Social and Political Inequality
Fall 2009
M, W, F 2:30-3:20pm

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Course Description
We will examine the social structures and practices that perpetuate inequality. The social categories of race, class, gender, and sexuality will be the central foci of the class as these help to shape individuals’ life chances. In addition to studying the structures of inequality, we will examine how our own position within the larger social structure shapes our lives.

Required Readings
Social Inequality: Patterns and Processes, 4th ed. By Martin Marger

All other required readings are available on Blackboard.

Course Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Participation In Class and Online</th>
<th>30%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Take Home Mid-Term</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service learning hours and journals</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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* Service Learning is required for this course. If it is absolutely impossible for you to do this, please see the instructor for an alternative assignment.

Participation
All Monday and Wednesday sessions will meet face to face and all Friday sessions will be conducted online. For online sessions you will usually be required to participate in the online discussion forum which is related to that day’s reading and online lecture material. On rare occasions you may have a short written assignment instead of forum participation. This work is graded and your participation grade is based on the completion of the online sessions.

Service Learning Hours and Journals
Service learning provides a wonderful opportunity for you to apply abstract ideas to concrete experience. A minimum of 15 hours of service is required at an approved service site. You will be asked to complete five service journals that will be based on critical reflection on your service work and based on course readings and lectures.

Take Home Mid-Term
Your mid-term exam will be posted on Blackboard.

Final Exam
The final exam will be cumulative, it will cover material from the entire semester.