

## Curriculum Vitae Suzanne Wilson

### Current Position:

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Gustavus Adolphus College.

### Education:

- 1995 Ph.D. Sociology with a graduate minor in Latin American Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dissertation: "The Status Quo of Politics or the Politics of the Status Quo: The Political Role of the Colombian Middle Class." Dissertation Director: John C. van Es.
- 1985 M.A. Sociology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

### Research and Teaching Interests:

Drugs and Society  
Social Inequality  
Globalization and International Inequality  
Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies  
Comparative and Historical Sociology  
Research Methods

### Awards, Honors, Grants, and Fellowships:

- 2014 Visiting Scholar, Evaluation and Monitoring Department in the *Escuela Nacional de Salud Pública Sergio Arouca* (Sergio Arouca National School of Public Health) at the *Fundación Oswaldo Cruz* (Oswaldo Cruz Foundation), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- 2013 Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grant, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 1995-1997 Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1988 Graduate College Research Grant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1988 Field Research Grant, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.
- 1986 Tinker Field Research Grant.
- 1983-1984 University Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

### Courses Taught at Gustavus Adolphus College:

Social Inequality  
Criminology  
Drugs and Society  
Women, Crime, and Criminal Justice  
Kinship, Marriage, and Human Sexuality  
Research Seminar in Sociology and Anthropology  
Globalization

### **Courses Taught at Other Institutions:**

Field Research Methods

Contemporary Issues in Latin America

Sociology of Development in Latin America

An Interdisciplinary Approach to Culture and Society in Latin America

Introduction to Sociology

### **Publications:**

- 2025 "Wilson, S. B. "Colombian Paramilitaries and Their Successor Groups. *Latin American Research Review*, 60(1), 213-223.
- 2022: "Presentación [Introduction]" With Marta Zambrano. *Maguaré*, Vol. 36, No. 2: 323-328. [This article was the introduction to the special issue about ethnographies about Colombia's post-conflict situation, called "Etnografías de la transición."]
- 2019 "Chocolate, Politics and Peace-Building: An Ethnography of the Peace Community of San José de Apartadó, Colombia [Book Review]." *Maguaré*, Vol. 33, No. 2: 11-18.
- 2017 "Strategic Analysis of Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Actions in Brazil and Ethiopia: One Size Fits All? With Gisela Cardoso, Elizabeth Moreira dos Santos, Yibeltal Kiflie, Kifle Woldemichael and Wuleta Lemma. *International Journal of Public Health*, Volume 62, Issue 2 (March), pp.305–315.
- 2007 "The Colombian Contradiction: Lessons Drawn from Guerrilla Experiments in Demobilization and Electoralism." With Leah A. Carroll. Pp. 258-293 in *From Revolutionary Movements to Political Parties: Cases from Latin America and Africa*, edited by Kalowatie Deonandan, David Close, and Gary Prevost. Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2005 "Inside Colombia: Drugs, Democracy, and War," *Latin American Society & Politics*, vol. 47, no.3 (Fall), pp. 164-169.
- 2001 "Factors for Success in Rural Tourism Development." With Daniel R. Fesenmaier, Julie Fesenmaier, and John C. van Es. *Journal of Travel Research*, v. 40, no. 2 (November), pp. 132-138.
- 1998 "Social Cleansing in Colombia: The War on Street Children." With Julia Greider. In *Hate Crime: Global Politics of Polarization*. Edited by Robert J. Kelly and Jess Magham. Carbondale, Illinois: University of Southern Illinois Press.
- 1996 "Silent Partners: Women in Farm Magazine Success Stories, 1934-1991." With Gerry Walter. *Rural Sociology*. v. 61, Summer, pp. 227-48.
- 1995 "Cocaína, capitalismo e imperio: encadenamientos globales." ("Cocaine, Capitalism and Power: Global Links.") With Marta Zambrano. *Análisis Político* No. 24, enero-abril, pp. 5-21. (*Análisis Político* is a prominent, refereed Colombian social science journal. Our article was the lead article in the issue.)

