



2026 STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS AND OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

sponsored by the

Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)

The Divisions are pleased to announce the **2026 Student Paper Competitions and Outstanding Scholarship Awards**.

To be considered for any of the Student Paper Competitions, applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Applicants must be students at the time of submission.
- Papers must be submitted through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#). This ensures that winning papers are both designated and included in the Annual Meeting program.
- Papers are not eligible if they have been published or accepted for publication before submission.
- Papers are not eligible if they have been presented previously at SSSP or presented or accepted for presentation at other professional meetings, unless substantially revised with new data, findings, or theoretical contributions.
- Papers must be student authored or student co-authored and cannot be co-authored with a faculty member.
- Students may submit to only one division.

PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

The submission deadline for the Call for Papers and the Student Paper Competitions is **11:59 p.m. (Eastern Time) on January 31, 2026**.

COMMUNITY, RESEARCH, AND PRACTICE: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Community, Research, and Practice Division](#) announces its 2026 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Paper topics can focus on various aspects of communities, including their capacity, development, renewal, and relationship with other social issues or problems. Qualitative and quantitative empirical analyses, applied research, and theoretical papers are welcome. To be eligible for submission, a paper must not be published nor accepted for publication (but it may be submitted for publication, and it may be accepted for publication after submission). Papers must be student-authored; they may be authored by a single student or co-authored by more than one student but may not be co-authored by a faculty member or other non-student. Papers must not exceed 25 double-spaced pages (including all notes, references, and tables), and should include a brief abstract. To be eligible for the award, the author(s) must commit to present the paper at a session during the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting in New York City.

To be considered, submit:

- (a) a copy of the manuscript,
- (b) a cover letter specifying that the paper is to be considered in the Community, Research, and Practice Division Graduate Student Paper Competition, and
- (c) a short letter from each author's advisor certifying the person's status as a student and including some brief comments about the research.

All materials must be submitted electronically to the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) on the SSSP conference website by January 31, 2026, and sent to the Division Chair, Dr. Sarah Stanlick, email: sstanlick@wpi.edu. Please note that students may only submit to one division. The winner will receive a \$100 cash award, an electronic certificate of recognition, student membership and conference registration provided by the SSSP, and recognition at the SSSP Awards Ceremony.

COMMUNITY, RESEARCH, AND PRACTICE: COMMUNITY PARTNER PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Community, Research, and Practice Division](#) announces its 2026 Community Partner Paper Competition. Consistent with our division's mission, this paper award is intended to recognize rigorous academic work that has practical implications for members of marginalized communities and, specifically, to celebrate community-engaged work.

Paper topics can focus on various social issues and problems related to community, such as the causes and consequences of communities' exclusion or marginalization from processes and resources, the capacities and strengths of communities and community movements, and the development and changes within communities. Qualitative and quantitative empirical analyses, applied research, and theoretical papers are welcome.

The following criteria for this award were developed based on standards of Community Based Research. Although papers do not need to meet all of these criteria, greater consideration will be given to research that demonstrates more of these criteria:

- Research questions and/or focus reflects priorities of community partners;
- Research encourages involvement of community in all aspects of research design including data collection methods to incorporate language, perspectives and experiences of participants;
- Research encourages involvement of community in analysis and writing of paper, including co-authorship with community;
- Research process provides member access to one another's expertise, demonstrating an appreciation of academic and local community knowledge;
- Results are 'owned' by the community;
- Research has consequences for guiding social action, policy or program change for community;
- Research democratizes and decolonizes the knowledge creation process by re-imagining relationships between researchers and subjects of research.

Papers may be pre-published or published in 2023-present. Papers may be co-authored by more than one faculty member, community member and/or student. Community partners are characterized by any community-based entity or representative that is outside of the academy. Papers must not exceed 25 double-spaced pages (including all notes, references, and tables), and should include a brief abstract. To be eligible for the award, the author(s) must make a commitment to present the paper at a session during the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting in New York City.

To be considered, submit:

- (a) a copy of the manuscript,
- (b) a cover letter specifying that the paper is to be considered in the Community, Research, and Practice Division Community Partner Paper Competition, and
- (c) a brief letter from the community partner commenting on their role in the paper.

All materials must be submitted electronically to the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) on the SSSP conference website by January 31, 2026, and sent to the Division Chair, Dr. Sarah Stanlick, email: sstanlick@wpi.edu. The winner will receive recognition at the Community, Research, and Practice Division business meeting.

COMMUNITY, RESEARCH, AND PRACTICE: STUDENT PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Community, Research, and Practice Division](#) announces its 2026 Student Public Scholarship Award. These awards seek to recognize undergraduate and graduate student research that improves public welfare, broadly understood, and/or improves the lives of research participants, and generates non-traditional scholarly products presented in a manner that is widely accessible to targeted audiences and/or the general public. Acceptable submissions include publicly disseminated works, such as Op-Eds, public media appearances, infographics, policy briefs, program evaluations, white papers, reports, translations of scientific or other scholarly findings into accessible formats, site revitalization plans, concept maps, videos, or other creative products designed to respond to and inform broader publics.

Submissions should include a brief abstract and a copy of the work. To be eligible for the award, the author(s) must commit to present the work at a session during the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting in New York City and be willing to share the work on the Society for Social Problems website and related social media.

To be considered, submit:

- (a) a copy of the work,
- (b) a cover letter specifying that the work is to be considered in the Community, Research, and Practice Division Public Scholarship Competition, and indicate if you are applying to the Undergraduate or Graduate Student award, and
- (c) a short letter from each author's advisor certifying the person's status as a student and including some brief comments about the research.

All materials must be submitted electronically to the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) on the SSSP conference website by January 31, 2026, and sent to the Division Chair, Dr. Sarah Stanlick, email: sstanlick@wpi.edu. The winner will receive recognition at the Community Research and Development Division business meeting. There will be one Undergraduate Student winner and one Graduate Student winner; each will receive a \$100 cash award and recognition at the Community, Research, and Practice Division business meeting.

CONFLICT, SOCIAL ACTION, AND CHANGE: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Conflict, Social Action, and Change Division](#) (CSAC) is excited to announce its 2026 Graduate Student Paper Award. We invite graduate students to submit empirically grounded papers that make a theoretical and/or methodological contribution to the study of collective conflict, social action, and social change. Submissions may address (but are not limited to) the following themes: political conflict, repression, and violence; social movement mobilization and protest; peacebuilding and conflict transformation; criminal justice reform; resistance and norm contestation; and institutional change.

