

Social Inequality: Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Class & Stratification

Department of Sociology University of California, Irvine 2008-11 Overview

The study of social inequality has been a central focus of the Sociology Department at UCI since its inception. UCI sociologists study social inequality by race/ethnicity, gender, and class – as well as the intersections of these dimensions – by employing a wide variety of methods, from ethnographic fieldwork and in-depth interviews to multilevel statistical models and social network methods. As a result, the work of those in the social inequality cluster frequently compliments – and is complimented by – research by other UCI sociology faculty.

Some of the ongoing research by UCI faculty in the Social Inequality cluster include:

- Immigrant and intergenerational mobility among immigrants in the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area
- The effects of September 11th on the ethnic and religious identities of Arab Americans
- Career prioritizing in dual-earner couples
- Effects of organizational and labor market characteristics on job segregation and wage inequality
- Patterns, determinants, and consequences of racial attitudes in Brazil
- How immigration and racial/ethnic diversity affect intermarriage and multiracial identification
- Cultural influences on racial/ethnic women's employment
- The impact of changes in Affirmative Action policy on the transition from high school to college and other educational outcomes

FACULTY

Gender

- Catherine Bolzendahl: political sociology, sex and gender, comparative sociology/historical sociology
- Francesca Cancian: sociology of the family, carework, sexual assault
- Matt Huffman*: gender inequality, gender & work, discrimination, labor markets
- Andrew Penner: gender, inequality, education, family, and race
- Joy Pixley: life course, work & family, sex stratification, gender roles, research design
- Belinda Robnett-Olsen: social movements, race & ethnicity, gender, social change, African-Americans

* Cluster coordinator

Race/Ethnicity

- Stanley R. Bailey: Latin America, race and ethnicity, religion, US-Mexico border
- Frank Bean: international migration, demography, racial & ethnic relations, economic sociology, family
- Cynthia Feliciano: race/ethnicity/minority relations, migration and immigration, education
- Matt Huffman: racial inequality, discrimination, research methods
- Jennifer Lee: race & ethnicity, international migration, social inequality, urban sociology, Asian American studies
- John Liu: race & ethnicity, social theory
- Andrew Penner: gender, inequality, education, family, and race
- Belinda Robnett-Olsen*: social movements, race & ethnicity, gender, social change, African-Americans
- Rubén G. Rumbaut: international migration, the "1.5" generation, comparative race and ethnic relations, structural inequality, identity, health and mental health

* Cluster coordinator

Class & Stratification

- Susan Brown: immigration, inequality, urban sociology
- Matt Huffman*: social inequality, discrimination, research methods
- Andrew Penner: gender, inequality, education, family, and race
- David Smith: world systems analysis, urbanization, development, comparative-historical sociology, dependent development in east Asia
- David Snow: collective behavior and social movements, social psychology, urban sociology, social problems, culture and qualitative methods
- Judy Stepan-Norris: labor unions, sociology of work, political sociology, American society, research methods, historical-comparative methods, class formation

* Cluster coordinator

FIELD EXAMS & GRADUATE COURSES

With respect to field exams, the three clusters in the inequality area (gender, race/ethnicity, class and stratification) are treated separately. Thus, graduate students may opt to take a field exam in any of the three sub-areas (gender, race/ethnicity, class and stratification). Alternatively, students may satisfy the two field exam requirement for the Sociology graduate program by taking exams in any two of the three inequality sub-areas (gender, race/ethnicity, class and stratification).

To qualify for a field exam in Social Inequality (no matter what sub-area or areas form the basis of the exam), students must complete the core course in Inequality (Sociology 239) and one elective course. Elective courses offered over the next two years include all the courses listed below (the core course, Inequality, is also listed below, in bold).

Two Year Teaching Plan (subject to change, check with the department or a cluster coordinator)

2008 – 2009

Winter

- Gender and Work (Pixley) -- Gender
- Smith, Globalization and the World-System (winter 2009) -- Class and Stratification

Spring

- Marriage and Cohabitation (Pixley) -- Gender
- Nature and Nurture (Penner) -- Gender; Class and Stratification
- Educational Inequality (Brown) -- Class and Stratification

2009 - 2010

Winter

- Organizational Inequality (Huffman) -- Gender; Class and Stratification
- Families and Households (Bolzendahl) -- Gender
- Nature and Nurture (Penner) -- Gender; Class and Stratification
- Global Urbanization (Smith) -- Class and Stratification

Spring

- Inequality (Huffman) -- Gender; Class and Stratification

2010-2011

Winter

- Organizational Inequality (Huffman) -- Gender; Class and Stratification
- Gender, Family and the Welfare State (Bolzendahl) -- Gender
- Nature and Nurture (Penner) -- Gender; Class and Stratification
- Racial/Ethnic Feminist Perspectives (Robnett) -- Gender
- Educational Inequality (Brown) -- Class and Stratification

Spring

- Gender and Politics (Bolzendahl) -- Gender
- Marriage and Cohabitation (Pixley) -- Gender
- Inequality (Huffman) -- Gender; Class and Stratification