



Shanghai Jiao Tong University

SO916 Social Stratification and Inequality

<b>Instructor:</b>	Arthur Sakamoto	<b>Email:</b>	asakamoto@tamu.edu
<b>Home Institution:</b>	Texas A&M University	<b>Office:</b>	TBD
<b>Office Hours:</b>	TBD		
<b>Term:</b>	2 July – 2 August, 2018	<b>Credits:</b>	4 units
<b>Classroom:</b>	TBD	<b>Teaching Assistant(s):</b>	TBD
<b>Class Hours:</b>	Monday through Thursday, 8.30-10.30 am		
<b>Discussion Session:</b>	2 hours each week, leaded by teaching assistant(s)		
<b>Total Contact Hours:</b>	66 contact hours (1 contact hour = 45 mins, 3000 mins in total)		
<b>Required Texts (w/ ISBN):</b>	Harold R. Kerbo (2006), <i>Social Stratification and Inequality</i> , 6 <sup>th</sup> edition. McGraw Hill (ISBN: 0072997699)		
<b>Prerequisite:</b>	N/A		



**Course Overview**

This course introduces the sociological study of inequality and stratification. The primary focus is on the contemporary U.S. although examples for other countries will also be considered. Topics include fundamental theoretical and methodological issues, social status, social classes, occupations, cultural aspects of inequality, income inequalities, social mobility, education, poverty, racial and ethnic inequalities, and gender inequality.

**Course Goals**

- ✧ To learn basic sociological concepts and theories used to understand inequality and stratification.
- ✧ To better appreciate the significance of the societal context and institutional influences on inequality and stratification.
- ✧ To be exposed to inequality and stratification in other societies especially the U.S.
- ✧ To learn to think critically, reflectively, and broadly about the sources of inequality and stratification and about society more generally.

**Grading Policy**

- 1) Small Group Sessions: Small group sessions will be held several two times every week to offer you the opportunity to discuss and evaluate your reading materials. A few questions will be handed out at the beginning of each session to bring a focus to these discussions and provide a means through which to develop your responses. Your responses will be graded (20%).
- 2) Quizzes: Three multiple-choice quizzes will be given throughout the semester (10% x 3 quizzes = 30%)
- 3) Final Exam: 50%

**Grading Scale**

Your letter grade will be assigned according the following scale:

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4.0
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3.0
70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2.0
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1.0
≤59	F (Failure)	0



Course Schedule

Date	Lecture	Reading
<b>WEEK 1</b>		
<b>2-Jul</b>	Introduction and basic concepts	Ch.1, pp.2-15
<b>3-Jul</b>	Dimensions of inequality in the U.S.	Ch.2, pp.19-47
<b>4-Jul</b>	Historical Perspectives	Ch.3, pp.49-77
<b>5-Jul</b>	Classical theoretical views	Ch.4, pp.80-108
<b>WEEK 2</b>		
<b>9-Jul</b>	Quiz 1 Movie: TBD	
<b>10-Jul</b>	Modern theories	Ch.5, pp.112-142
<b>11-Jul</b>	Upper class	Ch.6, pp.144-173
<b>12-Jul</b>	Corporations	Ch.7, pp.175-203
<b>WEEK 3</b>		
<b>16-Jul</b>	Middle and Working Classes	Ch.8, pp.205-236
<b>17-Jul</b>	Quiz 2 Movie: TBD	
<b>18-Jul</b>	Poverty and lower classes	Ch.9, pp.238-287
<b>19-Jul</b>	Gender	Ch.10, pp.289-324
<b>WEEK 4</b>		
<b>23-Jul</b>	Race and Ethnicity	Ch.11, pp.326-366
<b>24-Jul</b>	Social Mobility	Ch.12, pp.368-410
<b>25-Jul</b>	Quiz 3 Movie: TBD	
<b>26-Jul</b>	Social stratification in Germany	Ch.16, pp.514-544
<b>WEEK 5</b>		
<b>30-Jul</b>	Social stratification in Japan	Ch.15, pp.469-510
<b>31-Jul</b>	Inequality in other countries	Ch.17, pp.547-590
<b>1-Aug</b>	Summary	
<b>2-Aug</b>	Final Exam	