Guidelines for submission are as follows:

- A paper must not yet be published or accepted for publication at the time of submission (it can, however, be under review).
- Papers must be authored by a current graduate student (either solely or co-authored by more than one graduate student) and may not be co-authored by a faculty member or other non-student.
- At least one of the authors must be a member of the SSSP to qualify for the award.
- Papers should not exceed 50 double-spaced pages, inclusive of all notes, references, and tables.
- The student may not submit the same paper to more than one division.

To be considered, submit:

- a copy of the manuscript,
- a cover letter specifying that the paper is to be considered for the CSAC Division Graduate Student Paper Competition,
- a letter from your advisor that certifies your graduate-student status and offers some brief comments about your work.

Please upload your submission to both the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) submission site AND send an electronic copy of all requested materials to the Division Chair, Sara Tehrani, at sara.tehrani@ucf.edu with the subject line: "CSAC 2026 Graduate Student Paper Award."

The winner will receive a \$150 cash award, a one-year student membership to SSSP, waiver of 2026 Conference registration fees, and an electronic certificate commemorating their superb achievement.

CONFLICT, SOCIAL ACTION, AND CHANGE: OUTSTANDING ARTICLE AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Conflict, Social Action, and Change Division](#) (CSAC) is excited to announce our Outstanding Article Award for 2026. With this award, the division aims to recognize published and pre-published work that is exemplary in its contributions to scholars and activists, advancing rigorous critical scholarship and activist-informed understandings of the character and causes of oppression, conflict, social movements, and social change central to the division's mission. Articles on a broad range of topics are welcomed (e.g., poverty, criminal justice, social movements, mobilization and protest, political conflict, repression, violence and war, peacebuilding and conflict transformation, global inequality, labor, the environment, migration, human rights, race, gender, and sexuality based oppression and inequality, the body, intersectionality, teaching for change, resistance and norm contestation, and institutional change); however, nominated articles should demonstrate commitment to social justice and research of, by, and/or for those most affected by social inequalities in the global world.

Guidelines for submission of nominations are as follows:

- Eligible articles must have been or will be published between January 1, 2020, and January 1, 2026.
- Single- or multiple-authored articles are accepted.
- At least one of the authors must be a member of the SSSP to qualify for the award.

Emailed nominations should be titled "CSAC 2026 Outstanding Paper Article Nomination" and include the following as attachments:

- a copy of the article,
- a cover letter specifying the article is to be considered for the CSAC 2026 Outstanding Article Award, describing the research, project, and/or work from which the publication originates, and a brief biographical statement and affiliation for all authors,
- current Vita(s) of the nominated author(s).

Authors are encouraged to nominate their own work. Nominations are submitted to the Division Chair, Sara Tehrani, via email at: sara.tehrani@ucf.edu. Nominees and nominated articles will be reviewed, and awardee(s) will be determined by the Outstanding Article Award Committee. The awardee(s) will receive a plaque of recognition at the CSAC business meeting and be featured in the division newsletter.

CRIME AND JUSTICE: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Crime and Justice Division](#) (CJD) invites submissions for its annual Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers submitted to the CJD Student Paper Competition may be empirical or theoretical, covering a broad range of topics in crime and justice.

Award:

The CJD winner will receive:

1. A \$150 cash prize on behalf of the CJD,
2. An electronic certificate of recognition provided by the SSSP,
3. Compensation covering membership dues and conference registration provided by the SSSP,
4. And recognition at the CJD divisional meeting and the SSSP Awards Ceremony.

While presenting at the Annual Meeting is expected and encouraged, it is not required to receive award funding.

Please note that if the paper is co-authored, there is only one cash award, one membership award, and one conference registration award provided. An electronic certificate of recognition will be provided for each co-author.

Eligibility requirements:

1. All authors must be graduate students at the time of submission to the graduate student paper competition; therefore, the paper must be student-authored or student-co-authored. The paper may not be co-authored with a faculty member.
2. The paper should not be published or accepted for publication at the time of submission.
3. Papers are not eligible if previously presented at SSSP or presented or accepted for presentation at other professional meetings, unless substantially revised with new data, findings, or theoretical contributions.
4. Papers are not eligible if you have submitted your paper to another SSSP division student paper competition. As per SSSP rules, you may only submit your paper to one division student paper competition.

Submission guidelines:

1. Recommended length is thirty pages or less, which includes tables, charts, figures, and bibliography; longer papers will be considered, but length is one criterion of evaluation.
2. Submissions should use a 12-point font, one-inch margins, and double spacing.
3. All award-winning papers will be included in the SSSP Annual Meeting program; therefore, all submissions to the CJD paper competition must also be submitted through SSSP's online Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) process as a condition for award consideration. This ensures that winning papers are placed in the program.

To submit:

Submit the cover letter confirming eligibility to the CJD Graduate Student Paper Award and your paper as a single file on this [link](https://forms.gle/W13paaZGpLjLAFUY8) (<https://forms.gle/W13paaZGpLjLAFUY8>). Please send Microsoft Word or PDF files only. The **submission deadline is January 31, 2026**, but early submissions are welcome and encouraged.

CRIME AND JUSTICE: SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Crime and Justice Division](#) (CJD) seeks nominations for its Scholarly Achievement Award.

Purpose:

The purpose of this award is to recognize and honor Crime and Justice Division members for their distinguished contributions to teaching/mentorship, scholarship, or leadership in the fields of crime and/or justice.

1. **Award category one: Teaching and/or Mentoring.** To be eligible, the nominee must be a distinguished contributor to teaching and/or mentorship in the areas of crime and/or justice, as demonstrated through educational achievements and various avenues of academic productivity. This includes, but is not limited to, recognition of teaching and/or mentoring through awards or other recognitions, publishing teaching and/or mentoring materials (e.g., Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in the areas of crime and/or justice), certificates of teacher training, unsolicited letters from students or community members, or community education via events or other contributions in the areas of crime and/or justice.
2. **Award category two: Research and Scholarship.** To be eligible, the nominee must be a distinguished contributor to scholarship in the areas of crime and/or justice, which can be demonstrated through scholarly achievements and various avenues of scholarly productivity. This includes, but is not limited to, books, articles, reviews, technical reports, grants, and papers presented to scholarly associations.
3. **Award category three: Leadership and/or Activism.** To be eligible, the nominee must demonstrate substantial leadership and/or activist contributions to the Crime and Justice Division and the SSSP, to a college/university in the areas of crime and/or justice, or to other institutions where their leadership and/or activism had a direct contribution to improving social justice responses to crime and/or justice (e.g., includes academic-community partnerships, community coalitions, government or public service).

Submission Guidelines:

1. The nominee must apply to only one award category: teaching/mentorship OR research/scholarship OR leadership/activism. Nominees who submit their application and include more than one award category will not be eligible.
2. The submission must include a nominee narrative demonstrating their scholarly contributions to teaching/mentorship, research/scholarship, or leadership/activism that is no longer than 1000 words.
3. The submission must include no more than two nomination letters supporting the nominee's noteworthy contributions to teaching/mentorship, research/scholarship, or leadership/activism.
4. The submission must include the nominee's current CV with relevant items related to the award highlighted.

