Sociology 1H -- Winter 2019
Professor Howard Winant

Time and Place: W, 1200PM, Girvetz 2135
Winant's Office Hours: SSMS Building 3308, Wed, 1000am-1200noon
Winant's Website: http://www.soc.ucsb.edu/faculty/winant/
Winant's e-mail: hwinant@ucsb.edu

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY -- Honors Section

Welcome! The Soc. 1H Honors Section is open only to students already designated as Honors. It meets as a separate class for one hour per week, and does not substitute for the regular discussion section. The Honors Section carries one unit of academic credit.

Each quarter the Soc1H class focuses on a particular theme. This quarter -- W2019 -- the Soc1H class examines capitalism. This is a topic in economic sociology, political sociology, and the sociology of culture, but it also raises numerous other sociological questions: about environment, labor, migration, race, and gender, among other issues.

READING:


As appropriate, there may be some other related assignments. These might include short readings, videos, or podcasts; they will be available online.

WRITING:
Weekly Reaction Paper: You will write a reaction paper on the reading that is assigned each week. Reaction papers are short reviews of c. 300 words. should be posted on GauchoSpace before 600PM each Monday night. All reaction papers must be prepared in Microsoft Word. The filename should include your name and the date of the reaction paper, for example: Lopez, Patricia-Feb20.docx

Reaction papers should also be available as a hardcopy (or be available on your laptop) in class to help facilitate discussion. A sample reaction paper is provided on GauchoSpace.

Final Assignment: Your final assignment is to write a paper of approximately 5 double-spaced pages (1250-1500 words) on the topic “My vision of capitalism’s future.” The prompt for this assignment is the following:

As a young person of 18-20 years of age, you can reasonably be expected to live 60-75 more years. During this period US society (and global society) will undergo significant challenges and crises, many of them generated by the capitalist system itself. Some of these will include:

• Environmental crisis: we are told that we must reduce global warming significantly in the next 10-12 years if the planet is to survive
• Labor crisis: we are moving toward a “jobless economy”: traditional forms of employment are disappearing
• Inequality crisis: a smaller and small number of people hold a greater and greater amount of the total wealth, while the majority of the population grows poorer
• Democratic crisis: significant erosion of social and political rights is occurring, especially for poor and working people, racially-defined minorities and immigrants, and women

In your short paper, discuss your vision of capitalism’s future and possible responses to these or other crises. Discuss how the insights in the Block book address this future, and how the author suggests that crisis may be averted. Feel free to consult in advance with the instructor about the specific topic you select. The final paper is due on GauchoSpace before 600pm on Wed, March 20, 2019.

This syllabus is available on GauchoSpace.

It is also available on Professor Winant's website: http://www.soc.ucsb.edu/faculty/ winant/classes/ Sociology1Hsyl.pdf

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Note: The readings and ancillary materials (if any) will be discussed on the date listed; each reaction paper should be posted on GauchoSpace by 600PM on the Monday night before the class.

Week 1 -- Jan 9
Intro to Soc 1H; Syllabus review; self-intros
Week 2 -- Jan 16
Block vii-27

Week 3 -- Jan 23
Block 28-59

Week 4 -- Jan 30
Block 60-85

Week 5 -- Feb 6
Block 86-115

Week 6 -- Feb 13
Block 116-145

Week 7 -- Feb 20
Block 146-175

Week 8 -- Feb 27
Block 176-201

Week 9 -- March 6
Block 202-213
Be prepared to discuss the paper you are preparing

Week 10 — March 13
No reading: final discussion on course themes

**Final papers are due on GauchoSpace before 600pm, Wed, March 20.**