



My evaluations are qualitative questions designed to help me teach the course. However, I have tried to quantify some answers in graph form (above) and in the text (below) to assist in analyzing my capacity as a teacher. The following are evaluation responses for social inequality over 4 semesters. I teach 2 sections in the fall and 3 in the spring. These have been combined.

Fall 2005
Social Inequality, Section 1 and 2
Rachel Slocum

1) Did you learn something in this class? If YES, what?

100% and 76% YES

Students said they learned about institutionalized inequality, race, class and gender and several mentioned looking at things in a different way.

- ⊕ This class taught me a lot on inequality of all classes and races and ethnicities. It opened my eYES to many things that I honestly had never thought of before. I enjoyed all information presented in course.
- ⊕ YES. Lots of race, class, gender issues that affect us every day.
- ⊕ YES, I have learned how inequality has been institutionized in this society.
- ⊕ YES, I learned how multifaceted inequality is.
- ⊕ YES, Plenty on Affirmative Action/ Systemic Change/ inequality

- ✦ YES, the structure of the class helped to emphasize and recognize dimensions of inequality.
- ✦ YES, about Affirmative action, more about welfare system.
- ✦ YES- about not focusing on the individual –focus on systems
- ✦ YES. I learned a lot more about inequality of different cultures in America and America vs. other countries.
- ✦ YES, welfare & inequality
- ✦ YES. Inequality that exists among people of this nation.
- ✦ YES, I learned to look at topics (welfare, AA, ect) from different perspectives

2) Did the topics or ideas presented challenge how you were accustomed to thinking? If so, how? If not, why not?

75% and 61% YES

No—students felt they were familiar with these ways of thinking already

- ✦ YES. Presented ideas in a way that is “outside my own head”
- ✦ Challenging relevant to many issues of life.
- ✦ YES, I haven’t been too interested in this stuff before
- ✦ YES, made to think deeper than normal
- ✦ YES, many of the ideas and concepts I was taught from a young age were completely closed off from actual reality.
- ✦ YES. Complete objectivity and analyzing what I’ve learned to this point.
- ✦ Some of them did, but not completely. I was presented with actual facts rather than “facts” I from the media, etc.
- ✦ YES. I realized to help you cannot pity. I learned to appreciate others’ stations in life and mine. This class gave me great perspective
- ✦ YES, but for the most part I felt this way coming in, those who didn’t dropped the class.
- ✦ YES, because class structure brought new perspectives that not only recognized U.S. concepts but compared them with other cultures from around the world.
- ✦ No, I’ve known a lot about welfare + the unequal treatment of many people.
- ✦ YES- it’s always good to have discussions about ideas- challenging what you think or “see”
- ✦ No. I believed in or had already learned about a lot of the ideas. I didn’t challenge them, but perhaps strengthened my belief in them.
- ✦ YES, some topics brought up points I had never thought about. Good to hear different theories/ points of view.
- ✦ Not really, the only thing is that we have differences of opinion on topics presented.
- ✦ definitely- I tended to look at things from a more reactive standpt.

3) What was the best thing about the class? Why?

Presentations and group discussions seem to stand out

- ✦ content.
- ✦ It’s small size, facilitated good discussion and small group activities.

- ✦ You informed us of the general information that would be on the exams. It helped to guide my studying.
- ✦ The discussions/ activities. They illustrated what you talked about in lecture.
- ✦ Megan/ Shawna they always had th notes when I was gone. That and I thought weekly the class got more interesting.
- ✦ The text were a very good resource.
- ✦ the Recovering sacred book + presentations.
- ✦ presentation- I liked doing the research
- ✦ I liked the small setting and group discussions, and getting to share my opinions on things rather than being a face in the crowd of a lecture hall.
- ✦ I liked the discussions & group activities, be cause it was different from everyday lecture.
- ✦ All discussions were help on time and the professor was there to assist whenever she as was needed.
- ✦ At the end (presentations) we got to talk more in class.

