

John E. Balzarini, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Delaware State University
Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice
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Academic Appointments

Delaware State University

- 2019-Present Associate Professor, Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice.
- 2015-2019 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice.
- 2014-2015 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice.

Education

- Ph.D. 2013 Temple University, Sociology. Dissertation Committee: Anne Shlay (Chair), Matt Wray, Kevin Delaney and Bryant Simon.
Dissertation Title: *Casino Development and the Right to the City: Conflict and Community Place-Making in Philadelphia.*
- M.A. 2006 Temple University, Sociology.
- B.A. 2001 West Chester University, Sociology.

Prelim Exam Areas

Urban Sociology
Political Sociology

Research Interests

Urban Sociology; Community; Uneven Development and Inequality; Urban Culture; Gentrification; Landlords and Housing; Neoliberal Urbanization; Social Networks and Social Capital.

Grants

- 2018 National Science Foundation (with Melody Boyd, SUNY Brockport): “Gatekeeping Communities: The Role of Landlords in Neighborhood Change and Gentrification” (\$56,904).

Publications

Articles and Book Chapters

- 2021 **John Balzarini** & Melody Boyd. “Working with Them: Small-Scale Landlord Strategies for Avoiding Evictions.” *Housing Policy Debate*. 31(3-5): 425-445.
First published online September 2020: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10511482.2020.1800779>
- 2018 **John E. Balzarini** & Anne B. Shlay. “The Strength of Strong Ties Reconsidered: Social Ties and Collective Power in a Gentrifying Community.” *Social Currents*. 5(1): 67-85.
First published online April 2017: <https://doi.org/10.1177/2329496517704860>
- 2016 **John E. Balzarini** & Anne B. Shlay. “Gentrification and the Right to the City: Community Conflict and Casinos.” *Journal of Urban Affairs*. 38(4): 503-517.
First published online December 2016: <https://doi.org/10.1111/juaf.12226>
- 2015 Anne B. Shlay & **John Balzarini**. “Urban Sociology.” In: James D. Wright (editor-in-chief), *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences, 2nd edition, Vol 24*. Oxford: Elsevier. pp. 926–933.

Book Reviews & Other Publications

- 2016 **John E. Balzarini**. Review of Matthew Desmond, *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*. *Journal of Children and Poverty*. 22(2): 149-150.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10796126.2016.1182478>
- 2016 **John E. Balzarini**. Review of Andrea S. Boyles, *Race, Place, and Suburban Policing: Too Close for Comfort*. *Contemporary Sociology*. 45(6): 727-728.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0094306116671949j>
- 2005 **John Balzarini**, Rebecca Jenkins, Whitney Miles, Mellissa Pittaoulis, Alma-Kristina Rodriguez, & Helen Marie Rosenbaum. “For whom Transformation Tolls? Philadelphia’s Neighborhood Revitalization Project.” In *CUSS News: Newsletter of the Community & Urban Sociology Section*.
http://www.commurb.org/Newsletters/CUSS-Newsletter-Summer_2005.pdf

Manuscripts in Progress

- John Balzarini** & Melody Boyd. “Gentrifying the Gentrifiers?: How Big Development affects Small-Scale Landlords in Philadelphia.”

Presentations

Invited Presentations

- 2018 Panelist: "Regional Spotlight: Inequality in the Philadelphia Area." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 Panelist: "Sociology Alumni in Academic Careers." Temple University, Department of Sociology, Philadelphia, PA.

