, Anthropology, John Jay School of Criminal Justice: *But She Brings So Much More to the Table!: The Not-So-Hidden Injuries of Class and Race at the City University of New York*

7.4. Labor, Class and Media

Martin Fishgold, *The Unionist*, AFSCME Local 371, *Why Doesn't Anyone Talk About Labor Media Democracy Anymore?*

Joe Atkins, Journalism, University of Mississippi, *The Missing Story: How 'Detroit South' Threatens the Hard-Gained Middle-Class Status of Auto Workers*

Bob Fitch, *Solidarity for Sale* author, *Why American Workers Need Constitutional Rights*

7.5. Class and the Legal System

Bettina Spencer, Psychology, Saint Mary's College: *Classism in the Court System: Perceptions of Low-Income Rape Victims*

Diane Fieldes, Industrial Relations, University of New South Wales: *Longer Hours, Lower Pay, Less Control over our Lives: Who Benefits from Industrial Relations Law in Australia?*

Louis Kontos, Sociology and Criminal Justice, John Jay College: *An Analysis of Recent Trends in the Ideology and Politics of Crime Control*

7.6. World War II and Its Aftermath

Cecilia Rio, Women's Studies, Towson University: *On the Move: African American Women's Paid Domestic Labor and the Class Transition to Independent Commodity Production*

Page Dougherty Delano, English, Manhattan Community College: *The Rumor Project, Working Women and World War II*

Sam Sills, Documentary Filmmaker, **Henry Foner** and **Bob Schrank**, Labor Activists: *Taking Liberties: State Power in the Struggle against Organized Labor after World War II*

7.7. Screening and discussion: Morristown: In the Air and Sun: Framing Globalization as a Class Issue through Documentary Film

Fran Ansley, College of Law, University of Tennessee

Anne Lewis, Documentary Filmmaker

**8. Concurrent Sessions, Student Activities Center,
Friday, June 6, 3:45-5:15pm**

8.1. European American Workers and White Supremacy

Chip Smith, co-author, *Cost of Privilege*

Jeff Perry, Historian

David Slavin, History, Georgia State University

8.2. The (Mis)managed Academy: The Application of Corporate Practices in Higher Education

Michelle Tokarczyk, English, Goucher College

Penny Lewis, Sociology, Borough of Manhattan Community College, CUNY

John Russo, Center for Working-Class Studies, Youngstown State University

8.3. Decline or Renewal? Political Representation and the French Working Class

Jim Wolfreys, Politics, King's College London

Jacqui Freeman, French, King's College London

Stathis Kouvelakis, French, King's College London

8.4. Class and Economic Change

Michele Proctor, Sociology, Madonna University: *Working-Class Families in an Era of Uncertainty: Is the American Dream Still Achievable*

Pellegrino Manfra, Social Sciences, Queensborough Community College: *Globalization Process and Income Inequality in the United States Class and Economic Change*

Richard D. Vogel, Journalist: *Divide and Conquer: Exploiting Social Class through Global Production Chains*

8.5. The Place of Class

Mathieu Bonzom, History/Sociology, University of Tours: *Class and Ethnicity in Chicago's Contemporary Social Movements and Organizations*

Stephanie Farmer, Sociology, Binghamton University: *Building Class into the Urban Environment: The Case of Chicago's Public Transit System*

Steve McClure, Social Sciences, George Mason University: *Geographies of Fear: The Socio-spatial Construction of the 'Gang' Problem in Northern Virginia*

Tracy Floreani, English, Baker University: *From Sites of Labor to Siteseeing: The Ethics of Post-Labor Tourist Attractions*

8.6. Oral Testimonies of Class

Emily Kazzyak, Sociology, University of Michigan: *If We Were Rednecks: Constructing Class Boundaries in Rural Communities*

John Kirk, Working Lives Research Institute, London Metropolitan University: *Working through Change: Oral Testimony, Structures of Feeling and the Place of Anecdotes*

Claudine Pied, Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center: *Looking for a Good Worker, Looking for a Good Job: Work Ethic and Economic Change in a Maine Small Town*

James Walsh, History, University of Colorado-Denver: *My Great Grandfather was a Communist!: Recovering Lost Histories and Igniting a Love of History in Working Class Students Through Exploring Family Oral Tradition*

8.7. Screening and discussion: neworleanslabormedia.org and the ILCA New Orleans Field Reporting Project

Howard Kling, Labor Education, University of Minnesota

Annual Meeting of the Association of Working Class Academics, Student Activities Center, Friday, June 6, 5:30-6:30pm

9. Conference Banquet, Friday, June 6

9.1 Dinner

Student Activities Center, 7pm-9pm

Speaker: **Richard Trumka**, Secretary-Treasurer, AFL-CIO

Presentation of awards from the Center for Study of Working Class Life

9.2 Party

University Café, Student Union, 9pm-1am

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Coffee, light breakfast and registration begin at 8:30am.