50% best part was discussion as a class or in groups. A few mentioned the lectures.

- ✦ Lecture. Prof. Slocum is smart and good at explaining course material
- ✦ The knowledge that was used in discussion, group work
- ✦ I liked the presentations at the end of the semester. I was a good thing to wrap up the class. It gave a change from lecture and let us discuss more.
- ✦ Discussion, made you feel like the topics discussed actually mattered
- ✦ small group discussions- could examine issues on a more personal level- interesting to find out what others think.
- ✦ Lecture- I learned so much from Rachels discussion b/c she looks outside the box

4) What did you like least about the class? Why?

Note taking, too much lecturing without discussion and difficult exams

There was not one aspect that stood out in what people liked least. Most of the comments focused on the difficulty of essay tests, the need to take notes, that the page requirement on the essays was too long and that there was too much reading.

5) If you didn't mention the texts in 3 or 4, please comment on them now.

Divided between all three

Several thought they were relevant, interesting and/or informative. Everyone had a different opinion of what was the best of the three texts I used.

- ✦ Very good supplements to the concepts of the class.
- ✦ Interesting, easy to read, sometimes opinionated (La Duke)

- ✦ I liked the Ore book a lot, because it featured many other authors. Return of the Sacred was also good. The other book was an easy read.
- ✦ Very magnificent
- ✦ The Recovering the Sacred was interesting + really good.

6) Did you talk in class? Did you feel comfortable doing so? If not, how could it have been more comfortable?

92% and 83% YES

- ✦ I felt very comfortable; small class; welcoming teacher to your opinions
- ✦ YES. YES. Sometimes, even though I don't know much or have an opinion about things, I try to learn about as much as I can.
- ✦ YES I talked if it was opinion but not just to answer questions. It was a comfortable setting for the most part.
- ✦ At first I felt uncomfortable. As we went along the line, I began to talk and react to some statements

7) Do you think the paper assignments were good at developing writing and research skills? Why/why not?

92 % and 61% YES

- ✦ YES, I believe I've been improving.
- ✦ YES. I felt like they were fun and through research, you learn.
- ✦ YES, and I am proud of my paper
- ✦ YES, because topics challenged general inequalities
- ✦ I think they helped me some. I hadn't written a research paper in a while, so it refreshed me. Your hand out on what to do for the next paper was helpful.
- ✦ I enjoyed the paper and learned a lot from research
- ✦ YES. I like that Rachel is picky about things.
- ✦ YES, you taught me more about writing
- ✦ YES, except a lot of particular things to be done + put into it

In the no category, students claimed that they did not develop writing or research skills because:

- ✦ No because was high demand at bad times so rushed through them.
- ✦ For me the stress wasn't worth it.
- ✦ No, had a hard time writing
- ✦ No, I have done countless papers b4
- ✦ They weren't that much different from papers I've done in other classes.

8) Were the lectures interesting or at least understandable?

75% and 56% YES

- ✦ YES, very well presented, you knew what you wanted to cover.

- ✦ YES. They required some processing, but I liked it. Sometimes I thought I didn't understand, but I did

Others said it was hard to take notes

In the No category, many discussed the difficulty of the lectures. For instance:

- ✦ Use easier English, we don't have great vocabularies

I have since made the lectures more straightforward conceptually, I invite more class participation and I slowed down.

9) What would you change about the class?

Less lecture, tests less difficult, easier note taking

- ✦ Give a wider variety of topics and switch the text to a more understandable informational source
- ✦ Nothing
- ✦ I don't know.
- ✦ more group work
- ✦ little less reading
- ✦ participation pts- need credit for @ least being there.
- ✦ make it more fun
- ✦ maybe some movies
- ✦ put notes on overhead, or print outs its very hard to follow the whole lecture
- ✦ use simple words (WE DON'T ALL HAVE PHD'S)
- ✦ I wish there was more discussion

I give credit for showing up in a point system that forms the basis of the participation grade. I have increased the amount of time for class discussion. I have changed the readings.

