



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Fall 2019

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: Social Stratification			
Course Number	Soci 365		
Pre/Co-Requisites	Soci 201		
Instructor Name	Dr. Josh Curtis	Email	joshua.curtis@ucalgary.ca
Office Location	SS 944	Office Hours	Monday 3:00-4:00
Class Dates	MWF		
Class Times	2:00-2:50		
Class Location	ES 443		

Course Description and Learning Objectives

Broadly defined, social stratification is the ranking of individuals into the various social hierarchies of class, status and power. More specifically, it explores how achieved and ascribed characteristics are related to social class and related economic outcomes. In other words, the course is primarily about the causes and consequences of economic inequality, work, and labour. We will be concerned mostly with large scale societal patterns rather than the process by which individuals gain status in small groups. Although some of the material will be comparative and pertain to modern Democracies generally, emphasis will be on Canadian society.

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

- Grabb, Edward and Neil Guppy (eds.). 2009. Social Inequality in Canada: Patterns, Problems, and Policies, 5th Edition. Toronto: Pearson Prentice Hall.
- Articles will be posted on D2L two weeks before class.

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

The course will have four requirements that will contribute to your final course grade:

2.1 First in-class test (40% of course grade): October 18th

This test will take place in-class on *Friday, October 18th*. The test will cover all readings and lectures from September 6-October 11. You will have 50 minutes to complete the test. Please arrive at class on time.

2.2 Final Exam (30% of course grade): Exam Period (TBD)

This test will take place during the exam period. The test will cover all readings and lectures

2.3 Short Essay (30% of course grade): Due IN-CLASS on Friday, November 22nd.

You are required to write a short essay on one of the weekly topics shown in the course schedule below (there will be no substitutions). You should cite at least 15 sources from academic journals and/or books *outside of the required readings for the course*. Textbook citations do not count as part of the 15 sources. At least 10 of these sources should be dated 1995 or more recent. The paper should read much like a literature review for an academic paper appearing in a top-tier sociological journal such as the *American Sociological Review*. The paper must be *at least 6 pages but no more than 8 pages* in length (typed, double-spaced, 12-point font)—material past page 8 will not be evaluated.

The short essay is due IN-CLASS on Friday, November 22nd. Your paper grade will be deducted **5 percent each day it is late. I will not accept electronic copies** of the paper—**You must hand in a hard copy**. I will not give extensions except under very special circumstances. I suggest, therefore, that you plan to have the paper finished long before the deadline.

Some words of advice on how to write a good paper:

1. Make sure to start with a research question and set out to show the evidence both *for* and *against it*, coming to a conclusion at the end. Be sure to use published sociological research as your evidence.
2. Look at recent articles in the *American Sociological Review*, especially their literature reviews, for models on how to write a good paper. You will notice that papers with similar findings are grouped together. That is, you do not need to give a detailed summary of every paper you cite! You should also make sure to cite the most important works in the field, rather than simply the ones that you come across first. That is, a good paper will provide a description of the most important findings regarding a particular research topic. In other words, it gives an indication of how the field got to where it is.
3. The **15 good** sources is the bare minimum. Your paper grade will be deducted 1 mark (i.e., 1/30 of the total grade) for each source less than the required 15.
4. Ensure that your writing is clear and straight to the point. If the same point can be made as clearly in 10 words as in 20 words, the 10-word version is always better.

5. Make sure to use proper grammar and spelling. I don't like wasting my time reading junk. You will receive a poor grade if the paper is not polished, so be sure to make several edits before submitting a final version.
6. Finally, **both the University of Calgary and I take plagiarism very seriously.**

Exam 1: October 18th 40%

Exam 2: Exam Period TBD 30%

Short Essay: Due November 22nd . 30%

Week 1 Sept. 6th: Course Introduction

Readings: Grabb and Guppy, "General Introduction" (pp. 1-14)

Week 2: Sept. 9, 11, & 13: Theories and Implications of the Welfare State

Esping-Andersen, Gosta and John Myles. In Press. "Economic Inequality and the Welfare State"

Korpi, Walter and Joakim Palm. 1998. "The Paradox of Redistribution: Welfare State Institutions, Inequality, and Poverty in the Western Countries," *American Sociological Review* 63(5): 661-687.

