

**WORKSHOP**

# **AN INTRODUCTION TO INTERRUPTED TIME SERIES ANALYSIS**

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Thursday, January 26, 2017  
2:00-5:00 PM  
SOC 351

RESEARCH SERIES  
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY

# A Conversation About Causality

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In graduate school we are taught that we can infer that variable A “causes” variable B if we can demonstrate that A covaries with B, A is temporally prior to B, and there are no other variables that are temporally prior to both A and B that can account for the relationship between A and B. Though useful, these three criteria are nothing more than a convention; an agreement among scholars as to what constitutes causality. Drawing primarily on the insights of Blalock (1991), Granger (1980) and Lieberman (1985), we consider the relative merits of other approaches to the question of causality in the social sciences. In particular, we examine the role that ‘improvement in prediction’ plays in the establishment of causation.

OPEN TO  
THE PUBLIC

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

10:00-12:00

SOC 351