

UWO
SOCIOLOGY
*Alumni
Spotlight*



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- **Why did you choose sociology as your major?** I entered UW-Oshkosh as a political science major and, like many sociology majors, was convinced upon a semester in Sociology 101 that sociology better represented my intellectual and practical interests.
- **What are some of the key things that you got out of the major?** During my undergraduate years I benefited from the small, personal nature of the UW-Oshkosh sociology department. Through interactions with faculty and a number of practical internships in nursing homes and an adult day center I was able to pursue my interest in applied gerontology.
- **What did you do following graduation from UWO?** Upon graduation I earned a second degree in nursing, a Master's degree in Gerontology, and carried out a career in nursing care for the aged. However, my interest in social theory and methods remained and in 2004 I entered the PhD program at Purdue University.
- **What are you up to now?** I am currently an assistant professor in the School of Nursing at Purdue, a position that allows me to apply social theory and methods to research questions addressing health care delivery. I frequently credit my undergraduate education at UW-Oshkosh for my ability to achieve a PhD. I believe that the close faculty contact and personal attention I received in Oshkosh planted in me a love of sociology that encouraged my academic success.