

SOCIAL STRATIFICATION
SOCIOLOGY 228
Fall 2011

Professor David Brady
Monday 10:05-12:35
Soc/Psych 329

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This class will seek to train graduate students in the social science, theories and debates within the sociology of social inequalities. This class serves as a graduate-level introduction to social stratification and surveys major approaches in the field. We will scrutinize scholarly traditions, contending theories, frontiers of research, different dimensions of stratification (race, gender and class), and different perspectives on class analysis. We will read classic and contemporary scholarship and explore a variety of methodologies. We will study a variety of world regions and I have especially sought out readings on less developed countries. We will do so partly because the U.S. is less than 5% of the world's population, and as our department's PhD-student stipend nearly puts one in the top 5% of the world's income distribution. Finally, to balance our graduate program's curriculum, we will seek to cover topics within stratification that are not already covered by other graduate seminars. Among the goals I have for this course, I aim to: i) develop students' analytical and writing skills; ii) cultivate students' theoretical depth and understanding; iii) expand students' scholarly knowledge of this diverse but coherent field, and iv) engage students' with a rich and exciting set of intellectual debates.

READINGS:

The readings will include seven books and a host of journal articles and chapters. The books are available at The Regulator Bookstore on 9th Street.

- 1) Shapiro, Thomas. 2004. *The Hidden Costs of Being African-American* New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2) Glenn, Evelyn Nakano. 2002. *Unequal Freedom: How Race and Gender Shaped American Citizenship and Labor* Cambridge, MA.: Harvard University Press.
- 3) Wright, Erik Olin. 1997 *Class Counts: Student Edition* New York: Cambridge University Press.
- 4) Lamont, Michele. 1992. *Money, Morals and Manners: The Culture of the French and the American Upper-Middle Class* Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- 5) Tilly, Charles. 1998. *Durable Inequality* Berkeley: University of California Press.
- 6) Brady, David. 2009. *Rich Democracies, Poor People: How Politics Explain Poverty* New York: Oxford University Press.

The remaining readings will be available through the course's Blackboard site, and/or provided in the preceding class. In general, students should read the readings in the order they are listed.

EVALUATION:

All students will be graded on three exams and class participation. The exams will be take-home exams and will involve students answering 2-3 essay questions in a total of about 10 pages. Though class material and learning cumulatively build over the semester, the exams will largely be non-cumulative. Students will typically have one week to complete the exam. The exams will be evaluated for professional writing skills, conceptual and theoretical depth, mastery of the material, creativity and analytic rigor. Moreover, the exams will seek to facilitate students' skills of writing a theoretical section of a research paper.

Active class participation can take a variety of forms, including enthusiastic and intellectually rigorous discussion, correspondence with the class and/or professor, and regular class attendance. If individual graduate students are not participating in class discussion, I reserve the right to request weekly written summaries of the readings. The composition of final grades are:

Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	25%
Exam 3	30%
Class Participation	25%

I do not give incomplete grades, except under extreme circumstances. In the case an incomplete is warranted, you should contact me **before** the exam is due.

CALENDAR OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

August 29 Trends in Global and Income Inequality

Western, Bruce, Christine Percheski, and Deirdre Bloome. 2008. "Inequality Among American Families with Children, 1975 to 2005." *American Sociological Review* 73: 903-920.

Atkinson, Anthony B., Thomas Piketty, and Emmanuel Saez. 2011. "Top Incomes in the Long Run of History." *Journal of Economic Literature* 49: 3-71.

Selections from: Milanovic, Branko. 2011. *The Haves and the Have Nots* New York: Basic Books.

Hung, Ho-Fung and Jaime Kucinkas. 2011. "Globalization and Global Inequality: Assessing the Impact of the Rise of China and India, 1980-2005." *American Journal of Sociology* 116: 1478-1513.

Section I: Intersecting Race, Gender and Class

September 5 Gender Inequality in the Workplace:

Tomaskovic-Devey, Donald and Sheryl Skaggs. 2002. "Sex Segregation, Labor Process Organization, and Gender Earnings Inequality." *American Journal of Sociology* 108: 102-128.

Levanon, Asaf, Paula England and Paul Allison. 2009. "Occupational Feminization and Pay: Assessing Causal Dynamics Using 1950-2000 U.S. Census Data." *Social Forces* 88: 865-891.

Correll, Shelley J., Stephen Benard, and In Paik. 2007. "Getting a Job? Is There a Motherhood Penalty?" *American Journal of Sociology* 112: 1297-1339.

- Gorman, Elizabeth H. and Julie A. Kmec. 2009. "Hierarchical Rank and Women's Organizational Mobility: Glass Ceilings in Corporate Law Firms." *American Journal of Sociology* 114: 1428-1474.
- Otis, Eileen M. 2008. "Beyond the Industrial Paradigm: Market-Embedded Labor and the Gender Organization of Global Service Work in China." *American Sociological Review* 73: 15-36.
- Mandel, Hadas and Moshe Semyonov. 2006. "A Welfare State Paradox: State Interventions and Women's Employment Opportunities in 22 Countries." *American Journal of Sociology* 111: 1910-1949.

September 12 Racial Inequality and Wealth:

- Selections from: Wilson, William Julius. 1978. *The Declining Significance of Race* Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Shapiro, Thomas. 2004. *The Hidden Costs of Being African-American* New York: Oxford University Press.

September 19 Intersectionality

- Glenn, Evelyn Nakano. 2002. *Unequal Freedom: How Race and Gender Shaped American Citizenship and Labor* Cambridge, MA.: Harvard University Press.

