

# **Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology**

## **SPEAKER SERIES**

### **Sixty Miles Upriver: Gentrification and Race in a Small American City**

Dr. Richard Ocejo  
John Jay College/City University of New York

As the housing markets of large cities become too expensive for even the middle class, many urbanites are bypassing the suburbs and moving to smaller cities with more affordable real estate and diverse populations, initiating gentrification processes. Based on the case of Newburgh, a postindustrial city of some twenty-eight thousand people located sixty miles north of New York City in the Hudson River Valley, *Sixty Miles Upriver* is about what happens when white creative professionals seek out racially diverse and working-class communities in small urban contexts. It explores a fundamental moral problem at the heart of gentrification, namely that supporters of the process both appreciate racial and social class diversity and recognize that their actions put these groups at risk of displacement.

**Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**2:30 p.m. in McCain, #1116**  
**All Welcome!**