

Samuel K. (Sam) Coleman
Condensed Curriculum Vitae
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Dedicated to demystifying human thought and behavior through science.

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Most Recent Position 1998 - 2025 (May)

Lecturer Retired, Japanese Program, Department of Asian & Asian-American Studies,
California State University, Long Beach

Postgraduate Education

2002 Masters Degree in Social Work, California State University Long Beach, Older
Adults and Families Concentration

1978 Ph.D. in Anthropology and Certificate of the East Asian Institute, Columbia
University

Current Service to the Academic Profession

Member, editorial review boards for *The Journal of Progressive Human Services* and
Journal of Hate Studies

Recent Presentations

2023 The American Professional-Managerial Elite's Hostility toward the White
Working Class: Causes and Consequences. *7th Annual International Conference
on Hate Studies*, Gonzaga University (April 22).

2022 Social Class and the American Veteran Experience: Unequal Sacrifice. *Working
Class Studies Association 2022 Conference* (June 22).

PTSD in the US and Japan: Veterans and Social Class. *Veterans for Peace
Speaking Tour in Japan Webinar* (August 28).

Selected Publications since 2020

2026 "How Did We Get Here?" *Radchatter Newsletter* (Winter 2026). Social Welfare
Action Alliance.

2024 "Ineffectual Sermon: Matthew Desmond's *Poverty, by America*." *Journal of
Progressive Human Services*, 58:1.

"American Inequality Isn't Kid-Friendly." *Los Angeles Times* (February 21).

(Selected Publications since 2020, Continued)

2022 “Abortion, Science, and Morality in The Turnaway Study: New Perspectives for the Helping Professions.” *Journal of Progressive Human Services*, 33:1.

“The Social Worker and Gun Violence.” *NASW California News* (June 1).
<https://naswcanews.org/the-social-worker-and-gun-violence-2/>

2020 “Understanding—And Misunderstanding—The White Working Class: Two Must-Read Studies for the Helping Professions.” *Journal of Progressive Human Services*, 32 (1). Published online December 19.

Formative Pillars of My Research and Writing

1999 *Japanese Science: From the Inside*. London: Routledge. My research for this comparative ethnography of Japanese and American biomedical laboratories gave me a solid understanding of scientific thinking that has since guided all of my contributions to the science of human social life.

1992 *Family Planning in Japanese Society: Traditional Birth Control in a Modern Urban Culture*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Most recently, this research informed my 2022 book review essay, “Abortion, Science and Morality in *The Turnaway Study*: New Perspectives for the Helping Professions” cited above.

The Teaching-Research Nexus

For over two decades I taught two upper division undergraduate courses at California State University Long Beach. Their orientation evolved considerably over that period.

Japan: Continuities and Transformations compared Japan’s sociocultural evolution with the West’s in order to dispel assumptions of Japanese uniqueness, present cautionary accounts about social trends that court disaster, and inspire students with genuine success stories. By highlighting some striking similarities with Western nations in developmental processes, the course gave students scientific insights into the sources of Japan’s successes and disasters while cultivating an appreciation of Japanese culture’s dynamism.

Japanese Language, Culture and Communication stripped away language myths based on national character assumptions like “politeness” and the “group model” while cultivating an appreciation of the eccentricities of the language and its difficulties for native speakers of English.

Using what I have been teaching my students—and what I’ve learned from them—I have recently launched research into the harmful effects of Japanese exceptionalism today.