

Jake Rosenfeld
Tuesdays: 4:00 – 7:00
Classroom: TBA
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SOCIOLOGY 5310: Stratification

This course provides you with the tools to analyze and understand processes of stratification fundamental to human organization. We'll pay particular attention to the institutions undergirding inequality in modern America, with a special focus on recent trends. To accomplish all this during our fifteen weeks together, we will survey many of the major readings in stratification across the disciplines, and introduce you to the various approaches and topics covered by contemporary stratification scholars.

Course assignment schedule:

Assignment #1: In-class presentation / discussion / memo

Lead the class by presenting and fielding questions about one of the assigned readings. You should aim for a 10 minute presentation. Additionally, please turn in a 3-page critical synopsis of the reading you present on the day of your presentation.

Due date: TBA

Assignment #2: Critical analysis memo

Prepare a 6-7 page memo that critically analyzes two or more approaches to stratification research. You should aim to compare and contrast at least two of the readings covered in the course. More details to follow in class.

Due date: TBA

Assignment #3: Front-end of a journal article / grant proposal assignment

Write the front end of a journal article (10 to 11 pages) based on the themes covered in this course. You may draw upon your own existing research agenda (effectively altered based on what we have covered in class), Assignment #2, or something entirely new. More details to follow in class.

Due date: TBA

Breakdown of final grades:

Assignment #1: 15%
Assignment #2: 25%
Assignment #3: 40%
Participation: 20%

Stratification

Note: All of the journal articles can be downloaded from the Washington University library website, or from most social science search engines. You are free to purchase any of the books we'll read selections from (especially Massey's *Categorically Unequal*, and Wilson's *The Truly Disadvantaged*), but I'll post copies of these and all other readings preceded by an asterisk on the course website.

Week 1: The New Inequality, take 1

Tues Jan 17 • Reading Assignments:

- 1) Hacker, Jacob S. and Paul Pierson. 2010. "Winner-Take-All Politics: Public Policy, Political Organization, and the Precipitous Rise of Top Incomes in the United States." *Politics & Society*: 152-204.
- 2) Piketty, Thomas, and Emmanuel Saez. 2006. "The Evolution of Top Incomes: A Historical and International Perspective." *American Economic Review* 96: 200-05.
- 3) Massey, Douglas S. 2009. "Globalization and Inequality: Explaining American Exceptionalism." *European Sociological Review* 25: 9-23.

• *Recommended readings:*

- Bartels, Larry M. 2008. *Unequal Democracy: The Political Economy of the New Gilded Age*. Princeton University Press.
- Goldin, Claudia, and Lawrence F. Katz. 2008. *The Race between Education and Technology*. Harvard University Press.
- Hacker, Jacob S., and Paul Pierson. 2010. *Winner-Take-All Politics: How Washington Made the Rich Richer – And Turned Its Back on the Middle Class*. Simon & Schuster.

Week 2: The New Inequality, take 2

Tues Jan 24 • Reading Assignments:

- 1) Leicht, Kevin T. 2016. "Getting Serious About Inequality." *The Sociological Quarterly* 57: 211-31.
- 2) Song et al. 2016. "Firming Up Inequality." NBER Working Paper 21199.
- 3) Avent-Holt, Dustin, and Donald Tomaskovic-Devey. 2013. "A Relational Theory of Earnings Inequality." *American Behavioral Scientist* 58: 379-99.

Week 3: Basic Principles of Social Stratification

Tues Jan 31 • Reading Assignments:

- 1) Stainback, Kevin, Donald Tomaskovic-Devey, and Sheryl Skaggs. 2010. "Organizational Approaches to Inequality: Inertia, Relative Power, and Environments." *Annual Review of Sociology* 36: 225-47.
- 2) Davis, Kingsley, and Wilbert E. Moore. 1945. "Some Principles of Stratification." *American Sociological Review* 10: 242-49.
- 3) DiPrete, Thomas A. 2007. "What has Sociology to Contribute to the Study of Inequality Trends? A Historical and Comparative Perspective." *American Behavioral Scientist* 50: 603-18.
- 4) *Grusky, David B. 1994. "Contours of Social Stratification." Pp. 3-35 in David B. Grusky (ed.) *Social Stratification: Class, Race, & Gender in Sociological Perspective*. Westview Press.
- 5) *Massey, Douglas S. 2007. *Categorically Unequal: The American Stratification System*. Russell Sage Foundation. Pp. 1-27.