- 1994 "Cocaine, Commodity Chains, and Drug Politics: A Transnational Approach." With Marta Zambrano. In *Commodity Chains and Global Capitalism*, pp. 297-315. Edited by Gary Gereffi and Miguel Korzeniewicz. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press.
- 1994 *Unseen and Unheard: The Rural Poor*. With John C. van Es. Staff Paper, Laboratory for Community and Economic Development. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. (This publication is 44-page, extensive, integrated review of theories and research on rural poverty.)
- 1993 *Rural Poverty: The Theories and the Evidence*. With John C. van Es. Illinois Agricultural Economics Working Paper, Rural Sociology. Urbana-Champaign, Illinois: Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**Papers Presented at Professional Meetings:**

- 2024 "Zonas Rojas in San José de Apartadó, Colombia: Political Labeling, Gender, and the Consequences of Territorial Stigmatization." Presented at the Society for Latin American Studies Congress, Amsterdam.
- 2016 "What Is in a Label?: A Comparison of the Colombian Paramilitaries and the BACRIM." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association XXXIV International Congress, New York City.
- 2014 "Ask the BACRIM for Directions: The Colombian Model as a Map for Failed States?" Presented at the Latin American Studies Association XXXII International Congress, Chicago.
- 2013 "Conflict, Complexity, and Contradiction: The Colombian State and Paramilitaries in the Early 1990s." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association XXXI International Congress, Washington, D.C.
- 2012 "Ranchers, Narcos, and Soldiers: The Colombian Paramilitaries' Origins and Backers in the 1980s." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association XXX International Congress, San Francisco.
- 2010 "Private Justice and Public Violence: Colombian Paramilitaries and the State (1997-2002)." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association XXIX International Congress, Toronto.
- 2009 "Means of Fear: A Comparison of the Colombian Paramilitaries (1997-2002) with the Guatemalan Death Squads (1978-1985)." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association XXVIII International Congress, Rio de Janeiro.
- 2007 "Friend or Foe?: The Colombian State and the Paramilitaries (1982 2006)." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association XXVII International Congress, Montréal, Canada.

- 2004 "From Cartels and Kingpins to Plan Colombia: A History of the War on Drugs in Colombia." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association XXV International Congress, Las Vegas, Nevada.
- 2003 "Fear with Authority: Private Military Terror in Authoritarian Latin America and Public Paramilitary Terror in Colombia." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association Meeting, Dallas, Texas.
- 2001 "On Private and Public Terror: A Comparison of Colombian Paramilitary Violence with the Military Dictatorships." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association Meeting, Washington D.C.
- 2000 "Privatized Justice in a Global World: The Rise of Paramilitaries in a Shifting Landscape." With Veronica M. Kann. Presented at the Meeting of the Latin American Studies Association, Miami, Florida.
- 1998 "De los dos lados: Colombian and Mexican States, Human Rights Abuses, and U.S. Hemispheric Policies." With Veronica M. Kann. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Latin American Studies Association, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1995 "The Faces of Homelessness." With Karen Zotz. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Community Development Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas.
- 1995 "The People Still Left Behind: Differences in Rural and Urban Poverty." With John C. van Es. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1992 "The International Scope of the Cocaine Commodity Chain." With Marta Zambrano. Presented at the XVI Political Economy of the World System Conference, Durham, North Carolina.
- 1991 "An Argument against the Narcoguerrilla Thesis." With Marta Zambrano. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Illinois Conference of Latin Americanists, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1989 "Warlords and Druglords: The U.S. Role in the Drug Trade." With Marta Zambrano. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Illinois Conference of Latin Americanists, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.
- 1989 "Political Power and the Colombian Middle Class." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, St. Louis, Missouri.
- 1988 "Changes and Continuities in the Colombian Class Structure." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the North Central Sociological Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- 1988 "A Review of the Theories about the Latin American Middle Class." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**Selected Off-Campus Lectures:**

- 2002 "U.S. Policy and Colombia." Hamline University, St. Paul Minnesota.
- 2001 "Social Justice Issues and Colombia." Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota.

- 1996 “Chained Policy: U.S. Drug Policy.” With Marta Zambrano. Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana.
- 1995 “Drugs and Gangs: Realities and False Images.” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.
- 1992 “The Cocaine Trade and U.S. Drug Policy: Perspectives from the United States and Colombia.” With Marta Zambrano. University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

