CLASS OF 2013

Norh Albloushi

I am from Saudi Arabia. I received my bachelor's degree from King Saud University in Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia. In sociology I am interested in many areas in sociology, such as women studies, families, and children. After I finish my MA in sociology, I plan to get my PHD in medical sociology.

Yinsheng "Tiger" Cheng

I'm from China. I received my B.A. from Anhui University in China and majored in Chinese literature. My primary interests in sociology include immigrant issues, religion and social conflict. I haven't decided what I will do after receiving my M.A.

Josiah Grover

I completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Minnesota Duluth, in the department of Sociology/Anthropology, with a minor in Economics. My current research involves aspects of Political/Economic Sociology, Medical Sociology, and International Comparative Sociology. I am also very interested in Quantitative Methodology and computing, and have been working with Prof. Jun Xu on an applied social statistics working group. Apart from sociology I enjoy biking, running, hiking, movies, music and many varieties of beer. I am currently applying to PhD programs.

Heather Harduk

I received my bachelor's degree from Baptist Bible College of Clarks Summit in Pennsylvania with a major in Counseling. My current sociological interests include Criminology and Race/Ethnicity. After completing my MA at Ball State, I plan to work in the criminal justice field and psychological profiling.

David Staggs

I have lived in the Muncie area since 1997 and received my Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Ball State University in December of 2010. My primary research interests include mass media and sociopolitical issues. After obtaining my Master's Degree, I hope to teach Sociology at the community college level.

Jill Stewart

I am from St. Louis, MO and completed my undergraduate degree at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville with a major in psychology, minor in anthropology. My research interests are in media, gender and sexuality. I would like to work for a non-profit organization or in the consumer marketing research field after graduation.

Shawn Teague

I am from Muncie, IN. I completed my undergrad degree at Eastern University in St. Davids, PA. My degree was in Sociology and Spanish. My main interest is income inequality. I hope to pursue a PhD after I get my MA from Ball State.

Elizabeth Waters

I grew up in Maine, spent a year of high school in Finland, and lived in Boston for five years while completing my bachelor's degree in International Affairs from Northeastern University. My research interests revolve around gender and educational achievement, specifically as they relate to participation on youth exchange and study abroad. After graduating from Ball State, I hope to find a

job in the field of study abroad.

Augusta Wray

I was born and raised in Muncie, Indiana, and try as I might, I still haven't been able to leave! I received my bachelor's degree in General Studies (focus on Anthropology, Computer Applications, and Political Science) and my Master's degree in Information and Communication Sciences both from Ball State University. I am employed full-time at BSU in the Sponsored Programs Office as a Proposal Manager. My research interests include anonymity, communications, cyberculture, hacktivism, the Internet, social networks, end-user experience, and technology as it relates to society. I'm still fairly undecided on what I will do once I graduate.

CLASS OF 2014

Sawsan Aldaadi

Sawsan is from Saudi Arabia and earned a degree in social work from Umm Al-Qura University. Sawsan would like to use sociology to help address community issues and would eventually like to be a professor.

Doreen Ayugi

I am from Kenya. I received my bachelor's degree in Development Studies at Uganda Christian University. I received a post-graduate diploma in Project Management and worked with non-government organizations in women's and children's rights and empowerment issues.

Elaina Johns-Wolfe

I am from North Manchester, Indiana and currently reside in Fort Wayne, IN. I completed my undergraduate degree at Ball State University in 2011 and have spent the last year working on my M.A. at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne. My substantive research interests include urban sociology (with specific regard to housing and neighborhoods), social change, and social problems. Upon completion of this degree, I hope to attend a Ph.D. program to develop my skillset further.

Kurtis McCoin

I was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. I attended Ball State University where I received my B.A. in Sociology and History with a minor in Anthropology. My research interests are lower income individuals/families and their roles in society, self & society, and social movements/conflicts. After finishing my M.A. at Ball State University I plan to do work in institutional research with a focus on families living in poverty.

Jack Osben

I am from Oklahoma, though had relocated to Arkansas a number of years ago. I received B.A. degrees in both Psychology and Sociology from Arkansas Tech University. My research interests are somewhat broad and include family, gender, sexuality, and social movements. I hope to pursue a Ph.D. after receiving my M.A. from Ball State and teach at the university level.

Zachary Palmer

I'm from Kirksville, Missouri and got my B.S. in sociology there at Truman State University. My areas of interest in sociology are religion, social psychology, and gender. After I graduate I plan on going on for my Ph.D.

Anthony Rodriguez

I was born and grew up in France where I received my B.A. in English and Education at Nancy 2 University. After a year at Ball State as a French assistant, I applied to a Master's program in Sociology. My main interests are Education and Religion, especially the impact of pupils' religious and cultural background on their schooling.

Nathan Rush

I grew up in Hammond, Indiana and lived in Montreal and Chicago before completing a B.A. in French at Ball State in 2009. After a stop in Lexington, Kentucky, I graduated from Northwestern University with an M.S.Ed. in Higher Education Administration and Policy in 2011. Prior to returning to Ball State I spent a year working as an Admission Counselor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. My research interests include education, specifically higher education; student engagement and activism; and multiculturalism/internationalism in education. I plan to pursue a Ph.D. in Sociology after completing this program.

