

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY



Spring 2017 Course Schedule

NO.	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	LOCATION	DAYS	TIME
110-0 Sec. 20	Intro to Sociology	Craig Rawlings	Leverone Aud	MWF	12:00-12:50 PM
<p><i>Have you ever wondered why people say "bless you" when someone sneezes? Are you troubled by inequality, racism, or sexism? From the seemingly trivial and mundane to the clearly monumental issues of our time, Sociology provides a set of theories and tools for better understanding our world. In this course, you will develop your "sociological imagination" -- a powerful way to connect your personal experiences to larger social forces. In so doing, you will become a more critical thinker capable of seeing the complexity of a number of social issues.</i></p>					
201-0 Sec. 20	Social Inequality: Race, Class, & Power	Beth Red Bird	Harris 107	TTH	3:30-4:50 PM
<p><i>This course examines inequality in American society with an emphasis on race, class, and gender. Lectures emphasize the mechanisms through which inequality develops and comes to be seen as legitimate, natural, and desirable. We will also examine the economic, social, and political consequences of rising inequality. We will place special focus on poverty and inequality in Native North America.</i></p>					
202-0 Sec. 20	Social Problems	Karrie Snyder	Harris 107	MW	3:30-4:50 PM
<p><i>In this course, we will investigate how social conditions come to be defined as social problems. This course will be divided into two sections. The first section will be an overview of how sociologists have approached the study of social problems including theoretical perspectives (symbolic interactionist, conflict, structural-functionalist and constructionist perspectives). In this section, we will also conceptually examine the roles of policymakers, social advocates, and the media in the process of defining social problems. In the second section of the course, we will use the perspectives and conceptual tools from the first part to analyze contemporary social problems including bullying, violence among young people, and the effects of the media on children and teenagers. As a class, we will also examine the debates surrounding several social problems (such as teen pregnancy) to understand how interested parties can define a similar situation as problematic, but do so for very diverse reasons and in doing so suggest very different solutions.</i></p>					
215-0 Sec. 20	Economy & Society	Bruce Carruthers	Annenberg G21	TTH	11:00-12:20 PM
<p><i>This course introduces sociological approaches to economic institutions and behavior. The goal is to provide a set of sociological ideas to understand markets, prices, corporations, supply, demand, production, work, exchange, property, and other economic topics, in a different way.</i></p>					
216-0 Sec. 20	Gender & Society	Savina Balasubramanian	Annenberg G15	MW	11:00-12:20 PM
<p><i>Gender and Society introduces students to three pivotal concepts in the sociological study of gender: the social construction of gender, gender socialization, and gender as an institution. Students will learn about the social construction of gender by examining the creation of gender norms, which are defined as prevailing ideas about sex, gender, masculinities, femininities, and gender non-conformity. Students will also learn about the social and political sources of gender norms, including the media, family, schools, sports, and the government. We will examine how these entities actively contribute to gender socialization, defined as the process by which people come to learn about and perform gender in their own lives. Finally, students will learn about the consequences of gender norms—specifically, gender inequality in the United States—to understand how gender operates as an institution.</i></p>					
220-0 Sec. 20	Health, Biomed., Culture, & Society Combined w/HUM 220	Aaron Norton	Tech LR3	MW	2:00-3:20 PM
<p><i>This course offers a broad overview of the intersections between health, illness, and biomedicine in society. We will first consider major theoretical approaches to the study of health and illness including how biomedical developments have reshaped what it means to be "healthy" or "sick" over time. We then consider a series of themes that highlight the intersections of biomedicine, health, and society as they are understood and experienced by patients, doctors, scientists, caregivers, and others. Broad themes may include topics such as birth, death, sex and gender, risk, race, drugs, disability, mental illness, and environmental toxicity. Readings will highlight some of the complex dynamics between biomedicine and society through a particular topic reflecting the theme - for example, breast cancer risk and its treatment; schizophrenia and race; "death" in the U.S. versus Japan; better sex through drugs and so on.</i></p>					



