

**Sociology 211: Introduction to Sociology
Fall 2013**

Monday lecture at noon in PSYCH 105
Wed/Fri conference in ETC 205

Alex Hrycak
Office: Vollum 223
hrycaka@reed.edu

Marc Schneiberg
Office: Eliot 409
schneibm@reed.edu

Kjersten Whittington
Office: Vollum 133
whittington@reed.edu

Course Description

This course is an introduction to sociological perspectives on patterns of human conduct ranging from fleeting encounters in informal gatherings to historical processes of institutional persistence and change. Topics of discussion and research include the stratification of life chances, social honor and power in human populations, and the differentiation of these populations by gender, race, age, ethnicity, and other characteristics both achieved and ascribed; the integration of differentiated roles and statuses into systems capable of maintaining their structure beyond the life span of living individuals, and capable as well of revolutionary and evolutionary social change; and the interrelationships of familial, economic, political, educational, and religious institutions in the emerging world system of late modernity.

Course Materials

The following books can be purchased from the Reed College Bookstore:

Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and The Spirit of Capitalism*

Michael Burawoy, *Manufacturing Consent*

Robert Dahl, *Who Governs?*

Carol Stack, *All Our Kin*

These and other course readings have been placed on reserve at the library and are also hyperlinked here, with some readings on regular reserve and others on e-reserve, available through the Reed Moodle system. Please consult the Moodle for this class to keep up to date with assignments and modifications.

Most journal articles are available through JSTOR, a web-based archive of academic journals that is available at any networked computer on campus (<http://www.jstor.org/>). JSTOR can also be located through the Reed College Library web page. JSTOR articles can be found by using the online JSTOR search engine, or through direct URLs provided in the syllabus. Using JSTOR means you don't have to wait for reserve articles to be returned, and the articles can be accessed at any time.

Readings and written assignments

This is a lecture and discussion based course. The class will challenge you to reexamine classical questions (e.g., what caused the industrial revolution, why did industrialization create new kinds of racism, sexism) in order to push you to clearly articulate sociological efforts to test alternative theories empirically. The readings are demanding and require intensive examination of a broad variety of issues and methods. You are likely to encounter strong opinions and it is inevitable that at least some of these opinions will make you or your classmates uncomfortable. You will be expected to strike a healthy balance in conference between arguing your own position on these issues, listening to others, and helping the class as a collectivity to explore how the sociologists you read defend their approaches. Each member of the class is expected to abide by the Reed Honor principle, according to which you must both take responsibility on yourself to think about how your actions and words affect others, and share responsibility with your peers for enabling the class as a whole to achieve its highest intellectual aims without alienating or marginalizing anyone. Your regular attendance at lectures and active participation in conference are necessary for the class to work. Themes and approaches will shift considerably from one week to the next, and in-class discussions will be necessary for you and your colleagues to demonstrate to each other how they fit together. Written work will include a mid-term exam, computer labs and a final exam. We will expect written work to be submitted on time.

Reading Assignments

Week 1: Thinking sociologically

9/4 Introduction to the Course

- Please come to the first class having read the following: Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. "Manifesto of the Communist Party, Part I: Bourgeois and Proletarians." Pp 473-83 in R. Tucker. *The Marx-Engels Reader* ([HX39.5 A224 1978](#)). Also on the web at: <http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1848/communist-manifesto/ch01.htm#007>

9/6

- Emile Durkheim, *The Rules of Sociological Method* [English translation], [chapter 1 and "Author's Preface to the Second Edition"](#) (linked here and on reserve [HM24 .D962](#))
- Charles Warriner, "[Groups Are Real](#)" (JSTOR)

Week 2: Marx and the Study of Class Relations

9/9 Marx and the Study of Class Relations

- Karl Marx, "Preface" to A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy, pp. 3-6 in R. Tucker, *The Marx-Engels Reader* (on reserve [HX39.5 A224 1978](#)).

