Instructor: Dr. Eleanor LaPointe

Meets: Monday and Wednesday 6:10PM-7:30PM in HH, Room B2
Meets Wednesday 7:55-8:50 PM in HH Room B6

Office: 132B Davison Hall (Douglass Campus) Time: Monday 1:45-2:45PM
AND College Ave. Student Center Dining area: Mon. and Wed. 5PM-6PM

--Or see me after class--

Mailbox: Davison Hall (DGLS), Sociology Department
Email: elan40@juno.com

Main sakai portal: https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal

Required texts:

2. Readings will also be placed on e-reserve through the Rutgers library system. (Available on electronic reserve.)

Grading
Attendance and Participation.............10%
Exam #1 and Exam #2......................52%
Written assignment.....................5%
Final Exam.................................33%

Option #2:
Attendance and Participation..................10%
Exam #1 and Exam #2..........................36%
Final Exam..................................27%
Written Assignment..........................5%
Report on a contemporary theorist of your choice.......22%**

**This report will be handed in as a formal essay. You are also encouraged to present your findings, informally, to the class. You may work with another student on this if you wish. See Sakai for detailed instructions.**
It is your responsibility to keep up with the material. Please be prepared for each session by having completed and reviewed the assigned readings for that day. Constructive participation in class and section discussions can benefit your final grade, especially if your average is borderline.

Attendance is important. Points will be deducted for unexcused absences beyond one missed class or recitation. If you must miss a class, be sure to find out from someone in class what you missed.

If you expect to miss a class, you can use the University absence reporting website https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/ to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. Please note that in order to receive an excused absence, you must also talk to me in person.

Testing
Make-up tests are strongly discouraged!! Please plan on being here for exams when they are due. A make-up may be given only at the discretion of the instructor. Written proof (from a physician, mortician, clergy member…) of an illness or other crisis is required for a make-up to be considered.

Please be forewarned that, to ensure fairness, make-up tests may be more difficult compared to tests taken on due dates. (You have longer to prepare for them!) The format may also be different.

Examinations include a combination of multiple choice, true/false, short answer (a paragraph), or essay questions.

Academic Integrity
Wondering about academic dishonesty? Please see the following RU site for guidelines on academic integrity expected at RU: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/

Disabilities Statement: If there is any student in this class with special needs because of learning or other disabilities, please feel free to discuss this with me during office hours or after class. For RU disability policies go to http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/

Grading Scale:

90-100 = A 77-79 = C +
87-89 = B + 70-76 = C
80-86 = B 60-69 = D 59 or below = F

Students are expected to write complete, grammatically correct, sentences during ALL correspondence, including emails sent to me, the instructor. Minor typing errors are
acceptable, but the abbreviated words and run-on sentences sometimes used in casual chats with friends online are NOT acceptable.

Grading Criteria for written essays: Points:

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<th>Points</th>
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<td>Clear and logical statements; explanation and/or examples</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>provided to support ideas; shows insight; provides</td>
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<td>complete bibliography; submitted on time</td>
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<td>Clear statements with appropriate explanations or examples</td>
<td>90</td>
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<td>Clear statements with some explanation or examples</td>
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<td>Some unclear statements or incorrect explanations or</td>
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<td>Confusing, lacks explanation or reasoning. Has not been</td>
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Course Outline

Week 1
9/5     Introductions

Read: Introduction chapter (Dillon text)

I strongly suggest reviewing chapters 1, 2, 3 as well. These deal with the foundations of sociological theory and many of the ideas provided building blocks for more recent theories. You will not be tested on these chapters unless I specify otherwise in class.

Week 2
9/10 and 9/12 Structural-Functional analysis: Talcott Parsons, Kinsley Davis and Wilbert Moore, and Robert Merton.

Read: Chapter 4 (Dillon text)

Week 3
9/17     Read: Library Reserve article by Davis and Moore on the Functions of Stratification

Also: Web-based outline on the Davis-Moore theory of stratification
Link: http://socserv.mcmaster.ca/soc/courses/soc2r3/sf/d-m.htm

9/19     Conflict analysis: C. Wright Mills, G. William Dumhoff, and Ralf Dahrendorf
Read: Chapter 6 (Dillon text)

**Week 4**

*9/24*

Read: C.Wright Mills (Library reserve)

Also: Web-based slide show on C.Wright Mills by Dr. Frank Elwell
Slide show Link: [http://www.faculty.rsu.edu/~felwell/Theorists/Mills/Presentation/Mills.ppt#256](http://www.faculty.rsu.edu/~felwell/Theorists/Mills/Presentation/Mills.ppt#256).

