ABOUT SSRC

The Social Science Research Center (SSRC) is an inter-disciplinary team of experts housed in the Social Science Department, in the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, Wisconsin’s polytechnic university.

SSRC integrates social science theory and methods to design and implement innovative and pragmatic research solutions and training opportunities for stakeholders in community organizations, non-profits, academia and government agencies or departments, as well as students.

The Social Science Department is comprised of the disciplines of Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Sociology, and Social Work. Our broad-ranging interdisciplinary expertise is ideally suited to the research and/or training needs of a variety of stakeholders.

CENTER STAFF

Georgios Loizides, PhD
Center Director

Chrissy Colby
Administrative Assistant

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The Social Science Research Center (SSRC) specializes in the following research methodologies, catered to meet the specific needs of stakeholders:

- Survey Research
- Interviews
- Program Evaluation
- Cost-benefit Analysis
- Economic Impact
- Geographic Information Systems

Training is available on the following topics offered by experienced and professional facilitators:

- Geographic Information Systems
- Program Evaluation Methods
- Diversity Training

Community education is integral to our goals as a center and is accomplished through hand-on workshops and lecture series, in which our faculty and other experts share their knowledge in forums open to the public:

- Social Science Speaker Series
- Social Research Workshop Series

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**RESEARCH & EDUCATION**

Georgios Loizides, PhD  
Sociologist and Center Director  
Specialty: Survey Research, Program Evaluation

Dr. Loizides received his Ph.D. from Western Michigan University with areas of specialization in social inequality (race, class, gender) and comparative/historical sociology. He has directed, and contributed to, a number of externally funded projects through his collaboration with Western Michigan University’s Kercher Center for Social Research. Projects directed included an evaluation research project funded by the National Science Foundation, as well as community based survey research.

Jim Handley  
Social Geographer and GIS Director  
Specialty: GIS

Jim Handley has expertise in Geographic information science and economic geography. He has served as the Director of the Center for Geographic Information Science at the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse and worked as a GIS professional for over ten years for land use planning agencies, universities, and the Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center. Mr. Handley is an ESRI Authorized Instructor and regularly facilitates GIS workshops.

Jeffrey Sweat, PhD  
Sociologist and Applied Social Science Program Director  
Specialty: Survey Research, Focus Groups, In-depth Interviews

Dr. Sweat completed a research-oriented postdoctoral fellowship at UCLA prior to joining the UW-Stout faculty. He has experience with survey-based studies as well as ethnographic and interview-based research. His work has been funded by such organizations and agencies as the Social Science Research Council, the National Institute of Mental Health, and the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Sweat has contributed his research expertise to non-profit and community organizations on social justice, poverty, and health issues. He has served as a research consultant to the Applied Research Center in its Minority Graduation Study.

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**STEERING COMMITTEE**

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