September 26 Complex Inequalities of Race, Gender and Class

- Leicht, Kevin T. 2008. "Broken Down by Race and Gender: Sociological Explanations of New Sources of Earnings Inequality." *Annual Review of Sociology* 34: 237-255.
- Stainback, Kevin, Donald Tomaskovic-Devey, and Sheryl Skaggs. 2010. "Organizational Approaches to Inequality: Inertia, Relative Power and Environments." *Annual Review of Sociology* 36: 225-247.
- Pager, Devah, Bruce Western, and Bart Bonikowski. 2009. "Discrimination in a Low-Wage Labor Market: A Field Experiment." *American Sociological Review* 74: 777-799.
- Budig, Michelle J. and Melissa J. Hodges. 2010. "Differences in Disadvantage: Variation in Motherhood Penalty Across White Women's Earnings Distribution." *American Sociological Review* 75: 705-728.
- Greenman, Emily and Yu Xie. 2008. "Double Jeopardy? The Interaction of Gender and Race on Earnings in the United States." *Social Forces* 86: 1217-1244.
- Mandel, Hadas and Michael Shalev. 2009. "How Welfare States Shape the Gender Pay Gap: A Theoretical and Comparative Analysis." *Social Forces* 87: 1873-1911.

EXAM #1 DUE October 3

Section II: Perspectives of Stratification and Class Analysis

October 3 Weberian and Durkheimian Approaches:

- Selections from: Weber, Max. 1978. *Economy and Society* Berkeley, CA.: The University of California Press.
- Selections from: Giddens, Anthony. 1973. *The Class Structure of Advanced Societies* New York: Harper Torchbooks.

Selections from: Wright, Erik Olin. 2005. *Approaches to Class Analysis* New York: Cambridge University Press.

Weeden, Kim A. 2002. "Why Do Some Occupations Pay More Than Others? Social Closure and Earnings Inequality in the United States." *American Journal of Sociology* 108: 55-101.

October 17 Marxist Approaches:

Selections from: Tucker, Robert C. 1978. *The Marx-Engels Reader* New York: Norton.

Wright, Erik Olin. 1997 *Class Counts: Student Edition* New York: Cambridge University Press.

October 24 Bourdieu and Class Culture:

Selections from Bourdieu, Pierre. 1984. *Distinction* Cambridge, MA.: Harvard University Press.

Lamont, Michele. 1992. *Money, Morals and Manners: The Culture of the French and the American Upper-Middle Class* Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

October 31 Synthetic Approaches:

Tilly, Charles. 1998. *Durable Inequality* Berkeley: University of California Press.

EXAM #2 DUE November 7

Section III: Core Institutions

November 7 Education:

Tyson, Karolyn, William Darity Jr., and Domini R. Castellino. 2005. "It's Not 'A Black Thing': Understanding the Burden of Acting White and Other Dilemmas of High Achievement." *American Sociological Review* 70: 582-605.

Lareau, Annette. 2002. "Invisible Inequality: Social Class and Childrearing in Black Families and White Families." *American Sociological Review* 67: 747-776.

Breen, Richard. 2010. "Educational Expansion and Social Mobility in the 20th Century." *Social Forces* 89: 365-388.

Torche, Florencia. 2010. "Economic Crisis and Inequality of Educational Opportunity in Latin America." *Sociology of Education* 83: 85-110.

November 14 The Welfare State:

Brady, David. 2009. *Rich Democracies, Poor People: How Politics Explain Poverty* New York: Oxford University Press.

November 21 Politics

Selections from: Mills, C. Wright. 2000 [1956]. *The Power Elite* New York: Oxford University Press.

Hung, Ho-Fung. 2008. "Agricultural Revolution and Elite Reproduction in Qing China: The Transition to Capitalism Debate Revisited." *American Sociological Review* 73: 569-588.

Manza, Jeff and Clem Brooks. 2008. "Classes and Politics." Pp. 201-231 in *Social Class: How Does It Work?*, edited by A. Lareau and D. Conley. New York: Russell Sage Foundation Press.

Huber, Evelyne, Dietrich Rueschemeyer, and John D. Stephens. 1997. "The Paradoxes of Contemporary Democracy: Formal, Participatory, and Social Dimensions." *Comparative Political Studies* 29: 323-342.

Huber, Evelyne, Francois Nielsen, Jenny Pribble, and John D. Stephens. 2006. "Politics and Inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean." *American Sociological Review* 71: 943-963.

Beckfield, Jason. 2003. "Inequality in the World Polity: The Structure of International Organization." *American Sociological Review* 68: 401-424.

November 28 Labor Markets

Sakamoto, Arthur and Changhwan Kim. 2010. "Is Rising Earnings Inequality Associated with Increased Exploitation? Evidence for U.S. Manufacturing Industries, 1971-1996." *Sociological Perspectives* 53: 19-43.

Western, Bruce, and Jake Rosenfeld. 2011. "Unions, Norms, and the Rise in American Earnings Inequality." *American Sociological Review* 76: 513-37.

Carbonaro, William. 2006. "Cross-National Differences in the Skills-Earnings Relationship: The Role of Skill Demands and Labor Market Institutions." *Social Forces* 84: 1819-1842.

Wu, Xiaogang and Donald J. Treiman. 2007. "Inequality and Equality Under Chinese Socialism: The Hukou System and Intergenerational Occupational Mobility." *American Journal of Sociology* 113: 415-445.

Portes, Alejandro and Kelly Hoffman. 2003. "Latin American Class Structures: Their Composition and Change During the Neoliberal Era." *Latin American Research Review* 38: 41-82.

Brady, David, Monica Biradavolu and Kim Blankenship. 2011. "Social Relations, and the Number of Clients of and Payments Received By Female Sex Workers in India." Unpublished Manuscript.

EXAM #3 DUE DEC. 18, Sunday 2pm