SOC 010 SOCIAL STRATIFICATION
Spring 2016

Time: 1:30 – 4:30, Tuesday
Place: McNeil Building 110

Instructor: Hyunjoon Park (Associate Professor, Sociology)
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Office Hour: 1:05-2:00 Wednesday or by appointment, McNeil 219

In this course we study the current levels and historical trends of inequality in the United States especially in cross-national comparative perspective. We discuss causes and consequences of inequality as well as various policy efforts to deal with inequality. Topics include intergenerational social mobility, income inequality, education, gender, race and ethnicity among others.

Readings: All course readings are available at Canvas

Exams: There will be two exams. The mid-term exam is scheduled March 1 (in class), while the final exam is scheduled at 9:00 – 11:00 am May 6.

Writings: Students need to pick up three weeks and write a short essay (3-4 pages in double space, 12 points with the margin of 1" for all sides) about the topic of the week. Specific instructions and requirements of the weekly papers will be discussed in class.

Final Class Project: Students need to select any topic related to social stratification and make 10-minute presentation in the last class. The format of the project is flexible including a ppt presentation, a poster presentation, a podcast, a video clip, or a skit (or any creative way). This project can be done individually or as a team of two students.

Class Attendance: Class attendance will be recorded. Students can miss two classes without penalty.

Grading: Mid-term Exam (30%), Final Exam (35%), Final Class Project (15%), Writings (15%: 3 writings x 5% each), Class Attendance (5%)
CLASS SCHEDULE & READINGS

January 19: Introduction

January 26: Current Contours of Inequality in the US in Comparative Perspective


Also see the comments on the Grusky’s essay, particularly
Piketty, Saez, and Stantcheva http://www.bostonreview.net/testing-tax-policy
Susan Mayer http://www.bostonreview.net/mayer-middle-class-stagnation


February 2: The Rich & The Poor


February 9: Intergenerational Social Mobility and Inequality of Opportunity


February 16: Inequality of Educational Opportunity


February 23: Education and Socioeconomic Outcomes


**March 1: Mid-Term Exam**

**March 8: Spring Break**

**March 15: College – Equalizing vs. Maintaining Inequality**


**March 22 Family and Social Stratification**


**March 29 Cultural Mobility vs. Cultural Reproduction**


**April 5 School and Stratification**


April 12 Gender and Stratification


April 19 Race, Ethnicity, Immigration and Stratification


April 26 Final Class Project Presentation