

SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT
COURSES AVAILABLE FOR FIRST YEARS
2009-2010

FALL TERM

1. Introductory Sociology

09F: 9L

What is Society? How have societies developed historically? How do they distribute wealth, income and other resources? How do they organize political authority and economic power? How do they coordinate work? How do they socialize people to “fit in” with those around them? How do they produce popular culture? This course provides answers to these questions in ways that provide an introduction to the field of sociology. It focuses on a broad range of theory and research showing how sociologists think about and study these questions. In many cases, the topics covered in the course reflect the research interests and course offerings of faculty in the sociology department at Dartmouth. As a result, the course also provides an introduction to some of the curriculum offered in the department. Open to all classes. *Dist: SOC.; WCult: W. Campbell.*

7. 20th CENTURY REVOLUTIONS

09F: 2A

The twentieth century has witnessed tumultuous social and political upheavals, ranging from the rise and demise of the Bolshevik communists to the challenge of Islamic fundamentalism. The examination of these upheavals will form the core of this course. Using a comparative framework, we will analyze critical political developments in Russia, Iran, Nicaragua, and the Philippines. Before their political breakdown, authoritarian states in these countries generated impressive economic growth and development. We will examine the factors that led to the rise of social conflicts and the eventual collapse of these states. We will also analyze the causes of the different outcomes that emerged: Bolsheviks in Russia, Islamic fundamentalism in Iran, revolutionary socialism and its subsequent collapse in Nicaragua, and the restoration of liberal democracy in the Philippines. Finally, we will investigate the position taken by the United States in these revolutionary upheavals. Parsa

21. Political Sociology: Power, Politics, and Protest

09F: 10A

What is political power? How is it wielded in the U.S.? When is protest an effective political tool? This course examines these and other questions with a view towards identifying the ways in which politics is shaped by other events in societies and in turn shapes them. Readings and discussions will focus on this close connection between the political and social order. Special emphasis is placed on the dynamics of political power across disparate contexts, from historical and contemporary debates over social policy and health care reform in the United States to the origins and transformation of protest politics and social movements. *Dist: SOC; WCult: W. Dixon.*

49.3 Capitalism, Prosperity and Crisis.

09F: 10, 10A

Capitalism in the last five centuries generated great wealth and prosperity in Western societies. In the last few decades, capitalism assumed a global character affecting social and economic life of the vast majority of the people in the world. Yet, capitalism has also been plagued by economic decline and failures, causing massive human suffering. This course will study the nature of capitalism, sources of prosperity and crisis, inequality in distribution of economic and political power. Parsa

49.6 Citizenship in the Modern World

09F: 10

Classical research of citizenship investigated the inclusive properties of citizenship as a social institution. The literature discussed in this course have an opposite view of citizenship, which stresses its exclusive dimension. The development of citizenship did not only start as an exclusive political status, it also distributed unevenly between

ethnic and other groups occupying the territories of states. In this course, we will discuss the types and mechanisms of the apparent classes/layers of citizenship. Herzog

70. Labor Movements: Workplace Organization, Advocacy, and Protest

09F: 2A

Why does protest over the terms and conditions of employment emerge in some contexts but not in others? Why do individuals organize into labor unions? What types of organizations do employees typically choose, and which ones are most successful? This course examines these and other questions about the various forms of organization, advocacy, and protest that revolve around the workplace. We explore these topics by considering theoretical and empirical research on the twentieth century experience of labor in the United States, and then turn to the recent upsurge in transnational labor activism that has taken off in response to the globalization of work and employment relations.

Open to first year students with instructor permission. Dixon.

79.4 Drugs and Pharmaceuticals in Society

09F: 2

Licit and illicit drugs make illuminating case studies for our economic and political systems. We explore the following questions: Are profit motives and humanitarian concerns in irresolvable conflict? Does the international network of illegal drugs show the future of globalization? Does pharmaceutical lobbying demonstrate the anti-democratic influence of money? Is the "war on drugs" political demagoguery or a rational response to human weakness? We will use readings, research papers and discussions to explore these questions. Goodman

WINTER TERM

2. Social Problems

09W: 10

Daily news reports direct much of our attention to social problems such as crime, poverty, prejudice and political corruption. Yet rarely are such reports accompanied by a discussion of the systematic causes of these problems. More often we become witness to an endless stream of media coverage reporting seemingly isolated incidents. Seldom are we informed of the decision-making process by which some social problems become selected for coverage, while others are ignored. The purpose of this course is to subject the coverage of modern social problems to an in-depth, critical analysis. We will attempt to answer such questions as: "how does a social problem become defined as such?" and "what are the causes or sources of various social problems?" Open to all classes. *Dist: SOC; WCult: W.* Herzog.

