

## **Soc 490/690 Class, Race, and Gender**

### Wintermester 2019

#### **Number of Credits**

3

#### **Instructor**

Prof. Berch Berberoglu

#### **Catalog Description**

Analysis of society and social structure on the basis of inequalities along class, race, and gender lines to explain the nature and dynamics of social relations in contemporary American society.

#### **Required Textbooks/Materials**

The following texts are required material in this course:

Michael Zweig, *What's Class Got to Do With It?* (Ithaca, NY: ILR Press) and a number of articles and book chapters placed on electronic reserves on the UNR web

#### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successfully completing SOC 490, students will be able to

- identify and analyze the nature, dynamics, and contradictions of class, race, and gender inequality and its impact on social relations in contemporary American society;
- critically examine multiple theoretical perspectives on class, race, and gender that have broader historical dimensions and societal implications for equity;
- analyze and articulate the history and social complexities of class, race, and gender relations that have broader economic and political consequences for diverse populations; and
- analyze and interpret the impact of class, race, and gender inequalities in contemporary American society and evaluate institutional efforts to achieve equity.

## First Week of Materials/Assignments

The following schedule is subject to change:

- January 2:* Berch Berberoglu, "Class, Race, and Gender," in *Class Structure and Social Transformation*, Ch. 7.
- James Russell, "Class, Race, and Gender" in J. Russell, *An Introduction to Macrosociology*, 2nd ed., Ch. 8.
- January 3:* Terry R. Kandal, "Gender, Race & Ethnicity: Let's Not Forget Class," *Race, Gender, & Class*, Vol. 2, No. 2, pp. 139-162 ("G").
- Albert Szymanski, "Introduction," and "Class Structure of Advanced Capitalism" in Szymanski, *Class Structure: A Critical Perspective*, pp. 1-7 and pp. 76-84.
- January 4:* Alvin Y. So, "Class Structure and Class Conflict in Advanced Capitalist Society" in B. Berberoglu (ed.), *Globalization and Change*, Ch. 2).
- Alan J. Spector, "Class Polarization and Class Struggle Under Advanced Capitalism," in B. Berberoglu (ed.), *Globalization and Change*, Ch. 3 ("G").
- January 7:* Howard J. Sherman, "Rise of Global Capitalism: The Concentration and Centralization of Capital on a World Scale," in *Globalization and Change*, Ch. 1.
- Michael Parenti, "Wealth and Want in the United States," in M. Parenti, *Democracy for the Few*, Ch. 2.

## Course Details

This upper-division sociology diversity course (CO 10) provides a critical analysis of the relationship between class, race, and gender and their interconnected nature in contemporary American society through lectures, documentary film, and student presentations. The course will cover the history of class, race, and gender and examine the struggles of labor, racial and ethnic minorities, and women throughout the course of American history, focusing on class domination, racial oppression, and the oppression of women. Watching and analyzing feature-length films on these topics, blended into lectures, student presentations, and group discussions, the course will provide a critical perspective to understand the social bases of these phenomena experienced by broad segments of the population in the United States, historically and today. The course is offered on MTWR from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in EJCH 266.

## Grade Breakdown

The point distribution for the course is:

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Points</b>
Attendance	25
Student Presentation	10
Outline of Presentation	10
Participation/group discussion	20
Final Exam	35
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>

The percentage distribution for the course is:

<b>Letter</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
A	94–100
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	65–66
D-	62–64
F	below 62