Eligibility:

The nominee must be a current member of the SSSP and the CJD.

To submit:

Please submit your nomination to the CJD Scholarly Achievement Award Committee at this [link](https://forms.gle/WdKjvzrt5HgCtrWa9) (<https://forms.gle/WdKjvzrt5HgCtrWa9>). The submission deadline is **January 31, 2026**, but early submissions are welcome and encouraged.

Award:

The CJD winner will receive:

1. An engraved award plaque,
 2. Recognition at the annual CJD division meeting and in the CJD newsletter,
 3. And recognition on the Award Winner's section of SSSP's website
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CRITICAL RACE AND ETHNIC STUDY: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Critical Race and Ethnic Study Division](#) invites graduate student papers that cover any aspect within the field of race and ethnic studies to be submitted for consideration for our Graduate Student Paper Award. Authors are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) process as a condition for consideration. Each paper may only be submitted for consideration to one SSSP Division Graduate Student Paper Award. Papers may be empirical or theoretical, and must be single authored by the student. Papers must adhere to guidelines on the most current edition of the American Sociological Association's Style Guide. Length must not exceed 25 pages, including notes, tables, and references. Papers should be accompanied by a cover letter specifying their submission as consideration for the graduate student paper competition, addressed to CRES Co-Chair Foroogh Mohammadi (foroogh.mohammadi@acadiau.ca). Nominations must be received no later than January 31, 2026. The winner will be announced in early Summer 2026. The winner will be recognized at the SSSP Awards Ceremony at the upcoming SSSP meetings and will receive an electronic certificate, a \$150 honorarium, complimentary SSSP student membership, and conference registration.

Eligibility and Submission Process

- Applicants must be students at the time of submission.
- Papers must be submitted through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) process as a condition for award consideration. This ensures that winning papers are placed in the program.
- Papers are not eligible if they have been published or accepted for publication before submission.
- Papers are not eligible if previously presented at SSSP or presented or accepted for presentation at other professional meetings, unless substantially revised with new data, findings, or theoretical contributions.
- Papers must be student authored or student co-authored and cannot include faculty co-authors.
- Review the [approved annual meeting policy statements](#).
- Deadline for all SPC submissions is January 31, 2026.

CRITICAL RACE AND ETHNIC STUDY: KIMBERLÉ CRENSHAW OUTSTANDING ARTICLE AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Critical Race and Ethnic Study Division](#) is pleased to announce its call for nominations for the 2026 Kimberlé Crenshaw Outstanding Article Award. This award recognizes the author(s) of the best research article in the study of race and ethnicity published in the past three years (2022-2025). We are especially interested in articles written from a critical race studies lens.

The nomination letter should be no more than 3 pages and should explain the scholarly significance and innovations of the research article. At least one of the authors must be a member of the SSSP in order to qualify for the award, although they will not be required to present a paper at the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting. The winner will be announced in early Summer 2026. Winner(s) will be recognized at the CRES business meeting and receive a certificate of recognition.

To nominate a journal article, please email the following:

1. a copy of the article,
2. a nomination letter, and
3. contact information for the nominee(s), including email, to CRES Co-Chair Marta Maria Maldonado (marta.maldonado@oregonstate.edu).

Nominations must be received no later than January 31, 2026.

CRITICAL RACE AND ETHNIC STUDY: EDUARDO BONILLA-SILVA OUTSTANDING BOOK AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Critical Race and Ethnic Study Division](#) is pleased to announce its call for nominations for the 2026 Eduardo Bonilla-Silva Outstanding Book Award. The award honors the significant theoretical and empirical contributions Eduardo Bonilla-Silva has made to understandings of contemporary race and racism. We are interested in any books that address issues of race or racism. We are especially interested in books that make an attempt to eradicate contemporary racism, either in the U.S. or on a global scale.

Books must have been published within 3 years of the meeting (2022-2025). Single or multiple-authored books will be accepted. At least one of the authors must be a member of the SSSP in order to qualify for the award, although they will not be required to present the work at the 2026 Annual Meeting. The winner will be announced in early Summer 2026. Winner(s) will be recognized at our CRES business meeting and receive a certificate of recognition.

Nominees should first send a letter with full publication information and a paragraph outlining the reasons for their nomination to CRES Co-Chair Marta Maria Maldonado (marta.maldonado@oregonstate.edu). All nominating correspondence should include "Eduardo Bonilla-Silva Award Nomination" in the email subject heading. Once your nomination letter has been received, the Committee Chair will be in contact to let you know the mailing addresses to which copies of the book should be sent. Nominations must be received no later than January 31, 2026.

DISABILITY, MENTAL WELLNESS, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Disability, Mental Wellness, and Social Justice Division](#) enthusiastically invites student members to submit to the Student Paper Competition. Papers must be submitted through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) process as a condition for award consideration. This ensures that winning papers are placed in the program. Applicants for the Student Paper Competition must be students at the time of submission. Papers must be student authored or student co-authored and cannot include faculty co-authors. Papers are not eligible if they have been published or accepted for publication before submission or if they were previously presented at SSSP or presented or accepted for presentation at other professional meetings, unless substantially revised with new data, findings, or theoretical contributions.

Please include:

1. a cover letter indicating that you are submitting your paper for the competition; and
2. a letter from your advisor that certifies your graduate-student status and offers some brief comments about your work.

In addition, authors are required to submit their papers through the 2026 Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) online system. Please submit an electronic copy of your cover letter and your de-identified paper to Melinda

Maconi (melinda.maconi@moffitt.org) and Faisol Olaitan (olaitanfaysal@gmail.com). Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2026. The winner will be recognized at the Division Business Meeting as well as the SSSP Awards Ceremony and will receive a \$100 cash award, an electronic certificate of recognition, conference registration, and student membership.

DISABILITY, MENTAL WELLNESS, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Disability, Mental Wellness, and Social Justice Division](#) announces its Outstanding Paper Award. All division members are eligible to submit to this award. Please submit papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) process as a condition for award consideration to ensure that winning papers are placed in the program. Papers are not eligible if they have been published or accepted for publication before submission or if they were previously presented at SSSP or presented or accepted for presentation at other professional meetings. Please include a cover letter indicating that you are submitting your paper for the award. Please submit an electronic copy of your cover letter and your de-identified paper to Melinda Maconi (melinda.maconi@moffitt.org) and Faisol Olaitan (olaitanfaysal@gmail.com). Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2026. The winner will be recognized at the Division Business Meeting and will receive a \$50 cash award, an electronic certificate of recognition, and conference registration.

