Course Description:
This course provides a broad introduction to the field, including a review of classical theoretical frameworks addressing inequality in societies. We examine the evolution and institutionalization of social class systems in industrialized societies; the basic elements of inequality—economics, prestige, and politics, as well as life chances, life styles, and social mobility. In this course, the emphasis will be the U.S. social class structure; however, for comparison purposes, other nations will be discussed. We will be spending a significant portion of our class time examining the consequences of social inequality.

Course Objectives: Students will be able to:
- To identify essential concepts, theories, methods of research used in sociology to examine social inequality
- To explain the evolution and institutionalization of industrialized class systems
- To describe the basic elements of inequality—economics, prestige, and politics
- To explain how the United States’ class structure influences life chances and life styles
- To describe of social mobility in the U.S

Course Requirements:

Required Reading:
- Class text:

Attendance:
Students are expected to attend class having read the assigned material. Research indicates a strong relationship between class attendance and the final grade earned.

Assignments:
The class meeting before an assigned chapter, an assignment will be distributed to the students. Students are expected to complete the assignment and turn in the assignment within the first ten minutes of class. Each assignment will require a 2-4 page write up answering the questions posed to the student. Students will be expected to cite material from the relevant chapter. There are a total of eleven chapters for which assignments will be made. Of those eleven assignments, students will be expected to complete and submit ten assignments. Write-ups are expected to be written in formal English, using correct grammar and punctuation. Papers must have one-inch margins. They must be double spaced, using Times New Roman 12-pitch font. Failure to comply with these protocols will compromise your grade. Papers can be submitted early for feedback. LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
Exams:
There will be two in-class exams covering the Rothman text. The first exam will cover chapters 1-6. The second exam will cover chapters 7-11. Answers must be in short answer/essay format. For each exam, you will have the entire class period to complete the exam.

Social Strata Activities: You will draw (lottery style) an annual household income. The income distribution in the classroom will mirror the distribution of household incomes for the Corpus Christi area as reported by the U.S. Census report. You will be given a social strata activities packet. You will need to follow the directions in this packet beginning with constructing a budget, finding a place to live and a means for transportation, and providing for two children (one age 9; the other age 3 months). There are two requirements for this activity; first a write-up due near midterm and, second, a poster due by 1:15pm, 15 minutes after the final is scheduled to begin. Detailed information will be provided at a later date.

Grid of Grade Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Weight of Final Grade</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam I (Ch. 1-6)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Short Answer/Essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam II (Ch. 7-11)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Short Answer/Essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (10 of 11)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Throughout the semester</td>
<td>Short Answer/Essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Strata Write Up</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Short Answer to specific Qs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Strata Poster</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Poster Discussion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Policies:

Rothman Exams.
For the Rothman Exams, the class meeting before the scheduled exam, you can bring your GRADED assignments to class and submit them to me. On the day of the exam, I will distribute your graded assignments to you; you will be able to use your graded assignments as aides for your exam. Upon your completion of your exam, you must submit your assignments with your exam. You will have the entire class meeting to take your exam. You will only need to bring with you a writing tool. People who do not submit their graded assignments the class meeting before the exam will not be able to use their materials during the exam. All you need to bring with you on the day of the exam is a writing utensil, and a 3x5” note card with hand written notes on it.

Should you miss a scheduled exam, you will be able to make up the exam; however, you will not be able to use any aides (i.e. your graded assignments or a note card) during the make up.

Social Strata Activities Write Up: The write up must be typed. You must follow the guidelines provided in the social strata activities packet; failure to do so will result in failing this portion of the course requirements. You must answer all questions from the packet. Late papers will be penalized 15points for every 24-hour period following the deadline.

Social Strata Activities Poster: The poster is to be submitted on the day of the final (DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED), fifteen minutes after the final is scheduled to begin. Posters will be mounted in the classroom for all students to exam. Your poster should have the same information as that which was included in your write up. The poster should be informative enough that students would NOT need to speak with you in order to answer questions they will be assigned (these questions are included in your social strata activities packet). You will be evaluated on the comprehensiveness of the information you provide as well as your creativity. I, in addition to your peers, will be evaluating your poster. Your poster will be assigned a number and students will be asked to rank elements of your poster on a scale of 0-5; with “0” indicating the absence of that element and “5” indicating that the information was comprehensive and easy to locate. For every 10 minute period after, your grade will be penalized 15 points. It is important that students get their work to class on time, so that the analysis of the information can begin.
University Information:
Notice to Students with Disabilities: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

ACADEMIC ADVISING: The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

Grade Appeal Process. As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.