• *Recommended readings:*

Baron, James N., and William T. Bielby. 1980. "Bringing the Firm Back In: Stratification, Segmentation, and the Organization of Work." *American Sociological Review* 45: 737-65.

Blau, Peter, and Otis Dudley Duncan. 1967. *The American Occupational Structure*. Wiley Press.

Reskin, Barbara. 2003. "Including Mechanisms in Our Models of Ascriptive Inequality." *Annual Review of Sociology* 68: 1-21.

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

Tumin, Melvin E. 1953. "Some Principles of Stratification: A Critical Analysis." *American Sociological Review* 18: 387-394.

Week 4: The Legacy of Marx and Modern Class Analysis

Tues Feb 7

• Reading Assignments:

- 1) *Grusky, David, Kim A. Wedeen, and Jesper B. Sorensen. 2001. "The Case for Realism in Class Analysis." *Political Power and Social Theory* 14: 291-305.
- 2) *Marx, Karl. 1994. "Alienation and Social Classes," "Classes in Capitalism and Pre-Capitalism," "Ideology and Class," "Value and Surplus Value." Pp. 65-81 in David B. Grusky (ed.) *Social Stratification: Class, Race, & Gender in Sociological Perspective*. Westview Press.
- 3) *Marx, Karl. 1978. "Wage Labour and Capital." Pp. 203-217 in Robert C. Tucker (ed.) *The Marx-Engels Reader*. W.W. Norton & Company.

4) *Portes, Alejandro. 2001. "The Resilient Importance of Class: A Nominalist Interpretation." *Political Power and Social Theory* 14: 249-284.

5) Weeden, Kim A. and David Grusky. 2012. "The Three Worlds of Inequality." *American Journal of Sociology* 117: 1723-1785.

6) DeLong, J. Bradford. 2009. "Understanding Karl Marx." Available here: <http://delong.typepad.com/sdj/2009/04/delong-understanding-marx-lecture-for-april-20-2009.html>

• *Recommended readings:*

"Are There Big Classes?" Debate between Grusky and Portes, moderated by Richard Swedberg. Available here: <http://inequality.cornell.edu/events/papers/Controversies%20About%20Inequality%20Debate%20Series/CAIDebate4.PDF>

Marx, Karl. 1992. *Capital: Volume 1*. Penguin Books.

Przeworski, Adam. 1985. *Capitalism and Social Democracy*. Cambridge University Press.

Weakliem, David L., and Julia Adams. 2011. "What Do We Mean by 'Class Politics'?" *Politics & Society* 39: 475-495.

Wright, Erik Olin. 1997. *Class Counts*. Verso Press.

Week 5: The Weberian Critique

Tues Feb 14 • Reading Assignments:

1) *Bendix, Reinhard. 1962. *Max Weber: An Intellectual Portrait*. University of California Press. Pp. 417-57.

2) DiMaggio, Paul, and Walter W. Powell. 1983. "The Iron Cage Revisited: Institutional Isomorphism and Collective Rationality in Organizational Fields." *American Sociological Review* 48: 147-60.

3) *Giddens, Anthony. 1973. *The Class Structure of the Advanced Societies*. Harper & Row. Pp. 41-52.

4) *Parkin, Frank. 1994. "Marxism and Class Theory: A Bourgeois Critique." Pp. 141-54 in David B. Grusky (ed.) *Social Stratification: Class, Race, & Gender in Sociological Perspective*. Westview Press.

5) *Weber, Max. 1946. "Class, Status, Party." Pp. 180-95 in Hans Gerth and C. Wright Mills (eds.) *From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology*. Oxford University Press.

• *Recommended reading:*

Weber, Max. 1968. *Economy and Society*. University of California Press.

Week 6: Race and Ethnicity, part 1:

Tues Feb 21 • Reading Assignments:

1) Fox, Cybelle, and Thomas A. Guglielmo. 2012. "Defining America's Racial Boundaries: Blacks, Mexicans, and European Immigrants, 1890-1945." *American Journal of Sociology* 118: 327-379.

