SOCIAL STRATIFICATION (INCLUDING GENDER AND RACE/ETHNIC STRATIFICATION)
DOCTORAL EXAMINATION READING LIST

Using this list: The basis for this list is the syllabus for Sociology 230 (Social Stratification). It does not include all important papers and books in the area of social stratification. Neither is it necessary for you to read every page listed here. We have tried to outline for you some of the major topics in social stratification, along with some of the central works addressing those topics and commentary and debate about them. You should consider this list, then, as a guide to the field rather than a complete inventory of what you need to know (and beyond which you don’t need to explore). In answering questions on the exam, you may use what you know that isn’t on the list as well as what is on it. To prepare for the doctoral exam, you should think about what the major questions are in the area. Looking at questions from old exams and from Soc. 230, as well as using this list, will help you do this.

Reader (these are a good source for better-known articles and chapters):


I. OVERVIEW


Grusky, David B. “The contours of social stratification.” Pp. 3-51 in GRUSKY.


Sørensen, Aage B. “The basic concepts of stratification research: Class, status, and power.” Pp. 229-40 in GRUSKY.

Kerbo, Harold. 2003. “Dimensions of Inequality in the United States: Gender & Race.” Social Stratification and Inequality: Class Conflict in Historical, Comparative, and Global


**Perspective, Fifth Edition.**

**II. MARXIST APPROACH**

**A. Karl Marx (with Friedrich Engels)**


“The Manifesto of the Communist Party” (pp. 469-500).
“The Buying and Selling of Labour-Power” (pp. 336-43).
“The Labour-Process and the Process of Producing Surplus-Value” (pp. 351-61).
“The Working Day: Section I” (pp.361-364).
“Increased Demand for Labour Power” (pp. 419-421).
“The Progressive Production of a Relative Surplus-Population” (pp. 422-28).
“Classes” (pp. 441-42).
(See also readings in GRUSKY.)

**B. Modern, Empirical Marxism**


**III. RESPONSES TO MARX: WEBER, ELITE THEORISTS, OTHERS**

**A. Weber, Max.**

“Class, Status and Party” (132-141 in GRUSKY).
“Status Groups and Classes.” (142-145 in GRUSKY).
“Open and Closed Relationships” (146-149 in GRUSKY)
“The Rationalization of Education and Training” (150-151 in GRUSKY)


Mosca, Gaetano. “The ruling class” (pp. 252-271 in LSH; pp. 155-61 in GRUSKY).


Schwier.) New York: Augustus M. Kelley. (Chapter VII Paragraphs 11-31 [ pp. 284-293])

Mills, C. Wright. 1952. The Power Elite. Oxford University Press (esp Chpts. 1 and 12; see also GRUSKY 202-212)


Lenski, Gerhard. “New Light on Old Issues” (in GRUSKY 77-84)

IV. EVOLUTIONARY APPROACHES


**V. FUNCTIONALISM**

Durkheim, Emile. *The Division of Labor in Society*.


Tumin, Melvin. *Dysfunctions of Stratification*. In GRUSKY.


**VI. GENDER THEORIES AND SPECIAL ISSUES**


VII. RACE/ETHNICITY THEORIES AND SPECIAL ISSUES


**VIII. SOCIAL MOBILITY AND STATUS ATTAINMENT**

**A. Mobility and Attainment**


Treiman, Donald J. "Occupational Prestige in Comparative Perspective." Pp. 260-263 in GRUSKY.


**B. Comments on Status Attainment and Mobility Research**


Or Grusky, David B. and Robert M. Hauser. “Comparative social mobility revisited: models of convergence and divergence in 16 countries.” (Pp. 275-89 in GRUSKY.))


**C. Role of “Intelligence” & Genetics in Attainment**


IX. LABOR MARKETS AND THE DUAL ECONOMY

A. Theories & Labor Market Segmentation


B. Comments on the Labor Market and Sector Literature


C. Work and Poverty


X. STRATIFICATION AND ORGANIZATIONS


Aldrich and Waldinger 1990. “Ethnicity and Entreprenuership.” *Annual Review of
Sociology, 16: 111-135


**XI. GLOBALIZATION & WORLD SYSTEMS**


(See also exchanges between Muller and Bollen/Jackman in Dec. 1995, *American Sociological Review*.)