Conferences Presentations

- 2021 "Gentrifying the Gentrifiers?: Small-Scale Landlords, Tax Abatements, and Development in Philadelphia." Paper presented at the 'Responding to the Politicization of Space: Spatial Inequality and Claims-Making,' Community and Urban Sociology Section (CUSS) regular session at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. ****Virtual Meeting***
- 2020 "Avoiding Eviction: How Landlords Attempt to Keep Tenants in their Homes." (Melody Boyd, co-presenter). Paper presented at the 'Displacement and Disparities in Urban Environments,' Community and Urban Sociology Section (CUSS) regular session at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA. ****Virtual Meeting***
- 2020 "'Working with Them: Landlord Strategies for Avoiding Evictions.'" (Melody Boyd, co-presenter). Paper accepted at the annual meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, Washington, DC. ****Unable to deliver, meeting canceled due to COVID-19 outbreak.***
- 2020 "Landlords versus the Growth Machine: Landlord Perspectives on Philadelphia's 10-year Tax Abatement and Uneven Development." (Melody Boyd, co-presenter). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2019 "Mediating Evictions in Landlord/Tenant Relationships." (Melody Boyd, co-presenter). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, MA.
- 2019 Speaker: "Critical Ethnographies: Case Studies of Identity, Intergenerational Wealth, and Urban Renewal." At the University of Pennsylvania Ethnography in Education Research Forum, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2017 "The Attitudes and Agency of Landlords in Gentrifying Neighborhoods." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2017 "Community Activism and the Power of Place-Based Social Ties." Paper Presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2017 "Gatekeeping Community: The Role of Landlords in Shaping Neighborhood Change." (Melody Boyd, co-presenter). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, PA.

- 2016 "Place-Identity and the Right to the City: Gentrification, Ethnicity and Anti-Casino Activism." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, San Diego, CA.
- 2013 "Social Capital and Community Power over Urban Casino Construction." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, San Francisco, CA.
- 2013 "Strong Community Ties Revisited: Social Capital and the Mobilization of Community Power in Fishtown." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, MA.
- 2012 "Framing Place: Conflict over Casino Development and the Right to Community." Paper Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association 'Space and Place,' Community and Urban Sociology Section (CUSS) regular session, Denver CO.
- 2012 "The Right to the City and the Casino Dispute: The Framing of Neighborhood Legitimacy and Value over Casino Development in Philadelphia." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2006 "Social Capital, Race and Political Participation." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, QC.
- 2005 "Progress in Media Theory and Mass Communication Studies." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Other Presentations

- 2021 Panelist: "An Invitation to Sociological Research from DSU's Sociology and Criminal Justice Department." DSU Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice Research Colloquium Series. Dover, DE.
- 2021 Panelist: "Faculty Research Forum: Mentorship Matters" at the Fourth Annual Delaware State University Research Day. Dover, DE.
- 2019 "Gatekeeping Communities: Understanding How Landlords Make Sense of and Capitalize on Neighborhood Change and Gentrification." Delaware State University-Colloquium Series: Sustaining Social Science Research Culture at DSU. Dover, DE.
- 2015 "The Strength of Strong Ties and Collective Power in a Gentrifying Philadelphia Community." Paper presented at the Delaware State University Roundtable Seminar Series, Dover, DE.

Teaching Experience

Delaware State University (2014-Present)

Urban Sociology
 Social Stratification
 Sociology of Poverty

Senior Seminar
Honors Introduction to Sociology
Introduction to Sociology
Sociology of the Family
Writing in the Major
Social Change
Social Deviance
University Seminar

Temple University (Adjunct Instructor: 2006-2014)

Historical Significance of Race in America
Race and Poverty in America
Money
Ethnicity and the Immigrant Experience in the United States
American Ethnicity
Gender in America
The Politics of Identity in America
Introduction to Sociology

Rowan University (Adjunct Instructor: 2009-2014)

Urban Sociology
The Sociology of Complex Organizations
Introduction to Sociology

La Salle University (Adjunct Instructor: 2013)

Sociological Theory

Rutgers University: Camden, NJ Campus (Adjunct Instructor: 2010)

Introduction to Sociology

Rider University (Adjunct Instructor: 2008)

Introduction to Sociology

Research Experience

- 2017-present Co-PI (with Melody Boyd, SUNY, The College of Brockport), "Gatekeeping Communities: The Role of Landlords in Neighborhood Change and Gentrification" (Funded: The National Science Foundation).
- 2017-present PI, "Development and Displacement: The Enduring Bonds of the Black Bottom Community."
- 2008-2013 PI, "Casino Development and the Right to the City: Conflict and Community Place-Making in Philadelphia" (Funded: Temple University, Department of Sociology, Research Grant).

- 2005-2006 Research Assistant to Professor Scott Edward Rutledge, Department of Social Work, Temple University.
- 2005-2006 Research Assistant to Professor Jaqueline Lloyd, Department of Social Work, Temple University.

