



**University of International Business and Economics
International Summer School**

SOC 210 Social Stratification and Inequality

Term: June 15– July 16, 2020

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

Home Institution: Pomona College

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

Office Hours: TBD

Discussion session: 2 hours each week

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

Location: WEB

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 multidisciplinary 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% Participation
- 60% Two Midterms
- 30% Final

**Total: 100%*

- A. Students are required to 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:

Students are expected to:

- *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*
- *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.

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