

Social Inequality and Social Stratification

Emergency Contact Information: Download the SafeZone App for emergencies
Phone Numbers: (210) 784-1911 or non-emergency (210) 784-1900

Texas A & M University, San Antonio
Department of Sociology and Communication
COURSE SYLLABUS
SOCI 3360
Social Inequality and Social Stratification

Instructor's Name	Dr. Dorothy Kalanzi
Instructor's Office	TBA Online
E-mail Address	dkalanzi@tamusa.edu
Office Hours	TBA Online
Meeting Location	TBA - Online

E-MAIL

The best way to reach me is via E-mail provided above. Please feel free to E-mail me if you have questions or concerns. I check my E-mail daily. Try to be brief and on the point to accommodate other students who may wish to communicate with me at the same time. However, if you encounter technical trouble shooting issues contact TAMUSA Information Technology (IT) or Ultra Blackboard Support at <https://www.tamusa.edu/information-technology-services/index.html> or externally at: https://help.UltraBlackboard.com/Filter/Student/College_or_University. These departments should be more than glad to assist students. Be ready to provide your Ultra Blackboard user account information. You can also access Ultra Blackboard, IT, or other support services once you enter the course virtual classroom and click on "Ultra Blackboard or IT Help" for your convenience.

COURSE DISCRIPTION

In this course students will explore the causes, explanations, and consequences of inequality; how inequality is perpetuated or modified; class consciousness; and major axes of stratification. [**Credits: 3 (3-0-0)**]

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Social Inequality: Forms, Causes and Consequences, 9th edition. Authored by Charles Hurst, Heather M. Flitz Gibbon, and Anne M. Nurse. (**Make sure it is the 9th edition**). Available at the TAMUSA Book Store online external bookstores.

REQUIRED ACCESSORIES

Students must have access to computerized equipment, including a webcam. Please note that this course is entirely online. All quizzes/exams will be completed online utilizing Lockdown Browser and a webcam as proctoring systems. It is the students' responsibility to make sure they have access to the above on the first day of class. It is important to know that, while on campus, TAMUSA has computers located across campus for your convinience.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Discuss social inequality concepts
2. Describe various social stratification systems from a global perspective

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3. Illustrate the historical evolution and social construction of social inequality
4. Describe dimensions of social inequality including social class, ancestry, age, and ableism.
5. Demonstrate dynamics in statuses and power relations of various population groups
6. Identify major social economic and political institutions implications on social inequality.
7. Process the characteristics and consequences of social inequality from a sociological perspective
8. Familiar with theories, ideologies, and arguments pertaining to social inequality
9. Discuss historical movements and their impact on the issue of social inequality.
10. Formulate policies that could alleviate social inequality problems.

ASSESSMENT AND PROCEDURES

EXAMS: There will be **3 examinations** assessing all covered material from course readings, lectures, movies and related activities. Each examination will be worth 100 points. The highest score for the 3 exams is 300. Students must complete all 3 exams to pass this course. Students will only be tested once on all covered material. The final will not be compressive. The format for each exam will be discussed in advance. Examination due dates are clearly listed in the course outline below. All exams will be taken using the lockdown browser. Lockdown Browser is a system utilized by TAMUSA to proctor students taking assessments online to promote academic integrity as per TAMUSA policy expectation mentioned below.

MAKE UP POLICY: All students are expected to take the 3 exams as scheduled. **No early or late exams will be given** UNLESS you have a legitimate written excuse such as a written documentation of death or a serious illness, court appearance, or absence on a college sponsored function. These are the only legitimate excuses for failure to show up for any examination. Make sure you understand these policies. Remember that it is your responsibility to contact me if you must miss an exam for any reason.

DISCUSSION FORUMS: There will be **13 discussion forums** total. Every student is expected to contribute **2 discussion posts to each discussion forum**. To get full points, each post must be at least 200 words, typewritten and posted on Canvas. The first post must be original in response to the respective topic of a given forum. The second post must be a response to one other post from a different classmate. Each discussion post will be worth 5 points. The maximum score for all forums will be 130. To maximize your score on discussion posts, make sure they meet the specifics above in addition to the content. Additionally, make sure you have two posts per forum.

DUE DATES: Discussion Forum Due dates are clearly listed in the syllabus course outline (last page). Late discussion posts will carry a penalty of 3 points. This is necessary because to maximize discussion points, other students will depend on your original post just like your success may also depend on theirs. Failure to participate in discussions by the deadline will lead to a 0 score. Further instructions to complete discussions will follow later.

As you respond to other people's posts, be open minded and understanding that we all do not have to agree but can work together with unique perspectives on social issues. Respectful exchange of information enriches the learning process, and in real life may lead to better decision-making outcomes. Each student is encouraged to engage in discussion forums pertaining to text/lecture materials, movies, and other topics relevant to the course. I value your input as well as your contributions, and I will do my best to encourage them by working with you to create a climate that is conducive for your participation.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Class participation specifically in the form of discussion forums or other online activities is essential for success in this course and it will affect your final grade. **Make sure you complete discussions as scheduled** because your other students will depend on your input to post their work. There may be additional in class and online activities that could be awarded as extra credits based on the examinations' overall performance of the class. Each student is encouraged to engage in class discussions

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pertaining to text/lecture materials, movies, and other topics relevant to the course. I value your input as well as your contributions, and I will do my best to encourage them by working with you to create a climate that is conducive for your participation. I am sure that all of you will have something to contribute to at one time or another. Please do so. I will treat your contributions with respect, and I expect you to do the same for your classmates.

