

**Soc 3AC - Principles of Sociology
U.C. Berkeley, Summer 2017**

Instructor: Kristen Nelson

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Course Meetings: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 12pm-2pm, 20 Barrows

Drop In Office Hours: Thursdays, 2pm-4pm, Barrows Rm TBD. Each meeting will be limited to 15 minutes to make sure that everyone has a chance to attend. It is always a good idea to take advantage of this time by discussing course material and early drafts of assignments with me; individuals and groups are welcome. You can also email me with any questions, and expect a reply within 48 hours.

Course Objectives:

This course will give you a general introduction to sociology: the study of society. My goals are for you to gain a better understanding of the following areas of sociological study: power, resistance, social change, social cohesion, race, class, and gender. As we examine these social phenomena, you will develop your “sociological imagination,” uncovering structural and cultural forces that help to shape all kinds of seemingly personal experiences.

Course Requirements:

20% Four Snapchat My Stories or BCourses Discussion Mini Reflections: Each Tuesday, I will distribute the prompt for that week’s My Stories/Reflections, due by 11:59pm on the following Monday. Prompts will ask you to take a key concept from class and briefly present an example of it from your life or the world around you. If you choose to participate via Snapchat, you may find your prompts under “Assignments” on bCourses; be sure to follow the instructions on the page 7 of the syllabus. If you choose to participate via bCourses, go directly to the “Discussions” section of the bCourses site. You’ll earn full credit for the week if you meet the criteria laid out in that week’s prompt. Late, printed, or emailed submissions will not be accepted. You will have eight weeks to complete four My Stories/Mini Reflections; please strategize wisely.

35% One Short Analytic Essay: This 5-7 page paper assignment will ask you to draw on course readings and lecture content from the first half of the class to craft a convincing response to a sociological question. The paper is due via bCourses by 5:00pm on Friday, 7/14. **Late papers will be penalized one letter grade for each day late.**

35% One Take Home Final: This 5-7 page take home final will be made up of 2-3 questions that cover course readings and lecture content from the second half of the class. The final is due via bCourses by 5pm on Friday, 8/4. **Late finals will be penalized one letter grade for each day late.**

10% Attendance and Participation: In addition to attending class, which in itself will earn you points, you are expected to actively participate in our discussions and activities. There are a number of ways to earn credit for participation: 1) challenging yourself to

speak if you don't usually do so, 2) speaking, but also "stepping back" if you tend to speak a lot in class, 3) attending office hours to discuss course material with me, 4) participating in pop up bCourses discussions throughout the semester, 5) helping to foster a supportive classroom atmosphere. Please do the reading for each week, and bring the week's readings with you to each class. I try to avoid cold calling, but be advised that if you do not volunteer to speak over the course of the semester, I may invite you to share your thoughts or opinions by asking you a low pressure question with no right or wrong answer.

Percentage Breakdowns for Assignment and Final Grades:

- A+ = 100 and over
- A = 94 - 99
- A- = 90 - 93
- B+ = 87 - 89
- B = 84 - 86
- B- = 80 - 83
- C+ = 77 - 79
- C = 74 - 76
- C- = 70 - 73
- D+ = 67 - 69
- D = 64 - 66
- D- = 60 - 63
- F = 59 and under

Course Readers will be available for purchase at Copy Central. You may also access our readings on bCourses.

A Note About Academic Integrity – Make sure you read and familiarize yourself with UC Berkeley's Code of Student Conduct regarding academic dishonesty at <http://sa.berkeley.edu/conduct/integrity/addressing-misconduct>. Plagiarism is a serious offence, and will be addressed as such.

The Sociological Imagination

Tuesday, 6/20

C. Wright Mills, "The Promise," pp. 3-24 in *The Sociological Imagination*. London: Oxford UP, 1959.

Power, Resistance, and Social Change: Classical Theories

Wednesday, 6/21

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, "Manifesto of the Communist Party," pp. 473-491 in *The Marx-Engels Reader*, edited by Robert C. Tucker. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1978.