DRINKING AND DRUGS: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Drinking and Drugs Division](#) invites graduate students to apply for the 2026 Bruce D. Johnson Student Paper Award. The first-place winner will receive an electronic certificate of recognition, student membership in SSSP for one year, registration for the 2026 Annual Meeting, and be recognized at the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting. Papers under consideration must present original research (empirical and/or theoretical) related to drinking and/or drugs.

To be eligible, entrants must be currently enrolled in a graduate degree program and have not yet received a Ph.D., J.D., or M.D. degree at the time of submission. Applicants must have sole/primary responsibility for preparation of the paper. Please note that no faculty coauthors are allowed and, if the paper has other non-faculty co-authors, only the first author is eligible for this award. Self-nominations are permitted. Recommended length is thirty pages or less, which includes tables, charts, figures, and bibliography. Submissions should use 12-point font, one-inch margins, and double spacing.

The Division reserves the right to identify additional prizes or to not award a first-place winner at its discretion. Applicants should send an electronic copy of the paper (that does not indicate their name) and a cover letter identifying the title of the paper, the author's name and contact information, and the accredited graduate program where the applicant is a student **by 1/31/26** to Dr. Honoria Guarino (honorio.guarino@sph.cuny.edu). Please note that in order to be considered for an award, applicants are also required to submit their papers online through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#). This will ensure that winning papers are included in the program. Please be aware that per SSSP rules, a paper submission may only be made to one Division's student paper competition.

EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Educational Problems Division](#) announces its 2026 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers must address a contemporary educational problem and may be empirical or theoretical in nature. Authors must be current graduate students. In addition to single-authored papers, co-authored papers will be considered for

this award if co-authors are graduate students but not co-authored with a faculty member or colleague who is not a student. Papers are not eligible for this award if they have been published or accepted for publication before being submitted for consideration. Papers are not eligible if they have been presented previously at SSSP or presented or accepted for presentation at other professional meetings, unless they have been revised substantially with new data, findings, or theoretical contributions. Papers must not exceed 30 double-spaced pages (excluding notes, references, tables, and figures). All papers must include a 150-200 word abstract and be prepared for anonymous review with the author's name and institutional affiliation appearing only on the title page. Authors are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) process as a condition for consideration for the award to ensure the winning paper is placed on the 2026 SSSP Conference program. Students may only submit to one division.

All papers must also be submitted electronically (as a PDF attachment) to the Division Chair, Dr. Jacqueline Zalewski at jzalewski@wcupa.edu with the following email subject line: SSSP Educational Problems Student Paper Nomination. Please include your name, institutional affiliation, and contact information in the body of your email. The paper should be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Time), January 31, 2026.

Award:

1. An electronic award certificate
2. A cash stipend of \$150
3. Student membership in the SSSP
4. Conference registration to the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting
5. Recognition at the Annual Meeting Awards Ceremony
6. Recognition at the annual Educational Problems division meeting
7. Recognition in the Educational Problems newsletter
8. Recognition on the SSSP's website under award winners

ENVIRONMENT AND TECHNOLOGY: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Environment and Technology Division](#) is pleased to announce its 2026 Brent K. Marshall Graduate Student Paper Award. This award honors the late Brent Marshall's (1965-2008) personal and professional commitment to the Division and encouragement of student engagement in academic scholarship and research. Papers will be considered in the areas of environmental sociology, including, but not limited to political economy of the environment, global environmental issues, social movements and the environment, technology and society, natural disasters and society, and risk perception. The winner of the Brent K. Marshall Graduate Student Paper Award will receive an electronic certificate of recognition, a complimentary SSSP student membership, SSSP conference registration, and a cash award.

To be eligible, the paper must meet the following criteria:

1. the paper must have been written in 2025;
2. the paper must be authored by one or more students and not co-authored by faculty or a colleague who is not a student;
3. manuscripts should be limited to fewer than 10,000 words (inclusive of notes, references, and tables) and
4. the paper must not be published or accepted for publication.

Students should send their submissions to each member of the award committee: Angus Nurse (angus.nurse@aru.ac.uk), Marko Salvaggio (msalvaggio@tulane.edu), Jonathan Tollefson (most recent student winner - jonathan_tollefson@brown.edu) and Tanesha Thomas (thomasta@montclair.edu). Please note that

students may submit to only one Division for a student paper award. Authors should ensure that they receive a confirmation of receipt for their submission. In order to be considered for the Brent K. Marshall Graduate Student Paper Award, applicants are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) and the submitted paper must be included in the Annual Meeting program. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Division Chair Angus Nurse (angus.nurse@aru.ac.uk).

FAMILY, AGING, AND YOUTH: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Family, Aging, and Youth Division](#) announces its annual Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers should be of professional quality and may cover a broad range of topics regarding family, aging, and youth.

Award:

The winner and any runners-up will be announced in Spring 2026.

The first-place winner will receive:

1. a \$100 cash stipend,
2. an electronic certificate of recognition,
3. complimentary student membership,
4. complimentary conference registration, and
5. an opportunity to present their paper at the upcoming SSSP meetings in New York, New York

One runner up will receive an honorable mention with a \$25 cash stipend and electronic certificate of recognition.

Eligibility requirements:

1. All authors are graduate students at the time of submission to the graduate student paper competition; therefore, the paper must be student authored or student co-authored. The paper may not be co-authored with a faculty member or other non-student author.
2. The paper is not published, accepted, or under review for publication at the time of submission to the competition.
3. The paper has not been submitted to another SSSP division student paper competition. As per SSSP rules, you may only submit your paper to one division student paper competition.

Submission guidelines:

1. Papers should be no more than 30 pages in length, including all notes, references, and tables. Submissions should use 12-point font, one-inch margins, and double spacing.
2. In addition, authors are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) online system. Submissions must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. on January 31, 2026.

To submit:

Please email papers and a cover letter specifying that the paper is to be considered for the Family, Aging, and Youth Division Graduate Student Paper Competition to the Division Co-Chair Ami Frost at afrost@ou.edu. Please include your name, institutional affiliation, and contact information in the body of your email. Also indicate that your paper is being submitted for the Family Division Graduate Student Paper Competition in the subject line of your email. Please send Microsoft Word or PDF files only. The submission deadline is January 31,

2026, but early submissions are welcome and encouraged.

FAMILY, AGING, AND YOUTH: MAGGIE KUHN AWARD FOR SCHOLAR-ACTIVISTS

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Family, Aging, and Youth Division](#) encourages members to submit nominations for the Maggie Kuhn Award for Scholar-Activists.

