INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Required Books:

David J. Harding, *Living the Drama: Community, Conflict and Culture among Inner-City Boys*

Annette Lareau, *Unequal Childhoods: Class, Race, and Family Life, Second Edition with an Update a Decade Later*

Amy T. Schalet, *Not Under My Roof: Parents, Teens and the Culture of Sex*

Jennifer Silva, *Coming Up Short: Working-Class Adulthood in an Age of Uncertainty*

Books are available at the Cal Student Store, 2560 Bancroft Way [or back in the renovated Student Union!], and at The Student Store, 2470/2480 Bancroft Way. They are also on reserve at Moffitt Library. Starred (*) readings are available on the bCourses web site, and as a reader from University Copy Service, 2425 Channing Way (just below Telegraph). The lectures will be audio-recorded and will be automatically posted to CalCentral, the student portal, on the Class Page for Sociology 1, 001. All official students and GSIs will have access to this page via the My Academics tab. Recordings will also be available on bCourses using the Webcasts tool in the course site. Recordings are intended as a supplement, not a substitute for attending lectures!

Requirements include a mid-term examination (Wednesday, October 1); two short papers (5-7 pp.) due Monday, September 28 and Monday, December 7, a Final Examination (Monday, December 14, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.), and participation in twice-weekly sections. NOTE!! The semester ends very late this year, so if you are planning international travel or some important event, remember that the final exam is December 14. There are NO early exams or make-up exams for those with travel crises.

Course Outline and Readings

Week 1 (August 26-28) SOCIAL ORIGINS OF THE SELF


Week 2 (August 31-September 4)  THE POWER OF SOCIAL FORCES

  * Robert Bellah, et al., The Good Society, pp. 4, 10-12, and 38-42.


Monday September 7  LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Week 3 (September 9-11)  INDIVIDUAL DESTINY AND SOCIAL FORCES


Monday, September 14 NO CLASS: Rosh Hashana (sections meet as usual)

Week 4 (September 16-16)  INSTITUTIONS, POWER, AND POSSIBILITY


Wednesday, September 23 NO LECTURE: Yom Kippur (sections meet as usual)

Week 5 (September 21 and 25)  SEX AND SOCIETY: HOW CULTURE AND INSTITUTIONS SHAPE INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE


Monday September 28  FIRST PAPER DUE

Week 6 (September 28-September 30)  THEORIES OF CLASS I


Week 7 (October 5-7) THEORIES OF CLASS II


Week 8 (October 12-14) MIDTERM WEEK

Monday October 12 REVIEW SESSION

Wednesday October 14 MIDTERM

Week 9 (October 19-21) SOCIAL INEQUALITY: INDIVIDUAL LIFE CHANCES


Week 10 (October 26-28) NEIGHBORHOOD, CULTURE, AND INEQUALITY

  David J. Harding, *Living the Drama*, Chs. 1-3, 5, and part of Ch. 6 (pp. 1-107, 132-161, and 188-203).


Week 11 (November 2-4) POWER AND POLITICS: ACTORS, DECISIONS AND OUTCOMES


Week 12 (November 11-13) CONSTRUCTED BY POLITICS: INSTITUTIONS AND IDENTITIES


Week 13 (November 16-18) WHY POLITICS MATTER: INSTITUTIONS AND OUTCOMES

*Sven Steinmo, “It’s the Institutions Stupid: Why Comprehensive National Health Insurance Always Fails in America.” 1995. *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*, 20(2) [excerpts: pp. 329-336 and 361-368; I will also post the full article on bCourses for those who want to read it].


THANKSGIVING WEEK  No Class  (No Sections)

Week 14 (November 30-December 2) THINKING ABOUT OUR COMMON FUTURE


Monday December 7  SECOND PAPER DUE

December 7-11 Reading and Recitation Week

Review session for final:  Wednesday, December 9, in class.

FINAL EXAMINATION: Monday, December 14, 11:30 am-2:30 pm [place, TBA]