Presidential Dream Course Public Lecture:  
*Inequality and the American Family*

Dr. Annette Lareau  
"Unequal Childhoods, Unequal Adults: Class, Race, and Family Life"  
February 13, 2014  
7:30pm  
Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Robert S. Kerr Auditorium

Dr. Annette Lareau is Stanley I. Sheerr Professor of the Social Sciences and Professor of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania. She is author of the award-winning book, *Unequal Childhoods: Class, Race, and Family Life* (University of California Press, 2003). This book is based on participant observation of families with children in the third and fourth grade. It demonstrates that middle-class parents seek to develop their children’s talents and skills through a series of organized activities, reasoning and language development, and close supervision of their experiences in school. By contrast, working-class and poor families work hard to feed, clothe, and protect their children but presume their children will spontaneously grow and thrive. In *Unequal Childhoods: Race, Class, and Family Life. Second Edition. A Decade Later* (University of California Press, 2011), Lareau examines what became of her original study children as young adults. Do the effects of class differences in parenting styles persist into young adulthood?