Maggie Kuhn was the founder of the Gray Panthers, an intergenerational social justice organization. The Maggie Kuhn Award, established in 2014, is awarded to a scholar-activist who upholds the ideals of social and economic justice and peace for individuals of all ages, in both their scholarship and service. These ideals include, but are not limited to, honoring age, intergenerational work, and scholarship and/or activism that promotes a humane society by putting the needs of people over profits, responsibility over power, and democracy over institutions.

The award recipient will be publicly announced at the Family, Aging, and Youth 2026 Division Meeting (held at the annual conference) and receive a monetary prize of \$150 to be shared with a community organization of their choice. For more information or to nominate a scholar-activist, please email Division Co-Chair Allison Jendry James at allisonjendryjames@gmail.com.

GENDER, SEXUAL BEHAVIOR, POLITICS, AND COMMUNITIES: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division](#) (GSPC) invites graduate students to submit papers for the 2026 Graduate Student Paper Award Competition. Papers may be empirical and/or theoretical and may be on any aspect of gender and sexualities, broadly defined. Two winners will be selected: one for gender scholarship and one for sexualities (broadly).

The winners will receive a cash award of \$100, an electronic certificate of recognition, student membership in SSSP for 2026, and complimentary registration for the 2026 Annual Meeting to help the winners attend the meeting. The winners will be invited to present the winning paper at one of the GSPC sessions at the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting.

To be eligible, a paper must meet the following criteria:

1. the applicant must be a graduate student at the time of the SSSP Annual Meeting on August 6-9, 2026;
2. the applicant must be the first (lead) author on the paper;
3. the paper must not be co-authored with a faculty member or a colleague who is not a student;
4. the paper must not have been submitted to or accepted for publication;
5. the paper must not have been presented previously at SSSP or presented or accepted for presentation at other professional meetings, unless they have been revised substantially with new data, findings, or theoretical contributions;
6. the paper must not exceed 30 pages including notes, references, and tables;
7. the paper must be typed using the 12-point font in either Times New Roman or a similar sized font;
8. student papers may only be submitted to one of the SSSP division award competitions.

U.S. citizenship or permanent residency is **not** a requirement to be eligible for this award. All submitting authors are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) process as a condition for consideration for the award. Please submit your paper to be considered for the GSPC Division Graduate Student Paper Competition electronically as a Microsoft Word or PDF file to Hannah Regan at hannah.regan@case.edu and Kat Fuller at fullek5@unlv.nevada.edu. Paper submission must be dated via

electronic time/date stamp on or before 1/31/26.

GENDER, SEXUAL BEHAVIOR, POLITICS, AND COMMUNITIES: OUTSTANDING ARTICLE AWARD

Deadline: 1/15/26

The [Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division](#) (GSPC) invites members to submit papers for the 2026 Outstanding Article Award. For the 2026 award, the division will consider peer-reviewed articles published between 2024 and 2026. Publication date is determined on the basis of when the paper first becomes available online via a journal's website, **not** when it is assigned to a specific issue (i.e., as soon as a paper becomes publicly available, it is considered "published" for the purposes of this award). Papers may be empirical and/or theoretical and may be in the areas of politics of gender and sexualities, broadly defined. Two winners will be selected: one for gender scholarship and one for sexualities (broadly). The winners will receive a cash award of \$50 and will be featured in the division newsletter.

To be eligible, the article must meet the following criteria:

1. the article must have been published by a peer-reviewed journal between January 1, 2024 and January 1, 2026;
2. the article may be written by students or faculty, solo or co-authored;
3. the article may only be submitted to one SSSP division's Outstanding Scholar competition.

Winners are expected to attend the GSPC Division business meeting at the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting. Applicants must submit a brief letter explaining how their article advances gender scholarship and a PDF copy of their article to Hannah Regan at hannah.regan@case.edu and Kat Fuller at fullek5@unlv.nevada.edu. Submissions must be dated via electronic time/date stamp on or before 1/15/26. Self-nominations must be dated via electronic time/date stamp on or before 1/15/26. Self-nominations are encouraged.

GLOBAL: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Global Division](#) announces its 2026 Graduate Student Paper Competition. The goal is to encourage critical scholarship around global issues and problems. Although the concept of global encompasses an array of subject areas, paper topics must have a global focus and may include but are not limited to the following themes: Epistemologies from the Global South, Global Environmental and Climate Justice, Global Social Theory, Political Economy and Development, Health and the Global South, Global Migrations and Inequalities, Global Capital and Local Struggles, (Unequal) Knowledge production and dissemination, Neo-liberalism and the Global South, Counterhegemonic Globalizations, Human rights from global perspectives, Critical Qualitative Studies including Ethnographies, Global and Transnational Citizenship, Global Social Movements, Protests and Mobilizations, Global and Transnational Feminisms including the Global South, Global Solidarities, Transnational Organizing within the Global South, Global Public Sociology, Labor in Globalization, Families in the Global Context, Global Care Economy, Displacement and Discontents, the New Right at the global level, Transnational Communities, Indigeneity from Global Perspectives, etc.

Jointly authored papers are accepted; however, all contributing authors must be graduate students at the time of submission for the award. The award recipient will receive student membership in the SSSP, conference registration at the 2026 Annual SSSP Meeting, an electronic certificate of recognition, be recognized at the SSSP Awards Ceremony, and receive a \$200 prize. Award recipients are expected to present their papers at the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting. Papers should be accompanied by a cover letter specifying the submission to be considered for the 2026 Graduate Student Competition to the Chair of the Global Division: Beatriz Padilla (padillab@usf.edu).

Please submit the paper electronically in a format compatible with MS Word. Papers should be double-spaced and not exceed 10,000 words, including references. Authors should ensure that they receive a confirmation of receipt for their submission. Note: previous winners of this award are not eligible to compete again, and students may only submit their paper to one division competition. To be eligible, submissions must be uploaded to the [Call for Papers](#) online submission system for the SSSP Annual Meeting and sent to the chair of the Division, Beatriz Padilla (padillab@usf.edu), by January 31, 2026. See below for further details:

- Applicants must be students at the time of submission.
- Papers must be submitted through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) process as a condition for award consideration. This ensures that winning papers are placed in the program.
- Papers are not eligible if they have been published or accepted for publication before submission.
- Papers are not eligible if previously presented at SSSP or presented or accepted for presentation at other professional meetings, unless substantially revised with new data, findings, or theoretical contributions.
- Papers must be student authored or student co-authored and cannot include faculty co-authors.
- Review the [approved annual meeting policy statements](#).
- Deadline for all SPC submissions is January 31, 2026.

