

Economic Inequality in the USA

Spring 2023

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DO NOT EMAIL UNLESS THERE IS AN EMERGENCY

USE BB MESSAGING FOR YOUR CLASS

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Office Hours: by appointment including telephone, skype, zoom, messaging, email, or other technologies.

Please use this resource—I'm here to guide you through this class.

SUBJECT TO REVISION

SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Struggles for justice and equality often center around economic issues. These injustices are investigated, debated, and remedies are crafted using economic data and ideologies. This course gives students to opportunity to research inequality and injustice issues by carefully examining past and present movements for equality and justice in the United States. The course introduces students to multiple economic perspectives including neoclassical and heterodox schools of thought.

This class satisfies the Justice Core requirement at John Jay. (Struggle for Justice and Inequality).

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this class students should have a basic literacy of economic concepts including, but not limited to:

#1) Contextualize and analyze struggles for justice

In *Economic Inequality in the USA* students use a text book that emphasizes many of the economic inequality issues and how they arise and possible how they can be addressed.

#2) Discover, gather, interpret, and assess information from a variety of sources, intellectual perspectives, and approaches

In *Economic Inequality in the USA* students will take weekly quizzes and/or exams and will be provided with information about the text and other relevant course materials.

#3) Students will be introduced to various issues around inequality using works from the text and other materials.

In *Economic Inequality in the USA* students will use economic methodologies (plural).

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

Eng.201

MODULES:

You will notice in your Blackboard Class, that each chapter of the textbook has its own folders. These modules contain summaries/important information within the text. It will also contain power point presentations for each chapter and any extra material such as a video or websites. This will all really benefit you. The modules are very helpful, and sometimes even fun.

TEXT: (required)

Social Inequality and Social Stratification in US Society ISBN:978-0-367-23342-6 for the paperback and ISBN 978-0-429-27933-1 978 for the ebook. The book is required and it is relatively inexpensive, but just so you know, there are used books around. Should you have questions, either ask me on the discussion board (problems/issues) or contact a librarian.

EXAMS:

The Midterm Exam will be held on line and timed. It will open at midnight 12:01 AM on March 12, 2023 and closed promptly at 11:59 PM on March 18, 2023. The Final Exam will be available from May 10-May 18, 2023. It will close precisely at 11:59pm. **All exams and quizzes must be completed by the individual student. There will be no late quizzes or exams accepted. If you have some personal issue, be sure to message me on Blackboard preferably before the exam.**

Please note that there will be NO MAKE-UPS WILL BE GIVEN FOR UNEXCUSED, MISSED EXAMS. Be sure you schedule these times!

DISCUSSION BOARD:

If you have any problems/questions/concerns, post them on the discussion board. Do **not** post any personal **issues**, on the discussion board (including grade issues) message me for those (you can find the messaging function under tools in BB). Also, feel free to use the discussion board if you have questions/issues/concerns or whatever that the rest of the class would be interested in using a new thread.

If you have issues with Blackboard, or any other technical questions, you need to call the John Jay help desk, not me. Sometimes I can help, but not with everything. You might have a class-mate that had the same problem, so please post it on the Blackboard discussion board and perhaps a colleague can help or you can help a colleague.

QUIZZES:

Each week or so there will be a short quiz due most Fridays nights on that week's readings and materials—this is to prepare you for the more extensive exams. The quizzes will be short, typically under 30 minutes or so. ***You are to take them by yourself and not to use any outside resources, including your textbooks.*** This is really an exercise to prepare you for the exams. Using outside resources will be **considered cheating**, so please just do not do it. The lowest 2grades will be dropped—it is like testing yourself. Note again, there will be no make ups or late quizzes accepted—They will close at 11:59 pm on their respective due dates, so it's usually better not to wait until the last minute particularly because your internet or other issues pop up. Quizzes will be posted as early as possible and you can take them anytime before the due date, so please, if you know you have something going on that week, just take the exam early.

