

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan-Dearborn
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Francine Banner, associate professor of sociology, with tenure, Department of Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, is recommended for promotion to professor of sociology, with tenure, Department of Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2009	Arizona State University, Justice Studies, Tempe, AZ
J.D.	2000	New York University, School of Law, New York, NY
B.A.	1993	Wellesley College English, Wellesley, MA

Professional Record:

2017 – present	Associate Professor of Sociology, with tenure, Department of Behavioral Sciences, University of Michigan-Dearborn
2014 – 2017	Associate Professor of Sociology, without tenure, Department of Behavioral Sciences, University of Michigan-Dearborn
2013 – 2014	Associate Professor, Arizona Summit Law School, Phoenix, Arizona
2010 – 2014	Assistant Professor, Arizona Summit Law School, Phoenix, Arizona

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Banner has taught nine courses, including Introduction to Criminal Justice, Criminal Justice Systems and Policy, Sociology of Law, Law and Culture, Applied Criminal Justice Theory, Violence Against Women, Family Violence, Criminal Law, and the Inside-Out Prison Exchange. She has also taught in the Women’s Prison Project, which she directed for many years. She consistently receives strong student evaluation ratings, with an average of 4.8 (out of 5.0) on the instructor rating. Professor Banner’s courses are well structured and are geared around critical thinking problem-based assignments. She also extensively mentors students both inside and outside the classroom. Based on their observations of Professor Banner’s classes, the faculty concur that she is an effective and valuable instructor.

Research: Since 2014, Professor Banner has published a single-authored monograph, three high quality single-authored law review articles and four high quality peer-reviewed book chapters, three of the four as single or first author. She has several projects underway, including a collaborative one with researchers from UM-Dearborn and Wayne State University and the Detroit-based legal services agency, Street Democracy. Professor Banner’s research explores gender, law, and conflict in varied contexts, including on social media. She uses critical legal and feminist theory to explore internet discourse about sexual assault and the potential impact of such discourse on law as an institution, and she has developed innovative qualitative research methods for studying data from social media. She has also studied sexual assault and discrimination in the U.S. military and gender and violence. Her research has significant implications for how we understand gender, sexual assault, violence, media, and the law.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Banner, F. 2019. Crowdsourcing the Law: Trying Sexual Assault on Social Media, New York: Lexington Press.
- Rusch, Lara, R., Khari Brown, Ronald E. Brown and Francine Banner. 2019. "Social Justice, Anti-Poverty Work, and Religion." In William R. Thompson (Ed.), Oxford Encyclopedia of Politics and Religion, Oxford University Press, New York.
- Banner, F. and Nicholas Paron. 2019. "'Hell Hath No Fury...': Gendered Reactions to the Cosby Mistrial Across Liberal and Conservative News Media Sites." In Debbie Ging and Eugenia Siapera (Eds.), Gender Hate Online: Understanding the New Anti-Feminism, Chapter 8, Palgrave MacMillan, New York, pp. 149-170.
- Banner, F. 2018. "Roads Less Traveled: U.S. Workplace Discrimination from the 1890s to the Present," *University of Tulsa Law Review*, vol. 53, pp. 159-178.
- Banner, F. 2017. "Methodological Approaches to Studying Crime and Popular Culture in New Media." In Nicole Rafter and Michelle Brown (Eds.), The Oxford Encyclopedia of Crime, Media, and Popular Culture, Oxford University Press, New York.
- Banner, F. 2016. "'She Was Just a Chechen:' The Female Suicide Bomber as a Site of Collective Suffering in Wartime Chechen Republic." In Monica Casper and Eric Wertheimer (Eds.), Critical Trauma Studies: Understanding Violence, Conflict and Memory in Everyday Life, New York University Press, New York, pp. 37-60.
- Banner, F. 2016. "Honest Victim Scripting in the Twitterverse." *William and Mary Journal of Women & the Law*, vol. 22, pp. 495-548.
- Banner, F. 2015. "Institutional Sexual Assault and the Rights/Trust Dilemma." *Cardozo Journal of Public Law, Policy and Ethics*, vol. 13, pp. 99-172.

Service: Professor Banner's service has involved significant leadership roles. She has been an engaged citizen of the department, college, campus, university, and community. She is a faculty member of Sociology, Women's and Gender Studies, and Criminology and Criminal Justice. She has served as the director of Women in Learning and Leadership (WILL) and the director of the Women's Prison Project. As the WILL director, she mentored thirty students per year, engaged them in service projects, and hosted more than fifty events and activities. In her work for the Women's Prison Project, which concluded in 2017, she collaborated with faculty from other campuses to offer courses to over 120 incarcerated students per year at Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility. She also served on the CASL Curriculum Committee, the Advisory Board for the Law and Society Minor, the Advisory Committee for the LGBTQ Studies Certificate, and instructor for the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program. She is also a member of the University of Michigan's Institutional Review Board Blue Panel, on the executive board for the University of Michigan Institute for Research on Women and Gender and was co-organizer of the highly successful Negotiating Boundaries in the #MeToo Era, full-day event held at UM-Dearborn in 2019.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Banner is a fantastically clear, intelligent and thoughtful writer: at one and the same time, all of her work shows tremendous familiarity with scholarly literature as well as a gift for conveying complex ideas with lucidity and passion. I consider her one of the best scholars I have read in the areas of feminist theory and gender, law, and media – and, of course given her work, in the upcoming area of social media."

Reviewer B: “These three article-length pieces, in particular, in combination with her book, show Banner to be a deeply thoughtful scholar working at combining multiple threads of interest into an intersectional, feminist, and socio legal body of work.”

Reviewer C: “Dr. Banner demonstrates that she is a careful and thoughtful researcher who pairs quality methods with deep understanding of theory.”

Reviewer D: “Her complex and nuanced conceptualizations, thoroughly grounded in direct observations, advance law and society research, aid the development of jurisprudence theory and accelerates the evolution of qualitative methodology. Her attention to social context informs legal and judicial practice. Her accessible writing deepens the understanding of graduate and undergraduate students.”

Reviewer E: “Professor Banner is an excellent storyteller, and she is skilled at the clear and unpretentious presentation of highly sophisticated analysis. The quality of Professor Banner’s writing is one of the reasons she is able to contribute effectively to multiple fields.”

Reviewer F: “...I am truly impressed with both the quantity and quality of her work. Based on the richness and scope of her interdisciplinary work along with her clear and incisive writing, I rank Professor Banner’s scholarship within the top 2% of law school tenure dossiers I have reviewed in the last ten years...”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Banner has published high quality research and has shown promise for continued scholarly work. She is also an excellent teacher. She is rated highly by students and peers and is also a valued colleague who makes significant contributions at all levels of the university. We are pleased to recommend, with support of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters Executive Committee, Francine Banner for promotion to professor of sociology, with tenure, Department of Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

Martin Hershock

Martin J. Hershock, Dean
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Domenico Grasso

Domenico Grasso, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

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