

SPRING 2020

SOCIOLOGY GRADUATE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SOCI 5001 PROSEMINAR **ARRANGED [NANCY NAPLES](#)**

Required of all M.A. candidates in the first year of study. Covers issues of successful graduate education and professionalization, including transitioning from the role of student to scholar; mentoring; networking; choosing thesis topics; presenting papers at conferences; getting papers published; getting grants; and developing vitae.

SOCI 5003-001 TEACHING SOCIOLOGY **WEDNESDAY 12:30-3:20** **[NANCY NAPLES](#)**

This course provides an overview of the relevant research and pedagogical tools for theoretical and practical use teaching sociology. The course emphasizes the diversity of pedagogical approaches to teaching sociology and how faculty have responded to the varied institutional, political, regional, and demographic contexts in which we teach. We will explore the limits and possibilities for designing and implementing both required and elective courses in different venues (large/small courses; lower/upper division; face-to-face, hybrid and on-line; public/private schools/universities in neoliberal context. Topics for the course include: managing/encouraging class discussion; the politics of experience in the classroom, experiential learning, teaching about difficult topics (e.g. racism, abuse, structural violence) and unpacking exemplars of sociology courses.

SOCI 5203-001 QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH I **THURSDAY 3:30-6:30 [JEREMY PAIS](#)**

This is an introductory social statistics course for graduate students. The topics covered in this course form the foundation of modern quantitative social research. The primary goal of the course is to introduce students to the fundamentals of statistical reasoning and to the role of statistical methods in social research. Topics include linear regression, hypothesis

testing and model selection; regression diagnostics; non-linearity and functional form; mediation and moderation effects; path analysis; and factor analysis.

SOCI 5231-001 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH I: **TUESDAY 12:20-3:20 [NANCY NAPLES](#)**

This course will emphasize the relationship between epistemology, methodology and method begun in the fall semester. We will also discuss contemporary debates in qualitative methodology and critical perspectives on qualitative methodology including feminist, queer, Third World, indigenous, and postcolonial approaches to social research. We will also explore the design and application of different methods including interviewing, the case method, institutional ethnography, narrative analysis, discourse analysis, content analysis, policy analysis, mixed methods. The readings for the course are designed to assist you in locating your own work within the larger sociological tradition. **The class will include an intensive workshop in use of NVivo for data analysis and conducting research using various media including online and newspaper sources led by Kate Ragon (UConn ABD).**

SOCI 5515-001 SOCIOLOGY OF IMMIGRATION:

TUESDAY 3:30-6:30 [BANDANA PURKAYASTHA](#)

Do you want to learn about immigration as a terrain of struggle, shaped by forces of inclusion and exclusion? We will use a decolonized approach to the sociological study of immigration by focusing on scholarship from the global South and North. We will focus on internal and international migration, examine migration “by choice” and forced migration (including human trafficking), and examine the racialized/gendered/class/sexualized structures that shape policies and practices towards migrants. We will examine 20th century concepts such as assimilation but we will emphasize 21st century discussions such as

changing governance of migrants (including detention) migrant and refugee activism and resistance amidst questions of their human security within national and transnational contexts. The cases will be drawn from the US, selected Asian, European, South and Central American, and African countries.

SOCI 5601-001 GENDER AND SEXUALITIES
THURSDAY 12:20-3:20 [MARY BERNSTEIN](#)

This course explores the social organization, construction, and politics of sexualities with a particular focus on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (lgbtq) experiences and the intersection of sexualities, gender, race, age, and class. We look at how institutions, identities, and discourses interact with, are regulated by, and produce sexual meanings. We examine the ways in which sexuality and desire are constituted through the state and the political economy as well as the ways in which sexuality serves as an axis of domination. Other topics include sexuality and immigration, sex work, transnational sexuality, sexuality and masculinity, and adolescent sexuality. (Note: This is Sociology of Sexualities; the course is repeatable for credit! So, if you took the other version of Soci 5605, you can still take this one for credit.)

SOCI 5895-002 INVESTIGATION OF SPECIAL TOPICS: GENDERS AND GLOBALIZATIONS

Women's Rights are Human Rights and Human Rights are Women's Rights

MONDAY 3:30-6:30 [MANISHA DESAI](#)

"Women's Rights are Human Rights and Human Rights are Women's Rights," entered the global human rights discourse at the Second UN World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993 as a critique of the gendered nature of Human Rights discourse and practice. In this seminar we will study the history of women's mobilizing around the world that led to this articulation; how it has or has not influenced human rights theories and practices; how the gendered critique might perpetuate other inequalities even as it challenges gendered ones; and what it has meant for global gender justice specifically and social justice more generally.

SOCI 6251-001 CURRENT THEORY & RESEARCH

MONDAY 12:20-3:20 [ANDREW DEENER](#)

This course presents two sets of problems related to current theory and research. The first is to extend sociological theory traditions into the present. In this regard, it offers introductions to a variety of contemporary approaches, including exchange theory, structuralism, phenomenology, symbolic interactionism, ethnomethodology, critical theory, theories of practice, post-structuralism, and actor network theory. The second is to build the bridge between contemporary theory and approaches to research. To this end, it presents problems related to the practice and process of theorizing--thinking through how sociologists build together theoretical statements, analytic structures, and data. Together, the aim is that you will find something among these two sets of problems--contemporary theory and theorizing--that advances your own research goals and stimulates future sociological analyses.