**On-Campus Lectures and Presentations:**

- 2017 “Where go the Emerging Criminal Bands (BACRIM)?: An Assessment of Counternarcotic and Counterinsurgency Policies in Colombia in the 2000s and 2010s.” Shop Talk Presentation, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 2016 “U.S. Drug Policy.” With Carlos Meija and Peg O’Connor, Presentation, Building Bridges Conference, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 2012 “Armies to Warlords: Recent Right-Wing Violence in Latin America. Shop Talk Presentation, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 2008 “Myths of Immigration.” Presentation, Teach-in on Immigration: The Immigrant Experience.
- 2008 “War on Drugs.” Presentation, Lolita’s Mug, Crossroads Program.
- 2004 Inaugural Symposium Panel Presentation, for inauguration of Gustavus President, Dr. Jim Peterson.
- 2003 “From Cartels to Narcoguerrillas: The War on Drugs in Colombia.” Shop Talk Presentation, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 2003 “Why Is There So Much Violence in the U.S.?: A Discussion of Michael Moore’s *Bowling for Columbine*.” Controversy Series, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 2003 “Techniques and Terrains of Fear: A Comparison of the Colombian Paramilitaries (1997-2001) with the Argentine Death Squads (1976-1983).” Presentation, Explorations Series, Women's Studies Program, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 2000 “Debates about Capital Punishment.” Presentation, Controversy Series, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 2000 “Privatized Justice in a Global World: The Rise of Paramilitaries in a Shifting Landscape.” Presentation, Explorations Series, Women's Studies Program, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 1999 “Colombia: Another Vietnam.” With Gastón Alzate, Presentation, Controversy Series, Gustavus Adolphus College.

### **Teaching Experience:**

- 2005-present Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 1998-2004 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 1996-1998 Visiting Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1992-1993 Teaching Associate at the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1992 Instructor for Department of Social Sciences and Human Services, Parkland College, Champaign, Illinois.
- 1987-1989 Instructor for Students in Transition Program (a program for lower-income African American and Latinx undergraduates), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1987 Teaching Assistant for Sociology 381, "Survey Research Methods," University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1986-1987 Tutor for Educational Opportunities Program (a program for undergraduate students with financial aid), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1985-1986 Teaching Assistant for Sociology 131, "Social Problems," University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1982-1987 Teaching Assistant for Sociology 100, "Introduction to Sociology," University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1982-1984 Teaching Assistant for Sociology 100, "Introduction to Sociology," University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Duties included teaching weekly discussion sections, writing and administering quizzes, grading, and writing exams.

### **Published Educational Materials:**

- 2003 "Who Dropped the Bomb?" *Connection to the Americas*, December 2003, pp. 1, 3. (*Connection to the Americas* is a monthly with a national audience that includes many educators.)
- 1993 *An Interdisciplinary Introduction to Society and Culture in Latin America: Course Guide and Reading Materials*. With Veronica M. Kann. Urbana-Champaign, Illinois: Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1992 *A Bibliography for Secondary and Post-Secondary Latin American and Caribbean Studies*. Urbana-Champaign, Illinois: Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 1991 "Women and Education in Latin America." *Update*, no. 52, pp.5-10. (*Update* is a national journal for secondary and post-secondary educators in area studies with a circulation of over 2,000.)

- 1991 “Injections, Shamans, and Band-Aids: Health Care in Latin America.” *Update*, no. 51. pp. 1-4.
- 1990 “Coca Farmers, Drug Traffickers, and Cocaine Users: Perspectives on the Cocaine Trade.” *Update*, no. 50, pp. 11-14.

**Service to Gustavus Adolphus College:**

- 2021 Co-commenter and discussion leader for the film, “ Pájaros de verano (Birds of Passage),” for the Latin American, Latinx, and Caribbean Studies’ annual Film Fest
- 2019-2021 Co-Chair, Global Engagement Committee.
- 2018-2023 Department Chair, Sociology and Anthropology Department.
- 2018-2021 Member, Global Engagement Committee.
- 2019 Panelist, “From Central America to the US: Teach-In on Migration.”
- 2018-present Department Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology.
- 2018-2019 Global Friend and Mentor for International Students.
- 2017-present Member, Global Engagement Committee.
- 2016-2018 Department Liaison for International Students.
- 2015-present Advisor, Hmong American Cultural Outreach Club.
- 2015-2017 Co-Chair, Faculty Development Committee.
- 2015 Host, Nobel Conference, “Addiction: Exploring the Science and Experience of an Equal Opportunity Condition.”
- 2014-2015 Member, Planning Committee, Nobel Conference, “Addiction: Exploring the Science and Experience of an Equal Opportunity Condition.”
- 2014-2017 Member, Faculty Development Committee.
- 2013 Facilitator, Workshop for the Building Bridges Conference, “Sentenced for Life: Confronting the Calamity of Mass Incarceration.”
- 2010-2011 Co-Chair, Faculty Development Committee.
- 2010-2011 Member, ELL (English Language Learners) Action Committee.
- 2009 Member, Third-year Review Committee for Maria Isabel Kalbermatten, Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Department.