**Saturday
June 7**

**10. Plenary: New Voices in Working Class Studies,
Student Activities Center Auditorium, Saturday, June 7, 9-10:30am**

Moderator: Jeannette Gabrielle, Joseph Murphy Institute, CUNY

Catherine-Mercedes Brillantes Judge, Women's Committee, NYC District Council of Carpenters

Terry Easton, Brittain Fellow, Georgia Tech

Nelson Motto, National Day Laborers Organizing Network

**11. Concurrent Sessions, Student Activities Center,
Saturday, June 7, 10:45am-12:15pm**

11.1. Lessons on the Color Line from Smithfield Foods, Tar Heel, NC

Gene Bruskin, Smithfield Campaign Director, United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW)

Carl Green, Smithfield Campaign Lead Organizer, UFCW

Manny Hernandez, Smithfield Campaign Organizing Coordinator, UFCW

11.2. Empire on Trial: Critical Filipino Resistance and Cultural Studies

Jeffrey Arellano Cabusao, English and Cultural Studies, Bryant University: *Another World is Possible: Filipino Cultural Studies and Social Change*

Anne E. Lacsamana, Women's Studies, Hamilton College: *Empire on Trial: The Subic Rape Case and the Struggle for Philippine Women's Liberation*

Michael Viola, Education and Information Studies, UCLA: *Critical Filipino Resistance and Education: A Call for a Historical Materialist Critical Pedagogy*

11.3. Class in Turkey

Ferimah Yusufi Yilmaz, Management, Halic University: *Political Economy of Taxes: Turkey Case*

Melda Yaman-Ozturk, Ondokuz Mayıs University: *The Relation of Patriarchy and Capitalist Development in Turkey*

Yasemin Ozgun-Cakar, Communications Sciences, Anadolu University: *What Makes a Class a Class: Workers Strike in Pasabahce Glass Factory*

11.4. Teaching Class

Cherie Rankin, English, Heartland Community College: *Once the Illusions Begin to Crumble, Then What?*

Paul Reckner, Anthropology, SUNY-Binghamton: *Community Service Learning and Pedagogies of Class: The Challenges and Potentials of Teaching Class Issues and "Living Labor History" within the Context of a Living Labor Community*

Sherry Linkon and **John Russo**, Center for Working-Class Studies, Youngstown State University: *Teaching New Working-Class Studies: Interdisciplinarity in Practice*

Dimitris Sotiropoulos, Political Economy, University of Peloponnese: *Understanding Neoliberal Financialization. A Class Analysis: Marx or Keynes?*

Gary Hicks, Journalist: *The Concept of the Labor Aristocracy: Its Historical Development, Its Political Usage and the Continuing Struggle for Class Clarity in the 21st Century*

Ozlem Tezcek, Economics, Marmara University: *The Rising Power of New Knowledge Groups as a New Component of Capitalist Class*

Stephen Adair, Sociology, Central Connecticut State University: *The Disappearance of the Labor Theory of Value*

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11.6. Locals Go Global: Lessons of the Charleston 5

Paul Durrenberger, Anthropology, Pennsylvania State University

Tony Perlstein, ILA 1588

Paul Friedman, Labor Activist

Gerrie Casey, Anthropology, John Jay School of Criminal Justice

11.7. Class and Religion

Jay Youngdahl, Youngdahl Law Firm: *Coping on the Track Gang: Religious Practices of Navajo Railroad Workers*

Joerg Rieger, Theology, Southern Methodist University: *Class, Race and Gender in Religious Discourse: The Example of Liberation Theology in the United States*

Ken Estey, Political Science, Brooklyn College: *The Labor Ethics of Working Class Born-Again Christians*

Chip Smith, *Cost of Privilege* co-author: *Privilege, Spirituality and Class Consciousness*

Hail to the Thieves Labor/Folk Concert

George Mann and Julius Margolin, with Friends

Student Activities Center Ballroom A

Saturday, June 7, 1:00-1:45pm

12. Concurrent Sessions, Student Activities Center,

Saturday, June 7, 2:00-3:30pm

12.1. Class in Black America

Algernon Austin, Economic Policy Institute: *Understanding the Strange Class War in Black America*

Anne Urbanowski, English, Université Paul Valéry, Montpellier III: *Race, Class, and the Black Bourgeoisie: Social Distance, Symbolic Identity and American Culture*

Junius Williams, Abbott Leadership Institute, Rutgers University: *The Strange Career of Race and Class*

12.2. The (In)visibility of Class

Janice Bloom, Education Studies, Eugene Lang College: *The Invisible Backpack of Class Privilege: Schools, Social Class and the Transition from High School to College*

Cheryl Hyde and **Paul Dannenfelser**, Social Administration, Temple University: *The Invisibility of Class in Social Work and the Detrimental Impact on Clients, Constituents and the Profession*