Andersen, Robert and Josh Curtis. 2013. "Public Opinion on Social Spending: 1980-2005." In Keith Banting and John Myles (eds). *The New Politics of Redistribution in Canada*. Victoria: UBC Press. Pp. 141-164.

Week 3: Sept. 16, 18, & 20: Class and Occupation in Modern Societies

Hauser, Robert M. and John Robert Warren. 1997. "Socioeconomic Indexes for Occupations: A Review, Update, and Critique." *Sociological Methodology*, 27: 177-298. **[Read only pages 177-198]**

Grusky, David B. and Kim A. Weeden. 2001. "Decomposition Without Death: A Research Agenda for the New Class Analysis." *Acta Sociologica* 44:203-18.

Grabb and Guppy, Chapter 3

Week 4: Sept. 23, 25, & 27: Labour Markets and Social Mobility

Western, Mark and Erik Olin Wright. 1994. "The Permeability of Class Boundaries to Intergenerational Mobility Among Men in the United States, Canada, Norway and Sweden," *American Sociological Review*, 59: 606-29.

Grabb and Guppy, Chapters 8 and 9

Week 5: Sept. 30, Oct. 2, & 4: *Income Inequality*

Grabb and Guppy, Chapters 5 and 6

Kelley, Jonathan and M. D. R. Evans. 1993. "The Legitimation of Inequality: Occupational Earnings in Nine Nations," *American Journal of Sociology*, 99: 75-125.

Week 6: Oct. 7, 9, & 11: *Education*

Goldthorpe, John H. 1996. "Class Analysis and the Reorientation of Class Theory: the Case of Persisting Differentials in Educational Attainment," *British Journal of Sociology*, 47: 481-505.

Grabb and Guppy, Chapters 10 and 12

Week 7: Oct. 14, 16, & 18: *Exam review (Oct 14-16) & in-class Mid-term Exam Oct. 18 (40%)*

Week 8: Oct. 21, 23, & 25: *Gender*

Wright, Erik O., Janeen Baxter and Gunn Elisabeth Birkelund. 1995. "The Gender Gap in Workplace Authority: A Cross-National Study," *American Sociological Review*, 60: 407-435.

Grabb and Guppy, Chapters 13 and 14

Week 9: Oct. 28, 30, & Nov. 1: *Race and Ethnicity*

Hechter, M. 1978. "Group Formation and the Cultural Division of Labor," *American Journal of Sociology*, 84: 293-318.

Grabb and Guppy, Chapters 17 and 18

Week 10: Nov. 4, 6, & 8: *Age*

Grabb and Guppy, Chapters 20 and 21

No classes from November 10-16

Week 11: Nov. 18, 20, & 22: *Some implications of Inequality*

Final Paper Due November 18th (30%) at the beginning of class (hard copy only)

Grabb and Guppy, Chapters 23, 26 and 27

Week 12: Nov. 25, 27, & 29: Video. *Capitalism: A love Story*

Week 13: Dec. 2, 4, & 6: *Class Discussion & Exam Review*

Final Exam Information

Our final exam will be cumulative and will take place during the exam period (date TBD). It will consist of Multiple Choice and Short answer questions

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Research Ethics

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Faculty Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Academic Misconduct

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Absences and Deferrals

You can rephrase this to fit your purposes but bear in mind that instructors cannot require doctors' notes, and the link to the calendar information about documentation must be included.

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

Deferred Final Exam Form: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar's Office. Further information can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It's available at:

https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/1/deferred_termwork15_0.pdf

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

Academic Accommodation

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Success

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here:

<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.