Also on the web at: <http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1859/critique-pol-economy/preface.htm>

- Karl Marx, selections from *Capital*, [pp. 294-312](#) and [pp. 319-329](#) in R. Tucker, *The Marx-Engels Reader* (linked here and at [HX39.5 A224 1978](#))

9/11

- Michael Burawoy, *Manufacturing Consent*, Preface & chapters 2-5 [pp. ix-xvii, 13-94] (purchased book or on reserve [HD6955 .B85](#))

9/13

- Michael Burawoy, *Manufacturing Consent*, chapters 6-7, 11-12 (purchased book or on reserve [HD6955 .B85](#))

Week 3: Weber: The Study of Power, Domination and Rationalized Authority

9/16 Lecture (PSYCH 105)

Max Weber, *Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (purchased book and on reserve)

There are two editions of this work, and they have different pagination.

Reading assignment for the Stephen Kalberg translation (the Roxbury 3rd edition) ([BR115.E3 W4 1998](#)):

- "Prefatory Remarks," pp.149-164;
- "Religious Affiliation and Social Stratification," pp. 3-12;
- "The Spirit of Capitalism," pp.13-37;
- "Calvinism," pp. 53-80;
- "Asceticism and the Spirit of Capitalism," pp. 103-125

Reading assignment for all other editions, translated by Talcott Parsons ([BR115.C3 W413 2003](#)):

- "Religious Affiliation and Social Stratification," pp. 35-46;
- "Author's Introduction," pp. 13-31;
- "The Spirit of Capitalism," pp. 47-78;
- "Calvinism," pp. 95-128;
- "Asceticism and the Spirit of Capitalism," pp. 155-183

9/18

- Max Weber, *Economy and Society*, vol. I ([HM57.W342](#)) "[Domination and Legitimacy](#)" & "[The Three Pure Types of Authority](#)," pp.212-216; "[Legal Authority](#)," pp.220-223; "[The Routinization of Charisma](#)," pp.246-254.

9/20

- Lauren Edelman, "[Legal Environments and Organizational Governance](#)," *American Journal of Sociology* (JSTOR)

Week 4: Durkheim: The Study of Social Solidarity

9/23 Lecture (PSYCH 105)

- Introduction (by Lewis Coser) to Emile Durkheim, *Division of Labor in Society*, pp. ix-xxiv (on reserve [HD51.D9613 1984](#))
- Emile Durkheim, *Suicide* (on reserve [HV6545 .D813 1951a](#) or [HV6545 .D96 S2 1951](#) and [linked here](#))
 - "Book 2," chapters 1-2, pp. 145-70; (see link above)
 - "Book 2," chapter 3, section I, pp. 171-80 (see link above)
 - "Book 2," chapter 3, section IV, pp. 197-216 (see link above)

9/25

- Emile Durkheim, *Suicide* (on reserve [HV6545 .D813 1951a](#) or [HV6545 .D96 S2 1951](#) and see link above)
 - "Book 2," chapter 4, pp. 217-228; (see link above)
 - "Book 2," chapter 5, pp. 241-258, and note 25 on p. 276. (see link above)

9/27

- Emile Durkheim, *The Elementary Forms of Religious Life* [page numbers refer to Karen Fields' translation for the 1995 edition] (on reserve [GN470 .D813 1995](#)):
 - "Book 2," [chapter 1, sec. 1](#) (first 3 pages only, pp. 100-103 [ready only through the first paragraph on page 103]);
 - "Book 2," [chapter 7, sec. 1, 2, 3](#) (pp. 207-225)
- Barry Schwartz, "[Mourning and the Making of a Sacred Symbol: Durkheim and the Lincoln Assassination](#)," *Social Forces* (1991) (JSTOR)

Week 5: Social Stratification

9/30 Lecture (PSYCH 105)

- Kingsley Davis & Wilbert Moore, "[Some Principles of Stratification](#)," *American Sociological Review* (JSTOR)
- Melvin Tumin, "[Some Principles of Stratification: a critical analysis](#)," *American Sociological Review* (JSTOR)

Optional follow-up reply:

- Kingsley Davis, [Some principles of stratification: a critical analysis: Reply](#), *American Sociological Review* (JSTOR)

10/2

Lareau, Annette. Selection from *Unequal Childhoods*. Read the Introduction (pages 1-13) and three chapters on three families (163-220). Optional: skim Chapter 2 (15 pages) for information about the study location and background on inequality.

