

Graduate Courses in Sociology

~ 2012-13 ~

FALL 2012

SOC 7160 (CRN = 13924) – Selected Topics: Social Networking Analysis

(Tuesdays 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM; Instructor: Mark Hudson)

How do information, ideas, or diseases spread through a group or population? Why do some individuals or organizations wield more influence than others in setting policy, or controlling the flow of information or resources? In raising these kinds of questions, and attempting to answer them, social (and natural) scientists are increasingly looking at the world from a network perspective. This course introduces students to the way that various dimensions of the social world can usefully be seen and understood as webs of relations, and to analyze the form and significance of these webs using relevant computer software.

SOC 7160 (CRN = 157739) Selected Topics: Consumer Culture

(Wednesdays 8:30 – 11:30 AM; Instructor: Sonia Bookman)

This course provides an advanced introduction to the socio-cultural analysis of what has been called a 'consumer culture,' marked by an increasing emphasis on the stylization of consumption, and intricately interlinked with the expansion of media such as brands.

SOC 7480 (CRN = 15075) Social Inequality

(Fridays 8:30 – 11:30 AM; Instructor: Gregg Olsen)

A critical examination of classical and contemporary theories and current empirical research concerned with various dimensions of social inequality (such as class, gender and race) and social stratification from a comparative perspective.

Winter 2013

SOC 7400 (CRN = 24766) Advanced Quantitative Methods

(Fridays 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM; Instructor: Jason Edgerton)

This course emphasizes the understanding and application of advanced quantitative data analysis techniques to sociological research problems. Issues in regression decomposition, path analysis, log-linear analysis, discriminant function analysis, principal components and factor analysis, as well as non-parametric statistical tests are covered as they relate to sociological research concerns. Statistical packages are used to illustrate sociological examples. Prerequisite: SOC 4480 (or 077.448) or written consent of the department head.

SOC 7420 (CRN = 24902) Qualitative Research Methods

(Thursdays 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM; Instructor: Laura Funk)

This course provides an overview of the methods of qualitative research. Discussion focuses on the philosophical foundations of qualitative methods, the variety of techniques available within interpretive and conflict paradigms, issues of sampling, analysis, validity, and report writing.

SOC 7450 (CRN = 24767) Carceral Spaces: Prison, Ghetto, Camp, Residential School

(Wednesdays 2:30 – 5:30 PM; Instructor: Andrew Woolford)

In this course, spaces of punishment, order, terror, assimilation and extermination are examined. Concentration camps, prisons, ghettos, reserves, residential schools and slums will be the primary topics of discussion, with particular emphasis on the ways their physical and symbolic space operates to destroy or transform not just the people captured within, but also the communities from which they are drawn. As well, the rationalities of governance and ordering that seek to organize these spaces will be assessed, as will the efforts of inmates to resist, disrupt or subvert these rationalities. Finally, these carceral spaces will be located within broader socio-historical processes such as colonialism and empire, and in relation to specific social structures of race, class, gender and sexuality.