

SOCIAL CHANGE

Fall 2008

Soc 316

D. Swift

M W 6:00 - 7:15 pm

PURPOSE

This class introduces the study of change from a sociological perspective. We will examine theoretical aspects of change and will study examples from traditional and modern societies.

CLASSES

Monday classes will be devoted to lectures and exams. Wednesday classes will be for B and A work. For a C come only on Mondays For a B or A you must also attend Wednesday as well as Monday classes. Wednesdays will include quizzes and oral and written reports on weekly reading assignments

GRADING

To reduce anxiety about grades and to assist you in planning for this semester, you may decide now what grade you want to earn. Attendance counts! Grades will be determined as follows:

For D: Pass 1 exam

For C (or "Credit"): Pass 2 exams

For B: Pass 3 exams + quizzes, discussions

For A: Pass 3 exams + quizzes, discussions + written reports

The Wednesday option is for serious, thinking students only. For the Wednesday option you must attend every class; If you miss more than two you will be disqualified from an A or B.

NO SUBSTITUTIONS For example, doing a paper instead of an exam will not be permitted.

EXAMINATIONS October 2 November 6 December 11 6-7:15 pm

Mostly fill-in, multiple choice, short answer

Examinations will be graded on a simple pass/fail basis. They will NOT be given a letter or number grade.

No makeup exams will be given, but you can still pass the course even if you miss one exam.

OFFICE HOURS: M W 1:45 - 2:15 or by appointment Saunders 211
956-8722, 7693

TEXTS For C: Daniel Chirot, How Societies Change, paperback
plus for B or A: Lindsey Grant, Too Many People, paperback;
and William Catton, Overshoot excerpts, from Professional Image
2633 S. King St 973-6599

Week

1 August 21 Definition, Scope, Forces

2 “ 28 Cyclic Theories: Khaldun

3 September 4 Holiday

4 “ 11 Cyclic Theories: Toynbee, Sorokin

5 “ 18 Linear Theories: Comte, Spencer

6 “ 25 No class Study time

7 October 2 FIRST MIDTERM Lectures weeks 1-5, Chirot ch 1-2

8 “ 9 Linear Theories: Durkheim, Marx

9 “ 16 Materialistic Theories: Ogburn, Veblen

10 “ 23 Ideas and Change

11 “ 30 Conflict and Change

12 November 6 SECOND MIDTERM Lectures weeks 8-11, Chirot ch 3-4

13 “ 13 Structure and Change

14 “ 20 Resistance to Change

15 “ 27 Strategies for Change

16 December 4 The Future

“ 11 FINAL EXAMINATION Entire course, inc Chirot ch 5