10) What would you keep about the class?

Discussion, everything, specific materials, everything

The one page of notes allowed in the exam, presentations, discussion and group work are winners

- ✦ The presentations
- ✦ the topics
- ✦ journals and group discussion
- ✦ study guides, helpful websites
- ✦ cheat sheet for tests
- ✦ discussions
- ✦ End of semester presentations
- ✦ Journals
- ✦ cheat sheets for exam
- ✦ group work

- ✦ group activities
- ✦ discussions
- ✦ The Tracy Ore text- Journals- Cheat Sheets for tests- group work
- ✦ Knowing that I need to improve my writing
- ✦ I don't know.
- ✦ Tracy Ore's book.
- ✦ Presentations

11) Were the topics covered with enough depth?

100% and 76% YES

12) Were the evaluation methods fair?

63% and 69% YES

38% Mostly

13) Did I encourage you to participate and to express your views?

78% and 78% YES

22% mostly

14) Was there enough time for questions and discussion during class?

90% and 73% YES

10% most of the time

15) Was I approachable if you needed help or clarification?

91% and 94% YES

16) Did you email me with questions?

91% and 89% YES

17) Was I prompt in responding to your questions?

100% and 100% YES

18) Did I provide useful feedback to your questions and on assignments?

82% and 89% YES

19) What advice do you have for me?

- ✦ Just to have more understandable exam questions
- ✦ Have an outline or power point so lecture is easier to follow
- ✦ Be a little more patient with our amount of knowledge and formations of opinions. We're not all as informed and aware as some. That's why we're here.
- ✦ Stay confident, the Dr. Slocum now is a great professor, with clear views, and we now relate better and learn better. The first few weeks were tougher.
- ✦ Continue to offer questions to answer in regards to the reading. It was very helpful to know what to focus on in the readings.
- ✦ Make students talk more- at this point in college you should be able to express yourself in a classroom environment.
- ✦ Organize notes in a more efficient way. Ask discussion questions more often and maybe after talking about more things. Maybe having discussion time at the end of each class.
- ✦ Less talking- other methods
- ✦ Continue to be an anti- racist
- ✦ Break up the class time- don't do the same routine everyday and lecture the same way and word questions on exams more understandable
- ✦ This is a really interesting class and it covers great topics, the only thing that you could do would make the note- taking a little easier, b/c you provide a lot of good info, but its hard to keep up.
- ✦ Just remember that when nobody TALKS in class it doesn't mean you're doing a bad job- maybe the class is full of bad students
- ✦ You are way too smart. Maybe try not to seem so smart. It is kind of intimidating.
- ✦ the tests were very hard and that's about it
- ✦ More class interaction.
- ✦ I would lecture w/ a more understandable vocabulary. Have more class interaction
- ✦ You run a good, well thought out class, but watch out on the difficulty of your tests. Merry Christmas!!!
- ✦ have fun!
- ✦ I felt that a lot of students did not really take class seriously, this is nothing you can change.

SPRING 2006

Social Inequality, 29 students total (3 sections)

Rachel Slocum

I taught 3 sections of Social Inequality in the spring of 2006. The first two sections were very small (5, 7) and the last numbered 17 students. All sections were displeased with the multiple choice mid-term exam, which is reflected in the evaluation. They did poorly on this exam and I ended up curving the grade and switching to an essay exam final. Final grades were mostly good. There appears to be three students (10%) who did not like anything about the class.

1. Did the ideas presented in this course challenge how you were accustomed to thinking? If so, how? If not, why not?

YES 90%

2. Did you talk in class?

YES 86%

No 0

a. Did I enable you to feel comfortable talking in class?

YES 62%

Sometimes 28%

No 10%

b. Please comment on class discussion.

