

SOCIOLOGY 526  
SOCIAL CLASSES AND STRATIFICATION  
Professor Hachen -- Spring 2004

Seminar Meetings: Tuesday from 11 – 1:30, Flanner 524.

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Seminar Objectives: The purpose of this seminar is twofold: (1) to provide participants with an in-depth introduction to theories of and research on social stratification and (2) to identify new theories, hypotheses and research agendas that should be explored more. Most of the seminar sessions (12 weeks) will be spent discussing readings on social classes, social mobility and attainment, income inequality, the consequences of stratification, gender inequalities, race inequalities and changes in stratification systems. The last three weeks will be spent reading three (3) relatively recent books on new developments in and ways of thinking about social stratification.

Requirements: This is a seminar in which participants participate by critically discussing the ideas in the readings. Participants must come prepared to discuss the issues that they think are important in the readings. Seminar sessions will be spent identifying the important issues in the readings for that week and critically discussing the theories, research, and conclusions found in the readings. There are 3 explicit requirements beyond participating in seminar discussions:

1. *Discussion Leading*: All participants are responsible for leading 4 of the first 11 seminar sessions (the first session will just be an introduction). Discussion leaders (usually 2 or more participants) must work together and come prepared with questions and issues that they want the seminar to focus on that day. After the seminar, discussion leaders must write a short 2 page paper highlighting what they learned from the readings and the discussion. The paper is due by Friday morning.
2. *Paper(s)*: Seminar participants have two choices for the required paper: 2 critical literature review papers or 1 research paper. I prefer that participants complete two review papers, but if you already have an idea and data for a research paper then you can do that option.

Critical Literature Review Papers: These must be in-depth critical reviews of the literature on one of the stratification topics we have discussed in class. The paper must (1) review literature beyond what we read for the seminar, (2) critically assess prior research and theories contained in the material you have found, and (3) formulate hypotheses or research questions based on your critical review of the literature. One paper is due on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>), the second paper is due on Monday May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Research Paper: This must be a publishable-like paper containing a review of the literature, hypotheses, data analysis and discussion of finding. The research paper is due on Monday May 4<sup>th</sup>.

1. *Book Review*: Each seminar participant is responsible for writing a short 2-3 page critical book review (like the ones that appear in *Contemporary Sociology*) of one of the 3 books we will be reading during the last 3 weeks. Reviews must be written before the seminar session in which we will be discussing the book and circulated to all seminar participants so that they can read it before the seminar. Reviewers must then be prepared to lead a discussion of the book based on their review.

Readings: We will be using David Grusky's excellent anthology of readings on social stratification supplemented by a few additional readings that will be on electronic reserves or available through some other electronic means. We will also be reading 3 books at the end of the semester. Grusky's anthology and these 3 books can be purchased at the ND bookstore.

Grusky, David (ed.). 2000. *Social Stratification: Class, Race and Gender in Sociological Perspective*. Boulder: Westview Press, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. ISBN 0813366542

Castells, Manuel. 2000. *The Rise of the Network Society*. Oxford: Blackwell. ISBN 0631221409

McCall, Leslie. 2001. *Complex Inequality: Gender, Class and Race in the New Economy*. New York: Routledge. ISBN 0415929040

Florida, Richard. 2002. *The Rise of the Creative Class*. New York: Basic Books. ISBN 0465024777

## **COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS**

### **Week 1: Introduction [1/13]**

Grusky, "The Past, Present and Future of Social Inequality."

### **Week 2: Marx and Weberian Perspectives on Class [1/20]**

Karl Marx, "Alienation and Social Classes," "Classes in Capitalism and Pre-Capitalism," "Ideology and Class," and "Value and Surplus Value"

Ralf Dahrendorf, "Class and Class Conflict in Industrial Society"

Erik Olin Wright, "Varieties of Marxist Conceptions of Class Structure," "A General Framework for the Analysis of Class Structure"

Wallerstein, "Class Conflict in the Capitalist World Economy"

Weber, "Class, Status and Party," "Status Groups and Classes," "Open and Closed Relationships," "The Rationalization of Education and Training"

Giddens, "The Class Structure of the Advanced Societies"

Parkin, "Marxist and Class Theory: A Bourgeois Critique"

Erik Olin Wright, "The Shadow of Exploitation in Weber's Class Analysis," *American Sociological Review*, 67(6), 832-853, December 2002. (electronic reserve)

### **Week 3. Durkheimian, Functionalist and Elite Perspectives on Class [1/27]**

Kingsley Davis & Wilbert E. Moore, "Some Principles of Stratification"

Melvin Tumin, "Some Principles of Stratification: A Critical Analysis."