- 2009 Member, First-year Review Committee for William Teipe, Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Department.
- 2008-2011 Member, Faculty Development Committee.
- 2006-2013 Mentor, Mentoring for Student Success program.
- 2004- 2006 *Sal y Luz* (Salt and Light) Partnership between Gustavus and Lutheran World Relief.
- 2000-2005 Member, Executive Committee, Women's Studies.
- 2000-2005 Chair, Student Affairs Committee, Women's Studies.
- 1999-present Member, Peace Studies Committee.
- 1999-present Member, Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies Committee (Formerly Women's Studies Committee).
- 1999-present Advisor, Hmong Cultural Outreach Club (formerly Asian Cultures Club).
- 1999-2002 Member, Faculty Development Committee, Women's Studies.
- 1999-2000 Member, Interdisciplinary Studies Working Group, Gustavus Adolphus College.
- 1998-present Member, Latin American, Latinx, and Caribbean Studies (LALCS) Committee.
- 1998-2007 Director, Criminal Justice Program, Gustavus Adolphus College.

**Professional Service Experience:**

- 2016 Panel Organizer and Chair, "Ambivalent Legality: The Cultural Politics of (De)criminalization in Colombia." Panel presented at the Annual Latin American Studies Association Conference, New York City.
- 2015 Discussant and Chair, "Evolving Conceptions of Violence and Security in Latin America." Panel presented at Annual Latin American Studies Association Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2014 Panel Organizer, "Marca Colombia: The Marketing of Colombian Public Policies." Panel presented at the Annual Latin American Studies Association Conference, Chicago.
- 2008 External master's thesis reviewer for Stephanie deFrance Schmitt, Hamline University.
- 2006 Panel Organizer, "On and off the Streets: Urban Life and Social Conflict in Latin America, Past and Present." Panel presented at the Annual Latin American Studies Association Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2003 Panel Organizer, "Cartographies of Citizenship: Place, Space and Strategies of Localization in the Urban Americas." Panel presented at the Annual Latin American Studies Association Conference, Dallas, Texas.

- 2001 Panel Organizer, "The Fragmentation of the Social Body: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Citizenship and Exclusion and Inclusion in Urban Latin America." Panel presented at the Annual Latin American Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C.
- 2001 Panel Organizer, "The Fragmentation of the Social Body: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Citizenship and Exclusion and Inclusion in Urban Latin America." Panel presented at the Annual Latin American Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C.
- 1999 Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs (HECUA) Fellow, South American Urban Semester Program.
- 1998 Panel Organizer, "La apertura cerrada: Human Rights in Colombia." Panel presented at the Annual Latin American Studies Association Conference, Chicago.
- 1998-2008 Member, Steering Committee, the Colombia section of the Latin American Studies Association.
- 1998 Panel Organizer, "La apertura cerrada: Human Rights in Colombia." Panel presented at the Annual Latin American Studies Association Conference, September 1998, Chicago.
- 1997-1998 Council Member, the Colombia section of the Latin American Studies Association.
- 1997-present Reviewer for the Sociological Quarterly.
- 1996-1999 Reviewer for Political Geography.
- 1990 Conference Organizer, Annual Meeting of Illinois Conference of Latin Americanists ("Recent Research and Developments on Latin America"), Urbana-Champaign, Illinois. The conference had 27 panels dealing with all areas of Latin American and Caribbean Studies and over 100 participants.
- 1990 Panel Organizer, "Long-Term and Short-Term Perspectives on the Drug Issue in the U.S. and Latin America," Annual Meeting of Illinois Conference of Latin Americanists, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

**Selected Public Service Experience:**

- 2011 Presenter, "A Trade without Borders: The Cocaine Trade and U.S. Drug Policy." A coffee hour presentation at Global Citizen's Network, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2006 Presenter, "The Colombian Conflict and Its Main Actors," Presented to a Lutheran World Relief (LWR) delegation, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2001 Presenter, "U.S. Drug Policy and the Colombian Conflict." Presented to Semana (an association of parents of adopted Colombian children), Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

- 2001            Presenter, “From Codefor to Colombia: The Consequences of the Drug War.” A one-day workshop held at the Resource Center of the Americas, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 1994            Presenter, “The Construction of Images of Latinos and Latin Americans.” Presented at “Relating Latinos and Latin America: A Teachers Workshop,” University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1990            Presenter, “The Use of Videos in Latin American Studies and the Classroom.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of Illinois Conference of Latin Americanists, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

**Languages:**

Spanish--fluency in reading, writing, and speaking

Portuguese--fluency in reading

**Professional Memberships:**

American Sociological Association

Sociologists for Women in Society

Latin American Studies Association