

Faculty Curriculum Vitae

NAME: Stella Grigorian
POSITION/TITLE: Associate Instructional Professor
Graduate Faculty Advisor
OFFICE ADDRESS: 473 Phillip Hoffman Hall
Department of Sociology
University of Houston
4800 Calhoun
Houston, TX 77004
OFFICE TELEPHONE: 713-743-3960
WORK EMAIL: sgrigorian@uh.edu

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND/TRAINING

- **2nd M.A.** May 2006, University of Houston, Sociology, “Structure and Meaning in the Non-Profit World of Opera in the Heights,” Master’s Committee: Dr. Russell Curtis and Dr. Helen Ebaugh, Ms. Reba Kochersperger
- **Ph.D.** May 1995, Rice University, Anthropology, Dissertation Title: “Inch Ka Chka and Other Paradoxical Clues Into Soviet Armenian Society” Advisors: George Marcus, Michael Fischer, Hamid Naficy, Steven Tyler, James Faubion
- **M.A.** May 1991, Rice University, Anthropology
- **B.A.** May 1984, Rice University, Double Major: Anthropology/Political Science Summa Cum Laude, Honor’s Thesis: “Factionalism and Unity in Two Armenian Diaspora Communities”, Phi Beta Kappa

Other Educational Institutions:

- Special Graduate certificates for intensive study of Armenian language and history, Yerevan State University, Yerevan, Armenia, USSR, 1987-1990
- Certificate of Russian language proficiency from Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont, USA, Summer 1987
- Certificate of Russian language proficiency from Leningrad State University, Leningrad, Russia, USSR, Summer 1986
- Certificate of Russian language proficiency from Lvov State University, Lvov, Ukraine, USSR, Summer 1984

RELEVANT TEACHING EXPERIENCE

I have taught at various institutions, both graduate and undergraduate courses, a variety of anthropology, sociology and cross-cultural courses

- Fall ‘15/present **University of Houston – Main Campus, Instructional Associate Professor**, Sociology of Food, Sociology of Culture, Intro to Sociological Theory
- Fall ‘09/Spring ‘15 **University of Houston – Main Campus, Instructional Assistant Professor**, Sociology of Food/ Soc of Culture/ Intro to Sociological Theory/ Soc of Family/ Soc of Gender/ Intro to Sociology

Faculty Curriculum Vitae

- Fall '07/Spring '09 **University of Houston – Main Campus, Lecturer**, Soc of Gender/Soc of Family/Intro to Sociology/Senior Seminar
- Fall '95/Spring '07 **University of Houston – Clear Lake, Adjunct and Visiting Lecturer in Anthropology** - Contemporary Cultural Anthropology, Cross-Cultural Perspectives on the Family, Gender, Power, Society, Studies in Diversity: Food and Culture Studies in Diversity: National to Transnational Identity, courses cross-listed as
- Spring '01/Fall '08 **Houston Community College Northwest Campus**, Cultural Anthropology and Intro to Sociology Spring 2000
- Fall 1996 **Rice University**, adjunct faculty in Anthropology

OTHER POSITIONS HELD

- Fall 2009 to present Sociology Graduate Faculty Advisor

SERVICE

- Fall 2009 to present Chair of the Graduate Committee
- Fall 2009 to present Sociology Course Scheduler and Classroom Management
- Fall 2012 to present Faculty Senator
- Fall 2012 to present Member of Faculty Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate
- Jan 2014 to present Vice-Chair of Faculty Affairs Committee of Faculty Senate
- Jan 2014 to 2015 Member of VProvost's Task for Non-Tenure Track Faculty
- Sept 2014 to present Faculty Advisor to UH Student Group EMPOWER UH
- Sept 2011 to 2012 Faculty Advisor to UH Student Group Armenian Student Association
- Late 2009-Early 2010 CLASS Associate Dean's Task Force on Graduate Support

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP/RESEARCH/CREATIVE ENDEAVORS

Published Work:

- Fischer, Michael and Stella Grigorian. 1993. "Six to Eight Characters in Search of Armenian Civil Society Amidst the Carnivalization of History." Pp 81-130 in *Perilous States: Conversations on Culture, Politics and Nation*, edited by George Marcus. Chicago, Ill: University of Chicago Press.

In Progress:

- Grigorian, Stella. (forthcoming 2015). "Let's Raise a Glass": Transitional and Emergent Cultural Implications of 'Cognac' and Armenian Toast Making Late Soviet and Post-Independence Era Encounters." Pp. ? in *Culinary Encounters: Food, Migrations and the Making of Identities*, edited by Richard Delerins. Paris, France: Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Editions EHESS).

Papers and Talks:

- "Armenia's Toasting Rituals: Soviet and Post-Soviet Transitions in Using Alcohol to Mark National Identity". 3rd International Food Studies Conference, Austin, Texas, October 16, 2013.
- "Bashu: Baizei's Film as Social Commentary on Contemporary Iran," title of talk which will be given October 25, 2006 at Houston Community College – Northwest Campus prior to the screening of the film *Bashu: The Little Stranger* as part of HCC's film festival
- "From National to Transnational and Back Again: Paradoxical Armenian Cultural Identities" talk given at University of Houston – Clear Lake, February 2006.

Faculty Curriculum Vitae

- “Shattered Toasts, Shattered Lives: Cultural Ruination Amidst National Regeneration” Paper given at the 7th Annual Symposium on Cultural Studies of Eastern Europe and Eurasia held at Columbia University, March 1998.
- “Unchanging Dynamics: Paradoxical Clues Into Soviet? Post-Soviet Armenian Gender Roles,” paper given at the South Central Women’s Studies Association Conference held at University of Houston-Clear Lake, March 1998.
- A talk on critical theory given at Yerevan State University, October 1997.
- “The Armenian Earthquake: From Reality to Myth” presented at the annual anthropology meetings held in New Orleans, Louisiana, November 1990.
- “The Karabagh Movement: An Anthropological View of the Events of 1988” given at Rice University, September 1988.
- A talk on contemporary issues in anthropology given to students in the department of ethnography at Yerevan State University, Spring 1988.
- Over the years, have given numerous talks at St. Kevork Armenian Church in Houston and at various civic organizations and local schools. Each talk focused on an aspect of my research in Armenia.

Thesis/Internship Committees:

- Sebahattin Ziyanak – MA Thesis Committee : Fall 2006-Spring 2007 “Crossroads: A Grassroots Organization for the Homeless in Houston”
- Ryan Belli – MA Internship Chair: Fall 2010-Spring 2011 “Keeping the Blues Alive: An Internship on the Houston Blues Society – A Non-Profit Music Organization”

Professional Association Membership:

- American Sociological Association
- American Sociological Association – Section on Culture
- Food Studies Knowledge Community

Grants:

- Fulbright Visiting Scholar’s Teaching Grant - to teach anthropology and social theory at Yerevan State University for the 1998-99 academic year (had to decline for unforeseen health reasons)

Honors:

- Phi Beta Kappa

Research Opportunities:

- Rice University - Research Associate in the Department of Anthropology, Fall '95-Sp '09
- Armenia, Republic of, October 1997
- Armenia, USSR/Republic of, 1/91-4/93
- Israel, Summer 1989
- Armenia, USSR, 8/88-5/90
- Armenia, USSR, 9/87-4/88
- Leningrad, Russia, USSR, Summer 1986
- Lvov, Ukraine, USSR, Summer 1984
- Boston, MA, Summer 1983