Spring 2017 Course Schedule

NO.	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	LOCATION	DAYS	TIME
227-0 Sec. 20	Legal Studies Methods Combined w/Legal St 207-0	Robert Nelson	Harris L28	TTH	2:00-3:20 PM
<p><i>Legal Studies Research Methods introduces students to research methods used in interdisciplinary legal studies, including jurisprudence and legal reasoning, qualitative and quantitative social science methods, and historical and textual analysis. The course is a prerequisite for the Advanced Research Seminar in Legal Studies, 398-1,- 2, and is intended to prepare students for the design of their own research project to be conducted in 398-1, -2. Through exposure to and engagement with interdisciplinary research methods on law and legal processes, the course will provide students with a deeper understanding of law in its historical and social context. The course will provide students with a set of research tools with which to conduct research on legal institutions. The course builds on content from Legal Studies 206, a prerequisite for 207. While part of the Legal Studies major sequence, the course will enrich the analytic skills of students from many fields who are interested in law or in interdisciplinary research methods. Prerequisite: LEGAL ST 206.</i></p>					
302-0 Sec. 20	Sociology of Organizations	Craig Rawlings	555 Clark B03	MW	9:30-10:50 AM
<p><i>Most of our waking hours are spent participating in various types of formal organizations - schools, corporations, churches, or (unfortunately) prisons. We generally begin our lives in hospitals, and often end our days in nursing homes. While we want to join some organizations (e.g. Northwestern - go Cats!), we also avoid others like plague (e.g. the DMV). But where do organizations come from? What do they have in common? How do they shape who we get to know, how we get ahead or fall behind? Why do organizations change or fail to change? We will begin to answer these questions using three main theoretical frameworks - sometimes referred to as "rational," "natural," and "open" systems approaches - that pull together the aspects of organizations in coherent approaches with different emphases and implications. By the end of the quarter, you will be able to think analytically about organizations from these different and sometimes competing perspectives. This should enable you to think about how you might better survive and thrive in our organizational world.</i></p>					
303-0 Sec. 20	Analysis & Interpretation of Social Data	Jean Clipperton	555 Clark B01	MW	12:30-1:50 PM
<p><i>The course provides an in-depth introduction to the analysis and interpretation of data. We'll walk through basic statistical concepts to understand and analyze patterns in data. By the end of the course, students will be able to conduct analysis on data sets and will be ready to undertake a senior thesis, if interested.</i></p>					
307-0 Sec. 20	School & Society	Karrie Snyder	University 122	MW	11:00-12:20 PM
<p><i>This course is a critical sociological look at education in the United States - with a focus on contemporary debates and issues. The course will cover how sociologists have both theoretically and empirically looked at schooling practices, what and how students learn, and how schools fit into the larger society including how the educational system in the US interacts with political, economic, family, and cultural institutions. We will also spend much time focusing on how one's educational experiences and opportunities are shaped by their gender, class, and ethnic/racial statuses. We will focus on K-12 and college with specific topics including college admissions, same-sex schooling, and Teach for America. Throughout all of these issues and topics, we will examine how schools both challenge and support existing systems of inequality.</i></p>					
319-0 Sec. 20	Sociology of Science	Christine Wood	555 Clark B01	TTH	3:30-4:50 PM
<p><i>The idea that science has a history and exists in a social context may seem curious to some: we are taught, and the scientific method is thought to ensure, that scientific knowledge is objective and universal. But like other social institutions, science has rules and norms that dictate training and professionalization, the representation of findings and ideas, and minute practices in that can shape the big picture of what we know about the world. This course introduces students to the sociology of science, a field based on understanding how the natural and laboratory sciences are influenced by political and historical epochs, social identities, and cultural norms.</i></p>					