Good 59%

Not so good: 14%

3. Did the presentation assignment help you develop skills of speaking in front of an audience, doing precisely timed presentation, designing discussion questions and facilitating discussion?

YES: 69%

4. Do you think the writing assignments were good at developing writing and research skills?

YES: 83%

No: 10%

- ⊕ YES!! This was my first class where I actually had to work hard on papers. Although I didn't do very well, I think I learned a lot.
- ⊕ The writing helped me a lot. Your syllabus has a lot of advice that helped me. I am very much satisfied with the grade for paper 1 because I expected to get worse grade.
- ⊕ YES but I have never had a teacher grade my writing as a B. So maybe a little to critical – everyone writes differently – you made my paper look like a C paper w/ all of the comments.

5. Were the lectures organized and understandable?

YES 69%

Sometimes 3%

No 24%

6. Did I seem interested in and passionate about the material I was presenting?

YES 90%

7. Did you use the D2L site? Was it helpful? Why/why not?

YES 83%

8. If you emailed me, please comment on the interaction.

Good 76%

Bad 10%

9. Was the class fair in terms of?

a. Clarity of assignments and expectations?

YES 69%

No 14 %

b. Time provided for you to do assignments?

YES 76%

No 10%

c. Changes to the syllabus explained to your satisfaction?

YES 79%

No 0

d. Syllabus gave you a good sense of class expectations?

YES 79%

No 3%

e. Expectations about written and oral work?

YES 76%

No 17%

f. Grading?

YES 45%

NO 41%

10. Did the expectations of the class:

a. Challenge you intellectually (difficulty of the material overall)?

YES 76%

No 3%

b. Challenge you to write better?

YES 79%

No 6%

c. Challenge you with the type of readings?

YES 72%

No 6%

d. Challenge you to present orally in a professional manner?

YES 69%

No 6%

11. What was the most useful, most interesting or best thing about the class? Why?

- a. The lectures, subject matter and readings 12 (41%)**
- b. Papers and presentations**
- c. American Indians**
- d. Gender discussion**
- e. Social construction of race**
- f. Essentialism interesting**
- g. Discussion 4**
- h. Unnoticed things in society**
- i. Controversial perspectives**
- j. Challenging**
- k. Seeing life from those living inequality**
- l. Look at situations differently 1**
- m. Organized lectures**
- n. D2L (course web page) good**

12. Is there something I should change about the class?

- a. Exams or material too hard 14**
- b. Test—too long or format 3**
- c. Too much info 3**
- d. Lecture difficulty or format 4**
- e. People didn't do the readings**
- f. Do powerpoint: 1**
- g. More open to discussion: 1**
- h. No study guide: 1**
- i. More shorter assignments: 1**

13. Are there other things you want to say?

- ⊕ I think the info in the course is very very important for people to learn and it needs to be presented from a controversial approach (like it was I think).
- ⊕ You helped me to see things in a different view - you challenged my way of thinking & pointed out when it was incorrect Thank you
- ⊕ Just pretty hard. Maybe shouldn't be as rough on the grading for tests.
- ⊕ Having an outside job made this class even more challenging. There is a lot of material to cover in short amounts of time. It was so fast paced, it was sometimes hard to keep up w/ the readings.
- ⊕ Your expectations are quite rigid.
- ⊕ By taking this course I could have a lot of opportunities to be really involved in an academic subject. I do think it was right to take this course to improve my self.

- ✦ I did not have enough time on the exam and that sucked.