7. Emotions and Culture

09W: 2A

Most people think of emotions as purely internal experiences, composed solely of psychological elements. Recently, however, sociologists have begun to emphasize and explore the social side of emotion – for example, how emotions are socially and culturally shaped, how emotions are socially controlled, and the consequences of emotion for social life. We will examine the portrayal of emotion in popular literature as well as to better understand how emotion operates in our own lives. Lively

15. Sociological Classics

10W: 12

10W, 11W: 12

This course introduces and criticizes the work of Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim, and Max Weber, three seminal writers whose ideas are still of enormous significance in shaping perspective and framing terms of argument among many major contemporary social and political thinkers. Among specific subjects to be covered are the following: class and class conflict; culture and ideology; forms and symbols of social solidarity; and questions of how shared ideals or divisive interests affect not just the study of human society, but the course of history itself. Prerequisite: Sociology 1 or 2, or permission of the instructor. *Dist: TMV.* Dixon

29. The Sociology of Work.

10W: 10

This course examines the sociological dimensions of work, occupations, and employment relations. Specific topics may include: the structure of work, historical and contemporary changes in the organizational context of work, ways in which work both creates and reflects social divisions, occupations and professions, occupational socialization and choice, and the intersection of work and family. *Dist Soc; WCult: W.* Dixon

49.7 Nationalism and Society

10W: 2

The western geopolitical imagination maintains that institutions and organizations (the state), culture (the nation), society and the economy must perfectly overlap. Although no state exists in which the four elements truly overlap, as a subjective cultural frame, nationalism still provides a political formula for organizing the world. The clash between the perceived model (nationalism) and the social reality will be the subject of this course.

49.8 Consumer Culture

10W: 2A

This class introduces the scholarly analysis of consumer culture and encourages critical inquiry through thinking and writing about the key moral, political and practical questions concerning consumer culture. You should develop the ability to express and defend your own opinions of consumer culture as well as to question some of the cultural assumptions that many regard as natural or inevitable.

SPRING TERM

7. This Generation

09S: 2A

Your generation is unique. Your life has been shaped by unprecedented historical events and social forces. Technology has transformed your daily interactions. Your future is more connected to global possibilities. Because you are immersed in your generation, it is difficult to fully understand. This class will use research, writing and discussion to help you develop your own perspective on your generation. Goodman

22. The Sociology of International Development

09S: 12

This course will introduce students to the major sociological perspectives on economic and political development, with emphasis on developing countries. Among the views to be considered are modernization, which assumes that later-developing countries will follow paths once traveled by today's advanced countries; and dependency and world system theories, which view the integration of less developed countries into the world market as problematic and, under certain conditions, even disadvantageous. We will test these theories by applying them to specific cases. A major part of the course will focus on the economic 'miracle' of East Asian countries, as well as cases that have not been so successful. Other important topics to be studied include the influence of states, markets, and multinational corporations in economic development; the relationship between different modes of development and income distribution; and political development and the prospects for democratization. Open to all classes. *Dist: INT.* Parsa.

25. Democracy and Democratization in Developing Countries

09S: 10

The road to democratization in most countries in recent years has been marked by large-scale social movements. This course will begin with an examination of various theories of democracy and democratization. It will specifically analyze the role of class, culture, ideology, and religion in the democratization process. Finally, we will apply the theories to the three cases of South Korea, Indonesia, and Iran, three countries with mixed successes. *Dist: SOC or INT; WCult: NW.* Parsa.

31. Youth and Society

10S: 11

This course examines the experiences of youth aged 10 to 21 in the contexts of their lives: schools, peer groups, neighborhoods, families, prisons, and places of employment. We will cover selected sociological concepts, theories, and their applications to issues in the sociology of developing adolescents. We will focus on a few controversial topics in the field, such as inequality in the education system, teen parenthood, and adolescent sexuality. We will also give close attention to the ways status differences (gender, race, sexual preference, and socioeconomic status) affect adolescent development and identity. Texts include: *Ain't No Makin It* by Jay McLeod, *Jocks & Burnouts*, by Penelope Eckert, *Girls in Trouble with the Law*, by Schaffner, and *Dreams from My Father*, by Barak Obama. *Dist: SOC; WCult: CI*. Herman

33. Self and Society

10S: 2A

Social Psychology is the study of the relationships between the individual and society. It is an interdisciplinary field to which the work of sociologists, psychologists, and occasionally scholars from other disciplines is relevant. This course introduces students to social psychology primarily, although not exclusively, from a sociological perspective. First, the course will acquaint students with the range of theoretical perspectives that have been used to study social psychology. Second, it will familiarize students with empirical research that has been done to examine these theories. Third, it will permit students to explore particular social psychological issues in greater depth both within and across particular perspectives within social psychology. Lastly, the course will illustrate the relevance of sociology per se for social psychology as well as the relevance of social psychology for sociology. In sum, this course is a general survey of the field that enables students to develop a critical but constructive sense of the theoretical and methodological issues in social psychology, and an understanding of the relevance of social psychology for other aspects of sociology. *Dist: SOC*. Lively.

49.6 Citizenship in the Modern World

10S: 11

Classical research of citizenship investigated the inclusive properties of citizenship as a social institution. The literature discussed in this course have an opposite view of citizenship, which stresses its exclusive dimension. The development of citizenship did not only start as an exclusive political status, it also distributed unevenly between ethnic and other groups occupying the territories of states. In this course, we will discuss the types and mechanisms of the apparent classes/layers of citizenship. Herzog

64. The Sociology of Emotion

09S: 10A

Most people think of emotions as a purely internal experience, composed solely of physiological elements. Recently, however, sociologists have begun to emphasize and explore the social side of emotion—for example, how emotions are shaped socially and culturally, how emotions are socially controlled, and the consequences of emotion for social life. We will examine these and other sociological aspects of emotional experience in this course, including exploring current debates about the social functions of emotions, especially as they pertain to the substantive areas of work and family. Topics include the social causes of emotion; cultural variations in feeling and expression norms (especially in regard to love and anger); changes in American norms over time; the shaping of children's emotions through socialization; individual and social techniques of emotion management; the social distribution of emotional experience; the social functions of emotion; emotional deviance; and the individual and social consequences of emotional display. Lively.