

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Greta R. Krippner, associate professor of sociology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of sociology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

|       |      |                                 |
|-------|------|---------------------------------|
| Ph.D. | 2003 | University of Wisconsin-Madison |
| M.A.  | 1995 | University of Wisconsin-Madison |
| B.A.  | 1993 | University of Iowa              |

Professional Record:

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 2012–present | Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan |
| 2017–2020    | Associate Chair, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan     |
| 2007–2012    | Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan |
| 2003–2006    | Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, UCLA                   |

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Krippner anchors theoretical training in the Department of Sociology at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Classical theory introduces students to what is distinctive about sociology as a discipline. The undergraduate course (taught eleven times since promotion) is required of majors and the graduate course (taught nine times since promotion) is the defining required course of the first semester of graduate school. Her evaluations are consistently extremely strong. In addition, she has taught a core subfield graduate course in economic sociology and its undergraduate equivalent as well as the graduate practicum in Comparative Historical Sociology. Professor Krippner has also demonstrated strength as a mentor of graduate students. Since earning tenure, she has chaired or co-chaired eight dissertations and served on fourteen committees. The exceptionally high quality of her work with students is apparent in very strong academic placements in tenure track jobs at the top programs in the field, in her student's receipt of prestigious fellowships, and in her commitment to co-authorship with them.

Research: Professor Krippner is a historical sociologist whose scholarship addresses issues in economic sociology, political sociology, and the sociology of law. She focuses on the development of capitalism, investigating what she describes as “its contradictions, tensions, and endless adaptations.” Her pre-tenure book, Capitalizing on Crisis: The Political Origins of the Rise of Finance (2011), is the go-to reference on financialization, not just in sociology, but in political science and management studies. After publishing this field-defining book, Professor Krippner pivoted to a new line of research which required substantial intellectual retooling. Her post-tenure research focuses on the shifting contours of economic citizenship, the rise of algorithms and their potential effects on political mobilization, and the role of anti-discrimination movements in seeding the individualization of risk. This new body of research has been placed in top journals and is earning her paper prizes and invitations to deliver talks. With a University

of Michigan Institute for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship this year, Professor Krippner is working on a book tentatively titled Preferred: Risk, Gender, HIV and the Individualization of Risk.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Krippner, G.R. (Revise and resubmit). "Gendered market devices: The persistence of gender discrimination in insurance markets." *American Journal of Sociology*.

Krippner, G.R. (2023). "Unmasked: A history of the individualization of risk." *Sociological Theory* 41(2): 83-104.

Krippner, G.R. and Hirschman, D. (2022). "The person of the category: Pricing risk and the politics of classification in insurance and credit." *Theory & Society* 51(5): 685-727.

Krippner, G.R. (2017). "Democracy of credit: Ownership and the politics of credit access in late-twentieth century America." *American Journal of Sociology* 123(1): 1-47.

Service: Professor Krippner is a devoted and well-regarded citizen of the Department of Sociology. She has been deeply involved in the governance of the department, as an associate chair, as an elected member of the Executive Committee, and on all other committees. The associate chair role in sociology involves delicate negotiations with faculty about teaching assignments and the laborious work of preparing faculty award nominations. Much of her disciplinary and interdisciplinary service has involved assessment and review (e.g., she has served the editorial boards of many journals, and on many prize committees), suggesting that her scholarly seriousness and generosity make her a highly sought after interlocutor.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): "Professor Krippner's high quality and impactful research contributions, major promise of future projects, together with her scholarly and professional reputation, and an extremely impressive record of professional service and mentoring all warrant a promotion to the rank of Professor."

Reviewer (B): "Professor Krippner is widely recognized—as indicated inter alia by the impressive awards she has received—as a leading figure in historical sociology, economic sociology, and sociological theory."

Reviewer (C): "[Professor Krippner] has made pathbreaking contributions to the fields of economic and political sociology, and is one of the leading scholars in a growth industry that is at the nexus of these fields. She has a brilliant book on the role of public policy in setting the conditions for the recurring economic crises we have seen in recent decades. She had made a name for herself long before the book came out through her incisive, theoretically informed, historical sociology of the state and financial markets. Since publishing the book Krippner has made important interventions in the field of historical economic sociology. It is an active field, and she is an important leader in it. She is well deserving of promotion to the rank of full professor."

Reviewer (D): "Professor Krippner's published and forthcoming papers since her tenure stand out in several respects. They demonstrate a consistent commitment to an ambitious research program. The analytical perspectives on which they draw to further this research program are

original and sophisticated. They probe the empirical relevance of these perspectives of analysis through detailed and in-depth inquiries. And, last but not least, the arguments they elaborate are very clearly laid out.”

Reviewer (E): “Professor Krippner’s work has had a huge impact on the field of economic sociology. Her work is of the highest quality. She has made two significant research contributions to the field. First, her book, *Capitalizing on Crisis* and the associated papers have produced a significant research program. Unlike many research programs which center on a particular scholar and their graduate students, Professor Krippner’s conceptualization of financialization has inspired work by many scholars around the world. Indeed, Professor Krippner is the go to reference on the topic of financialization, not just in sociology, but in political science and management studies.”

Reviewer (F): “The reality is that—while Professor Krippner’s CV is not terribly long—every piece on it is extremely well placed and well worth one’s time. Krippner is one of those very rare perfectionists who works meticulously on her evidence until she is supremely confident about the argument she advances. Indeed her wonderfully researched and tightly argued scholarship has earned her the respect of sociologists and historians alike—a too infrequent distinction. Her book and especially her 2005 article on financialization in American economy are both modern classics. Needless to say, her work has become a fixture in my economic sociology syllabus. In fact, I read everything she publishes, because I know it will be excellent.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Krippner is one of the most acclaimed economic sociologists working in American sociology today. Her scholarship on the development of capitalism is viewed by her peers as foundational to the field. She is an outstanding teacher and mentor and a generous citizen in the department and within the field. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Greta R. Krippner be promoted to the rank of professor of sociology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Anne Curzan, Dean  
Geneva Smitherman Collegiate Professor of  
English Language and Literature, Linguistics,  
and Education  
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

May 2024