

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

SOC 30 - Sociology of Inequality

3 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Recommended Prep: Reading Level IV; English Level IV

Transfer Status: CSU/UC

51 hours Lecture

This course is an analysis of social stratification and its affect on minority/majority group relations in American society. Emphasis will be on the examination of sociohistorical patterns of relationships between racial and ethnic minority groups and the dominant majority. Additionally, an evaluation of sexism, classism, institutional discrimination and environmental racism provides the student with a broad perspective of national and global social inequality.

II. OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Describe and evaluate the major sociological concepts that relate to minority/majority relations, including prejudice, discrimination, oppression, social distance, and institutional discrimination.
- B. Describe the historical origins of minority group status.
- C. Identify and explain the differences between race/ethnicity and sex/gender; explain how race and gender are social constructions.
- D. Define and analyze the conceptual meaning of cultural privilege.
- E. Describe how socioeconomic status contributes to social distance among minority/majority group members.
- F. Examine and assess the current state of minority/majority relations in the United States and illustrate the influence of power in constructing minority/majority relations within the United States and internationally.
- G. Apply critical thinking skills in written and oral communication.

III. COURSE CONTENT

A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule

Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Introduction to social inequality and minority/majority group relations, including the history of minority/majority relations and basic sociological concepts	6.00
2. Sociohistorical origins of minority group status, including an overview of racial and ethnic groups	12.00
3. What it means to be a minority: The social construction of race and gender	6.00
4. Social inequality and power among minority/majority groups	3.00
5. Prejudice, discrimination, and cultural privilege	6.00
6. Socioeconomic inequality and the intersection of race, ethnicity, and gender	6.00
7. Institutional discrimination and environmental racism	6.00
8. Global inequality and minority/majority group relations	6.00
Total Hours	51.00

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Group Discussions
- C. Guest Speakers
- D. Class Activities
- E. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- F. Reading Assignments
- G. Multimedia Presentations

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Quizzes
- C. Papers
- D. Projects
- E. Class participation
- F. Written assignments (Each student will be required to write at least 1500 words for credit in the course, this work will be evaluated on content and syntax).

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reading Assignments
- B. Writing Assignments
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments

VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION

Textbooks:

- A. Kimmel, Michael S. & Ferber, Abby L. . Privilege: A Reader. 1st Edition. Westview Press, 2003.
- B. Ore, Tracy. The Social Construction of Difference and Inequality: Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality. 4th Edition. McGraw-Hill Humanities, 2008.
- C. Kerbo, Harold. Social Stratification and Inequality. 7th Edition. McGraw-Hill Humanities, 2008.
- D. Sernau, Scott R.. World's Apart: Social Inequalities in a Global Economy. 2nd Edition. Pine Forge Press, 2005.
- E. Johnson, Allan. Privilege, Power, and Difference. 2nd Edition. McGraw-Hill Humanities, 2005.

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