FALL 2006

Social Inequality 27 total reporting (2 sections)

Rachel Slocum

1. Did the ideas presented challenge how you were accustomed to thinking? Please explain.

YES: 81%

- ✦ I think that a lot of what was discussed didn't challenge my way of thinking but rather my actions. I have gained a concept of wanting to take a stand and it has made me challenge people who were uneducated about inequality
- ✦ I don't think that I've always appreciated all the opportunities I've had & will have compared to other people because I'm white.
- ✦ YES, in every idea presented I learned something new. The ideas went beyond common beliefs/ myths.
- ✦ The ideas posed a challenge to think of things as beyond the individual.
- ✦ YES! I always new that racism, sexism etc were problems, but to able to think about the essentialism and paternalistic views that go along w/ them is now used in my everyday thinking.
- ✦ YES, that's why I first became interested in sociology. Questioning authority & beliefs is a healthy & intellectual thing to do.
- ✦ YES, what is presented wasn't only facts but reality in general; What is not protrayed in media. And if media did show it, for instance Walmart movie, through her lectures, she presented it in a more in depth manner.
- ✦ YES, things like race, class, gender all affect each other & I thought a lot more about things & the reasons for why I believed what I did.
- ✦ I have always agreed with many of the concepts taught in the class, but never knew the details, complexity, concepts, etc... I have learned much that has enlightened me. I also appreciate the rewards of scientific research more than I ever have.

2. What were some of the most useful, most interesting or best things about the class? Why?

Discussions: 33%

Readings: 7%

Material presented: 30%

Linkages made through lectures: 7%

An Inconvenient Truth/global warming: 7%

Race lecture: 3%

- ✦ The Al Gore movie was really good. I like the stats he presented
- ✦ Discussion was good. At times the teacher was a bit over the top.
- ✦ The moments where discussions challenged or opened up details of the lecture topics because it shed more viewpoints.
- ✦ I was most interested by the Gore video on global warming- awareness of that is very important and I was unaware of the reality of it.
- ✦ The readings. A lot of issues that I am interested in were covered in the readings.
- ✦ The readings were very interesting & the lectures helped me to understand the readings.
- ✦ The lectures were interesting especially with discussion. Research paper was good for learning about inequalities I was interested in. There were many examples given and the teacher knew her material well
- ✦ Class for the most part was enjoyable. I learned new stuff almost everyday.
- ✦ Prof help was available when needed- we were aware of what was going on at all times
- ✦ Global warming, very interesting
- ✦ The emphasis of responsibility and the consequences of not realizing that responsibility. Also the realization of essentialist ideology & how it constructs social perceptions
- ✦ I really like the part where we learned about large corporations that go overseas and the poor working conditions they give their employees. This got me thinking about what corporations I want to stop buying from b/c of their unfair practices. I also liked the discussions on global warming and how pollution is affecting the environment. I thought it was very interesting and it got me thinking about the things I do to hurt/help the environment.

- ✦ The stories, and actual accounts of the topics in the class. It puts it on a more personal level with me, so that I can better analyze issues.
- ✦ Discussions in lectures and everyone having to participate that led to many new ideas.
- ✦ Most interesting & useful things for me was learning to be able to link all concepts together which gave me a big overview of institutionalized inequalities.
- ✦ The discussions were helpful because they were easy & unthreatening to participate in, while still giving everyone a chance to formulate arguments & think critically about an issue.
- ✦ Interesting would have to be sexuality & race. I never covered race in that manner. It was always defined in a less abstract manner. The best things were probably in class discussion and most useful was also class discussion. It gave time for open opinion and argument.

3. If course objectives were to help you understand social inequality and help you to learn to read, write, and think better, what would you say was the least effective part of the class? Why?

Discussions (prof. critical of our ideas): 4

Need to go over readings: 1

Readings, too long or not good: 8

Writing: 1

Tests were not challenging: 1
Library session: 1
All parts useful: 2
All parts were helpful/nothing ineffective: 6
More writing: 1
Presentations: 1
Biased grading: 1

4. Please comment on the readings (were they challenging, did you learn something, did they help you grasp concepts, were they too hard, too easy, too much etc.)
 - a. LaDuke, Lyons and Dog/Erdoes

Good: 48%
Hard: 7%

- b. Massey, Whatmore, Allen, Clark

Good: 22%
Hard: 19%
Good but difficult: 15%

⊕ I especially liked these readings due to the fact that the concepts complimented our discussions very strongly- very rich w/ info, yet to the point

- c. Readings for the first section on difference (race, gender, class, sex/sexuality)

Good: 41%
Mixed: 15%
Good but either challenging (positive), too long, too much and/or preferred one set over another: 26%
Not difficult: 7%
Boring: 3%

8. An important part of this class was participation. Do you think you contributed to the class as much as you could in the various ways that I suggested (email, in class, note card, discussion on d2l)? Why or why not?

