

SOCIOLOGY 311: Survey of Social Inequality & Stratification (Writing Intensive)

Instructor: Hiroki Igarashi, Ph.D. Candidate in Department of Sociology
Summer Session 2, (July 2 to August 10), 2012: MTWRF: 09:00 – 10:15 a.m.
CRN#: 92079, **Section #:** 701, **# of Credits:** 3
Office: Saunders 232 **Office hours:** MWF 10:15-11:00 or by appointment
Email: hirokii@hawaii.edu (Email back to you within 24 hours)

I. Course Overview

Welcome to SOC 311! This writing intensive course will provide an overview of social inequality and stratification, which gives you a “new lens” to observe various social phenomena more deeply and analytically. The field of social inequality, class and stratification is one of the core disciplines in sociology. This means that knowing more about social inequality and stratification is the first and inevitable step to understand what sociology is all about. Social inequality can be observed in everyday life, for example, even on the way to school, from your past schooling experiences, etc. In this course, you will learn basic ideas, concepts and theories of social inequality and stratification and deepen your understanding on how inequality is embedded in our everyday life.

II. Readings Assignments

Required Text

Gilbert, L. Dennis. 2010. *The American Class Structure in an Age of Growing Inequality*. Sage Publications, Inc. (8th edition)

Selected Chapters and Articles

The following reading materials will be provided in class:

Barbara Ehrenreich and Arlie Russell Hochschild. 2004. *Global Woman: Nannies, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*. Henry Holt and Company.

Brooks, Rachel and Johanna Waters. 2009. "A Second Chance at 'Success': UK Students and Global Circuits of Higher Education." *Sociology* 43:1085-1102.

Calarco, M. Jessica. 2011. "I Need Help!" Social Class and Children's Help-Seeking in Elementary School." *American Sociological Review* 76(6): 862-882.

Lareau, Annette. 2002. "Invisible Inequality: Social Class and Childrearing in Black Families and White families." *American Sociological Review* 67: 747-766.

Lehmann, Wolfgang. 2007. "'I Just Didn't Feel Like I Fit in': The Role of Habitus in University Drop-Out Decisions." *Canadian Journal of Higher Education* 37:89-110.

MacLeod, J. 1995. *Ain't No Makin' It: Aspirations and Attainment in a Low-Income Neighborhood* Boulder: Westview Press. (Chapter 1 and 2)

- Okamura, Jonathan Y. 2008. *Ethnicity and Inequality in Hawai'i*. Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press. (Chapter 3)
- Sassen, Saskia. 2007. *A Sociology of Globalization*, Edited by J. C. Alexander. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc. (Chapter 6)
- Waters, Johanna L. 2006. "Geographies of Cultural Capital: Education, International Migration and Family Strategies between Hong Kong and Canada." *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 31:179-192.
- Yodanis, Carrie. 2006. "A Place in Town: Doing Class in a Coffee Shop." *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* 35:341-366.

III. Course Requirements

Method of Evaluation

1. Midterm Exam	20 pts
2. Final Exam	20 pts
3. Mini-quizzes	20 pts
4. One-page Reaction Papers	25 pts
5. Class Participation	10 pts
6. Attendance	5 pts
Total (1-6):	100 points

Below are the details of the course requirements:

1. Take-home Midterm Paper: 20% of the Final Grade

Information on this midterm paper will be given as the lectures go. The midterm will be distributed at the end of the class on July 20th. Students have to answer several essay questions and have to submit their papers (10 pages minimum) at the beginning of July 23rd. We'll review the key concepts for the assignment on July 20th.

2. In-Class Final Examination: 20% of the Final Grade

This exam will be held at the last day of the class. Sufficient instructions will be provided later. The contents include multiple choice and short essay questions.

3. Mini-Quizzes: 20 % of the Final Grade

Students are expected to read assigned readings before each class. Mini-quizzes test your basic understanding on the assigned reading material of each day and will be taken at the beginning of the class. To take the mini-quiz everyday, you are expected to be in class on time, 9 a.m.

4. One-page Reaction Papers: 25 % of the Final Grade

Students are expected to submit one-page reaction paper, based on the reading and class discussion of the day. The reaction papers will be submitted from Laulima. At the end of each class, a topic will be announced for this assignment (you will also find this topic under "recent announcements" on Laulima after each class). You will write about the topic based on the assigned reading, lecture and discussions with your classmates in class. This paper should include a summary of the topic/argument in the first paragraph and a critical evaluation on it in the second paragraph. The purpose of this assignment is to help you process the contents of each class and acquire academic writing skills. These

one-page reaction papers will be graded and students receive some feedback from the instructor.

Guideline for the Paper

- Deadline: 10 p.m. of each class
- Late submission, no points
- Your file name should be, “your family name, date”
- Even if you miss a class or the deadline, you must submit it ASAP (you will not receive points for the work, but you must do every writing assignment. Otherwise, you “will get a D- or an F and will not earn W Focus credit”).
- Papers should be typed in single spacing
- Times New Roman, 12 point
- Name, date, and title should be included
- MS Word
- More than 350 words (including your name, date and title)
- No direct quote if it is not indicated
- Submitting by using “Assignment” function of Lualima
- Even if you miss a class, you still have to submit this assignment by 10 p.m. of the day

5. Class Participation: 10 % of the Final Grade

I will raise a couple of discussion questions based on assigned reading material every class, and students are expected to participate in discussions actively. In addition, we will watch some documentaries and movies relevant to the course contents, and students will be encouraged to discuss and analyze them by using sociological concepts and ideas.

