

**UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY**  
**SOCIOLOGY 323-02: DIVERSITY AND INEQUALITY**  
**SUMMER**



Instructor: Andrea Koven

**Course Overview**

This course will introduce the students to the basic concepts, theories, methods and research in the area of social inequality and diversity. The course will 1) examine how race, ethnicity, class, gender and sexuality are socially constructed categories of difference; 2) examine the interconnections among race, class and gender; 3) study how inequality is imbedded in the fabric of American society and 4) study how to make change.

**Student Learning Objectives**

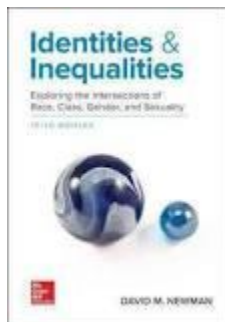
This course meets two of the Department of Sociology's Student Learning Outcomes:

1. "Be able to think about social issues within a sociological framework using sociological principles and concepts." Specifically students will:
  - a) gain a better understanding of how race, class, gender and sexuality interlock to condition the whole fabric of social experiences as well as interrelate to help explain patterns of inequality.
  - b) have a better appreciation of the sociohistorical process which has resulted in inequality.
2. "Be able to describe and apply some basic theories or theoretical orientations in at least one substantive area of sociology" Specifically students will:
  - a) Have a better understanding of the relationship between the theoretical perspectives related to inequality and proposed and or enacted policies addressing particular problem areas.

Additionally students will:

- Have a better appreciation for the diversity within American society.
- Develop better critical thinking skills

**REQUIRED READING**



David M. Newman. (2017) *Identities & Inequalities: Exploring the Intersections of Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. McGraw Hill Publishers

Additional readings will be posted to Blackboard as needed.

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

This course consists of FIVE modules. Each module has the dates the module will be open and all of the requirements within each module are outlined in a Module Table. Below the table are all assignments, and additional readings. The modules can be accessed by clicking on course content/schedule in Blackboard.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Exams**

There will be three examinations given during the term. Exams will be multiple choice. Each exam is worth 100 points or 20 percent of your grade. Each exam will be open in Blackboard for a 36 hour period. See below for the Exam Availability Schedule

Make up exams will be given only in instances of bona fide illness or emergency and in instances when an exam is scheduled at a time that is in conflict with a student's observance of a religious holiday.

### **Quizzes**

Each module will have one quiz. Quizzes should help you measure whether you understand the material in the module. Each quiz is worth 10 points for a total of 50 points or 10 percent of your grade. An additional syllabus quiz in module one is worth five extra credit points.

### **Reflection Papers**

You will be required to write two (2) reflection papers (approximately 2 pages in length) during the term. Each reflection paper is worth 25 points. Combined the reflection papers will be worth 10 percent of your final grade. Reflection paper topics and due dates are located in Module 3 and Module 5

### **Forums**

You will be required to participate in discussion board forums. There will be 1-2 discussion board forums in each module. Each student is required to post at least twice to each forum. One posting should focus on answering the forum question. A second posting must be in response to another student's posting. Students who post at least twice to each forum will receive the full points. The combined points for all forums will be 50. The only way you can lose these points is by not posting to the forums.

### **Journals**

Journaling during this course offers you the opportunity to reflect on course content and communicate privately with me. You will be required to submit one journal entry within each module. Each required journal entry is worth 10 points. You may submit additional journal entries if you want clarification about a topic or want to share something privately with me.

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>POINTS</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Exams (3 x 100 points)	300	60
Reflection Papers (2 x 25 points)	50	10

Quizzes (5 x 10 points)	50	10
Journal Entries (5 x 10 points)	50	10
Discussion Board Forums	50	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100</b>

This course will utilize the +/- grading system when awarding grades in this class

93-100% = A/A+	83 – 86.9 =B	73 – 76.9 = C	63 – 66.9 = D
90 - 92.9 = A	80 – 82.9 =B-	70 – 72.9 = C-	60 – 62.9 = D-
87 - 89.9 = B+	77 – 79.9 =C+	67 – 69.9 = D+	Below 60 = F

### Class Policies

**There are no make-up assignments for this class.** (Discussion Board, Quizzes, Reflection Papers, Journals cannot be made up) Make up exams will be given only in instances of bona fide illness or emergency and in instances when an exam is scheduled at a time that is in conflict with a student’s observance of a religious holiday.

**There is no extra credit for this class** except the syllabus quiz which must be taken by midnight on August 27th. **Please do not contact me about extra credit during the last week of class.**

### Netiquette

Netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online. Something about cyberspace makes it easy for people to forget that they are interacting with other real people. The following bullet points cover some basics to communicating online:

- Be sensitive to the fact that there will be cultural and linguistic backgrounds, as well as different political and religious beliefs, plus just differences in general.
- Use good taste when composing your responses in Discussion Forums. Swearing and profanity is also part of being sensitive to your classmates and should be avoided. Also, consider that slang can be misunderstood or misinterpreted.
- Do not use all capital letters when composing your responses as this is considered “shouting” on the Internet and is regarded as impolite or aggressive. It can also be stressful on the eye when trying to read your message.
- Be respectful of others’ views and opinions. Avoid “flaming” (publicly attacking or insulting) them as this can cause hurt feelings and decrease the chances of getting all different types of points of view.
- Be careful when using acronyms. If you use an acronym, it is best to spell out its meaning first, and then put the acronym in parentheses afterward, for example, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). After that, you can use the acronym freely throughout your message.

### Academic dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and includes cheating, fabrication, falsification, multiple submissions and plagiarism as per the Undergraduate Catalog. A student engaged in any form of academic dishonesty will be reported to the appropriate departments. For more information, students are encouraged to read Section 5 of the “Code of Students Rights and Responsibilities (page 22) in the Undergraduate Catalog.

### **Students with Disabilities**

The University of Louisville is committed to providing access to programs and services for qualified students with disabilities. If you are a student with a disability and require accommodation to participate and complete requirements for this class, notify me immediately and contact the Disability Resource Center (119 Stevenson Hall, 852-6938) for verification of eligibility and determination of specific accommodations.

### **Title IX/Clery Act Notification**

Sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, and any other nonconsensual behavior of a sexual nature) and sex discrimination violate University policies. Students experiencing such behavior may obtain **confidential** support from the PEACC Program (852-2663), Counseling Center (852-6585), and Campus Health Services (852-6479). To report sexual misconduct or sex discrimination, contact the Dean of Students (852-5787) or University of Louisville Police (852-6111).

Disclosure to **University faculty or instructors** of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, or sex discrimination occurring on campus, in a University-sponsored program, or involving a campus visitor or University student or employee (whether current or former) is **not confidential** under Title IX.

Faculty and instructors must forward such reports, including names and circumstances, to the University's Title IX officer.

For more information, see the Sexual Misconduct Resource Guide

(<http://louisville.edu/hr/employeerelations/sexual-misconduct-brochure>).

**This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be posted on the Announcements page of Blackboard and emailed to students' official UofL email account.**