GLOBAL: OUTSTANDING BOOK AWARD

Deadline: 3/1/26

The [Global Division](#) announces its 2026 Outstanding Book Award. The award is intended to recognize published work of exceptional quality in the field of global issues and social problems, and to encourage critical scholarship in this area. Books on a variety of topics and themes of global relevance are considered for the award, including but not limited to the following: alternative models of globalization, global dynamics and forms of resistance to neoliberalism, transnational social movements, protests and mobilization, human rights struggles and global activism (around gender, indigeneity, race/ethnicity, migration, peace/war, social justice, etc.), transnational communities and cultural politics, global cities, global environmental and climate justice, global social problems theory, global capital and local struggles, global migrations and displacement, critical epistemologies and theorizations from the Global South, etc. We are particularly interested in books that make critical contributions to understandings of global political/social/economic/cultural/environmental dynamics.

To be eligible, books must have been published within 3 years of the annual meeting (2023-2026 for this year's award) and not have been nominated for this award previously. Single or multiple authored books will be accepted, however edited collections are excluded. At least one of the authors must be a member of the SSSP to qualify for the award, although they are not required to present a paper at the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting. Nominations can be made by members of the Global Division as well as by publishers; self-nominations are also welcome. The winner will be recognized at the 2026 Global Division business meeting.

Nominees should first send a letter with full publication information and a paragraph outlining the reasons for their nomination to Beatriz Padilla at padillab@usf.edu. All nominating correspondence should include "SSSP Global Division Outstanding Book Award Nomination" in the email subject heading. Once your nomination letter has been received, Beatriz Padilla will confirm the mailing addresses to which copies of the book should be sent directly. Authors will be requested to facilitate with their publishers that both a physical and an electronic copy of the book (if available) be sent to each member of the award committee by the nomination deadline, March 1, 2026.

HEALTH, HEALTH POLICY, AND HEALTH SERVICES: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Health, Health Policy, and Health Services Division](#) invites graduate students to apply for its annual Graduate Student Paper Award. Papers should be related to the broad Division interest, including health and illness, health policy, and health services. The recipient will receive a monetary prize of \$150, an electronic certificate of recognition, a complimentary student membership to SSSP, and complimentary conference registration. The winner will be recognized at the Division Business Meeting as well as the SSSP Awards Ceremony.

Applicants must be students at the time of submission. The paper must be student authored or student co-authored and cannot include faculty co-authors. Papers based on theses or dissertations are acceptable. Papers are not eligible if previously presented at SSSP or presented or accepted for presentation at other professional meetings, unless substantially revised with new data, findings, or theoretical contributions. Papers are not eligible if they have been published or accepted for publication before submission. Submission to other SSSP Division award competitions will disqualify the submission.

The paper submission should not exceed 30 double-spaced pages (including references) and should be prepared for anonymous review. Please include the author's information only on a separate title page document.

To be considered for the award, students must:

1. send an electronic copy of the anonymized paper, separate title page with author information, and a cover letter identifying their graduate program and verifying that they meet the eligibility criteria to Raja Staggers-Hakim (raja.staggers-hakim@uconn.edu) and Jennifer Roebuck Bulanda (bulandjr@miamioh.edu) by January 31, 2026; and
2. submit the paper for presentation at the SSSP Annual Meeting using the online submission portal (see the [Call for Papers](#)) by the conference submission deadline.

HEALTH, HEALTH POLICY, AND HEALTH SERVICES: OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Health, Health Policy, and Health Services Division](#) invites nominations for the 2026 Outstanding Scholarship Award for contributions to the study of health, health systems, health services, and/or health policy. Nominations may reflect one single, exceptional project or a larger collective body of work. Eligible submissions include a wide variety of types of scholarship (e.g., theoretical, applied) and methodological approaches. Please send a one-page cover letter (self-nominations are welcome) detailing why the nominee should receive the Outstanding Scholarship Award to Raja Staggers-Hakim (raja.staggers-hakim@uconn.edu) and Jennifer Roebuck Bulanda (bulandjr@miamioh.edu) by January 31, 2026 for consideration by the award committee. The recipient will receive a \$150 award and be recognized at the Division Business Meeting.

INSTITUTIONAL ETHNOGRAPHY: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Institutional Ethnography Division](#) is pleased to solicit papers for its 2026 George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Competition. To be considered, papers should advance institutional ethnography scholarship either methodologically or through a substantive contribution. For an overview of institutional ethnography and the purposes of the IE Division. Authors must be currently enrolled graduate students.

Submissions are to be 25 pages long or less, excluding notes, references and tables, and be submitted in Word-compatible and PDF formats, following the latest APA guidelines. An electronic letter from the student's supervisor attesting to the lead author's student status must accompany the submission. The student must be the sole author of the paper; submissions with co-authors are not allowed.

The recipient will receive a monetary prize of \$100, an electronic certificate of recognition, student membership, conference registration, and an opportunity to present the winning paper at the 2026 SSSP meetings. The winner of the 2026 paper will be invited to sit on the adjudicating panel for the 2026 paper submissions. Please note that any paper submitted for consideration for the George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Award must also be submitted through the SSSP [Call for Papers](#) to be presented at the 2026 meeting of the SSSP.

Send submissions to: Naomi Nichols (naominichols@trentu.ca), Liz Brule (e.brule@queensu.ca), and Helen Hudson (hhuds099@uottawa.ca) by January 31, 2026. Please be aware that a paper submission may only be submitted to one division.

INSTITUTIONAL ETHNOGRAPHY: DOROTHY E. SMITH AWARD FOR SCHOLAR-ACTIVISM

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Institutional Ethnography Division](#) is pleased to solicit nominations for the 2026 Dorothy E. Smith Award for Scholar-Activism. This award recognizes the activities of an individual or group who has made substantial contributions to institutional ethnographic scholar activism in either a single project or longer trajectory of work. The contributions may involve IE research conducted and used for activist ends, or it may involve activist efforts that have drawn upon or contributed to IE scholarship. The award committee invites members of the Division to send a one-page statement of the nominee to committee members Viviane Namaste (viviane.namaste@concordia.ca), Colin Hastings (c2hastings@uwaterloo.ca), and Helen Hudson (hhuds099@uottawa.ca) by January 31, 2026.

INSTITUTIONAL ETHNOGRAPHY: ALISON I. GRIFFITH DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Institutional Ethnography Division](#) is pleased to solicit nominations for the 2026 Distinguished Contribution Award. This award is designated for IE scholars who have made significant contributions to IE. The Alison I. Griffith Distinguished Contribution to Institutional Ethnography Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the field of institutional ethnography through publishing, teaching, mentoring, organizing, or other activities. The award celebrates achievements of national or international significance made by influential institutional ethnographers over the duration of their careers. The award committee invites members of the Division to send a one-page statement of the nominee to committee members Paul Luken (pluken@bellsouth.net) and Suzanne Vaughan (suzanne.vaughan@asu.edu) by January 31, 2026.

