

MICHAEL DECESARE

Merrimack College
Department of Sociology
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EMPLOYMENT

Merrimack College

Chair, Department of Sociology, 2011-Present
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, 2011-Present
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, 2007-11

California State University, Northridge

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, 2004-07
Teachers for a New Era Faculty Fellow, 2004-07

EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts

Ph.D., Sociology, 2004

Southern Connecticut State University

M.S., Sociology, 1999

University of Connecticut

B.A., Sociology, 1997
Certificate in Criminal Justice, 1997

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Zake, Ieva and Michael DeCesare (eds.). 2011. *New Directions in Sociology: Essays on Theory and Methodology in the 21st Century*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland.

DeCesare, Michael. 2007. *A Discipline Divided: Sociology in American High Schools*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

Chapters

- DeCesare, Michael. 2011. "'Shut Up in Measureless Content': Toward Improving Measurement in Sociology." Pp. 145-159 in *New Directions in Sociology: Essays on Theory and Methodology in the 21st Century*, edited by Ieva Zake and Michael DeCesare. Jefferson, NC: McFarland.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2009. "Presenting Sociology's Four 'Faces': Problems and Prospects for the High School Course." Pp. 187-204 in *Handbook of Public Sociology*, edited by Vincent Jeffries. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Boyns, David and Michael DeCesare. 2006. "Assessing Student Learning in Service-Learning Internships." Pp. 78-81 in *Quick Hits for Educating Citizens*, edited by James L. Perry and Steven G. Jones. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- DeCesare, Michael. In press. "Questions Upon a Quinquagenary: Assessing the Pedagogical Importance of Peter Berger's *Invitation to Sociology*." *Sociological Imagination* 50(2).
- DeCesare, Michael. 2013. "Toward an Interpretive Approach to Social Movement Leadership." *International Review of Modern Sociology* 39(2):239-257.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2009. "Casting a Critical Glance at Teaching 'Critical Thinking.'" *Pedagogy and the Human Sciences* 1(1):73-77.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2008. "Sociology in U.S. High Schools." *Teaching Sociology* 36(3):254-261.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2007. "'Statistics Anxiety' Among Sociology Majors: A First Diagnosis and Some Treatment Options." *Teaching Sociology* 35(4):360-367.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2007. "A Textbook Approach to Teaching: Structural Uniformity among U.S. High School Sociology Courses." *The American Sociologist* 38(2):178-190.
- Emmelman, Debra S. and Michael DeCesare. 2007. "College Students' Perceptions of Their 'Best' and 'Worst' Courses and Instructors." *International Review of Modern Sociology* 33(2):227-244.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2007. "A 'Mixed Bag': The Structure of High School Sociology Courses." *Sociological Imagination* 43(1):5-17.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2006. "What Determines Whether Sociology is Taught in High School?" *Michigan Sociological Review* 20:211-229.

- DeCesare, Michael. 2006. “‘It’s Not Rocket Science!’: High School Sociology Teachers’ Conceptions of Sociology.” *The American Sociologist* 37(1):51-67.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2005. “The High School Sociology Teacher.” *Teaching Sociology* 33(4):345-354.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2005. “95 Years of Teaching High School Sociology.” *Teaching Sociology* 33(3):236-251.
- **Translated as: DeCesare, Michael. 2014. “95 Anos de Ensino de Sociologia no Ensino Medio.” *Educação & Realidade* 39(1):113-137.**
- DeCesare, Michael. 2004. “‘Apathetic, Active, or Antagonistic’: A History of the American Sociological Association’s Involvement in High School Sociology.” *The American Sociologist* 35(1):102-123.
- **Winner of ASA History of Sociology Section’s 2004 Graduate Student Paper Award**
- DeCesare, Michael. 2003. “On Being a Graduate Teaching Assistant.” *The Journal of Graduate Teaching Assistant Development* 9(3):149-158.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2003. “The Impact of Sociological Orientation on Pedagogy: A Reconsideration of Teacher Training in Sociology Ph.D. Departments.” *The American Sociologist* 34(3):73-96.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2002. “The Lesson to be Learned: The Past Troubles and Future Promise of Teaching High School Sociology.” *Teaching Sociology* 30(3):302-316.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2000. “Public Attitudes Toward Euthanasia and Suicide for Terminally Ill Persons: 1977 and 1996.” *Social Biology* 47(3-4):264-276.

