

**Sociology 413 (Fall 2009)**  
**Analysis in Economy and Society**  
**Prof. Seio Nakajima**  
**MW 2:30-3:45 pm, BIL 335**

Office hours: Monday, 4-5 pm or by appointment  
208 Saunders Hall  
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**Course Description:**

This course provides an introduction to sociological analyses of the economy, economic processes, and economic institutions. We will examine how economic activities are both enabled and constrained by social relations and social institutions including politics and culture. The course has two major goals: (1) To familiarize students with several key theories and concepts developed in the field of “economic sociology” (e.g., self-interest, markets, and the notion of “embeddedness” of economy in social relations). This goal will be achieved by a close reading of the textbook and the extension of it in lectures and class discussions. (2) To prepare students with necessary skills to apply these theories and concepts to real-world economic phenomena. This goal will be realized by watching films related to the topics discussed in this course as well as additional readings of articles published in popular media (e.g., newspapers, magazines, the Internet). In order to concretely understand that economic phenomena are not only “economic” (e.g., price equilibrium determined by supply and demand), but also social, cultural, and political processes, we will try to go back and forth between the conceptual discussions and detailed empirical case studies of economies and industries in the United States and abroad.

**Required Text:**

- Jeffrey K. Hass. 2007. *Economic Sociology: An Introduction*. London: Routledge.

**Additional Readings:**

- To be handed out in class by the professor.

**Course Requirements and Grades:**

Final grades will be based on performance on the following six items:

(1) 8 quizzes on the readings in the textbook (**20%**).

- Closed-book, but very basic, short, 10-15 minutes, in-class quizzes for chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and Conclusion.
- I will announce when we'll be having a quiz at least one class session in advance so you can prepare well.
- Only the highest five grades will be counted toward your final grade. I will drop the lowest three grades (including absences) ( $4\% \times 5 = 20\%$ ).

(2) An in-class mid-term exam (**25%**).

- **Monday, October 12, 2:30-3:45 pm.**
- Details TBA.
- Could consist of identifications, short answers, and/or essay questions based on readings,

lecture, and other class activities.

- We'll have a thorough review session before the exam.

(3) A final research paper (**20%**).

- Approximately 8-10 pages long.
- The final research paper will be on a topic chosen by you in consultation with the professor.
- The paper must address a question raised by the lecture, readings, and class discussions, and must make use of primary source materials.
- E-mail potential research topics to professor on or before **Monday, October 19 by 11:59 pm**.
- **Due: Wednesday, December 9 by 11:59 pm** via e-mail. Papers turned in after the due date will be lowered 1/3 of a letter grade for each day late.

(4) A take-home final exam (**25%**).

- Take-home exam questions distributed in class on **Wednesday, December 9**.
- **Due: Monday, December 14 by 4:15 pm** via e-mail. **No late submissions accepted.**
- Details TBA.
- Could consist of identifications, short answers, and/or essay questions based on readings, lecture, and other class activities.
- We'll have a thorough review session before the exam.

(5) Class attendance and participation (**10%**).

- Class attendance and active participation in class is mandatory and will make up 10% of the final grade. This could include in-class assignments as well as participation in discussions.

(6) Extra credit (**up to 10%**).

- Details TBA.

\* Grade percentage in sum: quizzes (20%), mid-term exam (25%), final research paper (20%), final exam (25%), attendance and participation (10%), extra credit (up to 10%).

Note:

For all of the course requirements, other than externally verified emergencies (i.e., medical emergencies explained with a doctor's note), there will be no exceptions.

**Summary of Important Dates:**

- Monday, October 12: In class mid-term exam.
- Monday, October 19: E-mail potential research topics to professor by 11:59 pm.
- Wednesday, December 9: Final research paper due via e-mail by 11:59 pm.
- Wednesday, December 9: Take-home final exam questions distributed in class.
- Monday, December 14: Take-home final exam due via e-mail by 4:15 pm.

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**Week One: Introduction: Economic Sociology Unbound**

Monday, August 24

Wednesday, August 26

Read for this week:

Hass, Chapter 1, entire (pp. 1-18).

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**Week Two: Sociology and Economics I**

Monday, August 31  
Wednesday, September 2

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 2, pp. 19-28 (before “Overall evaluation: economics and its sociological critique”).

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**Week Three: Sociology and Economics II**

Monday, September 7: Labor Day: **HOLIDAY-NO CLASS**  
Wednesday, September 9

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 2, pp. 28-35.

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**Week Four: The Rise of Markets and Economic Development I**

Monday, September 14  
Wednesday, September 16

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 3, pp. 37-48 (before “Values of modernity and development: modernization theory”).

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**Week Five: The Rise of Markets and Economic Development II**

Monday, September 21  
Wednesday, September 23

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 3, pp. 48-61.

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**Week Six: The State, Public Policy, and Economic Organizations I**

Monday, September 28  
Wednesday, September 30

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 4, pp. 63-81 (before “Global policy paradigms: Keynesianism, monetarism, and welfare”)

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**Week Seven: The State, Public Policy, and Economic Organizations II**

Monday, October 5  
Wednesday, October 7

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 4, pp. 81-89.

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**Week Eight: Organizations and Corporations I**

Monday, October 12: **IN-CLASS MID-TERM EXAM**  
Wednesday, October 14

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 5, pp. 91-109.

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**Week Nine: Organizations and Corporations II**

Monday, October 19: **E-MAIL POTENTIAL RESEARCH TOPICS TO PROFESSOR BY 11:59 PM**  
Wednesday, October 21

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 5, pp. 110-118.

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**Week Ten: Economies, Inequality, and Mobility I**

Monday, October 26  
Wednesday, October 28

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 6, pp. 119-130 (before "Race, ethnicity, and economy").

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**Week Eleven: Economies, Inequality, and Mobility II**

Monday, November 2  
Wednesday, November 4

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 6, pp. 130-152.

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**Week Twelve: Economies in Socialism and Post-Socialism I**

Monday, November 9  
Wednesday, November 11: Veteran's Day: **HOLIDAY-NO CLASS**

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 7, pp. 153-170 (before "Impact of market-building reforms").

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**Week Thirteen: Economies in Socialism and Post-Socialism II**

Monday, November 16  
Wednesday, November 18

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 7, pp. 170-181.

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**Week Fourteen: Economic Globalization I**

Monday, November 23  
Wednesday, November 25

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 8, pp. 183-190 (before “New phenomenon – or return to the norm?”).

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**Week Fifteen: Economic Globalization II**

Monday, November 30  
Wednesday, December 2

Read:  
Hass, Chapter 8, pp. 190-197.

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**Week Sixteen: Conclusions and Final Exam Review**

Monday, December 7: Conclusions  
Wednesday, December 9: Final Exam Review: **FINAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE VIA E-MAIL BY 11:59 PM: TAKE-HOME EXAM QUESTIONS DISTRIBUTED IN CLASS**

Read:  
Hass, Conclusion, entire (pp. 199-210).

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**TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM DUE VIA E-MAIL BY 4:15 PM, MONDAY, DECEMBER 14. NO LATE SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED.**

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**Kokua Statement** 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** 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**