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY



Spring 2017 Course Schedule

NO.	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	LOCATION	DAYS	TIME
323-0 Sec. 20	American Subcultures and Ethnic Groups	Albert Hunter	University 101	TTH	2:00-3:20 PM
<p><i>E. pluribus unum. "Out of many, one." This course will study the way in which American society is divided into various subgroups and subcultures. The bases of differentiation range from racial and ethnic groups, to religion, sexuality, to lifestyle and interest groups of all kinds, and regional and urban/rural subcultures. The focus will be on how groups develop subcultures with distinct norms and symbols, create internal organizations and group solidarity, how they define boundaries between in group and out group, how they relate in conflict /competition or cooperation/tolerance with other groups. Consequences of these subcultures for individual identity, and for social inequality in terms of economic outcomes and politics and power. Students will engage in readings and discussions of these issues and through a focused case study of a specific subculture of choice. Grades based on reading response, participation, presentation, and final paper.</i></p>					
329-0 Sec. 20	Field Research	Michael Rodriguez	Locy 111	TTH	9:30-10:50 AM
<p><i>This course introduces students to the practice and potential of ethnography. From the pioneering community studies of W.E.B. Du Bois to recent work on the global circulation of capital, ethnography has been a major research method for sociologists. It is a method that seeks to capture—through close observation and participation—the rhythms and rhetorics of social existence. Students will both read exemplar works and engage in the craft of ethnography and related qualitative methods, such as in-depth interviewing and discourse analysis. The course will be particularly attentive to questions of ethics, theory-formation, and the power and politics of representation.</i></p>					
332-0 Sec. 20	Work & Occupations Focus on Gender	Ann Orloff	Parkes 224	TTH	2:00-3:20 PM
<p>Co-listed with GSS 331-0-21</p> <p><i>The gender division of labor is a key organizing principle in all known societies, but it takes a fascinating array of forms. In industrialized and post-industrial societies, women have taken up paid employment (while still doing the majority of caring and household labor) but men's take-up of traditionally feminine caring labor has been far more limited. Scholars debate about whether and how this will change, and whether political initiatives can influence these arrangements. In this course, we will investigate the ways in which work - paid and unpaid, in families and in places of employment - is organized by gender. We will examine family divisions of labor: how do men and women divide domestic work and care for children? What are the consequences for outcomes in paid employment and in terms of the distribution of time, respect, and power? We will learn about the development of the modern economy and occupational sex segregation, as well as how men and women are treated at work. Finally, we will consider the role of government policy in sustaining or changing these arrangements. By the end of the course, students should understand how gender influences the kinds of work we do and how it is rewarded, as well as how the economy is organized along gendered lines.</i></p>					
355-0 Sec. 20	Medical Sociology	Carol Heimer	University 101	TTH	9:30-10:50 AM
<p><i>This course introduces some of the main topics of medical sociology: the social construction of health and illness; inequalities in the distribution of illness and health care; the globalization of health care; and the organization of health care work, the medical professions, and the health care system. Students will learn about variations in who gets sick and why, how the health professions evolved in the US and how the health care "turf" has been divided among professions, whether and when patients and their families participate in medical decision making, why physicians have more authority and receive higher incomes in the US. than elsewhere, what doctors do when interns and residents make mistakes, what the relationship is between hospitals and other organizations and how that relationship has changed over time, how the American healthcare system compares to other healthcare systems, how expenditures on preventive medicine compare with expenditures on high-tech medicine.</i></p>					
376-0 Sec. 20	Topics in Sociological Analysis Cities and Citizens	Ayca Alemdaroglu	Annenberg 101	F	12:00-2:50 PM
<p>Combined w/INTL ST 390-0-27</p> <p><i>How do spatial changes engender new social practices and redefine cultural difference and vice versa?; How do power struggles at the intersection of local and global interests shape urban change? We try to answer these questions by drawing on readings in history, anthropology and sociology disciplines, and focusing on three global metropolitans. The course will be of interest for history, sociology, anthropology and political science studnets as well as students who are interested in urban history, social change and the Middle East.</i></p>					

Subject to Change

Updated: 2/6/2017

Visit us on the web: www.sociology.northwestern.edu

Facebook: [NUsociology](https://www.facebook.com/NUsociology)

Twitter: [@NUsociology](https://twitter.com/NUsociology)



