



Class Location: Founder's Hall 209
Day/Time: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:30 – 10:45 AM

Instructor: Roslyn Schoen, PhD
Office: Founder's Hall 217H
Contact: roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11 AM-2 PM, and by appointment

Mode of Instruction and Course Access: This is a face-to-face course that has online components. In order to access your grades and certain learning materials, you will need to log on to our course Canvas site at <https://tamuct.instructure.com>.

*Students should set notification preferences in Canvas so that you receive course announcements in your email inbox or via text. Set preferences:
<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10624>

Contacting your professor:

The best way to contact me is through email (roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu). I check email every day during the week and often on the weekends as well. I do not respond to email after 9 PM; if you email in the middle of the night, please look for my response the following day. I am on campus during my office hours should you need to talk to me in person.

*Please note that the best way to refer to your professor in email or in person is as "Professor Schoen" or "Dr. Schoen," pronounced SHANE.

Course Description: This course examines social inequality and categories of difference from a sociological perspective. Students will interrogate social difference and stratification on the basis of race/ethnicity, class, gender, religion, and sexuality by examining how these categories are constructed, institutionalized, and experienced. This course will also focus on economic and labor-based inequality through the lens of contemporary global processes.

Course goals: The direct aim of this course, as it focuses on categories of difference in the contemporary globalized world, is to help students develop social, cultural, and global competence. The course also seeks to develop critical thinking skills as it requires students to use theory to draw connections between domestic and international social inequalities. By the conclusion of the course, students will be able to place contemporary patterns of social inequality in a historical context, as well as identify mechanisms and processes in contemporary life that contribute to patterns of inequality both across the U.S. and between the U.S. and other countries.

Required Books:

- Froyum, Bloch, and Taylor. 2017. *Creating and Contesting Social Inequalities*. Oxford University Press.
- Edin, Kathryn and Luke Shaefer. 2016. *\$2.00 A Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America*. Mariner Books.
- Timmerman, Kelsey 2012. *Where Am I Wearing? A Global Tour to the Countries, Factories, and People That Make Our Clothes*, Revised & Updated. Wiley & Sons.
- Other materials listed on the syllabus will be available through Blackboard and our course eReserves page. (eRes password = inequality)

911 Cellular:

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University – Central Texas
911Cellular is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in 911 Cellular through their myCT email account. Connect at [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management) [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in 911Cellular, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

ASSESSMENT

Attendance and participation– Points in this category will be based on attending class and participating in in-class discussions. Starting the 2nd day of classes, your professor will take attendance using a sign-in sheet. Attendance scores will be based on 25 days @ 4 points each, which means you can miss 2 days and still have an “A” for attendance. I consider all absences legitimate so I do not differentiate by labeling some excused and others unexcused; all absences are counted the same way. Please note: If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting notes or other materials from other students in the class. Attendance total = 100 points

Student-led discussions (SLDs) – Five of our course meetings will consist of student-led discussion days where groups of ~4 students will be responsible for leading our discussion on a particular topic. All students be placed in a group, and your whole group will be responsible for presenting during the full class time on your assigned day. Discussion group members should prepare for their SLD together. SLDs can include any in-class activity you’d like but *must always include at least 3 thoughtful discussion questions*. You will submit your questions and discussion ideas to Dr. Schoen for review by 2 PM exactly two days before you lead discussion. After your group presents, you will turn in a brief personal reflection on how well your group worked together and whether you felt everyone contributed equally. SLD total = 100 points

Exams – Students will take three unit exams, each worth 100 points. Exams will include a mixture of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Each exam will cover material from the assigned readings and in-class discussions. Exams are not cumulative. Exam total = 300 points

Grades will be based on 500 points:

Discussion leading	100 points	(20%)
Attendance: 4 points per day x 25 days	100 points	(20%)
Exams 3 @ 100 points each	300 points	(60%)
TOTAL	500 points	(100%)

Grading scale:

Points	Percent	Grade
450 - 500	90 – 100%	A
400 - 449	80 – 89%	B
350 - 399	70 – 79%	C
300 - 349	60 – 69%	D
0 – 299	0 – 59%	F