Thursday, 6/22

Emile Durkheim, Selections from *The Division of Labor in Society*. New York: The Free Press, 1997 [1933].

Tuesday, 6/27

Max Weber, Selections from "The Distribution of Power Within the Political Community: Class, Status, Party" in *Economy and Society*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1978.

Max Weber, Selections from "Bureaucracy" in *From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology*, edited by H. H. Gerth and C. Wright Mills. New York: Oxford University Press, 1946.

Individuals and Groups Working for Social Change

Wednesday, 6/28

Paul Tough, "The Lottery," "Battle Mode," and "Escape Velocity," Chapters 1, 5 and 9 in *Whatever It Takes: Geoffrey Canada's Quest to Change Harlem and America*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2008.

Thursday, 6/29

Kimberle Crenshaw. 1991. Selections from "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics and Violence Against Women of Color." *Stanford Law Review*, Vol. 43, No. 6. (Jul): 1241-1299

Audre Lorde. 1984. "The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House." In *Sister Outsider*. Freedom: Cross Press.

Tuesday, 7/4

No homework or class – Academic and Administrative Holiday (Independence Day)

Wednesday, 7/5

Required: Learn about the No Coal in Oakland campaign by reading this report: http://nocoalinoakland.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/NCIO-coal-campaign-report_v2016-08-30.pdf

Required: Watch this brief video related to West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project, an organization that was active in the No Coal in Oakland campaign: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8z_baIKw-RabnhxMDUyUTVzaEU/view

Optional: View maps created through the project described in the video here:
<https://www.edf.org/airqualitymaps/air-pollution-and-health-east-oakland>

Optional: Explore the No Coal in Oakland website here:
<http://nocoalinoakland.info/>

Optional: Explore the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project website here:
<http://www.woeip.org/in-the-news/>

Required: Learn about #asians4blacklives by thoroughly exploring their website here: <https://a4bl.wordpress.com/who-we-are/>

Thursday, 7/6

No readings for today - work on your first paper.

*****Optional early paper drafts due at 5:00pm Friday, 7/14, via email to kristen.n.nelson@berkeley.edu. No late drafts will receive feedback.*****

The Creation of Race and Racial Inequality

Tuesday, 7/11

Barbara Jeanne Fields, 1990, "Slavery, Race and Ideology in the United States of America." *New Left Review*, 95: 95-118.

Wednesday, 7/12

Claire Jean Kim, 1999, "The Racial Triangulation of Asian Americans." *Politics & Society*, 27(1): 105-138.

Thursday, 7/13

Mae Ngai, 2004, *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, Chapter 2, pages 56-90.

*****Paper due at 5:00pm Friday, 7/14, via bCourses*****

Tuesday, 7/18

Michelle Alexander, "The Rebirth of Caste," Chapter 1 in *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. New York: The New Press, 2012.

Wednesday, 7/19

Maria Root, 1994, "Bill of Rights for People of Mixed Heritage."

Ranier Spencer, 2003, "Census 2000: Assessments in Significance," Pp.99-110 in *New Faces in a Changing America: Multiracial Identity in the 21st Century*, Loretta Winters and Herman DeBose (eds.), Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Hernandez, Tanya K. "What the 'Loving Day' 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the Loving v. Virginia Court Decision Really Need – A Challenge to Ongoing White Supremacy." *Huffington Post*, June 11th, 2017.

Class, Stratification and Poverty

Thursday, 7/20

Robert Putnam. 2015. "The American Dream: Myths and Realities," Chapter 1 in *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis*. New York: Simon and Schuster.

Tuesday, 7/25

Claude S. Fischer, Michael Hout, Martin Sanchez-Jankowski, Samuel R. Lucas, Ann Swidler, and Kim Voss. "Why Inequality?" Chapter 1 in *Inequality By Design: Cracking the Bell Curve Myth*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Claude S. Fischer, Michael Hout, Martin Sanchez-Jankowski, Samuel R. Lucas, Ann Swidler, and Kim Voss. "How Unequal: America's Invisible Policy Choices." Pp. 773-797 in *Inequality and Society*, edited by Jeff Manza and Michael Sauder. New York: Norton.

