

SOCIOLOGY, CRIMINOLOGY, & ANTHROPOLOGY

MARCH 17TH, 2025



Hey there, Huckleberry again! I'll admit, St. Patrick's day is my favorite holiday. It gives me an excuse to break out my leprechaun hat and snack on my favorite cereal- Lucky Charms, of course! Maybe I can find my way to Ireland soon :)

FACULTY RESEARCH FEATURE:

This month, we'll be highlighting a recent study done by Dr. Matthew Moore. In one of his recent publications, he examined the different predictors of suicide by race & gender. Previous studies have shown that economic variables were some of the main driving factors for suicidal behavior. However, various demographics have different experiences in the market, as well as their community and as such, there may be different drivers of fatal suicide depending on their experience. For females, there were no economic factors found that influenced the fatal suicide rate. However, for men, both social and economic factors were found to influence their fatal suicide rate. In terms of race, social factors were more prevalent factors with nonwhite racial groups, whereas economic factors were more predictive of fatal suicide in white racial groups.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Dr. Moore at mdmoore@uca.edu

SPECIAL TOPICS SPOTLIGHT: SOC 4395- AI & SOCIETY



Recently, I was given the opportunity to sit in on Dr. Casey's AI & Society course to see what the story was. As a bonus to getting to see the class in action first-hand, I got the opportunity to sit down with Dr. Casey and get his take on the course, from the instructor's point of view. You can read the

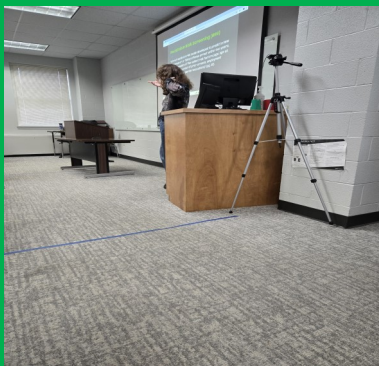
full Q&A [here](#):

In the interview, we discussed how the Course came to fruition, and what he's taken from the course as the instructor. Some of the factors included in the development of the course were the fact that AI has the potential to impact several factors about the future and as educators, are aiming to help students be prepared when entering the job market. His own personal academic interest in AI is more so geared towards the way it impacts our lives that we don't particularly expect.

In preparing to teach this course, he learned that a) there are a lot of misleading and exaggerated claims about AI that barely hold up to scrutiny (citing a study regarding AI's ability to detect skin cancer as compared to human dermatologists); and b) that humanity will ultimately reap the benefits provided by AI, citing a breakthrough from the program Alpha Fold, which detected over 200 million protein structures in a matter of months.

When asked if there's anything he would change about the course as it stands, he stated that there's not a thing he would change, and that he's lucky to be working with a group of students who are so eager to explore the material.

I also asked Dr. Casey what his favorite part of this course has been, and he quickly came back with two: the exciting challenge of teaching a course such as this for the first time, and experiencing new insights from students who challenge current thoughts on these issues.



ADVENTURES FROM COLLEGE SQUARE

Over here in SCA, we work very closely with College Square, our on-campus retirement community. You might even recognize their new activities director- our own Mary Crawford!

Back in January, Dr. McKinnon visited the residents of College Square to talk about CCC (Civilian Conservation Corp) Camps in Arkansas. This week, Dr. Bowne gave a seminar on pirates, titled "Peg Legs & Parrots: The Myth & Reality of Pirates", and that same day, Mr. Jones' Social Gerontology course went on a field trip to College Square to tour the facilities, meet some of the residents, and learn everything there is to offer from their new activities director!



HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT FEATURED? COMMENTS/CONCERNS/QUESTIONS? EMAIL CHARLIE GRANT-CGRANT2@UCA.EDU