Kaley Schoeph

Native to Indiana, I grew up in Columbia City and received my B.S. in Sociology and Psychology from Ball State University. My research interests include a wide variety of topics, but my general focus relates to the study of educational institutions. After completing my M.A. from Ball State, I hope to work for an Institutional Research board on a College campus to help with their data needs and guide them to making effective, data based decisions.

Katherine Zeininger

I am from Waupun, Wisconsin. I completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater where I majored in Sociology and minored in Family and Health Studies. My sociological interests include gender, sexuality, and inequality. After earning my M.A. at Ball State, I hope to pursue my Ph.D.

WHERE THEY ARE NOW: GRADUATES OF BALL STATE'S SOCIOLOGY MA PROGRAM

Daniel R. Flowers (class of 2008)

I am currently the Assistant Director of Institutional Research at Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, IN. In this role I assist with the data needs of the College both internal and external. This involves the collection, analyzing, and reporting of data so that the College can hopefully make effective data driven decisions. In terms of how the M.A. in Sociology at BSU helped--well, the skills related to data analysis (both quantitative and qualitative), research design/methodology and survey design have allowed me to function effectively in my role and hopefully make the data more useful for the College in decision making. In addition, the critical thinking skills (often overlooked) developed during the Master's program at Ball State have allowed me to tackle complex issues in a more thoughtful manner. This applies not only professionally but personally as well. I can honestly say that not a day goes by that I don't think about the world (both global and otherwise) in manner that was heavily influenced by my experience as a Sociology student at Ball State. For this, far beyond the professional skill-set, I am forever indebted and thankful.

Cheri Ellefson Terhune (class of 2012)

Almost immediately after defending my thesis this summer and graduating in July (2012), I accepted two teaching jobs for the fall. I will teach Sociology 100 to 50 students at IU East Richmond, and an online 400-level Sociology of Women course at the University of North Carolina Charlotte. I am

freelance writing between teaching positions. I'm also coordinating the marketing for a local Muncie non-profit association and was elected president of Muncie Young Professionals for 2012-2013, an organization that provides professional development opportunities for young business professionals in the area.

Nora Hall (class of 2010)

I'm currently working for Express Scripts Pharmacy as an Internal Trainer/Customer Service Representative for oncology patients. It isn't how I imagined using my degree but I'm truly happy with what I do. Some of the skills I learned in the sociology master's program have definitely helped me in my position. The presentation skills I learned have helped me train others on new and updated processes. The research skills I learned have also helped me be successful in my position because it requires strong attention to detail and sometimes a lot of research to resolve issues. Even though I haven't taken the traditional path to using my degree, the skills I learned have definitely translated to my current position.

Larry D. Long (class of 2009)

I am a student affairs administrator and chose to pursue a master's in Sociology to strengthen my research and assessment skills. The program gave me hands-on experience in developing surveys and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data. The connections I formed while at BSU have been integral to my professional success. Since graduating from BSU in 2009, I have published four research studies on the college student experience, was appointed to the assessment chair position of the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors, and have helped my department improve its use of assessment data. I currently work as a community director at Michigan State University.

Jessica Metcalf (class of 2011)

I graduated from Ball State University in May of 2011 after completing my Bachelor's and Master's degrees in the Sociology department. I am currently a second year sociology PhD student at the University of Florida and I am confident that my continued success is due to the strong foundation I created while at BSU. My primary interests are in gender and sexuality as well as the family and I have been involved with many projects exploring those fields while at Florida. More specifically, I am interested in how members of the GLBT community construct and maintain their identities and how they construct and maintain their families. My dissertation will focus on how female-to-male transgender individuals construct and maintain their masculine identities. Additionally, I am an instructor at UF; I taught Marriages and Families during the summer semester and am teaching two sections of the course this fall. I am excited about the work that I am doing and am grateful to have had my start at BSU!

Morgan Roddy (class of 2012)

I am currently a PhD student at Penn State University earning a dual-degree in Rural Sociology and Demography. My interests within sociology center primarily on food-related issues: policy, access, health, culture, labor, and production. More broadly, I am interested in medical sociology, community, social movements, economic and political sociology, and inequality. In my research, I employ both quantitative and qualitative methodologies, and I conducted semi-structured intensive interviews for my master's thesis. My goal is to contribute to an interdisciplinary approach to food policy research alongside becoming a community activist for local food systems.

Matthew Wright (class of 2011)

I am currently a Ph.D student in the sociology department at Bowling Green State University. My primary research interest within sociology focuses on family demography, particularly as it pertains to

union formation and dissolution, cohabitation, and marriage. More specifically, I am interested in family trends and examining the effects of family structure on behavior and well-being, with a focus on children and young adults. Outside of family demography, I am also interested in demography, quantitative methods, and sexuality. After earning my Ph.D, my goal is to become a sociology professor and contribute to the development of future scholars.