*9/26*

Also: “Who Rules America” by G.William Domhoff. (Library reserve)

Note: An earlier, slightly different, version of this article is also available online at the following link: [http://www.thirdworldtraveler.com/Ruling_Elites/Amer_UpperClass_WRAN.html](http://www.thirdworldtraveler.com/Ruling_Elites/Amer_UpperClass_WRAN.html)

**Week 5**

*10/1*  Review

*10/3*  EXAM #1

**Week 6**

*10/8*  Rational Choice and Network Theory: George Homans, Peter Blau, Karen Cook, Mark Granovetter, James Coleman

Read: Chapter 7

Read: “Power in Exchange Networks” by Karen Cook

**Suggested for thought/discussion:** Google Stanley Milgram’s Small World Experiment. How might we find out if there are six degrees of separation at Rutgers? The idea of an exchange network seems straightforward, but real-life exchange networks can be very complex and tricky to map. For some network visuals see the following:


*10/10*  Film: “Lost Children of Rockdale County”…How does this documentary demonstrate the impact of social networks?

**Week 7**

*10/15*  Symbolic Interaction Perspectives: Erving Goffman, Arlie Hochschild
Read: Chapter 8

10/17  Read: “Protecting One’s Self from a Stigmatized Disease” by Lee and Craft (Library reserve)

Week 8

10/22  Read: “Arlie Hochschild: Exploring the Managed Heart” (Library reserve)

Read: Dillon text pp. 335-344 on emotional labor.

Read: “Tears at Work: Gender Interaction, and Emotional Labor” by A. Soares. Link:
http://www.angelosoares.uqam.ca/upload/files/Articles-avec-comite-de-lecture/Tears_at_Work.pdf

10/24  Read: “Asylums” by Goffman (Library reserve)

Film: “Titicut Follies” In what specific ways does this documentary demonstrate Goffman’s perspective on total institutions?

Suggested but not required: “The Jail as Degradation” by John Irwin (Library reserve)

Week 9

10/29 and 10/31  Phenomenology: Alfred Schutz, Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann

Read: Chapter 9 (pp.285 through the top of 298 only) and “Moral Panics: The Case of Satanic Day Care Centers” (Library reserve)

Week 10

11/5  Feminist Theory:  Read: Janet Chafetz (Library reserve)

Review: Parsons (structural-functionalism) on sex roles in Dillon text pp.170-171.

11/7  Film: Rosie the Riveter
Following Chafetz’s ideas, and using the film as an example, how is gender-based change facilitated?

Suggested but not required: Read Chapter 10 and/or Listen to Pat Hill Collins on the internet using the following link:
http://www.fathom.com/feature/35639
Week 11
11/12       Review
11/14       EXAM # 2

Week 12
11/19      Postmodern Perspectives: Michel Foucault and Jean Baudrillard

Read: “Poststructural and Postmodern Theories” (Library Reserve)

Suggested: Chapter 14 (Dillon Text)

11/21      No class (Today at RU Wednesday is Friday ...How postmodern!!)

Week 13

11/26      Read: “From Panopticon to Disneyland” by Shearing and Stenning (Library reserve)

Suggested for thought/discussion: Baudrillard might enjoy this website on the Museum of Weird Consumer Culture: http://www.indiana.edu/~wanthro/museum.htm

See also: The Dove Evolution Ad (Enter this in a search engine, like Google)

See also: www.transparencynow.com/overview/viewtable.htm

See “Wag the Dog,” “The Matrix,” or “Blade Runner” (films). How can we discuss these films using Baudrillard’s ideas on simulacra, etc.? Do an internet search on relevant essays. I found the following: www.geocities.com/licuria/wagthedog.html

11/28      Film: “The Persuaders”

Week 14

12/3 and 12/5      Globalization

Read: “The Global Society” (Library Reserve) and select sections from chapter 15 of the Dillon textbook (See final exam study guide)

Review: Parsons on Modernization theory (Dillon text pp.167-169)

Suggested but not required: Read about the globalization debate on the internet:

http://www.fathom.com/course/10701014/index.html
This site, presented by the London School of Economics, includes a short four-part series of online lectures by Giddens and Sklair. It includes written, oral, and visual text in the form of ads and cartoons.

**Week 15**

12/10 and 12/12  Globalization (cont.) and Review for Exam

**Week 16**

Final Exam  Date: December 17 (Monday) 8PM-11PM
See official schedule:  [http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/](http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/)