2) *Wilson, William Julius. 1987. *The Truly Disadvantaged: The Inner City, the Underclass, and Public Policy*. University of Chicago Press. Pp. 3-62

3) *Wilson, William Julius. 2009. *More Than Just Race: Being Black and Poor in the Inner City*. W.W. Norton and Company, Inc. Ch. 1.

• Recommended readings:

Massey, Douglas S., and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass*. Harvard University Press.

Oliver, Melvin L., and Thomas M. Shapiro. 1997. *Black Wealth, White Wealth: A New Perspective on Racial Inequality*. Routledge.

Patterson, Orlando. 1998. *Rituals of Blood: Consequences of Slavery in Two American Centuries*. Civitas Books.

Rosenfeld, Jake, and Meredith Kleykamp. 2012. "Organized Labor and Racial Wage Inequality in the United States." *American Journal of Sociology* 117: 1460-1502.

Wilson, William Julius. 1978. *The Declining Significance of Race: Blacks and Changing American Institutions*. University of Chicago Press.

Week 7: Race and Ethnicity, part 2:

Tues Feb 28 • Reading Assignments:

1) Small, Mario Luis, David J. Harding, and Michele Lamont. 2010. "Reconsidering Culture and Poverty." *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 629: 6-27.

2) *Patterson, Orlando. 1997. *The Ordeal of Integration: Progress and Resentment in America's "Racial" Crisis*. Civitas Books. Pp. 15-82.

3) Wimmer, Andreas. 2015. "Race-Centrism: A Critique and a Research Agenda." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 13: 2186-2205.

Week 8: Race and Ethnicity, part 3

Tues Mar 7 • Reading Assignments:

1) Alba, Richard, and Victor Nee. 1997. "Rethinking Assimilation Theory for a New Era of Immigration." *International Migration Review* 31: 826-74.

2) *Massey, Douglas S. *Categorically Unequal: The American Stratification System*. Russell Sage Foundation. Pp. 113-57.

3) Duncan, Brian, and Stephen J. Trejo. 2011. "Intermarriage and the Intergenerational Transmission of Ethnic Identity and Human Capital for Mexican Americans." *Journal of Labor Economics* 29: 195-227.

4) Emeka, Amon, and Jody Agius Vallejo. 2011. "Non-Hispanics with Latin American Ancestry: Assimilation, Race, and Identity Among Latin American Descendants in the U.S." *Social Science Research* 40: 1547-1563.

• *Recommended readings:*

Alba, Richard, and Victor Nee. 2005. *Remaking the American Mainstream: Assimilation and Contemporary Immigration*. Harvard University Press.

Telles, Edward E., and Vilma Ortiz. 2008. *Generations of Exclusion: Mexican Americans, Assimilation, and Race*. Russell Sage Foundation.

Week 9: Breakin'

Tues Mar 14 • NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK

Week 10: Gender and Social Stratification, part 1

Tues Mar 21 • Reading Assignments:

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

2) *Reskin, Barbara. 1999. "Occupational Segregation by Race and Ethnicity Among Women Workers." Pp. 183-204 in Irene Browne (ed.) *Latinas and African-American Women at Work*. Russell Sage Foundation.

3) DiPrete, Thomas A. 2008. "Gender Inequalities in Education." *Annual Review of Sociology* 34: 319-37.

• *Recommended readings:*

Brines, Julie. 1994. "Economic Dependency, Gender, and the Division of Labor at Home." *American Journal of Sociology* 100: 652-88.

Charles, Maria, and David B. Grusky. 2004. *Occupational Ghettos: The Worldwide Segregation of Women and Men*. Stanford University Press.

Pettit, Becky, and Jennifer Hook. 2009. *Gendered Tradeoffs: Family, Social Policy, and Economic Inequality in 21 Countries*. Russell Sage Foundation.

Week 11: Gender and Social Stratification, part 2

Tues Mar 28 • Reading Assignments:

- 1) Schneider, Daniel. 2012. "Gender Deviance and Household Work: The Role of Occupation." *American Journal of Sociology* 117: 1029-1072.
- 2) Logan, Trevon D. 2010. "Personal Characteristics, Sexual Behaviors, and Male Sex Work." *American Sociological Review* 75: 679-704.
- 3) Thébaud, Sarah, and David S. Pedulla. 2016. "Masculinity and the Stalled Revolution: How Gender Ideologies and Norms Shape Young Men's Responses to Work-Family Policies." *Gender & Society* 30:590-617.