Claude Fisher, Michael Hout, Martin Sanchez Jankowskie, Samuel R. Lucas, Ann Swidler, & Kim Voss, "Inequality by Design"

Gerhard Lenski, "New Light on Old Issues: The Relevance of 'Really Existing Socialist Societies' for Stratification Theory"

Emile Durkheim, "The Division of Labor in Society"

David Grusky and Jesper Sorensen, "Are There Big Social Classes?"

Gaetano Mosco, "The Ruling Class"

C. Wright Mills, "The Power Elite"

Anthony Giddens “Elites and Power”

Michael Useem, “The Inner Circle”

Edward Shils, “The Political Class in the Age of Mass Society: Collectivist Liberalism and Social Democracy”

Gil Eyal, Ivan Szelenyi & Eleanor Townsley, “Post-Communist Managerialism”

#### **Week 4: Gradational Perspectives on Class [2/3]**

W. Lloyd Warner, Marchia Meeker & Kenneth Eells, “Social Class in America”

Edward Shils, “Deference”

Peter Blau and Otis Dudley Duncan, “Measuring the Status of Occupations”

Donald Treiman, “Occupational Prestige in Comparative Perspective”

John Goldthorpe & Keith Hope, “Occupational Grading and Occupational Prestige”

David Featherman and Robert Hauser, “Prestige or Socioeconomic Scales in the Study of Occupational Achievement?”

Robert Hodge, “The Measurement of Occupational Status”

Robert Hauser & John Robert Warren, “Socioeconomic Indexes for Occupations: A Review, Update, and Critique”

Aage Sørensen, “The Basic Concepts of Stratification Research: Class, Status and Power”

#### **Week 5: Social Mobility and Status Attainment [2/10]**

Piririm Sorokin, “Social and Cultural Mobility”

Seymour Martin Lipset, Reinhard Bendix & Hans L. Zetterberg, “Social Mobility in Industrial Society”

Ralph Turner, “Sponsored and Contest Mobility and the School System”

David Featherman and Robert Hauser, “A Refined Model of Occupational Mobility”

David Grusky and Robert Hauser, “Comparative Social Mobility Revisited: Models of Convergence and Divergence in 16 Countries”

Robert Erikson and John Goldthorpe, “Trends in Class Mobility: The Post-War European Experience”

Peter Blau and Otis Dudley Duncan, "The Process of Stratification"

William Sewell, Archibald Haller and Alejandro Portes, "The Educational and Early Occupational Attainment Process"

Jay MacLeod, "Ain't No Makin' It: Leveled Aspirations in a Low-income Neighborhood"

### **Week 6. Income Inequality, Poverty, and Labor Markets [2/17]**

Christopher Jenks, Marshall Smith, Henry Acland, Mary Jo Bane, David Cohen, Herbert Gintis, Barbara Heyns & Stephan Michelson, "Inequality: A Reassessment of the Effect of Family and Schooling in American"

Peter Gottschalk, "Inequality, Income Growth, and Mobility: Basic Facts"

Martina Morris & Bruce Wester, "Inequality in Earnings: Trends and Implications"

Peter Gottschalk, Sara McLanahan & Gary Sandefur, "The Dynamics and Intergenerational Transmission of Poverty and Welfare Participation."

Michael Piore, "The Dual Labor Market: Theory and Implications"

Aage Sørensen and Arne Kalleberg, "An Outline of a Theory of the Matching of Persons to Jobs"

Mark Granovetter, "The Strength of Weak Ties"

Nan Lin, "Social Networks and Status Attainment"

Ronald Burt, "Structural Holes"

Richard Breen & John Goldthorpe, "Explaining Educational Differentials: Towards a Formal Rational Action Theory"

Neil Fligstein and Taek-Jin Shin. "The Shareholder Society: A Review of the Changes in Working Conditions and Inequality in the U.S. 1976-2000." Unpublished paper. (electronic reserves)

Robert Mare, "Observations on the Study of Social Mobility and Inequality"

### **Week 7: The Consequences of Stratification [2/24]**

Thorstein Veblen, "The Theory of the Leisure Class." Pp. 397-404.