Spring 2017 Course Schedule

NO.	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	LOCATION	DAYS	TIME
376-0 Sec. 21	Topics in Sociological Analysis Environment, Politics, and Society Combined w/EPC 390-0-25	Maria Akchurin	University 121	TTh	12:30-1:50 PM
<p><i>What are the social and political dimensions of environmental problems? What kinds of social responses to environmental challenges and crises have emerged worldwide? This course examines connections between the natural environment, politics, and society across the global North and South. We will begin with theories of environment-society relations and central questions about how the natural environment is defined and valued by different actors, the limits and possibilities of environmental governance, the tensions between environmental considerations and economic development, and the relationship between the environment and socioeconomic inequality. We will then consider social and political responses to environmental problems, paying special attention to grassroots mobilization around environmental justice, organized social movements and expert NGOs working on the politics of the environment, community inaction in the face of toxic risks, and changing patterns of individual consumption. We will read and analyze case studies based in Chicago, other parts of the United States, and international sites to examine how people contribute to, are affected by, and try to shape contemporary environmental problems.</i></p>					
376-0 Sec. 22	Topics in Sociological Analysis State, Ethnicity, and Society Combined w/AF ST 390-0-25	Baris Unlu	Locy 111	MW	12:30-1:50 PM
<p><i>This class advances your understanding of power dynamics that underpin the ethnic and racialized identities within which we all live. Drawing on four different historical experiences and cases (the Armenian and Kurdish issues in Turkey, racism and white supremacy in the United States as well in as South Africa, and the colonial/post-colonial links between France and Algeria) this course examines the links among state structures, social class formation, and ethnic/racialized identity construction through a comparative lens. We begin by considering sociological conceptualizations of the state, boundary-making, ethnicity, and race. The cases of Turkey, France, Algeria, South Africa, and the United States - although crucially different from each other with respect to social, political, and economic structures- display remarkable similarities when analyzed through the concepts of power, privilege, violence, boundary-making, and modern governmentality. Having investigated concepts and ways of thinking about boundary-making and identities, we then turn to questioning the dynamics of power that operate at multiple and overlapping levels: from the level of capitalist world-system to nation-state, from the state structures to local instances of ethnic/racial boundary making, from individual interests to individual strategies of ignorance and indifference.</i></p>					
376-0 Sec. 23	Topics in Sociological Analysis Sociology of HIV/AIDS Combined with AF AM St 380-0, GSS 331-0	Celeste Watkins-hayes	Locy 214	TTH	11:00-12:20 PM
<p><i>The remarkable transformation of HIV/AIDS from an inevitable death sentence to a manageable chronic illness in well-resourced countries like the United States is one of the most noteworthy scientific achievements of the past 35 years. Recent medical advances have made the goal of an AIDS-free generation plausible in the US, and the epidemic commands less and less public attention. Yet the rate of new HIV infections in the US hovers stubbornly at approximately 50,000/year, and HIV/AIDS is widely recognized as a manifestation of complex inequalities at the intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality. In this 300-level seminar, students will develop an in-depth understanding of the scope and dimensions of HIV/AIDS in the US and abroad and consider the role of race, class, gender, and sexuality in the epidemic. Along with scholarly work, students will explore how popular films and other cultural events frame the epidemic.</i></p>					
376-0 Sec. 24	Topics in Sociological Analysis Race, Knowledge, and Latinidad Combined with Latin@ St 392-0-22	Michael Rodriguez	Locy 111	TTH	11:00-12:20 PM
<p><i>According to the latest statistics, the United States is home to over 55.5 million "Latinos" and "Hispanics." In 2000, this population became the largest "minority group" in the country. Demographers forecast that within the century, this population will reach close to 100 million. Considerable popular and academic debate has ensued about the meaning and significance of these demographic trends. For some, Latino population growth represents a major domestic threat, and for others it is a beneficial and welcomed development. Implicated in these debates, but rarely discussed, is the sociohistorical and political process by which diverse and heterogeneous Latin American-descent communities came be imagined and understood as comprising a panethnic whole. In this course, we will examine this process with an analytic focus on the intersection of politics, race, and knowledge production.</i></p>					

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY



Spring 2017 Course Schedule

NO.	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	LOCATION	DAYS	TIME
376-0	Topics in Sociological Analysis	Ayca Alemdaroglu	Kresge 4531	MW	3:30-4:50 PM
Sec. 25	Gender and Sexuality in the Middle East Combined w/MENA 390-3, GSS 382-0				

This course explores the construction and experience of gender and sexuality in the Middle East. Drawing on the historical, sociological and anthropological research in the region, the course aims to question the stereotypes about the subordination of 'Muslim' women and to offer a systematic reading and an analytical discussion of the political, economic and cultural structures that inform femininity and masculinity in the region. The course will start with the examination of women in Islamic sources, then will move on to nationalist and modernization movements in the 19th and 20th centuries. Gender relations, women's and men's lives in contemporary Egypt, Turkey and Iran will be a central theme of the course. In this framework, we will also pay special attention to Islamist mobilization, family, sexuality, neoliberalism, women's labor and the experiences of LGBT. Finally, we will discuss the role of women in recent uprisings and social change.