

Sociology 413 - Analysis in Economy and Society
Prof. Seio Nakajima
Tentative Spring 2008
Course Syllabus

MWF 1130-1220pm,

KUY 210

***NOTE:** This syllabus is from Fall 2007. The overall structure, requirements, and goals for the course will remain the same for Spring 2008. However, the lecture dates as well as the details of the course including some readings in the coursepack will be revised for Spring 2008. The finalized syllabus will be posted as soon as possible, and will also be available on the first day of class. If you have any questions in the mean time, please contact : seio@hawaii.edu.*

Sociology 413
Analysis in Economy and Society

Prof. Seio Nakajima
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Course Purpose

This course provides an introduction to sociological analyses of the economy, economic processes, and economic institutions. The central goal of this course is to understand how economic activities are both enabled and constrained by social relations and social institutions including politics and culture. The course has two components. First, we discuss several key theories and concepts developed in the subfield of “economic sociology” (e.g., self-interest, markets, and the notion of “embeddedness” of economy in social relations). Secondly, we will read empirical applications of these ideas to real-world economic phenomena. 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.

Texts

- Jeff Hass. 2007. *Economic Sociology: An Introduction*. London: Routledge.
- Coursepack available at Professional Image, 2633 South King St. (ph: 973-6599)

Course Requirements and Grades

Final grades will be based on performance on (1) a mid-term exam, (2) a final exam, (3) a final research paper of approximately 8-10 pages long, and (4) class attendance and participation. The mid-term and final exam will consist of identifications and short essay questions based on readings and lecture. 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. Papers are to be handed in to the professor at the beginning of class on or before the due date. Papers turned in after the due date will be lowered one letter grade for each day late. Other than externally verified medical emergencies (i.e., those explained with a doctor’s note), there will be no exceptions. Class attendance and active participation in class is mandatory and will make up 25% of the final grade. This could include in-class writing assignments and quizzes as well as participation in discussions. Grade percentage in sum: mid-term exam (25%), final exam (25%), final research paper (25%), class attendance and participation (25%).

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Week One: Introduction

Monday, August 20
Wednesday, August 22
Friday, August 24

Read:

Hass. Ch. 1.

*Frank Ackerman & Lisa Heinzerling. "Prices Without Values" and "Myths and Markets" (in *Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing*).

*Pietra Rivoli. "Preface." (in *The Travels of A T-Shirt in the Global Economy: An Economist Examines the Markets, Power, and Politics of World Trade*).

Note: Readings marked with * are included in the coursepack.

Week Two: Sociology and Economics I

Monday, August 27
Wednesday, August 29
Friday, August 31

Read:

Hass. Ch. 2.

*Paul Hirsch, Stuart Michaels, and Ray Friedman. "Clean Models vs. Dirty Hands: Why Economics Is Different From Sociology."

Week Three: Sociology and Economics II

Monday, September 3: Labor Day: **HOLIDAY-NO CLASS**
Wednesday, September 5
Friday, September 7

Read:

*Gary S. Becker. "Gary S. Becker." (in *Economics and Sociology: Conversations with Economists and Sociologists*).

*Victor Nee. "The New Institutionalisms in Economics and Sociology."

Week Four: The Rise of Markets and Economic Development I

Monday, September 10
Wednesday, September 12
Friday, September 14

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Read:

Hass. Ch. 3

*Richard Swedberg. "Markets in Society."

Week Five: The Rise of Markets and Economic Development II

Monday, September 17

Wednesday, September 19

Friday, September 21

Read:

*Frank Dobbin. "Comparative and Historical Approaches to Economic Sociology."

*Peter Evans. "States and Industrial Transformation." (in *Embedded Autonomy: States and Industrial Transformation*)

Week Six: The State, Public Policy, and Economy I

Monday, September 24

Wednesday, September 26

Friday, September 28

Read:

Hass. Ch. 4

*Gary Hamilton and Nicole Woolsey Biggart. "Market, Culture, and Authority: A Comparative Analysis of Management and Organization in the Far East."

