



Invitation



The University of Guyana
in collaboration with
Arizona State University, School for the Future of Innovation in Society
presents

**A PHD PROSPECTUS DEFENSE
UNDER THE UG-ASU ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION IN COMMUNITIES
ADVANCED ACADEMIC RESEARCH PROGRAMME**

UG's Faculty of Social Sciences Advanced Scholar Economist

SYDNEY ARMSTRONG
will defend his dissertation prospectus

**WHY SHOULD WE CARE ABOUT SOCIAL INEQUALITY?
CASE OF GUYANA**

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022
9:00HRS AZ TIME [12:00HRS GUYANA TIME]

Click here to join via Zoom: <https://asu.zoom.us/j/5910606499>

In-person: Room 280 Interdisciplinary B Building (Arizona State University)
Lecture Room 1 CIT Building (University of Guyana)

Supervisory Committee
Dr. Netra Chhetri, Chair
Dr. Gary Grossman
Dr. Nalini Chhetri
Dr. Danae Hernandez-Cortes

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Abstract

Rising inequality is a defining challenge of 21st century. Growing social inequality negatively impacts human and sustainable development because since it leads to greater social problems and health issues, it contributes to environmental degradation, and it lowers investment in human capital. Social inequality is multidimensional, and this attribute renders it difficult to address effectively. However, research has shown that the first step to addressing social inequality is the ability to measure it. Research has also shown gaps in how it is measured. Further, the literature suggests that there is a lack of deep understanding of this issue, and this is particularly apparent in Guyana which is a microcosm of growing social inequality in the emerging economies of South America and the Caribbean. Discourse is the foundation of research towards understanding issues like social inequality and the purpose of this research is to contribute to the discourse on why social inequality matters, how best it can be measured and the policy interventions that can be used to address it. This research will be informed by a literature analysis and an empirical analysis that will model the relationship between social inequality and sustainable development in Guyana which will rely on indirect observations of World Bank and United Nations reports and a survey of 2000 households across Guyana. This research will also utilize 3 focus group discussions to identify possible policy interventions to address social inequality and promote human and sustainable development in Guyana.

Keywords: social inequality, sustainable development, Guyana, multidimensional