Posting of Grades:

- All student grades will be posted using the Canvas grade book and students should monitor their grade status through this tool.
- Students should always refer to the syllabus for total points and points possible. The Canvas gradebook tool has been known to misinform students from time to time by auto-populating deadlines and points possible. Note that the syllabus, not the grade book, is the final word on deadlines and points possible.
- Grades will usually be posted within 7-10 days of due dates. Some assignments may require more personalized instructor feedback. These assignments could take longer to grade and so you may need to be patient.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The course schedule is a plan, not a promise.

Many of the assigned chapters are from your book, *Creating and Contesting Social Inequalities: Contemporary Readings*, and are marked with author names and chapter numbers. Other readings not in your book are labeled as “eRes” and will be available on our course E-Reserves page, which you can access through the TAMUCT library web site.

Week 1.

Topic	Date	Read	Other
Introduction to Social Inequalities	Jan 16	Course syllabus, handouts	
	Jan 18	1. The Roots of Inequality, <i>Schwalbe</i> 2. Origins of Inequality and Uneven Development, <i>Russell</i>	Attendance begins

Week 2.

Topic	Date	Read	Other
Thinking sociologically	Jan 23	eRes: The Social Construction of Gender, <i>Lorber</i> eRes: Constructing Ethnicity, <i>Nagel</i>	
	Jan 25	eRes: Critical Thinking, <i>Chatfield</i> eRes: News Media Literacy and Conspiracy Theory Endorsement, <i>Craft, Ashley and Maksl</i>	

Week 3.

Topic	Date	Read	Other
Work and welfare	Jan 30	In <i>\$2.00 A Day</i> : Introduction and Ch. 1 Welfare is Dead	
	Feb 1	In <i>\$2.00 A Day</i> : Ch. 2 Perilous Work eRes: One Nation on Welfare, <i>Grunwald</i>	Documentary: <i>Waging A Living</i>

Week 4.

Topic	Date	Read	Other
Poverty in Society	Feb 6	In <i>\$2.00 A Day</i> : Ch. 3 A Room of One’s Own	
	Feb 8	In <i>\$2.00 A Day</i> : Ch. 4 By Any Means Necessary eRes: Your Brain on Poverty, <i>Thompson</i>	SLD 1

Week 5.

Topic	Date	Read	Other
Exploitation and Exclusion	Feb 13	In <i>\$2.00 A Day</i> : Ch. 5 A World Apart	
	Feb 15	In <i>\$2.00 A Day</i> : Conclusion (p.157-174) 14. Discrimination in a low-wage labor market, <i>Pager, Western, & Bonikowski</i>	SLD 2

Week 6.

Topic	Date	Read	Other
Exploitation and Exclusion (continued)	Feb 20	18. Bad attitudes and good soldiers, <i>Zamudio and Lichter</i> 23. Sexual Harassment, Workplace Authority, and the Paradox of Power, <i>McLaughlin, Uggem, and Blackstone</i>	
	Feb 22	EXAM I	

***Extra credit event this week** on Monday, Feb. 19th at 6 PM: Guest lecture on "The Sociological Origins of Terrorism."

Week 7.

Topic	Date	Read	Other
Discrimination and social control	Feb 27	20. The complexities of racial housing discrimination, <i>Roscigno, Karafin, and Tester</i>	Documentary: <i>The Pruitt-Igoe Myth</i>
	Mar 1	21. Race, Class, Gender and Discipline in an Urban School, <i>Morris</i> 36. Anyone Can Be an "Illegal," <i>Bloch</i>	

Week 8.

Topic	Date	Read	Other
Categorizing people and maintaining boundaries	Mar 6	4. Frameworks of desire, <i>Fausto-Sterling</i> 8. Engendering Racial Perceptions, <i>Penner and Saperstein</i>	
	Mar 8	11. The racial formation of American Indians, <i>Garrouette</i> 12. The Girl Hunt, <i>Grazian</i>	SLD 3

SPRING BREAK Mar 11 - 18 No class this week!