LABOR STUDIES: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Labor Studies Division](#) is soliciting graduate student papers that build on the legacy of the late Harry Braverman. Braverman's work on labor processes, his concern with the growth of large corporations, and how machinery would transform and alter work and the role of workers is as relevant today as it was when he was writing. The Braverman tradition includes work in a variety of areas, including (but not limited to): labor process studies, critical organization studies, research on the intersections of gender, race, and class at work, technical and organizational change and its impact on work culture, labor movements and resistance in the workplace, critical perspectives on labor markets and occupational transformation. Papers co-authored with faculty members will not be accepted. Single authored papers by graduate students and papers co-authored

by graduate students are welcome. All papers will be evaluated by three Labor Studies Division scholars who serve on the awards committee.

To Submit:

Email papers and a short letter of submission identifying your graduate program to the Labor Studies Division Chair at leticia022morales@gmail.com by the 1/31/26 deadline. In addition, authors are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) online system.

LAW AND SOCIETY: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Law and Society Division](#) announces its 2026 Lindesmith Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers may be empirical or theoretical, and they may be on any aspect of law and society. To be eligible, a paper must have been written during 2025. At the time of submission for the Award, the paper may not be published or accepted for publication. However, it may be submitted to a journal and/or under review. Papers presented at a professional meeting or accepted for presentation at a professional meeting are eligible. Papers must be student-authored; they can be single-authored or co-authored by students but may not be co-authored by a faculty member or other non-student. Authors must be enrolled as full-time students at the time of submission. Papers may be submitted to only ONE division of SSSP per year. Submissions made to multiple divisions will be disqualified. Previous winners are not eligible.

Please submit in MS Word. There is a 30-page limit, including all notes, references, and tables. Submissions should use 12-point font, one-inch margins, and double spacing throughout. Please send papers and a cover letter specifying that the paper is to be considered in the SSSP Law and Society Division Lindesmith Graduate Student Paper Competition to both Dr. Michael Branch, branchms@hawaii.edu, and Sino Esthappan, sinoesthappan2026@u.northwestern.edu. In addition, authors are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) online system.

The winner will be announced in Spring 2026. The winner will receive a \$150 stipend, an electronic certificate of recognition, and is eligible to present the paper at the 2026 Annual Meeting in New York with SSSP membership and conference registration paid by SSSP. Additionally, the winner of the 2026 paper award will be invited to sit on the adjudicating panel for the 2027 paper submissions. Nominations must be received no later than January 31, 2026.

LAW AND SOCIETY: EDWIN H. SUTHERLAND BOOK AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Law and Society Division](#) announces the 2026 Edwin H. Sutherland Book Award. The primary purpose of this award is to focus on excellence in scholarship within the study of law and society. Eligible books must have been published in 2024 or 2025. Authors may nominate their work and multiple-authored books are acceptable. All nominees must be members of SSSP. Please email either Dr. Michael Branch, branchms@hawaii.edu, and Sino Esthappan, sinoesthappan2026@u.northwestern.edu to arrange for shipment of three copies of the nominated book (or e-book versions) and submission of a letter of nomination.

The winner will be announced in Spring 2026, receive a \$100 award, and be recognized at the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting in New York. Nominations must be received no later than January 31, 2026.

POVERTY, CLASS, AND INEQUALITY: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Poverty, Class, and Inequality Division](#) would like to recognize graduate student work that addresses issues related to poverty, class, and inequality. Papers should be unpublished, original empirical works of professional quality completed during students' graduate or undergraduate studies. Papers must be student authored; they can be authored by one or more students, but they may not be co-authored with faculty or non-students. Papers should be no more than 35 pages in length, including notes, references, and tables. Self-nominations are acceptable. At least one author must be a member of SSSP. Please note that students may submit to only one Division for a student paper award.

The winner will receive an honorarium, an electronic certificate of recognition, one-year membership to SSSP, and waived conference registration fee to attend the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting. Send papers (with author name(s) concealed for review), by email, to Nicole Butkovich Kraus nkraus@wtamu.edu. In addition, authors are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) online system.

POVERTY, CLASS, AND INEQUALITY: OUTSTANDING ARTICLE AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Poverty, Class, and Inequality Division](#) invites nominations for the PCID Outstanding Article Award. This award recognizes the author(s) of the best research article in the study of poverty, class, and inequality published in the last year. Preference is given to work that approaches these issues from a critical lens. At least one of the authors must be a member of the SSSP in order to qualify for the award. The winner will receive an honorarium. To nominate an article, please email a copy of the article along with a brief nomination letter. Nominations should be sent to Nicole Butkovich Kraus nkraus@wtamu.edu. Self-nominations are acceptable.

POVERTY, CLASS, AND INEQUALITY: MICHAEL HARRINGTON AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Poverty, Class, and Inequality Division](#) invites nominations for the 2026 Michael Harrington Award. This award will be granted to an individual, organization, faculty, or student that by their actions advances our understanding of poverty, social class, and/or inequality, and/or proposes effective and practical ways to attend to the needs of the economically marginalized and reduce class inequalities. The winner will receive an honorarium. One-page nomination letters should be sent electronically to Nicole Butkovich Kraus nkraus@wtamu.edu. Supplemental materials may be requested.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS THEORY: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Social Problems Theory Division](#) invites papers for its annual Student Paper Award Competition.

To be eligible, papers must:

- (a) be authored or co-authored by students currently enrolled in a graduate program,
- (b) make an original and innovative contribution to the theoretical understanding of social problems,
- (c) not have been accepted for publication,
- (d) not have been previously presented at SSSP or presented or accepted for presentation at other professional meetings, unless substantially revised with new data, findings, or theoretical contributions.
- (e) may not be co-authored by a faculty member or other non-student, and
- (f) be submitted through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) process as a condition for consideration,

- preferably to a Social Problems Theory Division session.
(g) only be submitted to one division for consideration.