10/4

- Wilson, *The Declining Significance of Race*, ch. 1 - [From racial oppression to economic class subordination](#), 3 - [Segregation and the rise of the white working class](#), & 5 - [Modern industrialization and the alteration of competitive race relations](#), (on reserve E185 .W73 1980)

Week 6: Simmel and the Study of Social Networks

10/7 Lecture (PSYCH 105)

- Georg Simmel. [1908] 1971. "[The Problem of Sociology](#)", "[The Stranger](#)," and "[Group Expansion and the Development of Individuality](#)" Pp. 23-35, 143-9, 251-74 in *Georg Simmel on Individuality and Social Forms*, edited by Donald N. Levine. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (on reserve at [HM51.S537](#) and also linked through e-reserves).

10/9

- Uzzi, Brian. "[The Sources and Consequences of Embeddedness for the Economic Performance of Organizations: The Network Effect](#)," *American Sociological Review*, 1996, v61(4): 674-698. (JSTOR)
- Liu, Ka-Yuet, Marissa King, and Peter S. Bearman. 2011. "[Social Influence and the Autism Epidemic](#)." *American Journal of Sociology*. 115(5): 1387-1434. (JSTOR)

10/11

- Stack, Carol. *All Our Kin*. (Purchased Book or on reserve [E185.86 .S697 1997](#)). Read chapter 2, 3, 6, and 8.

Week 7: Mead, Goffman and the Study of Symbolic Interaction

10/14 Lecture (PSYCH 105)

- Erving Goffman, "[The Interaction Order](#)" *American Sociological Review*, Vol. 48, No. 1 (Feb., 1983), pp. 1-17 (JSTOR)
- George Herbert Mead, *Mind Self and Society from the Standpoint of a Social Behaviorist* (edited by Charles W. Morris). Select items #1, #3, #5, #7, #12 of "Part III: The Self" at the following website:

http://www.brocku.ca/MeadProject/Mead/pubs2/mindself/Mead_1934_toc.html

"The Self and the Organism," pp. 199-209;

"Play, the Game and the Generalized Other," pp. 216-228;

"The 'I' and the 'Me'," pp. 228-233

"Mind as the Individual Importation of the Social Process"

"A Contrast of Individualistic and Social Theories of Self," pp. 241-246

Transcripts of Mead's lectures, including most of the above, may also be found in George Herbert Mead, *On Social Psychology* (edited by Anselm Strauss) (on reserve [B945 .M47 S6](#))

10/16

- Erving Goffman, "[The Nature of Deference and Demeanor](#)," *American Anthropologist*" (JSTOR). This article is also on reserve in Erving Goffman, *Interaction Ritual: Essays on Face-to-Face Behavior* ([HM291 .G59 1982](#))
- Elijah Anderson, *Streetwise: Race, Class, And Change In An Urban Community*, Chapters 6 - [The black male in public](#), and 8 - [Street etiquette and street wisdom](#), (on reserve [HN80.P5 A53 1990](#))
- **Take-Home Exam distributed in class on Wednesday, October 16**

10/18

- **No class. Take-Home Exam due by 3:00 p.m. Friday, October 18**

Week 8: FALL BREAK

Week 9: The Social Construction of Order

10/28 Lecture (PSYCH 105)

- Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann, *The Social Construction of Reality*, [chapter II section 1, pp. 47-92](#) (on reserve [BD175. B4 1980](#))
- Ridgeway, Cecilia. 2010. *Framed by Gender*. Oxford University Press. Chapters 2 - [A primary frame for organizing social relations](#) and 6 - [The persistence of inequality](#) (e-reserves).

