

# INDUSTRIAL SOCIOLOGY

ONLINE

SPRING 2008

Sociology 307-201

## Instructor

Dr. Jamie M. Harris

Office: Bolton 766

Phone: 229-4629

Office Hours: Monday 3-4 or by appt.

E-mail: [jmh@uwm.edu](mailto:jmh@uwm.edu)

Course Website: Desire-2-Learn (D2L) link off UWM Quick Links or

<https://uwm.courses.wisconsin.edu/>

**IMPORTANT:** Please note that I will be sending everything to your UWM email account. If you don't regularly use it, make sure you check it regularly or have your email forwarded to another account you do use regularly.

## General Comments About this Course

This course will look at how societies have developed or evolved from preindustrial origins into modern industrial or "post-industrial" economies. This means considering how different economic regimes give rise to specific social and political institutions and occupational structures. In addition to this foundation, we will also pose and attempt to answer relevant questions about contemporary work and economy such as the following: How do workers fare in a service economy?; Does globalization hurt communities?; Are we more or less economically secure in a "post-industrial" economy?; What role should the state and welfare play in modern economies?; Are democracy and capitalism fundamentally incompatible?; Does economic power translate into political power?

We will begin the semester considering the different theoretical explanations for the rise of industrial society and industrial capitalism, in particular Marx and Weber's examination of capitalism, and later theorists who can be traced to these early thinkers. We will look at the organizational aspects of industrial capitalism and how these have changed from small, local factory management to "post-Fordist" modes of organizational rationality in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We will also trace the emergence of an industrial working class in the U.S and consider the significance of working class culture as it relates to shaping the relations of production in industrial and post-industrial workplaces.

In the second half of the class we will look closely at changes in the economy in the 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> century, in particular, the rise of oligopoly capitalism, deindustrialization and the transformation to a service economy, globalization of the economy, and the nature of post-industrial society in the "information age." In addressing these developments, we will consider the role of the state in the economy and specific policy responses that have affected business, labor, and political and social institutions. In so doing, we will examine the relationship between capitalism and democracy, and the nature and significance of the welfare state in industrial and post-industrial societies in the U.S. and abroad.

## Course Organization

This course will be conducted entirely online. You will use the D2L course site extensively. The course site will contain weekly announcements, lecture material, questions for response papers and discussion, dropbox folders for assignments, quizzes, and a gradebook for your grades.

Since “online time” is less straightforward than in traditional face-to-face classes, I will help to structure the order of course work. You should think of each week beginning Monday 12:01 AM - Sunday 11:59PM. Discussion posts will be due by Thursday at 11:59:00PM, and response papers and quizzes will be due by Sunday at 11:59:00 PM.

## Instructor Availability

You should feel free to contact me with any questions you have regarding the course. The best way to contact me is via email, during the day (9:00-4:30), during the work week (Monday-Friday). I will do my best to respond to your questions promptly, but you may end up waiting a day or two. I am also available for regular office hours, either by phone or in person.

## Course Requirements

### Quizzes

Students will complete several short 15 minute quizzes that cover readings and lecture material. Quizzes will generally be in a multiple choice format and count toward 30% of the course grade. Students will have one week to complete the quiz. No make-up quizzes will be allowed (a week is a very long time to take a quiz).

### Response Papers

Students will write **four 400-500** word response papers over the course of the semester. Possible response paper questions will be included as part of certain week’s lesson materials. Two of the response papers must come from the first half of the semester. Response papers will be due by Sunday at 11:59:00 PM in the course dropbox for the week the question was assigned. These response papers will count for 40% of the course grade. Late papers, i.e. papers based off questions posed for an earlier week, are not allowed.

### Discussion Forum

I will include a discussion question with each week’s lesson. Students will be expected to respond to these weekly questions by posting a minimum 100-word response on that week’s discussion forum. These questions will typically, but not always, be drawn from that week’s readings. Students can post a new subject, or post a response to a previous post, and can post multiple times. The point of these discussion forums is to provide students the opportunity to engage with the course content and with each other on a regular basis. The posts will be due each Thursday by 11:59:00PM. These responses will be worth 30% of the final course grade.

### Required Texts

Stover, R. et al. 1999. *Industrial Societies: An Evolutionary Perspective*. Upper Saddle, New Jersey: Prentice Hall Company. (ISBN: 0-13-454190-1)

Ehrenreich, B. 2001. *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*. New York: Henry Holt and Co. (ISBN: 0-8050-6389-7).

You may order these books online at the UWM bookstore's website (select social and 307): <http://uwmbkstore.aux.uwm.edu/home.aspx> or find it on Amazon or at other booksellers.

Additional readings are on e-reserve at the UWM library. You can find the e-reserve link to instructors off the library website. E-reserve readings are denoted on the class schedule by an asterisk (\*).

### **Course Policies**

**Changes to syllabus:** Students are responsible for any changes in this syllabus which are announced on D2L announcement page.

**Academic Misconduct:** Any students found guilty of academic misconduct (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) will be given a grade of "0" on the relevant assignment and disciplined according to the UWM Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures (see attached list of "University and Department Policies").

