

## **SOC 620 SEMINAR IN SOCIAL STRATIFICATION – FALL 2018**

**Department of Sociology - University of Hawai'i at Manoa**

**INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Nandita Sharma**

**E-MAIL: nsharma@hawaii.edu**

**OFFICE: Rm. 205 Saunders Hall**

**OFFICE TEL.: 956.8438**

**OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 11:00 AM to 12:00PM (or by appointment)**

**CLASS: Wednesdays: 3:00PM to 5:30PM**

**ROOM: Saunders 244**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The study of social stratification is, at its core, the study of social divisions and inequalities. In this course, we will examine the historical, material and social processes that have created enormous discrepancies in people's lived experience and their access and enjoyment of planetary resources. In particular, we will look at socially organized "differences" of gender, "race," "nation" and class and explore their relationship to processes of exploitation, oppression and subjugation. Along with an examination of the structural processes that organize such hierarchies, we will explore the cultural bases for the normalization of the differential values accorded to people, practices and ways of life. We will also discuss the myriad forms of resistance that people have taken to challenge the imposition of hierarchies of worth. We will push the boundaries of the sociology of social stratification by extending our investigation to the divisions and inequalities formed between humans and the rest of life on the planet.

### **REQUIRED READINGS: (Available at the University of Hawai'i Bookstore)**

**EMW** Ellen Meiksins Wood, *The Origin of Capitalism: A Longer View*. London: Verso, 2002.

**LR** Linebaugh, Peter and Rediker, Marcus, *The Many-Headed Hydra: The Hidden History of the Revolutionary Atlantic*, Boston: Beacon Press, 2000.

**SF** Silvia Federici, *Caliban and the Witch: Women, The Body and Primitive Accumulation*. Brooklyn, NY: Autonomedia, 2004.

**BA:** Anderson, Bridget. *Us and Them? The Dangerous Politics of Immigration Control*, Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2013.

**LP:** Julie Livingston and Jasbir K. Puar (eds.) Interspecies, Special Edition of *Social Text* 29, no. 1 (106), 2011.

### **Course Requirements and Grading:**

Participation	10%
Discussion Questions	10%
Critical Book Evaluations (2, 4-5 pages each: 15% each)	30%
Research Essay (20-25 pages)	50%