10/30

- Shyon Baumann [“Intellectualization and Art World Development: Film in the United States,”](#) *American Sociological Review*, Vol. 66, No. 3. (Jun., 2001), pp. 404-426. (JSTOR)
- Dawne Moon, [“Insult and Inclusion: The Term Fag Hag and Gay Male “Community””](#) *Social Forces*, Vol. 74, No. 2. (Dec., 1995), pp. 487-510. (JSTOR)

11/1

- Kai Erikson, *Wayward Puritans*, [On the sociology of deviance](#), pp. 1-29; [The shapes of the devil](#), pp. 67-71; [The witches of Salem village](#), pp.137-159 (on reserve: [BX9355.E7 1986](#))

Week 10: Political Sociology

11/4 Lecture (PSYCH 105)

- Robert Dahl, *Who Governs?* pp. 1-24; 85-103; (purchased book, or on reserve at JS 1195.2 .D2)
- Val Burris, "Elite Policy-Planning Networks in the United States," *Research in Politics and Society*, Vol. 4, 1992 [[linked here](#)].

11/6

- Robert Dahl, *Who Governs?* pp. 115-140; 163-165; 184-189; 305-310 (purchased book, or on reserve at JS 1195.2 .D2)
- Val Burris. “Interlocking Directorates and Political Cohesion among Corporate Elites” *American Journal of Sociology*. (2005) (link: www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/428817)

11/8

- Theda Skocpol and Kenneth Finegold “State Capacity and Economic Intervention in the Early New Deal,” *Political Science Quarterly*, (1982) (JSTOR link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2149478>)

Week 11: Social Movements and Change

11/11 Lecture (PSYCH 105)

- Alexandra Hrycak, "The Coming of 'Chrysler Imperial': Ukrainian Youth and Rituals of Resistance," *Harvard Ukrainian Studies* (1997) (available via the following: <http://academic.reed.edu/sociology/faculty/hrycak/>)

11/13

- Michael Lipsky, "Protest as a Political Resource," *American Political Science Review* (1968) (JSTOR link: www.jstor.org/stable/1953909)
- Hanspeter Kriesi et al. "New Social Movements and Political Opportunities in Western Europe," *European Journal of Political Research*. (1992) (e-reserves)

11/15

- Eric L. Hirsch, "[Sacrifice for the Cause: Group Processes, Recruitment, and Commitment in a Student Social Movement](#)," *American Sociological Review* (1990) (JSTOR)
- Nella Van Dyke, Marc Dixon, & Helen Carlon, Manufacturing Dissent: Labor Revitalization, Union Summer and Student Protest Social Forces, Volume 86, Number 1, September 2007, pp. 193-214 (JSTOR link: www.jstor.org/stable/4495032)

Week 12: Empirical Sociology: The General Social Survey, Variables Typologies

11/18 Lecture

- Chapter 1 in *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society*, "[The What and Why of Statistics](#)" (e-reserves)
- Reread Wilson, *The Declining Significance of Race*, ch. 1, 3 & 5 (on reserve [E185 .W73 1980](#))

11/20 Computer Lab

- Browse the General Social Survey (GSS)1972-2008 Cumulative Datafile: <http://sda.berkeley.edu/cgi-bin/hsda?harcsgss08>
- Read pages 199-216 in Chapter 6 in *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society*, "[Relationships between two variables: Cross Tabulation](#)" (e-reserves)

11/22 Computer Lab

Week 13: Empirical Sociology: Linking Cause and Effect

11/25 Lecture

- Pages 431-446 in Chapter 12 of *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society*, “[Estimation](#)” (e-reserves)
- Pages 503-524 in Chapter 14 of *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society*, “[The Chi-Square Test](#)” (e-reserves)

11/27 Computer Lab

- Pages 285-300 and 306-320 in Chapter 8 of *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society*, “[Bivariate Regression and Correlation](#)” (e-reserves)
- Pages 111-132 in Chapter 4 of *Statistics for Social Data Analysis*, “[Analysis of Variance](#)” (e-reserves)

11/29 Thanksgiving Holiday - No class today

Week 14: Empirical Sociology: Controlling for Extraneous Variables

12/2 Lecture

- Pages 217-234 in Chapter 6 in *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society*, “[Relationships between two variables: Cross Tabulation](#)” (e-reserves)

12/4 Computer Lab

12/6 Computer Lab

Week 15 Course wrap up

12/9 No lecture today – use this time to review your notes for any questions you may have regarding the final exam or we may hold a review session

12/11 Wrap-up, last day of class

Take-home final exam distributed in class, due Friday, December 13th at 5:00pm