## Class Schedule

**Note: the class schedule gives a general topic and assigned readings breakout for each week. All students should refer to the D2L course site for the complete selection of each week's materials and assignments**

<b>Week Beginning</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b> *readings with asterisks are on e-reserve	<b>Assignments</b> *Essay Response Questions will be listed on the course site
Week 1 Jan. 22-27	Introduction to the course	Read course info and guidelines	1. Complete practice quiz 2. Submit Bio and photo to dropbox
Week 2 Jan. 28-Feb.3	a) Defining Industrial Sociology; b) Considering Sociological Theory	Stover, Chap.1;  *Robertson:, "Theoretical Perspectives in Sociology"	Discussion Question #1 Posts Due Thursdays, 11:59PM
Week 3 Feb.4-10	a) Pre-Industrial Societies b) Urbanization and the Industrial Revolution	Stover, Chap. 3 Stover, Chap 4, pp. 54-62	Discussion Question #2
Week 4 Feb.11-17	Explanations of Capitalist Development: K. Marx	Stover, Chap. 4, pp. 62-66;  <b>Marx on D2L links:</b> "Manifesto" and "Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts"	Discussion Question #3
Week 5 Feb.18-24	Explanations of Capitalist Development:, M. Weber	Stover, Chap 4, pp. 67-77;  *Collins, "Weber's last theory of capitalism"	Discussion Question #4
Week 6 Feb.25-Mar.2	a) Development of Industrial Organizations b) Scientific Management, Fordism, and Labor Process Theory	Stover, Chap. 6 Stover, pp. 172-173 and 203-205;  *Zipp: "Plant Closings and Control over the Workplace"	Discussion Question #5
Week 7 Mar. 3-9	PreWWII: Rise of an Industrial Working Class and American Big Business	Stover, pp.229-236;  *ASHP: "The New Era: Mass Society and Business Triumph"	Discussion Question #6

Week 8 Mar. 10-16	Challenges to Capitalist Economy and Welfare State Emergence	*ASHP: "Great Depression and First New Deal"	Discussion Question #7
<b>Week 9 Spring Break Mar. 17-23</b>	Enjoy the break!		
Week 10 Mar.24-30	a) Post-War U.S: Ascendancy and the "Class Compromise" b) Changes in Industrial Economies Post 1970	Stover, Chap 8 and pp. 236-258 *Bluestone and Bennett: "The Great U-Turn," pp. 3-20;	Discussion Question #8
Week 11 Mar.31-Apr.6	The emergence of the American Service Economy: Life at the bottom	Stover, Chap 10 and pp. 215-228 Ehrenreich: Intro & chap 1	Discussion Question #9
Week 12 Apr.7-13	The New Economy and Public Policy	*Bluestone and Bennett: "Zapping Labor," pp. 21-52; Ehrenreich: Chap 2- 3	Discussion Question #10
Week 13 Apr.14-20	The New Economy and Life at the Middle and Top	Stover, Chap 9 Ehrenreich: "Evaluation"	Discussion Question #11
Week 14 Apr.21-27	The New Economy and the Welfare State	*Katz: "The Invention of Welfare" and "The American Welfare State;" *Shahmehri: "More than Welcome, Families Come First in Sweden"	Discussion Question #12
Week 15 Apr.28-May 4	New Organizational Rationalities & Global Capitalist Enterprises	*Ritzer: "Intro to McDonaldization" *Rubin & Brody: "Contradictions of Commitment..." *Coop Quarterly: "No Place for Wal-Mart in a Sustainable Society"	Discussion Question #13
<b>May 8 11:59PM</b>	<b>Last day to submit Week 15 Response Paper Question</b>		

## UNIVERSITY AND SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT POLICIES

The Secretary of the University maintains a web page that contains university policies that affect the instructor and the students in this course, as well as essential information specific to conduct of the course. The link to that web page is: <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/SyllabusLinks.pdf>

**Students with Disabilities.** Verification of disability, class standards, the policy on the use of alternate material and test accommodations can be found at the following:  
<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/DSAD/SAC/SACltr.pdf>

**Religious Observances.** Policies regarding accommodations for absences due to religious observance are found at the following: [http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin\\_policies/S1.5.htm](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S1.5.htm)

**Students called to active Military Duty.** Accommodations for absences due to call-up of reserves to active military duty are found at the following: <http://www3.uwm.edu/des/web/registration/militarycallup.cfm>

**Incompletes.** You may be given an incomplete if you have carried a course successfully until near the end of the semester but, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond your control, have been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of course work. An incomplete is not given unless you prove to the instructor that you were prevented from completing the course for just cause as indicated above.

The conditions for awarding an incomplete to graduate and undergraduate students can be found at the following: [http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin\\_policies/S31.pdf](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S31.pdf)

**Discriminatory Conduct** (such as sexual harassment). Discriminatory conduct will not be tolerated by the University. It poisons the work and learning environment of the University and threatens the careers, educational experience and well-being of students, faculty and staff. Policies regarding discriminatory conduct can be found at:  
[http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin\\_policies/S47.pdf](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S47.pdf)

**Academic Misconduct.** Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Policies for addressing students cheating on exams or plagiarism can be found at the following:  
<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/DOS/conduct.html>

**Complaint Procedures.** Students may direct complaints to the Sociology Department Chair or the Associate Dean for Social Sciences in the College of Letters & Sciences. If the complaint allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the Sociology Department Chair, the Associate Dean for Social Sciences in the College of Letters & Sciences, or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy. Policies may be found at:  
[http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin\\_policies/S49.7.htm](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S49.7.htm)

**Grade Appeal Procedures.** Procedures for student grade appeal can be found at the following:  
[http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin\\_policies/S28.htm](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S28.htm)

**Final Examination Policy.** Policies regarding final examinations can be found at the following:  
[http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin\\_policies/S22.htm](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S22.htm)

**Book Royalties.** In accord with Department of Sociology policy, the royalties from the sale of faculty-authored books to students in their classes are donated to a UWM Foundation/Sociology Account to support future awards and activities for UWM students in Sociology.