SYLLABUS ASSIGNMENT:

Given this syllabus has most if not all of the information you need for the class, there will be an assignment due, basically a quiz, just referring to it. It is due January 31, 2023 by noon. I found that if held accountable for the syllabus, students are more likely to read it and heed it. It makes life in class so much easier for everyone, including both the students and instructors.

If you have issues with Blackboard, or any other technical questions, you need to call the John Jay help desk, not me for those.

ASSESSMENT:

MIDTERM EXAM	30%
FINAL EXAM	35%
QUIZZES	25%
SYLLABUS ASSIGNMENT	10%

FRIENDLY EXPECTATIONS

- Students are expected to have read the all the required assignments; this includes texts as well as newspapers and any additional readings handed out in class. **This is particularly important in this class given all the exogenous issues surrounding the Political Economy of the US**
- Class participation is strongly encouraged and may help to raise your grade under the discussion tab. Students should participate in the Discussion Section; I will post a comment or question for your response. However, if you have your own question or comment, please feel free to use that.
- If you should have a documented **learning disability**, please get me the paperwork as soon as possible.
- Cheating, Plagiarism and any other form of student misconduct are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Please see the college's policies in the *John Jay College of Criminal Justice Undergraduate Bulletin*. If caught cheating or plagiarizing on any assignment, summary, or test, you will fail that particular assignment. If there is a second violation, you will fail the course.
- There will be **NO MAKE-UPS FOR MISSED TESTS AND/OR ASSIGNMENTS** unless there is prior approval by me. All exams are to be taken individually.
- Students are expected to either contact me, seek help from the discussion boards and/or classmates if they do not understand the material, or feel free to message me. Message me immediately if you believe you are falling behind. Either I will help you or I will refer you to someone who can.
- Please use the **message function** under the communications tab in BB to contact me; it's typically much better process. However, if you should have an emergency, my email address is: cmulder@jjay.cuny.edu. Please let me know if you are having any problems with the class, work schedules, personal issues, whatever; I will try my best to accommodate most requests/issues. Any information you provide to me will be held with the utmost confidentiality. These issues should be messaged to me through Blackboard though, please try not to email me.
- Please use proper net etiquette. Each person is expected to acknowledge, question, and respond to others in the course in a respectful and thoughtful manner. Additionally, using all CAPITALS is considered shouting on the internet and therefore should be avoided.
- Always remember that this is a college class within a major university. As such, you are expected to behave in a collegial manner.
- Given the pandemic and all the emotional issues that students, faculty, families, and friends might be suffering from, please, please just let me know that you're having difficulties. We will work it out and I will NOT expect you to share with me anything of a private concern. I will work with you as best as possible and I can also point you in the direction of professionals should you need one or more. We have a counseling and wellness centers, plus I believe the college and university will more than likely be making other specialists available to those who would like to see or talk to.
- Good Luck and let's have a wonderful semester and come to me, whether electronically or whatever if you need anything.

ASSIGNMENT AGENDA*

*SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Note: Chapters are in parentheses

Note also: Once you open a quiz, you must finish it at that time,
it will automatically be submitted when the time is up.

All quizzes and exams are to be completed independently and closed books—no notes or books should be open. Be sure you are on a reliable computer and network. Please don't depend on your phones.

No Late quizzes will be accepted given the lowest 3 grades are deleted.

I strongly recommend, not taking quizzes or tests at the last minute, anything can happen.

Agenda	Due Date	Time
Syllabus		
Assignment	31-Jan	NOON
Quiz 1	3-Feb	11:59 PM
Quiz 2	10-Feb	11:59 PM
Quiz 3	17-Feb	11:59 PM
Quiz 4	24-Feb	11:59 PM
Quiz 5	3-Mar	11:59 PM
Quiz 6	10-Mar	11:59 PM
Midterm	3/12- 3/18	11:59 PM
Quiz 7	24-Mar	11:59 PM
Quiz 8	31-Mar	11:59 PM
Quiz 9	18-Apr	11:59 PM
Quiz 10	25-Apr	11:59 PM
Quiz 11	2-May	11:59 PM
Final prep		
Final exam	5/10-5/18	