

# **SOCIOLOGY 311: Survey of Social Inequality & Stratification**

**Summer Session II, 2008** (July 7<sup>th</sup> –Aug 14<sup>th</sup>)

**Location:** BUSAD 102C, **Times:** MTWRF 10:30-11:45

**CRN#:** 93886, **Section#:** 701, **# of Credits:** 3

**Note:** This is a TENTATIVE description of the course.

**Instructor:** Hiroki Igarashi, Doctoral Student in Department of Sociology at UHM

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## **I. Course Overview**

Welcome to SOC 311! This course will provide an overview of social inequality and stratification, which gives you a “new lens” to observe social phenomenon more deeply and analytically. The field of social inequality, class and stratification is one of the core disciplines of sociology as well as race and gender. Class inequality can be seen in everyday life, for example, even on the way to school, from your past schooling experience, etc. In this course, you will learn basic ideas of social inequality and stratification and how class, race/ethnicity and gender are interconnected in the era of globalization. Through this course, you will be able to analyze how inequality is maintained and reproduced on societal, national and global levels. A special attention will be paid to “working poor” and “education and childrearing practices”: how class structure and inequality are reproduced through generations and how education plays a key role in the process.

## **II. Readings Assignments**

### Required Texts

The Following books are available at UH Bookstore:

Sernau, Scott. 2006. *World Part: Social Inequalities in a Global Economy*. Pine Forge Press: Thousand Oaks, CA. (2nd edition)

Hrenreich, Barbara. 2001. *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*. Holt Paperbacks.

### Selected Chapters and Articles

The following articles will be provided in class (Additional reading materials might be also given in class):

MacLeod, J. 1995. *Ain't No Makin' It: Aspirations and Attainment in a Low-Income*

*Neighborhood* ([Rev. and updated ed). Boulder: Westview Press. (Chapter 1 and 2)  
 Lareau, Annette. 2002. "Invisible inequality: Social Class and Childrearing in Black Families and White families." *American Sociological Review* 67: 747-766.

### III. Course Requirements

#### Method of Evaluation

1. Midterm Exam	30 pts	July 25th
2. Final Exam	30 pts	August 14th
3. Short Papers (x4)	5x4=20 pts	
4. Attendance	12 pts	
5. Participation	8 pts	
<b>Total (1-5):</b>	<b>100 points</b>	

\*Extra-credit assignments might be given.

Below are the details of the course requirements:

#### In-Class Midterm Examination:

This exam will be held on July 25<sup>th</sup>. (30% of final grade)

The contents include multiple choice and short essay questions

#### In-Class Final Examination:

This exam will be held on August 14<sup>th</sup> (30% of final grade)

The contents include multiple choice and short essay questions

#### Short Papers:

Every week except the weeks of the midterm and final exam, students write 2-4 page papers about a topic provided by the instructor. The aim of this writing practice is to analyze your life experience by applying theories and ideas on social inequality that you learn from lectures. Students are encouraged to use ideas from read reading materials to build arguments. (20% of final grade)

#### Attendance

Attendance is mandatory and will be formally tracked. I pass attendance sheet every class. (12% of final grade)

#### Participation:

Students are expected to participate in activities and discussions. (8% of final grade)

## IV. Class Calendar and Assignments

### Week 1. Social inequality and stratification (Jul 7<sup>th</sup>-Jul 11<sup>th</sup>)

- 1.1 Introduction & Inequality around us /July 7
- 1.2 Basic Concepts I(Chapter 1) / July 8
- 1.3 Basic Concepts II (Chapter 1) / July 9
- 1.4 Inequality across Societies I (Chapter2) / July 10
- 1.5 Inequality across Societies II (Chapter2) / July 11

### Week 2. Class, Status and Power (Jul 14<sup>th</sup>-Jul 18<sup>th</sup>)

- 2.1 Review of Basic Concepts / Short Paper 1 Due / July 14
- 2.2 Class Privilege (Chapter 4) / July 15
- 2.3 Status Prestige (Chapter 7) / July 16
- 2.4 Power and Politics (Chapter 8) / July 17
- 2.5 Synthesis of Class, Status and Power / July 18

### Week 3. Race, Gender and Class (Jul 21<sup>st</sup>- Jul 25<sup>th</sup>)

- 3.1 The Overview of Race, Class and Gender (Chapter 3)/ Short Paper 2 Due /July 21
- 3.2 Race and Class (Chapter 5) / July 22
- 3.3 Gender and Class (Chapter 6) / July 23
- 3.4 Review for Midterm Exam /July 24
- 3.5 Midterm Exam (Good luck!) / July 25

### Week 4. Poverty and Working Poor (Jul 28<sup>th</sup>-Aug 1<sup>st</sup>)

- 4.1 Poverty and Place (Chapter 10) / July 28
- 4.2 Poverty and Policy (Chapter 11) July 29
- 4.3 Movie Day / July 30
- 4.4 Working Poor I (Ehrenreich) / July 31
- 4.5 Working Poor II (Ehrenreich) / August 1

### Week 5. Education, Family and Social Reproduction (Aug 4<sup>th</sup>-Aug 8<sup>th</sup>)

- 5.1 Education and Mobility I (Chapter 9) / Short Paper 3 Due / August 4
- 5.2 Education and Mobility II (Chapter 9) / August 5
- 5.3 Social Reproduction Theory (MacLeod) August 6
- 5.4 Class Differences of Childrearing (Lareau) / August 7
- 5.5 Synthesis of Education, Family and Social Reproduction / August 8

### Week 6. Social Movements and Review (Aug 11<sup>th</sup>-Aug 14<sup>th</sup>)

- 6.1 Social Movements against Inequality (Chapter 12) / Short Paper 4 Due /August 11
- 6.2 Review I / August 12
- 6.3 Review II / August 13
- 6.4 Final Exam (Good luck!) / August 14

## 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.*