

# UNCG Sociology Welcomes Three New Assistant Professors for the Fall 2019 Semester



**Dr. Sefika Kumral** is a comparative historical sociologist studying ethnicity, violence, populism, and economic inequality. She received her Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 2017. Prior to joining UNCG as a tenure-stream Assistant Professor of Sociology, she worked as an Assistant Professor at William & Mary.

She has published journal articles and book chapters on ethnic violence, global inequality, and fascism. Currently she is finishing her book based on her dissertation on ethnic riots and authoritarian populism in Turkey, which received the best dissertation award from American Sociological Association's section on Comparative and Historical sociology.

Dr. Kumral has taught courses on ethnic and racial violence, global populism, global social protest and research methods.

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**Dr. Todd Madigan** is Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology and a cultural sociologist working in the area of collective memory and cultural trauma. He received his Ph.D. in sociology from Yale University and has taught introduction to sociology classes, as well as classes on social movements, cultural sociology, inequality, and social theory. Most recently he taught an intensive Foundations of Modern Social Theory course to inmates at a maximum security state prison in Connecticut.

His present book project is *Vietnam: A War, Not a Country*. It is a comparative analysis of the Vietnam War narratives that circulate within the societies of each of the war's three principal antagonists (i.e., Vietnamese communists, Vietnamese Americans, and the broader American society). Within each of these three social groups, he and his coauthors conceptualize arenas of collective memory where various groups struggle to promote their particular narrative of the war. As they trace these struggles, they explore whether each erstwhile antagonist sees itself as having experienced a radical disruption to its sense of collective identity, a phenomenon theorized as cultural trauma. Prior to joining the faculty of UNCG, Dr. Madigan was a visiting scholar at Fudan University in Shanghai, China.



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**Dr. Ting Wang** received her Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Kentucky in 2018 and Ph.D. in Economics from Zhejiang University. She was a Visiting Professor at Kenyon College before joining the Spartan family as a tenure-stream Assistant Professor of Sociology.

Her research focuses on gender and crime, specifically the rising female crime phenomena. She is writing a book titled *The Lonely Generation*, addressing how the one-child policy has intervened in the gendered deviance in China. This work reveals a mismatch between the equalized family expectations toward gender and the still-hierarchical gender structure in society, and how this mismatch reshapes people's beliefs and behaviors. She also adapts this research paradigm to the US-based and cross-national samples and hopes to propose a new theoretical framework to explain why striking increases of female crime have been seen across the globe.

Dr. Wang has published several journal articles in areas such as feminist criminology, cross-national comparative criminology, and social network analysis.