

Susan Prentice

Professor at University of Manitoba

Winnipeg, MB, CA

Professor Prentice's primary specialization is contemporary and historical childcare policy and advocacy

Biography

My research program begins with my concerns about social inequality and social change, and my interests in public policy and systemic discrimination. I work in two broad areas of scholarship, each of which I undertake with a critical focus on gender relations. I am trained as an historical sociologist, and so bring an historical as well as a sociological imagination to my work.

My primary specialization is contemporary and historical childcare policy and advocacy. Childcare provides a window into state-society relations at the exact moment where gender, family, work, social policy, market forces/privatization, and social movement organizing intersect, and these have been the focus of my research program. My secondary arena of specialization is higher education, where I am keen to understand how formally neutral institutions co-exist with inequality and marginalization.

My research program has recently turned to European policy debates and social movement struggles to promote and defend work-family reconciliation in hard economic times. I spent 2010-2011 in France, as a Senior Fellow at the Collegium de Lyon, Institut des études avancés, École normale supérieure, and returned to France in 2013 and again in 2016, to continue my research and language training. I am working hard to improve my French, and currently hold the DALF C1.

I practice public sociology and work closely with social movements. I believe community-university collaboration is a site of exciting scholarship and knowledge generation. I actively work on knowledge mobilization oriented to popular audiences, social movements, elected officials, decision makers and the media.

My undergraduate teaching includes Introduction to Sociology (SOC 1200), the undergraduate Honours Seminar Critical Issues (SOC 2010), Family (SOC 2460), and the Honours Seminar (SOC 4450). My graduate teaching has recently focused on public sociology.

I enjoy working with Honours and Graduate students inside and outside Sociology. I have worked with MA and PhD students in Anthropology, Applied Health Sciences, City Planning, Computer Science, Economics, Education, English, Family Social Studies, History, Individualized Inter-disciplinary Studies, Political Studies, Rural Studies and Social Work, as well as Sociology.

Industry Expertise

Education/Learning, Research, Public Policy

Areas of Expertise

Social Inequality, Social Change, Systemic Discrimination, Historical Sociology, Childcare Policy, Childcare Advocacy, Family, Social Movements

Affiliations

Manitoba Commission on Early Learning and Childcare : Member, Child Care Coalition of Manitoba : Member, International Centre for the Mixed Economy of Childcare (ICMEC) University of East London : Advisory Board, Coalition Francophone de la Petite Enfance du Manitoba : Table de Recherche

Event Appearances

Leading Childcare Policy Change: Lessons from Canada

Early Childhood Conference: Leading in the Early Years in a New Era, organized by the Australian Council of Educational Leaders

Les service de gardes et l'éducation post-secondaire

Association francophone pour le savoir (ACFAS) – Manitoba. Keynote address to Journée du savoir

Education

York University

Ph.D. Sociology

York University

M.E.S.

University of Toronto

B.A.

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