

# Interested in Class Cultures?



We'd like to alert you to a growing network of thinkers investigating cultural differences among working-class, middle-class and other classes!

The **Working Class Studies Association** has launched a **Class Cultures Caucus**.

Ever since Annette Lareau and Michele Lamont started applying Bourdieu's theories to the US context, there's been a profusion of class cultures research and writing. Lareau's *Unequal Childhoods* introduced a now widely known set of working-class and middle-class culture contrasts. Breaking with the "culture of poverty" literature that tended to fall into victim-blaming, this new scholarship affirms the strengths of diverse working-class cultures.

A growing network of scholars is extending these theories to new fields, such as higher education, families and relationships, social movement organizations, and workplaces. The Class Cultures Caucus of the Working Class Studies Association was recently formed to spotlight and support this work and encourage cross-fertilization.

## FOUNDERS OF THE CLASS CULTURES CAUCUS

**Allison L. Hurst**, sociology, author of *College and the Working Class* (Springer 2012)

**Barbara Jensen**, psychology, author of *Reading Classes: On Culture and Classism in America* (Cornell University Press 2012)

**Betsy Leondar-Wright**, sociology, author of *Missing Class: Strengthening Social Movements by Seeing Class Cultures* (Cornell University Press 2014)

**Jack Metzgar**, humanities, author of *Striking Steel: Solidarity Remembered* (Temple University Press 2000)

**Jessi Streib**, sociology, author of *The Power of the Past: Understanding Cross-Class Marriages*, (Oxford University Press 2015)

**Jeff Torlina**, sociology, author of *Working Class: Challenging Myths About Blue-Collar Labor* (Lynne Rienner Publishers 2011)

To contact the Class Cultures Caucus, email  
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# Working Class Studies Association



An international network of scholars and activists focused on social class

We invite you to attend a conference that you may not know about:

## The annual Working-Class Studies Association (WCSA) conference.

This multidisciplinary conference gets its lively tone from the predominance of professors from working-class and poverty backgrounds, who see this conference as a place to let their guard down and bring more of their whole selves than they can in most academic settings.

### At the annual WCSA conference, you can

- ✓ Learn from scholars studying social class in other disciplines, such as literature, film, labor studies and economics
- ✓ Submit a presentation or panel to showcase your work
- ✓ Share strategies about how to teach in a way that minimizes social class inequality
- ✓ Learn from seasoned experts about how to run groups for first-generation and low-income college students
- ✓ Hear labor union leaders, media pundits, and activists share strategies for promoting greater social class equality
- ✓ Participate in informal sing-alongs, bar nights, and other low key gatherings.

At the **2018** conference, at SUNY Stony Brook, June 6-9, there will be several panels related to class cultures research convened by the WCSA Class Cultures Caucus.

The call for presentation proposals is online (<http://bit.ly/2uafnfu>).

### Other ways to connect with the Working Class Studies Association

- Follow the Working-Class Perspectives blog, (<https://workingclassstudies.wordpress.com/>) and the Twitter feed ([@wcstudies](https://twitter.com/wcstudies)) for new research and analysis.
- Check out the **The Journal of Working-Class Studies** (<https://workingclassstudiesjournal.com/>), an online, open-access peer reviewed journal that supports diverse explorations of working-class life.
- Explore the WCSA website (<https://wcstudiesassociation.wordpress.com>).
- Become a member of the WCSA and get updates on publications, media opportunities, and conferences and events at labor studies programs and working-class studies centers around the US and the globe.