

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
SPRING 2013 GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

IMPORTANT: Be sure to read the information in the Spring 2013 *Schedule of Classes* regarding how to enroll via TeleBEARS. Sociology graduate students may obtain their Advisor Code at the Graduate Office in 422 Barrows Hall. The information below is current as of January 22, 2013.

GRADUATE STUDENTS FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS: There may be a limited number of seats available for non-Sociology **graduate** students after sociology graduate students have been accommodated; check with instructor. You may enroll in these courses during Phase I or Phase II with consent of the course's instructor and a course entry code (CEC) from the instructor. Please note that all Sociology graduate courses are **Instructor Mark**, which allows the professor to mark a student to drop the course if pre-requisites are lacking or approval has not been obtained.

UNDERGRADUATES: For all courses you must check with the instructor before or at the first class meeting to determine if there is space after graduate students are accommodated. If space is available, you may request a CEC from the instructor and enroll during the Adjustment Period.

Sociology 201B	Neil Fligstein
T 10-12	402 Barrows
CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY: Theory in sociology courses is typically taught as a comparison between the work of individual theorists. The practice of sociology, on the other hand, is focused on using useful bits of sociological theory to make sense of empirical objects (like gender and race relations, the changing conditions of work and stratification, and big historical changes like globalization and development) and more general conceptual problems, such as the problem of power, the issue of what constitutes social structure, and the problem of structure and action. In this class, we try to bridge this gap. We begin by considering the variety of ways in which scholars use the idea of theory. Then, we look at how theory is currently deployed in contemporary research. On the basis of our analysis of that work, we review important theoretical works and current debates about contemporary issues. The goal is not to arrive at a reading of particular theorists, but instead at how various important sociological debates are structured by theoretical positions of different theorists.	
Sociology 271A	Irene Bloemraad
MW 12-2	402 Barrows
METHODS OF SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH: This seminar is focused on evaluating and formulating various types of research designs. We will survey core methods of data collection and analysis, which can include interviewing, statistical analysis, ethnography, comparative/historical research, content analysis and formal social network analysis. This course is <u>not</u> designed to provide in-depth competence in any one area, but rather to highlight the strengths and weaknesses of various data collection choices and analysis strategies. The course is restricted to first year sociology graduate students.	
Sociology 271C	Mike Hout
W 9-11	Demography Conference Rm_2232 Piedmont Rm 100

Please note: This course has a lab that will meet on TH's 2-4 in 64 Barrows

METHODS OF SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH: This required course covers the common core of statistical tools that sociologists use these days. We work to get beyond the often-unrealistic simplifying assumptions of regression models by developing tools to cope with relationships that are not linear, relationships that varying according to the value of other variables, and errors that do not conform to the normal distribution. We also tackle problems like missing data and samples that require statistical weights to reproduce population distributions. We also consider several approaches to improving causal inferences in observational data. Students are required to write a term paper that incorporates these tools into an analysis of real data.

Sociology C271D	Leo Goodman
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T 12-2	344 Evans
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QUANTITATIVE/STATISTICAL RESEARCH METHODS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES: Selected topics in quantitative/statistical methods of research in the social sciences and particularly in sociology. Topics covered include analysis of qualitative/categorical data, loglinear models and latent-structure analysis; the analysis of cross-classified data having ordered and/or unordered categories; measures, models, and graphical displays in the analysis of cross-classified data; correspondence analysis, association analysis, and related methods of data analysis. For additional information, phone 642-5988 or 843-6013.

Sociology 273F	Laura Enriquez
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W 4-6	402 Barrows
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Contact Instructor

Sociology 280AA	Sandra Smith
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TH 10-1	420 Barrows
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SOCIOLOGY OF POVERTY: Why, in the midst of great affluence, are people poor, and in some cases, persistently so? This question has captured the imagination of social scientists and social critics for over one century. In this course, we will become intimate with some of the key theoretical, critical, and empirical writings that seek to provide insight into this enduring problem. In the process, seminar participants will become familiar with the key issues and debates animating discussions of American sociologists: Is there a culture of poverty? Why does poverty persist in the face of economic growth? What accounts for the feminization and juvenilization of poverty? Does government intervention help, or does it just make matters worse? As seminar participants deepen their knowledge in these areas, they will learn to identify and interrogate key assumptions driving these interventions and the evolution of the field, generally, and hopefully they will begin to offer critical perspectives of their own.

Sociology 280C	Cihan Tugal
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TH 10-12	475 Barrows
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POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY: This course will begin by covering traditional topics of political sociology, such as state formation, state-society relations and the state's role in the development of capitalism. We will then explore the role of non-state actors in politics by asking: How do we draw the line between society and state? How does this differentiation develop historically? Where are institutions like political parties located in this differentiation? How do non-state

actors engage in politics? What relations do they seek with the state? What are the roles of culture and class in this engagement? The course will increasingly focus on social movements and revolutions as we seek to answer these questions. We will take a closing look at the Arab protests of 2011.

Sociology 280D	Heather Haveman
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Th 2-4	402 Barrows
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ORGANIZATIONS: Organizations are the basic building blocks of modern society. From birth to death, the lives of people in modern societies play out in formal organizations. Thus, organizations have an enormous impact on social life; they wield tremendous power and distribute innumerable benefits. All interests – economic, political, social, and cultural – are pursued through formal organizations. This course is an introduction to the sociological study of organizations. I seek to familiarize you with the dominant theoretical orientations, and to show you how they are used to investigate important phenomena. To that end, we will review the classics, but only briefly and with an eye to understanding how these foundational studies continue to reverberate in contemporary research on organizations. The bulk of our time will be spent considering current debates. I also want to help you learn how to *use* these ideas and findings, how to apply them to your own research. Therefore, we will spend a lot of time trying to get inside the minds of the scholars whose work we read – figuring out why they did what they did, what you would have done differently, and what you could do next.

Sociology 280I	Ann Swidler
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T 2-4	402 Barrows
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SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION: This course is designed to introduce students to a broad range of sociological work on religion. The field is a vast one, and even a serious, graduate-level course can only skim the surface. The course is weighted toward large-scale, comparative-historical approaches, although contemporary survey and ethnographic work is represented as well.

Sociology 280J	Margaret Weir
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W 10-12	402 Barrows
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Contact Instructor

Sociology 280K	Claude Fischer
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M 4-6	402 Barrows
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SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY: Social psychology is where sociology and psychology overlap. Sociology's version of the field tends to stress the interaction of structure and culture with psychological dynamics such as personality, self-perception, and personal interaction, as well as small-group processes such as decision-making and conformity. This seminar will begin with examining the roots of sociology's interest in the field, then survey several major, on-going research areas, and formulate the final topics based on student interests. Seminar members will be expected to prepare reading notes, conduct discussions, and write a seminar paper.

Sociology 290	Sam Lucas
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T 4-6	402 Barrows
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CRISES OF INEQUALITY: This course focuses on contemporary crises produced by and bearing on inequality. Some crises we treat are urgent; others are smoldering. Some are recognized as crises, others require some attention before the crisis aspect can be discerned. We will treat issues around family formation, discrimination, poverty, welfare states, global stratification/inequality, exploitation, and implications of environmental conditions and resource depletion. Students will write a research proposal or empirical research paper bearing on some crisis of inequality/stratification.