



Class Location: Online
Professor: Roslyn Schoen, PhD
Office: HH 204b
Office Hours: By appointment
Contact: roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu

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 objectives:

- Students will gain social, cultural, and global perspectives in thinking about human difference and inequalities.
- Students will develop critical thinking skills by using theory to draw connections between domestic and international social inequalities.
- Students will be able to place contemporary patterns of social inequality in a historical context.
- By the conclusion of the course, students will be able to 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.

Mode of instruction and course access: This course is 100% online and uses the A&M-Central Texas **CANVAS** Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com>]. CANVAS is where you will find 100% of the information related to this course, including discussions, quizzes, and exams. Monitor CANVAS for announcements every day, not just on the days things are due/assigned, since due dates occasionally may change.

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 7 PM; if you email in the middle of the night, please look for my response the following day.

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

WARRIOR SHIELD

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Warrior Shield 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 Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login) [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

Required reading materials:

Froyum, Carissa, Katrina Bloch, and Tiffany Taylor 2017. *Creating and Contesting Social Inequalities*. Oxford University Press.

Kathryn Edin and Luke Shaefer 2016. *\$2.00 A Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America*. Mariner Books.

Andrew Brooks. 2019. *Clothing Poverty: The Hidden World of Fast Fashion and Second-Hand Clothes*, 2nd Edition. University of Chicago Press.

Other required reading materials will be available on Canvas or through the course E-Reserve page. E-Res Password: *unequal*

Course requirements:

Below is a description of the five main activities for this online course. They include (1) reading assignments, (2) mini essays, (3) participation on the course discussion boards, (4) taking online quizzes, and (5) one final exam.

You will notice that most of your grade is based on weekly work, which means it is imperative that you keep up with readings and weekly assignments. Students who ignore the weekly assignments and attempt to “catch up” later in the semester have a very difficult time passing the course.

1. **Reading assignments and other materials:** Readings for the course are listed in the schedule below. Students should complete the weekly readings before attempting to complete any assignment, including discussion boards. **Additional readings will be available online in the course E-Reserves folder.** E-Reserve readings are marked on the course schedule as “eRes” readings and are just as important as the readings from your book. ****Our E-Reserve password is: unequal** (all lower case)

I may also provide you with links to news articles or video clips in the weekly modules. Please be sure to look at all the supplemental items I post, as they are a part of our learning materials for the course. Quizzes and your final exam may include questions on any of the readings, supplemental videos, and news articles.

2. **Mini essays:** Instead of a major term paper, students will compose three mini essays that reflect on a weekly topic. These essays will be private (i.e. can only be viewed by the student and instructor) and are your chance to analyze and reflect on the readings for the week. **Essays should be 600-900 words** and should demonstrate that you have completed the readings and have engaged in thoughtful consideration of the facts and themes contained within. These

essays do not need a title page. They should be single spaced, 12-point font, with a *reference list and in-text citations*. Students should use ASA or APA style. **Mini essays are due on Sundays at 11:59 PM CST.**

3. **Discussion Boards:** Students will participate on our course discussion board, with graded discussion taking place during 6 of the 16 weeks this semester. Your primary/initial postings will address my weekly discussion question(s) and should be made by **midnight (11:59 PM CST) each Thursday**. Once several initial posts have been made, you will move on by reading and responding to at least two of your peers' primary posts. Response posts commenting and reflecting upon the comments of your peers should be made by **midnight (11:59 PM CST) each Sunday. Late posts will not receive credit.**

****Please see the detailed instructions for discussion boards posted to Canvas.**

4. **Quizzes:** Students will take 6 quizzes at regular intervals throughout the course. Quizzes will cover the readings and other material assigned for the same week. On weeks when you have a quiz, you should first complete the readings and take notes. There will be **no discussion board or reflection essay during the weeks you take a quiz** so that you can focus on and prepare for the quiz. Prepare and manage your time wisely; you will not be able to re-take a quiz, nor can you re-open a quiz once you have started it. Quizzes will be **available from Wednesday afternoon until Sunday at 11:59 PM CST. There are no makeup quizzes.** The Sunday night deadline is final.
5. **Final Exam:** There will be one comprehensive final exam that covers readings, discussion boards, and any other supplemental material we engaged with during the semester. The format will be a combination of multiple choice, matching, and short essay questions. This exam will be available for a handful of days: May 5th, 6th, and 7th. **You will only be able to open and take the final exam one time.** If you have technical problems during an exam, please email me immediately so I can try to resolve the problem.

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 may misinform students from time to time.
- Grades will usually be posted within 7-10 days of due dates. Some assignments, like our discussion boards, could require more time to read through and give individualized feedback. For such assessments, you may need to be patient.