Editor-Reviewed Articles and Blog Posts

- DeCesare, Michael. 2014. “When ‘Leaders’ Attack—Each Other.” *Academe Blog*. Posted May 15, 2014 (<http://academeblog.org/2014/05/15/when-leaders-attack-each-other/>).
- DeCesare, Michael. 2014. “Cops and Robbers at the University of Southern Maine.” *Academe Blog*. Posted March 31, 2014 (<http://academeblog.org/2014/03/31/cops-and-robbers-at-the-university-of-southern-maine/>).
- DeCesare, Michael. 2013. “‘Just Say No’—Now.” *Academe Blog*. Posted August 23, 2013 (<http://academeblog.org/2013/08/23/justy-say-no-now/>).
- DeCesare, Michael. 2013. “How Do We Edit Sociology? Some Thoughts on Introductory Readers.” *Teaching/Learning Matters* 42(1):12-13.

- DeCesare, Michael. 2013. "Merrimack College Hosts Massachusetts AAUP Conference Fall Meeting." *Massachusetts Forum: The Massachusetts AAUP Conference Newsletter* 18(1):1.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2012. "Administrators ≠ Leaders." *Academe Blog*. Posted October 5, 2012 (<http://academeblog.org/2012/10/05/administrators-%E2%89%A0-leaders/>).
- DeCesare, Michael. 2012. "Business Experience as Academic Qualification? Oh, Really?" *Academe Blog*. Posted August 24, 2012 (<http://academeblog.org/2012/08/24/business-experience-as-academic-qualification-oh-really/>).
- **Reprinted as: DeCesare, Michael. 2013. "Business Experience as Academic Qualification? Oh, Really?" *Massachusetts Forum: The Massachusetts AAUP Conference Newsletter* 17(2):2.**
- DeCesare, Michael. 2012. "Troubling Developments at Appalachian State." *Academe Blog*. Posted April 23, 2012 (<http://academeblog.org/2012/04/23/troubling-developments-at-appalachian-state/>).
- DeCesare, Michael. 2012. "David Levy's Faulty Attack on Professors." *Academe Blog*. Posted April 2, 2012 (<http://academeblog.org/2012/04/02/david-levys-faulty-attack-on-professors/>).
- DeCesare, Michael. 2011. "'Time for a New Curriculum for Social Statistics?' A Negative Answer." *Teaching/Learning Matters* 39(3):3-5.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2009. "On Carla Howery." *Teaching/Learning Matters* 38(1):5.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2008. "How the CLEP Introductory Sociology Exam Hurts: A Skeptical Response to Harrison and Singer." *Teaching/Learning Matters* 37(2):3-4.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2008. "Rejoinder to Professor Persell." *ASA Footnotes* 36(2):8.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2007. "AP or not AP: That is the Question." *ASA Footnotes* 35(9):6-7.
- DeCesare, Michael and Afshan Jafar. 2007. "On Perpetuating Stereotypes and Ghettoizing Gender: A Comment on Epstein's 2006 ASA Presidential Address." *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter* 38(2):24-27.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2007. "Studying High School Sociology: Recent, Current, and Future Approaches." *Teaching/Learning Matters* 35(3):7-8.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2005. "On Intellectual Collaborators and Resisters: A Response to Ferraro's 2004 SSSP Presidential Address." *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter* 36(2):9-12.

DeCesare, Michael, Patricia O'Donnell Brummett, and Justin Weiss. 2005. "Mentoring to Overcome Struggles and Inspire Courage (MOSAIC)." Pp. 78-82 in *Service-Learning and Undergraduate Sociology: Syllabi and Instructional Materials*, 3rd ed., edited by JoAnn DeFiore, Morten G. Ender, and Brenda M. Kowalewski. Washington, DC: American Sociological Association.

DeCesare, Michael and Jeff Lashbrook. 2004. "The Status of High School Sociology: Some Recommendations." *ASA Footnotes* 32(4):4-5.

DeCesare, Michael. 2004. "Bloom's Taxonomy." Pp. 69-73 in *Education and Technology: An Encyclopedia*, vol. 1, edited by Ann Kovalchick and Kara Dawson. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO.

DeCesare, Michael A. 2002. "Locating the State of High School Sociology on the Academic Map." *ASA Footnotes* 30(2):9.

Book and Film Reviews

DeCesare, Michael. In press. *Social Movement Studies* 13(4). Comparative review of Buechler, Steven M. 2011. *Understanding Social Movements: Theories from the Classical Era to the Present*. Boulder, CO: Paradigm; Chesters, Graeme and Ian Welsh. 2011. *Social Movements: The Key Concepts*. New York: Routledge; Opp, Karl-Dieter. 2009. *Theories of Political Protest and Social Movements: A Multidisciplinary Introduction, Critique, and Synthesis*. New York: Routledge.