E-MAIL POTENTIAL RESEARCH TOPICS TO PROFESSOR

Week Seven: The State, Public Policy, and Economy II

Monday, October 1

Wednesday, October 3

Friday, October 5

Read:

*Elizabeth Currid. "Art, Culture, and New York City," "The Economics of A Dance Floor," and "The Rise of Global Tastemakers: What It All Means for the Policymakers." (in *The Warhol Economy: How Fashion, Art & Music Drive New York City*).

Week Eight: Organizations and Corporations I

Monday, October 8

Wednesday, October 10

Friday, October 12

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Read:

Hass. Ch. 5

*Eric Schlosser. "Introduction," "Success," and "Why the Fries Taste Good." (in *Fastfood Nation: The Dark Sid of the All-American Meal*).

Week Nine: Organizations and Corporations II

Monday, October 15: **IN-CLASS MID-TERM EXAM**

Wednesday, October 17

Friday, October 19

Read:

*Susan G. Davis. "Introduction" and "The Park and the City." (in *Spectacular Nature: Corporate Culture and the Sea World Experience*).

*Marion Nestle. "Introduction: The Food Industry and 'Eat More.'" (in *Food Politics: How the Food Industry Influences Nutrition and Health*).

Week Ten: Economy, Social Inequality, and Mobility I

Monday, October 22

Wednesday, October 24

Friday, October 26

Read:

Hass. Ch. 6

*Jay MacLeod. "Social Immobility in the Land of Opportunity," "Social Reproduction in Theoretical Perspective," and "Conclusion: Outclassed and Outcast(e)." (in *Ain't No Makin' It: Aspirations & Attainment in a Low Income Neighborhood*).

Week Eleven: Economy, Social Inequality, and Mobility II

Monday, October 29

Wednesday, October 31

Friday, November 2

Read:

*David Brooks. "Introduction," "The Rise of the Educated Class," "Consumption." (in *Bobos in Paradise: The New Upper Class and How They Got There*).

*Arlie Hochschild. "Preface," "Introducton," "A Speed-up in the Family," "Stepping into Old Biographies or Making History Happen?" (in *The Second Shift*).

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Week Twelve: Economies in Socialism and Post-Socialism I

Monday, November 5
Wednesday, November 7
Friday, November 9

Read:

Hass. Ch. 7

*Jeffrey K. Hass. "Making Markets: Rationality, Institutions, Culture, and Economic Change in Russia."

Week Thirteen: Economies in Socialism and Post-Socialism II

Monday, November 12: Veterans Day: **HOLIDAY-NO CLASS**
Wednesday, November 14
Friday, November 16

Read:

*Ann Veeck. "Revitalization of the Marketplace: Food Markets of Nanjing."

*Timothy B. Weston. "Fueling China's Capitalist Transformation: The Human Cost."

Week Fourteen: Economic Globalization I

Monday, November 19
Wednesday, November 21
Friday, November 23: Thanksgiving: **HOLIDAY-NO CLASS**

Read:

Hass. Ch. 8

*Rivoli. "Part II: Made in China."

Week Fifteen: Economic Globalization II

Monday, November 26
Wednesday, November 28
Friday, November 30

Read:

*Sasha Issenberg. "Introduction: World Gone Raw," "Fast-Food Metropolis: Feeding Sushi's Hometown," "Are You Ready for Rice Sandwiches?: How Sushi Became the Favorite Food of the Capital of the Twentieth Century." (in *The Sushi Economy: Globalization and the Making of a Modern Delicacy*).

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Week Sixteen: Review and Conclusions

Monday, December 3

Wednesday, December 5: **FINAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE IN CLASS**

Read:

Hass. Conclusion.

FINAL EXAM: Monday, December 10, 1:30-3:30pm

Departmental Required Statements

Kokua

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)*

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" is not considered a valid excuse when it comes to plagiarism.