Self-nominations are welcome. Manuscripts should be limited to fewer than 10,000 words, including references. The winner will receive membership dues, Annual Meeting registration (if you attend), an electronic certificate of recognition, and \$200 honorarium. The winner will also be invited to present their paper at the 2026 SSSP Annual Meeting - while presenting at the Annual Meeting is expected and encouraged, it is not required to receive award funding. Please also note that students may only submit a paper for consideration to one SSSP Division. A paper submitted to multiple divisions will not receive consideration for the Social Problems Theory Division Award. Please send all questions and submissions to: Joshua Stout, Chair, Social Problems Theory Division: jhstout@ilstu.edu.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS THEORY: OUTSTANDING BOOK AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Social Problems Theory Division](#) requests nominations for its Outstanding Book Award. The Division welcomes books that critique or advance the ongoing scholarly and public dialogue about social problems theorizing. More information regarding the Division's vision can be accessed through our Mission Statement. Eligible books must have been published between 2024-2026. Single or multiple-authored books will be accepted. Authors are encouraged to nominate their own work. Nominees must be members of SSSP. If the book is co-authored and only one author is a current member, the expectation is that all authors will become members of SSSP to accept the award. Please send a brief nomination letter to the Social Problems Theory Division Chair, Joshua Stout (jhstout@ilstu.edu) and arrange to have copies of the book sent directly to all three members of the Outstanding Book Award Committee Chair.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS THEORY: JUNIOR SCHOLAR AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/2026

The [Social Problems Theory Division](#) is now accepting nominations for the Junior Scholar Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize the research (publication, grants, etc.), service, and/or mentorship within the discipline of Social Problems Theory. Eligible candidates must have defended their doctoral dissertations within five academic years prior to the annual meeting at which the award is made. All award nominees must be current members of the SSSP and the Social Problems Theory Division. You may become a member of the division to be considered. Self-nominations are encouraged. Winner will receive the award at the Social Problems Theory Division Business Meeting at the SSSP Annual Meeting in New York in August 2026. Please send a nomination letter and a complete CV to Brian Monahan (bmonahan@bw.edu).

SOCIOLOGY, SOCIAL WORK, AND SOCIAL WELFARE: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Sociology, Social Work, and Social Welfare Division](#) (SSWSW) announces its 2026 (master's or doctoral) Graduate Student Paper Competition. Paper topics can focus on various aspects of sociological, social welfare or social work research. Quantitative and qualitative analyses, applied research, and theoretical papers are all acceptable.

There are several requirements for a paper to be eligible for submission:

1. The paper may not already be published or accepted for publication or conference presentation.
2. The paper must be student authored. This means the paper may be authored by either one student or multiple graduate students but cannot be co-authored by a faculty member or non-student.

3. Papers may not exceed 25 double-spaced pages (including all notes, references, tables, and graphs) and must include a brief abstract.
4. Students may only submit their paper to one Division.

If selected for the award, the author(s) will receive: a \$200 cash award; a one-year SSSP student membership; waiver of 2026 conference registration fees (if applicable); and an electronic certificate of recognition, and recognition at the SSSP Awards Ceremony.

To be considered for the award please submit the following:

- (a) a copy of the paper in English;
- (b) a cover letter specifying that the paper is being submitted for consideration in the 2026 Sociology, Social Work and Social Welfare Division Graduate Student Paper Competition; and
- (c) a short letter from each author's advisor in English certifying their status as a current student and including some brief comments about their research.

All materials must be submitted electronically by January 31, 2026, to: 1) the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) on the SSSP 2026 Conference website and (2) SSWSW Graduate Student Paper Award Committee Chair Dr. William Cabin at wcabin@umich.edu.

SPORT, LEISURE, AND THE BODY: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Sport, Leisure, and the Body Division](#) announces its 2026 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers may be empirical and/or theoretical, and may be on any aspect of sport, leisure, and/or the body, broadly construed. The winner will receive a cash award of \$150, an electronic certificate of recognition, student membership in SSSP for 2026, and complimentary registration for the 2026 Annual Meeting. One honorable mention will be awarded \$50.

To be eligible, a paper must meet the following criteria:

1. the applicant must be a graduate student at the time of the SSSP Annual Meeting on August 6-9, 2026;
 2. the applicant must be the first (lead) author on the paper;
 3. the paper must not be co-authored with a faculty member or a colleague who is not a student;
 4. the paper must not have been submitted to or accepted for publication (papers that have been submitted for presentation at a professional meeting are eligible);
 5. the paper must not exceed 30 pages including notes, references, and tables;
 6. the paper must be typed using 12-point font in either Times New Roman or Courier;
 7. student papers may only be submitted to one of the SSSP division award competitions.
 8. All submitting authors are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) process as a condition for consideration for the award.
 9. In addition, please submit your paper electronically as a Microsoft Word or PDF file addressed to Prof. Sanjay Tewari at sanjay.tewari@yahoo.co.in. Paper submission must be dated (via electronic time/date stamp) on or before 1/30/26.
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TEACHING SOCIAL PROBLEMS: GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Teaching Social Problems Division](#) invites papers for its 2026 Student Paper Competition. Papers may be empirical and/or theoretical and focus on any aspect of teaching and pedagogy related to social problems. The

winner will receive an electronic certificate of recognition, one-year membership to SSSP, a waived conference registration fee to attend the 2026 Annual Meeting in New York, and an additional cash prize of \$200. While presenting at the Annual Meeting is expected and encouraged, it is not required to receive award funding.

To be eligible, a paper must meet the following criteria:

1. the paper must have been written between January 2024 and January 2026;
2. the paper may not have been submitted or accepted for publication, nor presented at a previous SSSP meeting or other professional meeting (unless substantially revised with new data, findings, or theoretical contributions);
3. the paper must be authored by one or more students, and not co-authored with a faculty member or colleague who is not a student;
4. the paper must not exceed 30 pages (double-spaced, 12 point font), including notes, references, and tables;
5. the applicant must be a student at the time of submission; and
6. the paper may only be submitted to one division's student paper competition.

In addition, authors are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) online system. Submissions must be in Word or PDF format, devoid of any identifying information, and accompanied by a letter of nomination from a faculty member. Please email submissions to Division Chair Janelle M. Pham at jpham@oglethorpe.edu by January 31, 2026.

TEACHING SOCIAL PROBLEMS: OUTSTANDING ARTICLE AWARD

Deadline: 1/31/26

The [Teaching Social Problems Division](#) invites papers for its Outstanding Article Award for an outstanding peer-reviewed article published within two years of the annual conference.

For the 2026 award, the division will consider peer-reviewed articles published between 2024-2026. Papers may be empirical and/or theoretical and focus on any aspect of teaching and pedagogy related to social problems.

To be eligible, the article must meet the following criteria:

1. the article must have been published by a peer-reviewed journal between January 1, 2024 and January 1, 2026;
2. the article may be written by students or faculty, sole or co-written;
3. the article may only be submitted to one SSSP division's Outstanding Scholarship competition.

Winners are expected to attend the Teaching Social Problems Division business meeting during the 2026 Annual Meeting. Applicants must submit a brief letter explaining the significance of their article to pedagogical innovation and education and a copy of their article for consideration by the awards committee. Self-nominations are encouraged. Please send all submissions as an email attachment (Word or PDF format only) to the Division Chair Janelle M. Pham at jpham@oglethorpe.edu by January 31, 2026.