Robin DiAngelo, Multicultural Education, Westfield State College: *My Class Didn't Trump My Race: Using Class Oppression to Face Race Privilege*

Donna Kesselman, Anglophone Studies, Université Paris X: *How to Get Rid of Class in France*

12.3. Topics in Education and Class

Jessi Streib, Sociology, University of Michigan: *Class in the Preschool Classroom: Learning about Class through Cliques and Exclusion*

John P. Lloyd, History, CSU-Pomona: *Class in the Classroom: the Lessons of Labor History for K-12 Teachers*

Paul Lyons, Social Work, Richard Stockton College: *The Knowledge Factory: From the Sixties to the Present*

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12.4. Class Consciousness

Bertell Ollman, Politics, NYU: *Can Studying Workers' Class Consciousness Help to Raise It?*

Howard Horowitz, Howard Horowitz Associates: *Report on Two Focus Group Studies on Workers' Class Consciousness*

Lee Levin, A working mother who has spent 20 years in the labor movement: *Problems of Class Consciousness in Working Class Women*

James Gerding, Politics, NYU: *Looking at the Emotional Side of Class Consciousness*

12.5. Class and Literature

Jeanetta Calhoun Mish, English, University of Oklahoma: *Ethical Memory: Documentary Long Poems of Working-Class Communities*

Joan Clingan, Humanities, Prescott College: *'Small-Town Fiction,' also known as 'Schlub Stays Put': Considering Work and Class in Richard Russo's Bridge of Sighs as Contrasted with its Reviews*

Mary Jo Bona, Italian American Studies, SUNY Stony Brook and **Jennifer-Ann DiGregorio**

Kightlinger, English, SUNY Stony Brook: *Class Acts: Food Talk as Gestures of Defiance and Assimilation in Italian America*

Tim Libretti, English, Northeastern Illinois University: *Imagining Health, Diagnosing Capitalism's Poverty of Health in the Writings of Simon Ortiz, Helen Maria Viramontes, and Barbara Kingsolver*

12.6. Class and Sexuality

Michael Carosone, Independent Scholar: *Queer Italian Americans as Part of the Mosaic of Gender, Sexuality, Ethnicity,*

Yvette Taylor, Geography, Politics and Sociology, University of Newcastle: *Working Apart? Dis/connecting Class and Sexuality*

12.7. Screening and discussion: Communitarian Democratic Political Traditions and the Making of the Oaxaca Uprising and the Role of Alternative Media in the Popular Movement

Tami Gold, Hunter College

Gerardo Renique, History, City College

**13. Concurrent Sessions, Student Activities Center,
Saturday, June 7, 3:45-5:15pm**

13.1. The Whitening of the United Federation of Teachers

Juliet Ucelli, NYC Public School Social Worker

Sean Ahern, NYC Public School Teacher

Don Murphy, NYC Public School Teacher

Sam Anderson, Black New Yorkers for Educational Excellence and Independent Commission on Public Education

13.2. Race and Class: A Transnational Approach

Mike Murphy, History, SUNY-Stony Brook: *Domestic Development: The UAW Brings Labor Internationalism Home, 1955-1975*

James Nichols, History, SUNY-Stony Brook: *If You Outlaw the Fandango, Then Only Outlaws Will Fandango: Class and Dance Halls on the Rio Grande*

Greg Jackson, History, SUNY-Stony Brook: *Campo de Futbol: Foundations for Racial Democracy, 1890-1950*

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13.3. Consumption, Persuasion and Class

David Gray, American Studies, University College Dublin: *Birth of a Salesman: Selling Motivational Poster Campaigns in the American Workplace after World War II*

Katherine Turk, History, University of Chicago: *From the West Side to the 'Softer Side': Community, Class and Consumerism In Sears Roebuck's Chicago, 1951-1973*
Consumption, Persuasion and Class

Larry Hanley, English, City College: *iClass: Ideologies of 'Being Digital' in the Networked World*

13.4. Class and Reform

Elaine McCrate, Economics and Women's Studies, University of Vermont: *Flexibility for Whom?: Control Over the Variability of Work Schedules*

Jennifer Nugent Duffy, American Studies, NYU: *No Irish Need Apply: The Politics of Race and National Debate over Immigration Reform in the United States*

Steven L. Strauss, Franklin Square Hospital, Baltimore: *The Class Lessons of 'No Child Left Behind'*

Ruth Meyerowitz, American Studies, SUNY at Buffalo and Christine F. Zinni, Sociology, SUNY at Brockport: *New Media and the Struggle to Implement a Living Wage Law: Buffalo, New York 1999-2008*

13.5. Screening and discussion: Good Work Sister!: Women Shipyard Workers of World War II: An Oral History

Sandy Polishuk, Northwest Women's History Project

14. Conference summary discussion

Student Activities Center

Saturday, June 7, 5:30-6:00pm