

University of North Texas at Dallas
Spring 2015
SYLLABUS















SOCL 3330D: Social Stratification 3 Hrs					
Department of		Sociology	Division of		Liberal Arts and Life Sciences
Instructor Name:		<i>Syeda S. Jesmin, Ph.D., M.P.H.</i>			
Office Location:		<i>Dallas Building 2 #324</i>			
Office Phone:		972-338-1589			
Email Address:		Syeda.jesmin@unt.edu			
Office Hours:		Wednesdays 9:30 am to 12:30 pm or by appointment			
Virtual Office Hours:					
Classroom Location:					
Class Meeting Days & Times:					
Course Catalog Description:		Bases of social differentiation; status, power and mobility in social systems; influence of stratification on behavior; class structure in the United States.			
Prerequisites:		SOC1 1510D or equivalent			
Co-requisites:		None			
Required Text:		Social Stratification and Inequality, 9th Edition Harold R. Kerbo ©2009, ISBN-13 9780073380070 Lower edition is acceptable			
Recommended Text and References:		None			
Access to Learning Resources:		UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fheg.follett.com			
Course Goals or Overview:					
<p>This course provides intensive preparation in theoretical and substantive topics in social stratification and mobility. The course begins with broad overviews of theory and research in the area. Subsequent sections of the course look in some detail at social classes, the factors that influence the persistent class inequalities. The course looks closely at inequalities in educational attainment and earnings, at factors that generate and maintain gender and race/ethnic inequalities, and at the stratification of lifestyles, social participation, and health. Where possible, the course includes cross-national and/or historical comparisons.</p>					
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will					
1	Be able describe the meaning and nature of many dimensions of stratification				
2	Be able to explain and critique the theories of stratification				
3	Be able to describe and explain the nature of the American class system				






4	Be able to identify persistence of gender, race and ethnic inequalities
5	Be able to critic the process of legitimization in the formulation and maintenance of social classes.

COURSE OUTLINE

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by announcements during class.

Tentative Schedule* CLASS READINGS & EXAM DATES

Weeks	Topic	Assignments, Exams
Weeks 1-2 January 20-Feb 1	Chapter 1: Perspectives and Concepts in the Study of Social Stratification Chapter 2: Dimensions of Inequality in the United States Article: Income inequality and social dysfunction	Introduce yourself   Quiz 1
Weeks 3-4 Feb 2 – Feb 15	Chapter 3: Social Stratification in Human Societies Chapter 4: Social Stratification Theory: Early Statements	 Assignment 1  Discussion 1  Quiz 2
Weeks 5- 6 Feb 16- March 1	Chapter 5: Modern Theories of Social Stratification Article: Social capital and adolescent violent behavior Article: Does Cultural Capital Really Affect Academic Achievement	 Discussion 2  Quiz 3
Weeks 7- 8 March 2-March 15	Chapter 6: The upper class Chapter 8: The Middle and Working Classes	 Discussion 3  Quiz 4
Weeks 9-10 March 16-29	Chapter 9: Poverty and the Political Economy of Welfare Article: Work, employment, & single mothers' survival strategies.	 Assignment 2  Discussion 4  Quiz 5
Weeks 11-12 March 30- April 12	Chapter 10: Gender Stratification and Inequalities: The Persistence of Ascription Article: Bringing the Men Back in: Sex Differentiation and the Devaluation of Women's Work	 Discussion 5  Quiz 6

Weeks 13-14 April 13- 26	Chapter 11: Inequalities of Race and Ethnicity: The Persistence of Ascription Article: The Context of Discrimination: Workplace Conditions, Institutional Environments, and Sex and Race Discrimination Charges	 Discussion 6  Quiz 7
Weeks 15-16 April 27-May 10	Chapter 16: World Stratification and Globalization: The Poor of This Earth	 Discussion 7  Quiz 8
Week 17 May 11-15	Final paper due 	

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

1. *Online Discussions*

For 7 times throughout the semester students will be asked a specific question or questions related to course materials. *These questions will be posted in the Blackboard.* You will have a minimum of THREE DAYS to post your response, read statements from other students and submit comments to them. Discussion Area submissions are worth total 7X10=70 points. Here are some guidelines regarding your participation in these class discussions.