READINGS: The readings for this course are not easy. It is extremely important that you have enough time to devote to your readings. Therefore, if you cannot read the text and review your notes regularly you will not be successful in this class. It is vital to your success that you do your readings on a timely basis, attend all class sessions, engage in class discussions, take good notes, and ask questions if you fail to understand. Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 4 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc. I will not remind you of missed assignments, notes, handouts, or any other matter. If you must miss a class meeting, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed from fellow students. If your score falls below 70% on any of the given assignments, don't hesitate to contact me immediately about your performance for help.

EXTRA CREDITS: Additionally, there may be additional online written activities that could be awarded as extra credits based on the overall performance of the class. Extra credit activities are voluntary and not a requirement. All extra credit activities must be completed as scheduled.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to TAMUSA's academic integrity policy. Additionally, the use of Generative AI is prohibited in this course. All work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity. Suspected violations of TAMUSA's standards for academic integrity policy will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with the University's policy, which could result in severe consequences that may include the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

GRADING SCALE

Your course grade will be based on the number of points you earn. Your responsibility is to earn as many points as possible.

Assignment	Point Value	% Final Grade	Outcomes Assessed	Percentage
				A = 100-90
3 Exams	300	70%	1-10	B = 89-80
13 Discussion Forums	130	30%	1-10	C = 79-70
Total Points	430	100%	1-10	D = 69-60
				F = Below 60

DROP POLICY

The Six-Drop Rule: Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student's GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "F" grades and will impact the student's GPA. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.**

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact Disability Support Services in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210, or at (210) 784-1335 or visit <https://www.tamusa.edu/index.html> or email us at dss@tamusa.edu. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Academic Learning Center: The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform.

Brainfuse can be accessed in the *Tools* section of Ultra Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu, calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202.

Counseling/Mental Health Resources: As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and/or negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment, call 210-784-1331 or visit Modular C, Room 166 (Rear entrance). All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. **Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 (after-hours select option '2').** For more information and self-help resources, please visit www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling.

Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center: The Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center supports graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as e-portfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. Students can schedule appointments through Jag Wire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. The Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at <https://bit.ly/WLDCCenter>.

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Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students (DOS@tamusa.edu) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources they may possess.

Military Affairs: Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, and special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations). You are also encouraged to visit the Patriots' Casa in-person room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military.va@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

EMERGENCY EXIT PROCEDURES

JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>. More information about Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan can be found here: <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/campus-information/safety/university-police-department/documents/emergency-operations-plan.pdf> and <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/campus-information/safety/university-police-department/documents/emergency-action-plan.pdf>. Download the SafeZone App for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900.

FINANCIAL AID AND VERIFICATION OF ATTENDANCE

According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY

At the end of each term, you will be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey. You are strongly urged to participate. Your response will not affect your performance in this course as instructors do not see survey responses, except after grades have been submitted.

EEOC STATEMENT

TAMUSA does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in the employment or the provision of services. See Policies and Resources file found on the course Ultra Blackboard menu under **"Important Policies and Resources"**.

PROJECTED TOPICS AND READING SCHEDULE

(This schedule may change at the discretion of the instructor. “As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. Dr. Dorothy J. N. Kalanzi.

Date/Module	Readings	Assessments
Aug 25-31 Module 00	Course Introduction	Discussion Introductions-Extra Credit
Sept 01-07 Module 01	Chapter 1 – Hurst: An Introduction to Social Inequality	Discussion Forum # 01 - Required
Sept 08-14 Module 02	Chapter 2 – Hurst: Class, Income, and Wealth & Power	Discussion Forum # 02 - Required
Sept 15-21 Module 03	Chapter 3 – Hurst: Poverty & Welfare	Discussion Forum # 03 - Required
Sept 22-28 Module 04	Chapter 6 – Hurst: Sex & Gender Inequality	Discussion Forum # 04 - Required
Sept 29-Oct 05 Module 05	Racial & Ethnic Inequality: SUPPLIMENTARY Readings	Discussion Forum # 05 - Required
EXAMINATION # 01 - Required Accessible September 29 – October 12, 11:59 p.m.		
Oct 06-12 Module 06	Age Inequality: SUPPLIMENTARY Readings	Discussion Forum # 06 - Required
Oct 13-19 Module 07	Disability & Ableism: SUPPLIMENTARY Readings	Discussion Forum # 07 - Required
Oct 20-26 Module 08	Environmental Inequality: SUPPLIMENTARY Readings	Discussion Forum # 08 - Required
Oct 27-Nov 02 Module 09	Chapter 9 – Hurst: Classical Explanations of Inequality	Discussion Forum # 09 - Required
EXAMINATION # 02 - Required Accessible October 27 – November 09, 11:59 p.m.		
Nov 03-09 Module 10	Chapter 10 – Hurst: Contemporary Explanations of Inequality	Discussion Forum # 10 - Required
Nov 10-16 Module 11	Chapter 11 – Hurst: Impact of Inequality on Life Chances	Discussion Forum # 11 - Required
Nov 17-23 Module 12	Chapter 12 – Hurst: Social Consequences of Inequality	Discussion Forum # 12 - Required
HAPPY THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY		
Nov 24-30 Module 13	Chapter 15 – Hurst: Justice and Legitimacy	Discussion Forum # 13 - Required

December 1st – December 8th - FINAL EXAMINATION - Required
ACCESSIBLE – (Must be completed by midnight, December 8th at 11:59 p.m.)

ALL THE BEST, GOOD LUCK ON ALL YOUR FINALS