DeCesare, Michael. 2011. *Mobilization* 16(3):395-396. DeFronzo, James. 2011. *Revolutions and Revolutionary Movements*. 4th ed. Boulder, CO: Westview.

DeCesare, Michael. 2011. *Social Movement Studies* 10(3):320-322. Cruse, Harold. 2009. *Rebellion or Revolution?* Minneapolis: University of Minnesota.

DeCesare, Michael. 2009. *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter* 40(1):6, 50. Nicol, Neal and Harry Wylie. 2006. *Between the Dying and the Dead: Dr. Jack Kevorkian's Life and the Battle to Legalize Euthanasia*. Madison, WI: Terrace Books.

DeCesare, Michael. 2008. *Teaching Sociology* 36(2):165-167. Wagner, William E., III. 2007. *Using SPSS for Social Statistics and Research Methods*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge.

DeCesare, Michael. 2007. *Contemporary Sociology* 36(6):597-598. Bulman, Robert C. 2005. *Hollywood Goes to High School: Cinema, Schools, and American Culture*. New York: Worth.

- DeCesare, Michael. 2007. *Humanity & Society* 31(2-3):277-278. Lavi, Shai J. 2005. *The Modern Art of Dying: A History of Euthanasia in the United States*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2006. *Teaching Sociology* 34(1):89-90. Schacht, Steven P. and Jeffery E. Aspelmeier. 2005. *Social and Behavioral Statistics: A User-Friendly Approach*. 2d ed. Boulder, CO: Westview.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2005. *Contemporary Sociology* 34(4):420-421. Pusser, Brian. 2004. *Burning Down the House: Politics, Governance, and Affirmative Action at the University of California*. Albany, NY: State University of New York.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2004. *Contemporary Sociology* 33(1):103-105. Biddle, Bruce J. and Lawrence J. Saha. 2002. *The Untested Accusation: Principals, Research Knowledge, and Policy Making in Schools*. Westport, CT: Ablex.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2003. *Teaching Sociology* 31(4):500-502. Woodworth, Jessica. 2002. *The Virgin Diaries*. Brooklyn, NY: First Run/Icarus.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2002. *Teaching Sociology* 30(3):388-389. Yates, Pam. 2000. *Brotherhood of Hate*. Brooklyn, NY: First Run/Icarus.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2001. *Teaching Sociology* 29(3):376-377. McKinney, Kathleen, Frank D. Beck, and Barbara S. Heyl (eds.). 2001. *Sociology Through Active Learning: Student Exercises*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2001. *Connecticut AAUP Vanguard* 21(4):4-5. Roth, John K. (ed.). 1997. *Inspiring Teaching: Carnegie Professors of the Year Speak*. Bolton, MA: Anker.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2001. *Connecticut AAUP Vanguard* 21(3):4. Ferber, Marianne A. and Jane W. Loeb (eds.). 1997. *Academic Couples: Problems and Promises*. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, SESSIONS, AND WORKSHOPS

- DeCesare, Michael. 2014. “‘They’ll Be After Me For This’: Jack Kevorkian and the Rebirth of the Right-to-Die Movement.” *Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association*. (Accepted)
- DeCesare, Michael. 2014. “Questions Upon a Quinquagenary: Assessing the Pedagogical Importance of Peter Berger’s *Invitation to Sociology*.” *Annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society*.
- DeCesare, Michael. 2013. “Employing Everyday Tactics in the Fight Against Corporatization.” *Annual Conference of the American Association of University Professors*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2011. AAUP Shared Governance Conference and Workshops. *American Association of University Professors*. (Attendee)

Zake, Ieva and Michael DeCesare. 2011. "New Voices in Sociological Theory." *Annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society*. (Co-Organizer)

DeCesare, Michael and Ieva Zake. 2011. "New Voices in Sociological Methodology." *Annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society*. (Co-Organizer)

DeCesare, Michael. 2010. "'Shut Up in Measureless Content': Toward Improving Measurement in Sociology." *Annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2009. "Jack Kevorkian as a 'Marginal Movement Leader': Reconceptualizing Social Movement Leadership." *Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2008. "Sociology in U.S. High Schools." *Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2007. "The Structure of High School Sociology Courses: Concerns, Causes, and Consequences." *Annual meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2006. "A New Approach to Diagnosing and Treating 'Statistics Anxiety.'" *Annual meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2005. "95 Years of Teaching High School Sociology." *Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2005. "What Determines Whether Sociology is Taught in High School?" *Annual meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2004. "'A Jack of All Trades and Master of None': The High School Sociology Teacher." *Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association*.