Selected Service

Professional Service

Grant Reviewer

- 2019 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada: Insight Grants

Editorial Board Membership

- 2020-present *Sociology Compass*, Social Stratification section

Article Referee and Book Reviewer

Urban Affairs Review; Journal of Urban Affairs; Social Forces; Sociological Forum; Social Currents; Housing and Society; Contemporary Sociology; Housing Policy Debate; Human Geography; Journal of Children and Poverty, Pacific Affairs; Sociological Focus; Peace Human Rights Governance; Urban Research and Practice

Conference Participation

- 2018 Presider: Section on Community and Urban Sociology Refereed Roundtable, "The Gentry and Crime." At the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2005 Presider: "Social Theory Roundtable." At the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.

University Service

Delaware State University

- 2019-present Faculty Senate – Faculty Research Subcommittee
- 2019-2021 Delaware State University – Excellence Awards Committee
- 2014-2019 Faculty Senate - Teaching Effectiveness Subcommittee
- 2018 Academic Affairs - College Redesign and Implementation of General Education Mathematics Working Group

Delaware State University: Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice

- 2020-present Personnel Committee
- 2019-present Ad hoc Research Committee (Chair of the committee – 2019-2020)
- 2021 Faculty Search Committee—Instructor and Retention Specialist
- 2020 Faculty Search Committee—Associate Research Professor
- 2014-2019 Curriculum Committee
- 2018 Faculty Search Committee—Assistant Professor
- 2016 Personnel Committee
- 2015 Substitute, Department Faculty Senator

Temple University: Department of Sociology

- 2010 Graduate Student Representative: Faculty Hiring Committee

Community Service and Participation

Board Membership

- 2020-present Philadelphia Chess Society

Other Funding

- 2019 Delaware State University, Professional Development Fund. \$1,000.
- 2017 Delaware State University, Professional Development Fund. \$1,518.
- 2016 Delaware State University, Professional Development Fund. \$1,606.
- 2013 Temple University Travel Grant. \$300.
- 2012 Temple University Travel Grant. \$285.
- 2011 Temple University, Sociology Department Research Grant. \$900.
- 2006 Temple University Travel Grant. \$300.

Media Commentary and Public Sociology

- 2020 *Observer-Reporter*: “Lottery Continues Amid COVID-19 Precautions.”
<https://bit.ly/2xNhFFA>
- 2019 *Citation Needed* Podcast, episode 63: “Gambling and the Neoliberal Rot—How our Most Regressive Tax Flies under the Radar.”
<https://soundcloud.com/citationsneeded/ep-63-gambling-and-neoliberal-rot-how-our-most-regressive-tax-flies-under-the-radar>
- 2017 Documentary: *The Fight: Grappling with Philadelphia Gentrification*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPycadovxCg>

Selected Professional Development

- 2020 Delaware State University, Center for Teaching and Learning. Supporting our Students: A Student Affairs Approach.
- 2018-2019 Delaware State University, Center for Teaching and Learning. ACUE: Effective Teaching Practices Course.
- 2019 Delaware State University, Center for Teaching and Learning Professional Development Workshop: Writing Your P&T Narrative.
- 2018 “Getting Your Share of the Pie-The Complete Guide to Finding Grants,” workshop. Valerie J. Mann, presenter. Wesley College, Dover, DE.
- 2017 Delaware State University, Center for Teaching and Learning Professional Development Workshop: Integrative Learning: The Importance of Helping Students Understand the Integrative Nature of Knowledge.
- 2016 Delaware State University, Center for Teaching and Learning Professional Development Workshop: How to Write a Winning Grant Proposal.
- 2016 Delaware State University, Center for Teaching and Learning Professional Development Workshop: Classroom Observation.
- 2016 Delaware State University, the annual Assessment Summit.
- 2015 Delaware State University, Center for Teaching and Learning Professional Development Workshop: Promotion and Tenure.

Membership in Professional Associations

- 2004-present American Sociological Association

2011-present Community and Urban Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association

2011-present Urban Affairs Association

2012-present Eastern Sociological Society