1. For each question or questions that I've designated for a particular chapter, submit your well-considered response. Then, take a look at what others have said on the topic. Respond to at least ONE of your fellow students with at least one comment/question regarding something he/she has said.
2. As far as evaluating your discussion responses, I will be interested in whether a response shows an understanding of what sociology is and the sociological perspective. Integrate sociological concepts into your responses. Applying these concepts accurately shows your familiarity with the reading as well as your ability to apply it. Avoid simply repeating what others have already said in their responses. Take some time to offer different examples or ways of analyzing the issue. Also, it's important to remember that this isn't a talk show where it's adequate to simply state your personal opinion. Earning an "A" (10 points out of 10) on the discussions requires going beyond the minimal requirements of the assignment.
3. Remember, this isn't The Jerry Springer Show. Occasionally, it's apparent that a response is meant to be cute or funny, but not serious and thoughtful. I'm not looking for comedic talent. The discussions require more than having a conversation with your colleagues in the class.
4. I strongly recommend that you take the time to compose your discussion response (e.g., in your software program like Microsoft Word or Works), save it and then post it in the Discussion Area. Always keep a copy of your discussion responses in case of a technical problem on the course website.
5. As mentioned in the section above, students should be courteous to others in the class. That means no YELLING!!, personal insults, threats, profanity as well as other inappropriate postings in the Discussion Area. Sometimes students will disagree with each other. That's okay—disagreements should be expressed politely and intellectually (focusing on the course

material).

2. Assignments

Students will be required to submit 2 assignments. The 2 assignments together will be worth of 90 points (40 + 50). Detail instructions on these assignments will be announced in class, and posted on Blackboard.

It is the student's responsibility to approach the instructor **in advance** of a due date if further explanation is necessary. **Students who miss a deadline must document an illness or family emergency to become eligible for turning in assignments without penalty.** Failure to do so will result in an assigned zero. The qualifying student will be given 7 calendar days following the missed date. Beyond the 10-day period, except under extreme circumstances, no late assignments will be allowed and a zero will be assigned. To safeguard against any errors in recording your grades, it will be your responsibility to retain all exams/assignments returned to you. If there is a discrepancy, you will then have on hand the original score and based on this, the proper corrections can be made.

3. Final Research Paper

At the end of the semester, students are required to submit a research paper. This research paper is worth of 100 points. Detail instructions for the research paper is available on Blackboard.

4. QUIZZES

There will be 8 quizzes (30 X8)). Quizzes consist of short answer, essay, and/or multiple choice questions. Quizzes are not cumulative, although key ideas and concepts will carry over.

***Please note that make-up quizzes are all essay and are given during the week of final exams. They are ONLY given in the event of a DOCUMENTED excused absence. (Reasons for excused absence include hospitalization, death in the family, etc.) If you miss, be prepared to provide proof for having done so. It is in your best interest to not miss an exam. (Prior arrangements can be made on an individual basis if you will miss a quiz and you know that ahead of time.)**

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total
7 Online Discussions	7 @ 10 points each	70
Assignment1	40 points	40
Assignment 2	50 points	50
1 Research paper	100 points	100
8 quizzes	8 @ 30 points	240
Total:		500

Grade Determination:

- A = 450=500 pts; i.e. 90% or better
- B = 400 – 449 pts; i.e. 80 – 89 %
- C = 350 – 399 pts; i.e. 70 – 79 %
- D = 300 – 349 pts; i.e. 60 – 69 %
- F = 299 pts or below; i.e. less than 60%

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an

accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

If you are unable to submit the assignments due to serious illness where you are physically incapacitated (e.g., hospitalized), medical documentation is required to resolve the missed assignment. *Be sure to speak with me immediately if you fail to meet the assignment submission deadline.*

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). If you are unable to take an exam due to serious illness where you are physically incapacitated (e.g., hospitalized), medical documentation is required to resolve the missed exam. **If you miss any exam, then you will be given an essay make-up exam.** *Be sure to speak with me immediately if you miss an exam. Remember, you must submit official documentation in order for this policy to apply to you.*

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs.%20Education.%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:

On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.

Optional Policies:

- *Use of WebCT/Blackboard: **Review the course website several times per week, if not daily.***
Visiting the website frequently will familiarize you with the resources available on the site as well as alert you to any changes or additions to the website (e.g., possible changes to the syllabus, due date reminders posted in the calendar, instructions for discussions).
- *Grade of Incomplete: You should discuss with me in advance if an “I” has to be assigned.*
- Please provide me, the instructor, with **48 hours** to respond to e-mail messages.