

## SOCIOLOGY 2200: SOCIAL CAPITAL AND SOCIAL NETWORKS

Semester II, 2008-09 [Class hour—Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.; Room: Maxcy 108]  
CRN: 25112

Professor: David R. Meyer

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Office hours: Tuesday (5:00-5:45 p.m.) and by arrangement

**COURSE SUMMARY:** Explores the consequences of social capital and social networks for economic development. Examines different types and combinations of social relations, network structures of these relations, institutional environments that impact them, and dynamic forms these social relations take. Multilevel development cases include urban ethnic entrepreneurship, rural Third World communities, business networks (financiers, firms), and state-society relations.

**COURSE MATERIALS:** The syllabus, readings, and assignments are all available on MyCourses. Readings are to be finished before class. Be prepared to discuss them during the class period for which they are assigned. You also will be responsible for leading the discussion of readings in various class periods.

**ELECTRONIC RESOURCES:** You are expected to know how to use electronic resources to acquire evidence for your essays and final paper. This especially means facility with Lexis-Nexis and Business Source Premier.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

#### % of Grade

10% Class participation (includes leading reading discussions)

60% Four short essays (900 words each).

1—Social Network Theory and Global Finance. [Due: Feb. 10]

2—Social Capital Theory and Urban Ethnic Entrepreneurship. [Due: Mar. 10]

3—Social Capital and Social Networks in Third World Communities. [Due: Mar. 31]

4—State-Society Relations. [Due: Apr. 14]

30% Final paper (1,800 words, excluding tables, footnotes, bibliography, illustrations)

Due: Apr. 28, in class.

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100%: “Deadlines” written work—grade reduced one grade per late 24-hour period from time due (Monday to Friday). Essays due at the start of class on due date. One grade defined as A to A- or B+ to B.

## CLASS MEETINGS (Semester II, 2008-09)

Jan. 27: Social Network Theory and Finance. READ:

- [1] David R. Meyer, "Social Networks of Capital."

Feb. 3: Social Network Theory and Global Finance. READ:

- [1] Joel A. C. Baum, Timothy J. Rowley, and Andrew V. Shipilov, "The Small World of Canadian Capital Markets: Statistical Mechanics of Investment Bank Syndicate Networks, 1952-1989," *Canadian Journal of Administrative Sciences*, vol. 21 (December 2004), pp. 307-325.
- [2] Daniel J. Brass, Joseph Galaskiewicz, Henrich R. Greve, and Wenpin Tsai, "Taking Stock of Networks and Organizations: A Multilevel Perspective," *Academy of Management Journal*, vol. 47 (December 2004), pp. 795-817.
- [3] Mark Granovetter, "The Impact of Social Structure on Economic Outcomes," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, vol. 19 (Winter 2005), pp. 33-50
- [4] Brian Uzzi, "Embeddedness in the Making of Financial Capital: How Social Relations and Networks Benefit Firms Seeking Financing," *American Sociological Review*, vol. 64 (August 1999), pp. 481-505.

Feb. 10: Essay 1 due: Social Network Theory and Global Finance

Feb. 17: NO CLASS (Long weekend break)

Feb. 24: Social capital theory. READ:

- [1] Paul S. Adler and Seok-Woo Kwon, "Social Capital: Prospects for a New Concept," *Academy of Management Review*, vol. 27 (January 2002), pp. 17-40.
- [2] Ronald S. Burt, "Structural Holes and Good Ideas," *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 110 (September 2004), pp. 349-399.
- [3] James S. Coleman, "Social Capital in the Creation of Human Capital," *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 94, supplement (1988), pp. S95-S120.
- [4] Mustafa Emirbayer and Jeff Goodwin, "Network Analysis, Culture, and the Problem of Agency," *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 99 (May 1994), pp. 1411-1454.
- [5] Robert D. Putnam, "Tuning In, Tuning Out: The Strange Disappearance of Social Capital in America," *PS: Political Science & Politics*, vol. 28 (December 1995), pp. 664-683.

Mar. 3: Social capital theory and urban ethnic entrepreneurship. READ:

- [1] Arlene Dallalfar, "Iranian Women as Immigrant Entrepreneurs," *Gender & Society*, vol. 8 (December 1994), pp. 541-561.
- [2] Arturs Kalnins and Wilbur Chung, "Social Capital, Geography, and Survival: Gujarati Immigrant Entrepreneurs in the U.S. Lodging Industry," *Management Science*, vol. 52 (February 2006), pp. 233-247.
- [3] Alejandro Portes and Julia Sensenbrenner, "Embeddedness and Immigration: Notes on the Social Determinants of Economic Action," *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 98 (May 1993), pp. 1320-1350.
- [4] Rebeca Raijman and Marta Tienda, "Ethnic Foundations of Economic Transactions: Mexican and Korean Immigrant Entrepreneurs in Chicago," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, vol. 26 (September 2003), pp. 783-801.
- [5] Roger Waldinger, "The Making of an Immigrant Niche," *International Migration Review*, vol. 28 (Spring 1994), pp. 3-30.

Mar. 10: Essay 2 due: Social Capital Theory and Urban Ethnic Entrepreneurship

Mar. 16 (MONDAY): Social capital and social networks in third world communities. READ:

- [1] C. Leigh Anderson and Laura Locker, "Microcredit, Social Capital, and Common Pool Resources," *World Development*, vol. 30, no. 1 (2002), pp. 95-105.
- [2] Anirudh Krishna, "Moving from the Stock of Social Capital to the Flow of Benefits: The Role of Agency," *World Development*, vol. 29, no. 6 (2001), pp. 925-943.
- [3] Rachel Silvey and Rebecca Elmhirst, "Engendering Social Capital: Women Workers and Rural-Urban Networks in Indonesia's Crisis," *World Development*, vol. 31, no. 5 (2003), pp. 865-879.
- [4] Kristof Titeca and Thomas Vervisch, "The Dynamics of Social Capital and Community Associations in Uganda: Linking Capital and its Consequences," *World Development*, vol. 36, no. 11 (2008), pp. 2205-2222.
- [5] Michael Woolcock, "Social Capital and Economic Development: Toward a Theoretical Synthesis and Policy Framework," *Theory and Society*, Vol. 27 (1998), pp. 151-208.

Mar. 31: Essay 3 due: Social Capital and Social Networks in Third World Communities.

Apr. 7: State-society relations. READ:

- [1] Peter Evans, "Government Action, Social Capital and Development: Reviewing the Evidence on Synergy," *World Development*, vol. 24, no. 6 (1996), pp. 1119-1132.
- [2] Patrick Heller, "Social Capital as a Product of Class Mobilization and State Intervention: Industrial Workers in Kerala, India," *World Development*, vol. 24, no. 6 (1996), pp. 1055-1071.
- [3] Margit Mayer, "The Onward Sweep of Social Capital: Causes and Consequences for Understanding Cities, Communities and Urban Movements," *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, vol. 27 (March 2003), pp. 110-132.
- [4] Sarah A. Radcliffe, "Geography of Development: Development, Civil Society and Inequality—Social Capital is (Almost) Dead?" *Progress in Human Geography*, vol. 28, no. 4 (2004), pp. 517-527.
- [5] Carlo Trigilia, "Social Capital and Local Development," *European Journal of Social Theory*, vol. 4, no. 4 (2001), pp. 427-442.
- [6] Review Woolcock: See Mar. 16.

Apr. 14: Essay 4 due: State-Society Relations

Apr. 21: NO CLASS

Apr. 28: Oral presentations of seminar papers. FINAL PAPER DUE