Pierre Bourdieu, "Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste." Pp. 404-429.

Michael Hout, Jeff Manza & Clem Brooks, "The Realignment of U.S. Presidential Voting, 1952-1992"

Melvin Kohn, "Job Complexity and Adult Personality"

Paul DiMaggio, "Social Stratification, Life-Style, Social Cognition & Social Participation"

**Week 8: Gender Stratification & Occupational Sex Segregation [3/2]**

Shulamith Firestone, "The Dialectic of Sex"

Heidi Hartmann, "The Unhappy Marriage of Marxism and Feminism: Towards a More Progressive Union"

Szonja Szelényi. "Women and the Class Structure"

David Grusky and Maria Charles, "Is There a Worldwide Sex Segregation Regime?"

William Bielby, "The Structure and Process of Sex Segregation"

Jerry Jacobs, "Revolving Doors: Sex Segregation and Women's Careers"

Barbara Reskin, "Labor Markets as Queues: A Structural Approach to Changing Occupations Sex Composition"

**Week 9: The Gender Gap in Earnings [3/16]**

Trond Petersen & Laurie Morgan, "The Within-Job Gender Wage Gap"

Margaret Mooney Marini and Pi-Ling Fan, "The Gender Gap in Earnings at Career Entry"

Barbara Stanek Kilboure, Paula England, Gerge Farkas, Kurt Beron & Dorothea Weir, "Returns to Skill, Compensating Differentials, and Gender Bias: Effects of Occupational Characteristics on the Wage of White Women and Men"

Tony Tam, "Why Do Female Occupations Pay Less?"

**Week 10: Classic and Contemporary Modes of Race and Ethnic Inequalities [3/23]**

Edna Bonacich, "A Theory of Ethnic Antagonism: The Split Labor Market"

Alejandro Portes and Robert Manning, "The Immigrant Enclave: Theory and Empirical Examples"

Stanley Lieberson, "A Piece of the Pie: Blacks and White Immigrants Since 1880"

Roger Waldinger, "Still The Promised City? African-Americans and New Immigrants in Postindustrial New York"

Alejandro Portes & Min Zhou, "The New Second Generation: Segmented Assimilation and Its Variants"

Mary Waters, "Black Identities: West Indian Immigrant Dreams and American Realities"

### **Week 11: The Dynamics of Racial and Ethnic Inequalities [3/30]**

William Julius Wilson, "The Declining Significance of Race: Blacks and Changing American Institutions"

Charles Hirschman & C. Matthew Snipp, "The State of the American Dream: Race and Ethnic Socioeconomic Inequality in the United States, 1970-1990"

Melvin Oliver & Thomas Shapiro, "Black Wealth / White Wealth: A New Perspective on Racial Inequality"

Herbert Gans, "The Possibility of a New Racial Hierarchy in the Twenty-first-century United States"

William Julius Wilson, "Jobless Poverty: A New Form of Social Dislocation in the Inner-City Ghetto"

Douglas Massey & Nancy Denton, "American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass"

Stanley Lieberson, "Understanding Ascriptive Stratification: Some Issues and Principles"

### **Week 12: Changes in Social Stratification System [4/6]**

Clark Kerr, John Dunlop, Frederick Harbison, and Charles Myers. "Industrialism and Industrial Man".

Daniel Bell, "The Coming of Post-Industrial Society"

Alvin Gouldner, "The Future of Intellectuals and the Rise of the New Class"

Gosta Esping-Andersen, "Social Foundations of Postindustrial Economies"

Victor Nee, "Postsocialist Stratification"

Gil Eyal, Ivan Szelenyi & Eleanor Townsley, "Making Capitalism without Capitalists"

Stuart Hall, "The Meaning of New Times."

Jan Pakulski & Malcolm Waters, "The Death of Class"

Jon Meyer, "The Evolution of Modern Stratification Systems"

**Week 13: The Network Society [4/13]**

Castells, Manuel. 2000. *The Rise of the Network Society*. Oxford: Blackwell.  
Chapters 1-4.

**Week 14: Gender, Class and Race [4/20]**

McCall, Leslie. 2001. *Complex Inequality: Gender, Class and Race in the New Economy*. New York: Routledge.

**Week 15: A New Class? [4/27]**

Florida, Richard. 2002. *The Rise of the Creative Class*. New York: Basic Books