

**SOCIOLOGY 395H1S LEC0101 – Winter 2017**  
**Global Inequality**

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Prof. La Touche 725 Spadina Avenue, Rm. 270 Office Hours: Tues 1:00-3:00pm, and by appt. Email: <a href="mailto:rachel.latouche@utoronto.ca">rachel.latouche@utoronto.ca</a>	Location: Ramsay Wright Laboratories 117 Class Time: Thursday 12pm-2pm Web Page: <a href="http://portal.utoronto.ca">portal.utoronto.ca</a>
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**Course Description**

This course will be issue driven, focusing on the relations of power, privilege and prestige that characterize stratification and social inequality across the globe. The central question guiding the content for this course will be “who gets what and why?” – underscoring the various socio-demographic factors (i.e. gender, race/ethnicity, class) that shape individuals’ opportunities and life chances. Drawing upon contributions from social stratification scholars, this course will transition from classic theories of inequality (e.g. Weber, Marx, and Sorensen), to more contemporary applications (e.g. Blau, Grusky, and Davis & Moore). In accordance with the sub-disciplinary traditions of social stratification, course material will favor structural explanations of inequality while examining the mechanisms by which individuals, groups and nations demonstrate divergent trajectories. Complementing these interpretive components, there will be an emphasis on the research techniques and methodological approaches to studying global inequality, providing a more comprehensive scope of the field as a whole. Particular emphasis will be given to the evolution of inequalities in Canada, the United States and globally, including disparities in education, income and wealth.

**Course Goals**

After completing this course, students should be able to:

1. Understand the structural relations of power, privilege and prestige that characterize social inequality across the globe.
2. Become familiar with the long-standing tradition of inequality research in Sociology
3. Critically engage in inequality discourse from a variety of methodological approaches

**Requirements and Grading**

Test 1	25%
Assignment 1	30%
Test 2	25%
Participation (Online Journals)	20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Readings

All readings will be made available via Blackboard, and include excerpts from:

Social Inequality in Canada: Dimensions of Disadvantage edited by Grabb, Reitz and Hwang (2017)

Social Stratification: Class, Race, and Gender in Sociological Perspective by David Grusky 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (2007)

Worlds Apart: Measuring International and Global Inequality by Branko Milanovic (2007)

## Evaluation

This course will be structured in seminar style, with class sessions functioning as a structured discussion of the readings. Participants will be expected to complete assigned readings prior to discussion of the material during class. By covering a diverse array of stratification literature, participants will be better prepared to engage in dialogue with the readings themselves, as well as with fellow participants. In total, students are responsible for completing two online journals, two tests and one course assignment. In the online journals, students will be expected to synthesize and critically assess the arguments put forth in readings. These journals will allow students to get feedback on writing, clarity, argumentation and evidence, on a low-stakes assessment. For the course assignment, students will draw heavily on the assigned readings and class discussions to synthesize what they have learned from the course, as it relates to a central issue in inequality research. The tests will be non-cumulative and assess both comprehension, memory and application of inequality content.

**NOTE:** The prerequisite to take SOC395H1S is completion of a 200+ level SOC course. Students without this requirement will be removed at any time discovered and without notice.

Week #	Date	Course Outline	
1	January 5	Introduction: What is inequality? Why does it matter?	No Readings
2	January 12	Measures/Dimensions of Inequality: How is it measured? How do different measures create different images of global inequality?	Readings: Milanovic – Ch. 1-2
3	January 19	Early Statements of Social Stratification Theory: Historically, how have scholars thought about global inequality?	Readings: Kerbo – Ch.3  <b>Participation: Online Journal #1 (POSTED)</b>
4	January 26	Modern Theories of Stratification Theory III: How do modern scholars think about global inequality?	Readings: Kerbo – Ch.5 TBA <b>Participation: Online Journal #1 (DUE)</b>
5	February 2	Globalization: Working Together	Readings: TBA
6	February 9	<b>Test #1</b>	
7	February 16	Globalization: Winners and Losers	Readings: Milanovic – Ch. 7
8	February 23	<b>Reading Week</b>	
9	March 2	Global Perspective: Occupational Inequality	Readings: Grabb et al. – Ch. 7 Kalleberg – Nonstandard Employment Relations and Labor Market Inequality <b>Assignment #1 DUE</b>
10	March 9	Global Perspective: Income, Wealth and Poverty	Readings: Grabb et al. – Ch. 5 Milanovic – Ch. 10 <b>Participation: Online Journal #2 (POSTED)</b>
11	March 16	Global Perspective: The Consequences of Inequality	Readings: Grabb et al. – Ch. 21 TBA  <b>Participation: Online Journal #2 (DUE)</b>
12	March 23	The Next Generation of Global Inequality Issues	Readings: Milanovic – Ch. 12 TBA
13	March 30	<b>Test #2</b>	

## Course Policies

### Attendance and Preparation

Attendance is mandatory. Students are responsible for all material presented in class. Students who are unable to attend class on a given day are responsible for obtaining notes on all material covered, including lecture material and course announcements. In addition, students are expected to complete all assigned readings in advance of the class period for which they are assigned.

