

SOCIOLOGY U210
CLASS, POWER, AND SOCIAL CHANGE
SPRING SEMESTER, 2008

Instructor: Anthony Jones
Class Times: Tues-Fri, 9.50-11.30
Place: 108H West Village
Office: 581 Holmes Hall
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Office hours: Tues.1.30-3.30, and by appointment.

REQUIRED BOOKS:

McNeill and McNeill, The Human Web. (paper, \$16.00)

Bhagwati, In Defense of Globalization. (paper, \$16.00)

Cohen, Globalization and Its Enemies. (paper, \$16.95)

AIMS OF THE COURSE:

The course will provide a way of looking at current issues of globalization from a sociological viewpoint, with an emphasis on understanding the forces that create ties (“webs”) between societies and what the consequences of these ties are. We will analyze the structures of human societies, the ways in which they change over long periods of time, and the consequences of these changes for people’s actions and beliefs. The importance of social “environments” in understanding social change will be stressed, as will the importance of the idea of social adaptation. Sociological concepts will be used to understand current issues of change, including the nature and functioning of globalization.

In addition to the assigned books, reading for specific topics will be added/distributed during the course. The use of internet data resources will be used extensively, so students should make sure they can access the internet daily.

EXAMINATIONS AND GRADING:

There will be a mid-term and a final exam, both of which will be in essay form. Students may choose in addition to write a research paper (of 10 pages) **on a current topic that must be negotiated in advance with the instructor**. For those taking only the exams, each will count as fifty percent of the final grade. For those opting for the research paper in addition to the exams, each will count as one third of the final grade.

Grades will be assigned as follows: an average performance will receive a “C”, a good performance will receive a “B”, and an outstanding performance will receive an “A”.

Grades will be based upon your knowledge and understanding of the assigned reading, regardless of whether or not it was discussed in class. It is, therefore, in your own interest to make sure you keep up with the reading and that you ask questions about any materials about which you are unsure. It is not possible to receive a good grade by relying only on class notes. FINAL EXAM PERIOD IS APRIL 17-25

COURSE OUTLINE:

Tues Jan 8	Introduction to the Course Cohen, Introduction McNeill, Introduction Bhagwati Ch, 1
Fri Jan 11	The Global Landscape: Economic and Social Challenges
Tues Jan 15	The Global Landscape: Economic and Social Challenges Bhagwati Ch 2
Fri Jan 18	The Global Landscape: Economic and Social Challenges Bhagwati Ch 3
Tues Jan 22	The Global Landscape: Economic and Social Challenges Bhagwati Ch 4, 13
Fri Jan 25	Studying Social Change McNeil and McNeil, Ch. 1
Tues Jan 29	The Paths of Change McNeil and McNeil, Ch. 2,3
Fri Feb 1	The Paths of Change McNeil and McNeil, Ch. 4,5 Cohen Ch. 1
Tues Feb 5	The Paths of Change McNeil and McNeil, Ch. 6
Fri Feb 8	The Consequences of Change McNeil and McNeil, Ch. 7,8 Cohen, Ch. 2,3,4
Tues Feb 12	The Industrial Age Cohen Ch. 6
Fri Feb 15	The Industrial Age McNeil and McNeil, Ch 8
Tues Feb 19	The Industrial Age
Fri Feb 22	MID-TERM EXAM
Tues Feb 26//Fri 29	The Communist “Experiment”
March 4/7	NO CLASSES
Tues Mar 11/Fri 14	Demographic Transitions Bhagwati Ch 14 Class handout
Tues Mar 18/Fri 21	Asia, Latin America, Africa Class handout
Tues Mar 25	The Arab Nations Class handout
Fri Mar 28/Tues Apr 1	The Globalization Index Bhagwati Ch 8-10, 12 Class handout
Fri Apr 4/Tues 8	Patterns of Inequality Cohen, Ch. 5,7 Bhagwati Ch 5-7 Class handout
Fri Apr 11/Tues 15	Managing the Future? McNeil and McNeil, Ch, 9 Bhagwati Ch 11, 15-19 Cohen, Conclusions