DeCesare, Michael and Jeffrey Lashbrook. 2003. Workshop on "Teaching Sociology in High School." *Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association*. (Co-Leader)

DeCesare, Michael. 2003. Institute on Statistical Analysis for Education Policy. *Annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association*. (Invited Participant)

DeCesare, Michael. 2003. "The Impact of Sociological Orientation on Pedagogy: A Reconsideration of Teacher Training in Sociology Graduate Departments." *Annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2003. "Should We Train Sociology Graduate Students to Teach?" *University of Massachusetts, Sociology Graduate Student Colloquium*.

Emmelman, Debra S. and Michael DeCesare. 2002. "College Course and Instructor Evaluations: Some Results from a Survey of Students Enrolled in Lower-Level Sociology Courses." *Annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2001. "Changes in Attitudes Toward the Voluntary Termination of Life as a Reflection of Public Confidence in Medicine and Belief in Individual Autonomy." *Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association*.

DeCesare, Michael. 2000. "Correlates of Attitudes Toward Euthanasia, 1977 to 1996." *Annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems*.

DeCesare, Michael. 1999. "Behavior at Stop Signs: A Matter of Convenience and Threat of Danger." *Annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society*.

GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

American Sociological Association

SAGE/Pine Forge Teaching Innovations & Professional Development Award, 2009

Teaching Enhancement Fund Grant, 2005-06

History of Sociology Section's Graduate Student Paper Award, 2004

Merrimack College

Faculty Development Grant, 2014

Faculty Development Grant, 2010

Faculty Development Grant, 2008-09

California State University, Northridge

Faculty Summer Research Support Grant, 2006

Faculty Research Grant, 2005-06

Faculty Summer Research Support Grant, 2005

New Faculty Research Grant, 2004-05

University of Massachusetts

Graduate School Fellowship, 2003-04

Andy B. Anderson Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor in Sociology, 2002

Division of Continuing Education Certificate of Appreciation for Demonstrating Excellence in Teaching, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

American Association of University Professors

Academic Freedom Fund Governing Board, 2014-Present

American Sociological Association

High School Planning Program Advisory Panel, 2012-Present
High School Affiliates Program Advisory Committee, 2011-Present
Editorial Board, *Teaching Sociology*, 2009-12
Publications Committee, Section on Teaching and Learning, 2009-11
Webmaster, Section on Teaching and Learning, 2009-11
Webmaster, Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements, 2009-11
Massachusetts Representative for High School Sociology, 2007-Present
California Representative for High School Sociology, 2005-07

Pacific Sociological Association

Committee on Membership, 2007-08
Committee on Teaching, 2007-08

Merrimack College

Faculty Senate Executive Committee, 2013-14 (One-Year At-Large Replacement)
Appointment, Rank, and Tenure Committee (Alternate), 2013-14
President, AAUP Chapter, 2012-Present
Webmaster, AAUP Chapter, 2012-Present
Faculty Development Committee, 2011-13 (Chair, 2011-12)
Faculty Senate Executive Committee, 2009-11 (Treasurer, 2009-10; At-Large, 2010-11)
Library Advisory Committee, 2009-11
Calendar Advisory Committee, 2008-09
College Wide Council, 2007-09
Alpha Kappa Delta Chapter Advisor, Department of Sociology, 2008-Present
Student Association of Sociology Advisor, Department of Sociology, 2007-08, 2013-Present
Webmaster, Department of Sociology, 2007-Present

California State University, Northridge

Teachers for a New Era Faculty Fellow, 2004-07
University Assessment Department Liaison, 2005-06
Teacher Education Committee, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (CSBS), 2005-07
Social Science Subject Matter Course Development Committee, CSBS, 2005-07
Social Science Subject Matter Program Committee, CSBS, 2004-07
Committee on Program Review and Assessment, Department of Sociology, 2004-07
Faculty Retreat Committee, Department of Sociology, 2004-07
Career Fair Committee, Department of Sociology, 2004-07
Professional Sociology Student Association Faculty Advisor, 2004-07

University of Massachusetts (Graduate Student Representative)

Committee for Intellectual Activities, Department of Sociology, 2003-04
Recruitment Committee, Department of Sociology, 2003
Undergraduate Policy Committee, Department of Sociology, 2002-03

COURSES TAUGHT

Community Gang Prevention
Culture and Personality
Introduction to Sociology
Research Methodology

Social Movements
Social Problems
Sociology of Education
Statistical Analysis

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Association of University Professors
American Sociological Association
Eastern Sociological Society

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

History of Sociological Thought
Research Methods
Social Movements

Sociology of Education
Statistics
Teaching and Learning

REFERENCES

Available upon request