Students are required to participate in two journals for participation on the Blackboard page under Blackboard>Journals. The journals will be posted on Thursday January 26<sup>th</sup> and Thursday March 9<sup>th</sup> and students will have one week to complete them. Each discussion is worth 10% toward the total 20% allotted for participation in this course.

### Course Website

The course website on Blackboard is available at [portal.utoronto.ca](http://portal.utoronto.ca). The site will contain the course syllabus, all handouts, links of interest and course announcements. Students are responsible for the content of all course materials. Journals have been enabled on the course website.

### Email

When emailing your professor or TA, please use your utoronto.ca address. Please also include "SOC395" and a brief description in the subject line, so your email can be easily prioritized. Emails will typically be answered within 48 hours. Keep in mind that for simple questions, email is the preferred method of communication. However, for longer questions, students should attend office hours and/or schedule an appointment with the TA or the professor.

### Late Assignments

Unless otherwise specified, all assignments are due **at the beginning of class** on the due date provided and **MUST** be uploaded to [turnitin.com](http://turnitin.com) by 5 pm on that date. Late assignments will be penalized 5 percentage points per day, including weekend days. **Late assignments will not be accepted via email.** Work handed in late should be put in the second-year mailbox in Room 225 in the Sociology Department (725 Spadina Avenue), Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm, after it is date-stamped (date-stamp machine is located in Room 225).

### Missed Tests

Students who miss a test will be assigned a grade of 0. However, students may have an absence excused with proper documentation in the case of illness or unforeseen personal circumstance. Proper documentation consists of an original Verification of Student Illness or Injury form completed by a doctor **on or before the day of the test** (you may find the form at [www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca](http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca)). All documentation must be received via email or in a sealed envelope addressed to Prof. La Touche. If documentation is received and deemed

sufficient **within 72 hours of the test**, a make-up test will be scheduled. Students who do not attend the scheduled make-up test will receive a grade of 0.

### **Re-Grading Tests/Assignments**

All requests for re-grading the term tests or course assignments should be made to your TA within one week of the date when the tests/assignments are returned to the class. A short memo that clearly states specific reasons to justify the request and backs up these reasons with evidence from your assignment must be submitted to your TA. No re-grading requests will be considered if the request is submitted more than one week after the tests or assignments are returned to the class. This deadline applies to all students including those who missed the class when the tests/assignments were returned. It is the responsibility of the student to pick up their tests/assignments on time in class.

### **Turnitin.com**

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described at <http://www.teaching.utoronto.ca/teaching/academicintegrity/turnitin/conditions-use.htm>

Assignments not submitted through *Turnitin* will receive a grade of zero (0 %) **unless a student instead provides, along with their position paper**, sufficient secondary material (e.g., reading notes, outlines of the paper, rough drafts of the final draft, etc.) to establish that the paper they submit is truly their own. The alternative (not submitting via *Turnitin*) is in place because, strictly speaking, using *Turnitin* is voluntary for students at the University of Toronto.

### **Writing Centres (<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres/arts-and-science>)**

All students are encouraged to visit and make use of the available writing centres. Writing tutors may help you brainstorm ideas, develop a thesis, structure and organize your paper, present your evidence effectively, argue logically, cite appropriately and express yourself clearly and concisely. However, proofreading and copyediting for spelling, grammar, or format are not within the primary scope of the writing centres.

### **Accessibility**

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility> as soon as possible.

### **Academic Integrity/Academic Misconduct**

The University of Toronto treats academic integrity and academic misconduct very seriously. To participate honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in the academic community at U of T, you should familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>).

In addition, students should acquaint themselves with the rules concerning plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct, including but not limited to:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Copying material word-for-word from a source without quotation marks.
- Including references to sources that you did not use.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment including (e.g.) working in groups on assignments that are supposed to be individual work
- Lending your work to a classmate who submits it as his/her own.
- Letting someone else look at your answers on a test.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University.

**Student Contacts**

You are responsible for all material presented in class, including announcements. If you are unable to attend class, you should obtain notes from a classmate. Write down the contact information for two of your classmates below in case you need notes.

Name: _____	Name: _____
E-mail: _____	E-mail: _____
Phone: _____	Phone: _____
Other: _____	Other: _____