



**PUBLIC POLICY 8681 / SOCIOLOGY 6090**  
**RACE, GENDER, CLASS AND PUBLIC POLICY**

**Spring 2010**  
**Wednesdays 3:00-5:45pm**

Dr. Stephanie Moller  
485D Fretwell; Email: [smoller@uncc.edu](mailto:smoller@uncc.edu)  
Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:00-4:30 and by appointment

### **Course Goals**

This course is designed to offer a deeper empirical and theoretical understand of gender, race, and class stratification. The literature on Stratification is very broad. We will use the Grusky reader to give a broad overview of theories and advances in research. We will then discuss the structure of policies in the U.S. Ultimately, I would like you to think through how policies address the causes of stratification.

### **Reading**

Grusky, David. 2008. *Social Stratification: Class, Race, and Gender in Sociological Perspective*. Westview Press. Third Edition.

Moffit, Robert A. (ed). 2003. *Means-tested Transfer Programs in the United States*. National Bureau of Economic Research Conference Report. University of Chicago Press. **Chapters available online.**

### **Grading**

Diagram of Stratification	40 percent
Discussion Leading	20 percent
Final Essay	40 percent

Your grade will consist of three parts.

- Each week, you should come to class with a diagram that illustrates stratification (with a paragraph discussion). You will build on this diagram as the semester progresses. By the end of class, you should have a comprehensive diagram that illustrates the causes of stratification in the United States.
- Each student will be asked to prepare discussion questions for at least two class periods. You will be responsible for making sure that the discussion flows smoothly during these periods. Think of this assignment as an exercise in group management. These assignments will account for 20 percent of your final grade. Please email me your discussion questions at least 24 hours prior to the class period.
- The final essay is a 15 page essay that describes your diagram and how social policy in the United States addresses the causes of stratification in the United States. Talk about strengths and weaknesses of policies.

## Schedule

Jan 13	Structural Functionalism	Grusky pp. 1-73
Jan 20	Conflict Theory	Grusky pp. 74-158
Jan 27	Status Groupings	Grusky pp. 187-267
Feb 3	Ruling Class, Elites, and the Upper Class	Grusky, pp. 268-316
Feb 10	Poverty	Grusky, pp. 317-419
Feb 17	Social and Income Mobility	Grusky, pp. 420-485
Feb 24	Status Attainment, Labor Markets, and Networks	Grusky, pp. 486-595
Mar 3	Race and Stratification	Grusky, pp. 624-729
Mar 17	Gender and Work	Grusky, pp. 730-811
Mar 24	Gender, Segregation, and Income	Grusky, pp. 812-861
Mar 31	Consequences of Inequality	Grusky, pp. 869-953
Apr 7	Future of Inequality	Grusky, pp. 954-1005 Grusky, pp. 1036-1062
Apr 14	U.S. Social Policy	Moffit, Intro-Ch 3
Apr 21	U.S. Social Policy, cont...	Moffit, Chs 4-7
Apr 28	U.S. Social Policy, cont.	Moffit, Chs 8-9 Miron and Weil
May 7	Final Diagram Due Final Essay Due	