6. Attendance: 5 % of the Final Grade

Attendance is mandatory and will be formally tracked. Only illnesses documented and excused by a nurse or physician will be excused. Being late twice or leaving early twice or both is equivalent to one absent. If you miss class more than five times, you will automatically receive F. Should you plan to be absent or late, please let me know beforehand or after class with necessary documentation.

IV. Class Rules

- The use of laptops and electronic devices is NOT allowed in this course.
 - It has been demonstrated by recent research that multi-tasking lowers cognitive functioning. In addition, when students use electronic devices, it is distracting to other students.
- Cell phones and pagers should be TURNED OFF BEFORE the class starts because they are disruptive. If the use of cell phones including texting and in class is found, his/her attendance of the day will NOT be counted.
- Be respectful to others and their ideas.
- Contact me as soon as possible when you find the class materials or anything else happening in class uncomfortable. I will take an immediate action to solve the problem.

V. Final GradesCriteria

A+ = 98-100	B+ = 87-89	C+ = 77-79	D+ = 67-69	F = below 60
A = 93-97	B = 83-86	C = 73-76	D = 63-66	
A- = 90-92	B- = 80-82	C- = 70-72	D- = 60-62	

V. Class Calendar and Assignments

(Assigned days for one-page reaction papers are indicated with *. There are 23 days in total.)

Week 1. What is Social Class?

Day01. Introduction & Inequality around Us. (July 2nd)

Day02. Social Class in America (Chapter 1) * (July 3rd)

NO CLASS—Independence Day (July 4th)

Day03. Position and Prestige (Chapter2)* (July 5th)

Day04. Social Class, Occupation and Social Change (Chapter 3) *(July 6th)

Week 2. Wealth, Lifestyles, Mobility and Education

Day05. Wealth and Income (Chapter 4) * (July 9th)

Day06. Socioeconomic Inequality and Ethnicity in Hawaii (Okamura)* (July 10th)

Day07. Socialization, Association, Lifestyles and Values (Chapter 5)* (July 11th)

Day08. Social Mobility: The Societal Context (Chapter 6)* (July 12th)

Day09. Family, Education and Career (Chapter 7)* (July 13th)

Week 3. Social Reproduction

Day10. Social Reproduction Theory (MacLeod)* (July 16th)

Day11. Class Differences in Childrearing (Lareau)* (July 17th)

Day12. Class-based Help Seeking Patterns (Calarco)* (July 18th)

Day13. Inequality in College (Lehmann) * (July 19th)

Day14. Review for Midterm Exam (**Midterm will be distributed**) (July 20th)

Week 4. From Elites to the Underclass

Day15. No assignment (**The midterm paper will be collected**) (July 23rd)

Day16. Elites, the Capitalist Class, and Political Elites (Chapter 8)* (July 24th)

Day17. Class Consciousness and Class Conflict (Chapter 9)* (July 25th)

Day18. The Poor, the Underclass, and Public Policy (Chapter 10)* (July 26th)

Day19. Doing Class in Everyday Life (Yodanis)* (July 27th)

Week 5. Classes from a Global Perspective

Day20. Global Classes (Sassen) * (July 30th)

Day21. The Care Crisis in the Philippines (Prennans in GW 39-55)*(July 31st)

Day22. Educated Overseas Brides and Low-Wage US Husbands (Thai in GW 230-253)*

Day23. Transnational Class Mobility for Asian Middle Class Families (Waters) * (Aug 2rd)

Day24. Transnational Class Mobility for British Youth (Brooks and Waters)*(Aug 3rd)

Week 6. Review

Day25. The American Class Structure and Growing Inequality (Chapter 11)* (Aug 6th)

Day26. Reading TBA* (Aug 7th)

Day27. Review I (Aug 8th)

Day28. Review II (Aug 9th)

Day29. **Final Exam (Good luck!)**

KOKUA Material

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability is invited to contact me privately. I would be happy to work with you, and the KOKUA Program (Office for Students with Disabilities) to ensure reasonable accommodations in my course. KOKUA can be reached at (808) 956-7511 or (808) 956-7612 (voice/text) in room 013 of the Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services.

Plagiarism Material

The following definition of plagiarism comes from the UH-Manoa Student Conduct Code:

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or "drylabbing," which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms.

University of Hawai'i at Manoa Student Conduct Code (1992), p. 6

It is ultimately each student's responsibility to learn about plagiarism and how to avoid it. Ignorance of the rules, saying "I forgot about that" or "I made a mistake" are not considered valid excuses when it comes to plagiarism.

Notice regarding syllabus on Web

Students: Please be advised that this syllabus is provided for informational purposes only. YOU SHOULD NOT PURCHASE ANY BOOKS OR MATERIALS ON THE BASIS OF THIS SYLLABUS AS IT MAY CHANGE PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS. Please wait until the first day of instruction at which time you will be given the final version of the syllabus.