Week 12: Schools and Stratification

Tues Apr 4 • Reading Assignments:

- 1) Gamoran, Adam. 2001. "American Schooling and Educational Inequality: A Forecast for the 21st Century." *Sociology of Education* 74: 135-53.
- 2) *Jencks, Christopher. 1972. *Inequality: A Reassessment of the Effect of Family and Schooling in America*. Basic Books. Pp. 16-51.
- 3) Legewie, Joscha, and Thomas A. DiPrete. 2012. "School Context and the Gender Gap in Educational Achievement." *American Sociological Review* 77: 463-485
- 4) Massey, Douglas S. 2006. "Social Background and Academic Performance Differentials: White and Minority Students at Selective Colleges." *American Law and Economics Review* 8: 390-409.

• Recommended readings:

Collins, Randall. 1971. "Functional and Conflict Theories of Educational Stratification." *American Sociological Review* 36: 1002-19.

DiMaggio, Paul. 1982. "Cultural Capital and School Success." *American Sociological Review* 47: 189-201.

Macleod, Jay. 1995. *Ain't No Makin' It: Aspirations & Attainment in a Low-Income Neighborhood*. Westview Press.

Willis, Paul. 1977. *Learning to Labor: How Working Class Kids Get Working Class Jobs*. Columbia University Press.

Week 13: Institutional Accounts, part 1

Tues Apr 11

• Reading Assignments:

- 1) Portes, Alejandro. 2006. "Institutions and Development: A Conceptual Reanalysis." *Population and Development Review* 32: 233-62.
- 2) *Campbell, John L. 2004. *Institutional Change and Globalization*. Princeton University Press. Pp. 1-30.
- 3) Pierson, Paul. 2000. "The Three Worlds of Welfare State Research." *Comparative Political Studies* 33: 791-821.
- 4) *Western, Bruce. 1998. "Institutions and the Labor Market." Pp. 224-43 in Mary C. Brinton and Victor Nee (eds.) *The New Institutionalism in Sociology*. Stanford University Press.

• Recommended readings:

Esping-Anderson, Gosta. 1990. *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*. Princeton University Press.

Hall, Peter, and David Soskice. 2001. *Varieties of Capitalism: The Institutional Foundations of Comparative Advantage*. Oxford University Press.

Polanyi, Karl. [1944] 2001. *The Great Transformation*. Beacon Press.

Week 14: Institutionalist Accounts, part 2

Tues Apr 18

• Reading Assignments:

- 1) Edwards, Frank. 2016. "Saving Children, Controlling Families: Punishment, Redistribution, and Child Protection." *American Sociological Review* 81: 575-95.
- 2) Rosenfeld, Jake, and Meredith Kleykamp. 2012. "Organized Labor and Racial Wage Inequality in the United States." *American Journal of Sociology* 117: 1460-1502.
- 3) Desmond, Matthew. 2012. "Eviction and the Reproduction of Urban Poverty." *American Journal of Sociology* 118: 88-133.
- 4) *Western, Bruce. 1998. "Institutions and the Labor Market." Pp. 224-43 in Mary C. Brinton and Victor Nee (eds.) *The New Institutionalism in Sociology*. Stanford University Press.

Week 15: Comparative Welfare State Research

Tues Apr 25

• Reading Assignments:

- 1) Korpi, Walter, and Joakim Palme. 1998. "The Paradox of Redistribution and Strategies of Equality: Welfare State Institutions, Inequality, and Poverty in the Western Countries." *American Sociological Review* 63: 661-87.

2) Western, Bruce, and Katherine Beckett. 1999. "How Unregulated is the U.S. Labor Market? The Penal System as a Labor Market Institution." *American Journal of Sociology* 104: 1030-60.

3) Hopkin, Jonathan, and Julia Lynch. 2016. "Winner-Take-All-Politics in Europe? European Inequality in Comparative Perspective." *Politics & Society* 44: 335-343.

• *Recommended readings:*

Kenworthy, Lane. 2004. *Egalitarian Capitalism*. Russell Sage Foundation.

Korpi, Walter. 2003. "Welfare State Regress in Western Europe: Politics, Institutions, Globalization, and Europeanization." *Annual Review of Sociology* 29: 589-609

Final Exam Week (May 4-10)

Tue May 9 • **Research project proposal due at 5pm**