

Sociology

COLLOQUIUM



DEPARTMENT OF
Sociology

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Administering Austerity in the New University

Dr. Laura Hamilton

Professor and Chair of Sociology
University of California, Merced

During her talk, Laura Hamilton will use case studies of “new universities,” or public research universities, in the nation’s top 200, to examine how austerity is produced and administered in higher education and to explore its racial consequences.

These schools face intense financial pressures, as they are more deeply reliant on state support and less able to extract market-based funds than their peers. Hamilton argues that the choices of new university administrators are not just a logical response to material conditions, but instead reflect a pervasive culture of austerity. She focuses on four key austerity practices—get big, cut costs, be market smart, and think (inter)nationally. These practices tend to undercut the experiences of historically marginalized students and may even be counterproductive to organizational survival and prestige production. Consequently, leaders may inadvertently reinforce the state austerity to which they must respond.

Funding is provided by the Hilldale Lecture Fund. More info: <https://go.wisc.edu/e0971n>

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to the public!*

Sep. 25, 12:15-2pm

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