



University of International Business and Economics International Summer School

SOC 210 Social Stratification and Inequality

Term: May 25 – June 25, 2020

Instructor: DR. HUNG CAM THAI (Ph.D from University of California, Berkeley)

Home Institution: Pomona College

Email: hung.thai@pomona.edu

Class Hours: Monday through Thursday, 120 minutes each day (2,400 minutes in total)

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:00 TO 2 pm.

Discussion session: 2 hours each week

Total Contact Hours: 64 contact hours (45 minutes each, 48 hours in total)

Credit: 4 units

Course Description:

This course focuses on questions and issues of differences and social inequality in the United States. We will examine the many facets of social stratification in American society, including categories of differences based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, among others. Looking at these categories of differences, we then explore how social inequality results from the ways in which people are born with such differences as well as how they “acquire” such differences in life, such as class status, religious and political affiliation, and gender identities. Overall, we use a multidisplinary approach in order to focus on both theoretical and empirical topics that produce differentiation and inequality to understand the causes and consequences of inequality. We end the course with the theme of social justice to think about how citizens can participate in civic life in ways that could reduce inequality in American life.

Specific objectives of the course:

1. Describe and synthesize concepts, principles, and theories used to study inequality and stratification.
2. Analyze and discuss contemporary poverty issues, trends, and information.
3. Communicate the above effectively, both orally and in writing.

No Prerequisite

Required Textbook:

This course uses one prominent textbook that introduces the study of inequality. We will only read selected chapters from the textbook. Your mastery of materials will be supplemented by the lectures in class. Each week, we will read several chapters that speak to some common

thread or theme. The readings supplement the lectures; you are expected to engage with both the lectures and readings accordingly on your exams. Please purchase the e-version of this textbook:

Social Inequality and Social Stratification in U.S. Society. 1st Edition. By Christopher B. Doob. Routledge Publisher.

ISBN-13: 978-0205792412

ISBN-10: 9780205792412

*****Please note that both of these ISBN numbers correspond to the same book*****

Grading Policy:

UIBE awards grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, D, and F. Most colleges and universities do not award transfer credit for grades of D or F.

In this course, grading will be based on the following:

- 10% attendance and participation
- 60% Two Midterms
- 30% Final

*Total: 100%

- A. Students are required to attend and participate in discussions.
- B. You will gain writing skills through periodic in-class writing assignments, which will measure your mastery of the readings and comprehension of the lectures, and which will be the basis for our classroom discussions.
- C. No make-up exams will be given, unless you have a medical documentation.

Grading Scale:

Assignments and examinations will be graded according to the following grade scale:

A	90-100	C+	72-74
A-	85-89	C	68-71
B+	82-84	C-	64-67
B	78-81	D	60-63
B-	75-77	F	below 60

Class Rules:

General courtesy and no use of iphone and electronic devices during class lectures.

General expectations:

Students are expected to:

- *Attend all classes and be responsible for all material covered in class and otherwise assigned. Any unexcused absence may impact a student's grade.*
- *Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class*
- *Review the previous day's notes before class; make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading*
- *Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to class during class (不要用手机)*
- *Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time*

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty. Specifically, unless otherwise directed by the professor, students may not consult other students, books, notes, electronic devices or any other source, on examinations. Failure to abide by this may result in a zero on the examination, or even failure in the course.

Students are also expected to adhere to appropriate scholarly conventions in essays and research papers. This class includes writing assignment(s) in which students must give credit to all outside sources used by means of citations and a bibliography. Failure to do so may result in a zero on the paper assignment, or even failure in the course.

Attendance Policy:

Summer school is very intense and to be successful, students need to attend every class. Occasionally, due to illness or other unavoidable circumstance, a student may need to miss a class. UIBE policy requires a medical certificate to be excused. Any unexcused absence may affect the student's grade. Moreover, UIBE policy is that a student who has more than 1/3 of the class in unexcused absences will fail the course.

Course Hours:

The course has 20 class sessions in total. Each class session is 120 minutes in length for a total of 2,400 minutes of class time. The course meets from Monday to Thursday.

Course Schedule

Day 1	Thinking about Difference in American Life
Day 2	Chapter 1, The Road to Social Inequality
Day 3	Theories of Difference, Inequality and Stratification
Day 4	In-Class Writing Assignment Assessment
Day 5	Chapter 2, The Origin of Wealth Accumulation and Income Differences
Day 6	Chapter 3, Racial Differences and Domination
Day 7	Chapter 4, The Rise of Impoverishment
Day 8	Exam #1
Day 9	Chapter 5, The Persistence of Gender & Race Inequality
Day 10	Intersectionality of Gender, Race, Class, and Sexuality
Day 11	Chapter 6, The State
Day 12	Exam #2
Day 13	Chapter 7, Religious Plurality in American Life
Day 14	Different Models of Managing National Poverty
Day 15	Chapter 8, Cross National Comparisons of Inequality
Day 16	Exam #3
Day 17	Chapter 9, Immigration
Day 18	Chapter 10, Thinking about Social Justice
Day 19	Review for Final Examinations
Day 20	Final Examinations