Week 9.

Topic	Date	Read	Complete
Challenging inequalities	Mar 20	16. Explaining and Eliminating Racial Profiling, <i>Devey and Warren</i>	
	Mar 22	33. Gay-straight Alliances in High Schools, <i>Fetner et. al.</i> 40. Fitting in and Fighting Back	

Week 10.

Topic	Date	Read	Other
Globalization	Mar 27	17. The Globalization of Care Work, <i>Misra, Woodring, and Merz</i>	
	Mar 29	19. Selling Blackness in a Global Marketplace, <i>Patricia Hill Collins</i>	

Week 11.

Topic	Date	Read	Other
	Apr 3	EXAM II	
"Development" and Urbanization	Apr 5	eRes: Planet of Slums, <i>Mike Davis</i>	Film: The Fourth World

Week 12.

Topics	Date	Read	Other
Gender and Development	Apr 10	29. Gendered Geographies of Reproductive Tourism, <i>Deomampo</i> eRes: Young Women's Situation and Patriarchal Bargains, <i>Schoen</i>	
	Apr 12	eRes: Development from a Gender Perspective, <i>Naila Kabeer</i>	

Week 13.

Topics	Date	Read	Other
Precarious Work	Apr 17	Timmerman book – Part I (p. 3-19)	
	Apr 19	Timmerman – Part II (p. 23-77)	SLD 4

Week 14.

Topics	Date	Read	Other
Race to the Bottom	Apr 24	Timmerman – Part III (p. 81-137)	Film: <i>China Blue</i>
	Apr 26	Timmerman – Part IV (p. 141-196)	

Week 15.

Topics	Date	Read	Other
Resistance and Social Change	May 1	Timmerman – Part V (p. 199-268)	SLD 5
	May 3	25. Global Corporations, Global Unions, <i>Lerner</i>	

Week 16.

Topics	Date	Read	Other
Finals week	May 8	EXAM III	

Spring commencement: Saturday, May 12th, Bell County Expo Center at 7:00 p.m.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND POLICIES

Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system.
Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com>].
Username: Your MyCT username (xx123 or everything before the "@" in your MyCT e-mail address)
Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select "Chat with Canvas Support," submit a support request through "Report a Problem," or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

Late/Makeup policy

Exams may be rescheduled in case of a documented illness or injury. A student may make up an exam if there is illness, injury, or another documented excuse. If a student foresees that they might miss an exam due to illness, injury, or something out of their control they must 1. Provide documentation (doctor's note, police report, etc.), 2. Notify me as soon as possible of intent to make up the exam, and 3. Prepare to make up their exam within 1 week of the excused absence. Students who miss an exam without a documented excuse will receive a zero on the assessment. If the student foresees that s/he will be unable to complete the course, then s/he should drop the course or accept the posted grade. Students cannot make up coursework for undocumented events.

Drop Policy.

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must go to the Registrar's Office and complete a [Drop Request Form](#). Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the University Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity.

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a

failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

Bottom line: Do not cheat. Do not plagiarize. You will get caught and it will be an embarrassment for you, a bureaucratic pain for me, and it can ruin your academic career.

Access & Inclusion.

At Texas A&M-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier free education. The Department of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the University's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Department of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our Access & Inclusion [webpage](#):
<http://www.tamuct.edu/departments/access-inclusion>.

Tutoring.

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. On-campus subjects tutored include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at 254-519-5796, or by emailing Dr. DeEadra Albert-Green at deeadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log-in and receive FREE online tutoring and writing support. This tool provides tutoring in over forty subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center.

Located in 416 Warrior Hall, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University-Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10am-5pm Monday-Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library Monday-Thursday from 6:00-9:00pm. Students may arrange a one-on-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via [WConline](#) at [<https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu to schedule an online tutoring session. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process.

While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support

throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the University Writing Center is here to help!

If you have any questions about the University Writing Center, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu.

University Library.

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 72,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On-campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available twenty-four hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](https://tamuct.libguides.com/) [https://tamuct.libguides.com/].

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