Assignment	Points
Discussion board participation (1 @ 10 points, 6 @ 30 points)	190
Mini essays (3 @ 30 points)	90
Quizzes (6 @ 20 pts)	120
Final exam	100
Total:	500

Points	Percentage	Grade
446 - 500	90 - 100%	A
396 - 445	80 - 89%	B
346 - 395	70 - 79%	C
296 - 345	60 - 69%	D
295 or below	0 - 59%	F

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

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/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email 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.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.
Technology issues are not an excuse for missing a course requirement – make sure your computer is configured correctly and address issues well in advance of deadlines.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Numbered chapters are from your course reader, *Creating and Contesting Social Inequalities*. Readings not in your book are labeled "eRes." These reading assignments are available on the course E-Reserves (eRes) page. (eRes password: unequal)

Week 1. January 13-19

Topics	Read	Complete
Course orientation	Syllabus ...yes, the syllabus will be included on quiz 1	Discussion board introductions Quiz 1
How Inequality Came to Be	Readings in book: Introduction (p.1-4), Readings 1 (by Schwalbe) and 2 (by Russell)	

Week 2. Jan 20-26

Topics	Read	Complete
Stratification and Poverty	eRes: What is Critical Thinking? Why Does it Matter?, Chatfield eRes: Your Brain on Poverty, D. Thompson eRes: One Nation on Welfare, Grunwald	Discussion board posts

Week 3. Jan 27-Feb 2

Topics	Read	Complete
Race and Ethnicity	eRes: "Constructing Ethnicity" by J. Nagel Readings 11, 14, 16	Discussion board posts

Week 4. Feb 3-9

Topics	Read	Complete
Gender and Sexualities	eRes: "The Social Construction of Gender" by J. Lorber Readings 4, 12, 23	Mini essay 1

Week 5. Feb 10-16

Topics	Read	Complete
Exploitation and Exclusion	Readings 6, 18, 20, 21 Introduction to <i>\$2.00 A Day</i>	Quiz 2

Week 6. Feb 17-23

Topics	Read	Complete
Institutional Inequality	Readings 26, 33 Chapters 1 and 2 in <i>\$2.00 A Day</i>	Discussion board posts

Week 7. Feb 24-March 1

Topics	Read	Complete
Why is Social Mobility so Difficult?	Readings 28, 30 Chapters 3 and 4 in <i>\$2.00 A Day</i>	Quiz 3

Week 8. March 2-8

Topics	Read	Complete
Social Mobility and Social Policy	Chapter 5 and Conclusion to <i>\$2.00 A Day</i> eRes: Watch the film <i>Waging A Living</i>	Mini essay 2

*** Spring break March 9-13 ***

Week 9. March 16-22

Topics	Read	Complete
Introduction to Global Inequality	eRes: Chapter 1 of "Planet of Slums" by Mike Davis <i>Clothing Poverty</i> – Introduction and chapter 1	Discussion board posts

Week 10. March 23-29

Topics	Read	Complete
Globalization I	Readings 17, 19, 29 <i>Clothing Poverty</i> chapter 2	Quiz 4

Week 11. March 30-April 5

Topics	Read	Complete
Globalization II	<i>Clothing Poverty</i> chapters 3 & 4	Discussion board posts

Week 12. April 6-12

Topics	Read	Complete
Global Production and Inequality I	<i>Clothing Poverty</i> chapters 5 & 6 eRes: Watch film <i>China Blue</i>	Quiz 5

Week 13. April 13-19

Topics	Read	Complete
Global Production and Inequality II	<i>Clothing Poverty</i> chapters 7 & 8	Discussion board posts

Week 14. April 20-26

Topics	Read	Complete
Ethical Consumerism?	<i>Clothing Poverty</i> chapter 9 eRes: "Women and Rural Industrialization" by R. Schoen	Quiz 6

Week 15. April 27-May3

Topics	Read	Complete
Now what?	<i>Clothing Poverty</i> chapter 10 Reading 25	Mini essay 3

Week 16. May 4-8 *The final exam closes on May 7th*

Topics	Read	Complete
Final Exam Week	No new readings. Final exam will open on May 5th. You must complete the exam once you open it.	FINAL EXAM CLOSING @ 11:59 PM on THURSDAY, May 7th.

Other university dates and deadlines:

January 29, 2020	Deadline to drop 16-week Classes with No Record
April 3, 2020	Deadline to Drop 16-Week Classes with a Quit (Q) or Withdraw (W)
March 9-13, 2020	Spring Break (No classes)
May 9, 2020	Spring Commencement Ceremony
May 12, 2020	Final grades submitted

Source: [TAMUCT Academic Calendar](#)

COURSE POLICIES

Make-up and late policies

This is a 100% online course. You are responsible for managing your time to make sure you complete all assignments on time. ****There are no make-ups for discussion posts or quizzes.**** In the event that a student experiences an illness, injury, or other emergency that causes them to miss a discussion board or quiz, the student has the right to an alternative assignment to make up missed points. The instructor will choose the alternative assignment. In this case, the student must provide official documentation that includes their name and the dates of the illness or emergency (e.g. doctor's note, police report).

A student may only make up **the final exam** if there is illness, injury, or another *documented* excuse. If a student misses an exam due to illness, injury, something out of their control they must 1. Provide documentation (doctor's note, police report, etc), 2. Notify Dr. Schoen as soon as possible of intent to take a make-up exam, and 3. Prepare to take the make-up exam within 1 week of the excused absence. Students who miss an exam with no excused absence will receive a zero for that exam. 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.

Plagiarism policy

Plagiarism on any assignment (discussion boards, quizzes, journals, etc) will not be tolerated. Students are responsible for understanding what constitutes plagiarism. If

you are confused, please ask me. If an assignment is found to be plagiarized, the student will receive a zero for that assignment and a referral to Student Affairs. If the plagiarism is egregious, the student will receive an F for the course. See also: section below on Academic Integrity.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a [Drop Request Form](https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf) [https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf].

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic 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.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html), [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html]. If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0), [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-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 Office 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 Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html>]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. Subjects tutored on campus 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 have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 519-5796, or by emailing Dr. DeEadra Albert-Green at deadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center

Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This semester, the UWC is also offering online only hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

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 UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-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 [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

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 85,000 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 24 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](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

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