Wednesday, 7/26

Annette Lareau, "Invisible Inequality: Social Class and Childrearing in Black Families and White Families," *American Sociological Review* 67: 747-776, 2002.

Thursday, 7/27

Sendhil Mullainathan and Eldar Shafir, "Focusing and Tunneling" and "Borrowing and Myopia," Chapters 1 and 5 in *Scarcity: Why Having Too Little Means so Much*. New York: Times Books.

The Creation of Gender and Gender Inequality

Tuesday, 8/1

Ariel Levy. "Either/Or: Sports, sex, and the case of Caster Semenya." *New Yorker*, November 30, 2009.

Wednesday, 8/2

Candace West and Don H. Zimmerman. 1987. "Doing Gender." *Gender & Society* 1(2): 125-151.

Thursday, 8/3

Kristen Schilt. 2006. "Just One of the Guys?: How Transmen Make Gender Visible at Work." *Gender & Society* 20(4): 465-490.

*****Final due at 5:00pm, Friday 8/4, via bCourses*****

Tuesday, 8/8

C.J. Pascoe, "Dude, You're A Fag": Adolescent Masculinity and the Fag Discourse." *Sexualities* 8(3): 329-346, 2007.

Wednesday, 8/9

No homework, but spoiler alert: we will discuss *Lemonade* and *Wonder Woman*.

Thursday, 8/10

No homework – last day of class

Writing – Writing helps us clarify our understanding of course material, and helps to show us what we do and do not know. Strong, clear writing requires a great deal of rewriting and revision. Please take advantage of "drop in" or "by appointment" writing tutoring at the Student Learning Center (<http://slc.berkeley.edu/writing>), and consider seeking feedback from your peers. Of course, while peer review can provide essential guidance, your final product must reflect your own thinking and work.

Accommodations for students with disabilities – If you require accommodations for this class, please contact the Disabled Students Program (DSP) during the first couple weeks of the semester. The DSP office is located at 260 César E. Chávez Student Center, #4250. Details can be found online at www.dsp.berkeley.edu. You are never required to tell me personal information; however if you are having problems that affect your ability to attend, participate, or keep up with the workload in this class, feel free to contact me. I want to see you succeed and more than happy to work out any accommodations that will support you to that end.

Psychological Services – Most students experience personal or family problems, or emotional difficulties, such as depression, suicidal thoughts, or anxiety, while in college. Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS) is available to consult with you regarding various emotional health issues that may affect you or your friends. If you want to make an appointment with CPS, or if you are concerned about another student, don't hesitate to call 642-9494. CPS is located on the 3rd Floor of the Tang Center. In case of an emergency, always call 911.

Using Snapchat -

- 1) From your own Snapchat account, add Soc3AC17 so that you can see the stories that your classmates post.
- 2) Log out of your account by touching the gear in the upper right corner of the app homepage, scrolling all the way down, and selecting "Log Out."
- 3) Touch "Log In" and enter username Soc3AC17 and password S0ci0l0gy!
- 4) Add your My Story (instructions here: <https://support.snapchat.com/en-US/article/post-story>).
- 5) Be sure to log out when you're done!
- 6) ****While you are signed into the course account, do not add friends, give the app access to your contacts, interact with any individual, or change any settings.****
- 7) ****Be sure to include your first name and last initial on the final picture or video of your story. If you don't do this, we can't give you credit.****
- 8) ****Please note that if you log into the class account and someone else is already logged in, you will unknowingly kick that person off. The same can happen to you. So get ready before logging in, try to log in during off times, and try not to take longer than 15 minutes to add your story.**
- 9) Let me know if you have issues by emailing me at Kristen.n.nelson@berkeley.edu, but remember, no late My Stories will be accepted. Plan your time wisely and be sure to submit a My Story or a bCourses Discussion Mini Reflection before your deadline.