YES: 74%
No: 19%
Not as much as I could have: 7%

⊕ The in- class discussions were the opportunities to participate and got easier as we went along.

- ✦ I could have participated on D2L more, I read some discussions but did not have any input. Otherwise email & class were most important to me.
- ✦ No, I did not contribute to class enough. I'm extremely shy and don't like speaking in front of people I don't know. It's something I have to work on.
- ✦ I didn't utilize the D2L discussion boards, but I feel I contributed plenty in the other ways listed. It was easy to participate, something which a lot of classes do not have.
- ✦ No, to be honest I didn't read all the articles and she was always available to ask questions but I would just procrastinate.(sp) I didn't participate in discussion on D2L but I thought I participate in discussion in class as much as I could.
- ✦ YES, because I feel that if I talked anymore in class it would be excessive. I believe that if you don't have anything halfway intelligent to say you should keep your mouth shut.

9. How valuable were in class discussions and how well did they go? If they were good, why? If they were not so great, why?

Good: 96%

- ✦ I thought the in class discussions were really good most the time, the honestly helped me grasp the harder concepts and made me more open to others ideas
- ✦ I think they were good because if someone didn't understand something, they had the opportunity to hear it from one of their class mates who may be able to explain it differently to their understanding.
- ✦ I really enjoyed in class discussions. I think it was difficult for me and others to grasp some concepts but talking through it helped open my eYES.
- ✦ Very good because they allow the student to formulate an idea from the ground up, and easily ask a question on something that may be problematic.
- ✦ Very valuable and went well. They were good because they opened my mind to new possibilities and it is interesting to learn what other classmates think, etc. **I would always get annoyed when class was over so soon.**

10. Please comment on the presentation as
a. a method of developing your speaking skills and your ability to craft a creative, informative presentation

Useful: 74%

Less useful: 26%

- ✦ This presentation was more difficult for me than other presentations (in a good way) because I had to try to explain what the facts mean.
- ✦ It was a good thing in that it was helpful in working on making a creative informative presentation
- ✦ it was good in this sense; it made me more excited about the learning of the material
- ✦ It opened up using powerpoint as a medium method and got me excited about my topic.

- ⊕ YES, I am very nervous in public speaking & surprisingly (although I did not show a great level of comfort) I was much better than I normally am.

b. a method to shift the class away from lecture?

Useful: 81%

Mixed: 7%

Not so good: 11%

- ⊕ As a whole, I've learned more from the discussions/lecture than I did from the presentations.
- ⊕ Not that lecture is bad, but it's a nice change of pace to listen to presenting from students & still learn.

11. Please comment on the paper assignment in terms of whether the following were helpful:

a. design of the assignment in stages

Helpful: 70%

Less helpful/would have preferred drafts due: 30%

b. requirement to formulate as a question

Good: 85%

Less helpful: 3%

c. requirement that you make an argument

Good: 89%

Not so good: 11%

d. requirement that you do primary data collection

Helpful: 81%

Too difficult: 19%

e. my comments on your papers

Helpful: 88%

Not so helpful: 12%

12. Did the exam questions fairly test your ability to synthesize class material?

YES: 93%

13. Was the grading fair? Please comment.

YES: 85%

Too tough: 15%

14. Did you have a sense of what I expected? If not, how could it have been more clear?

YES: 85%

15. Were the lecture interesting, organized and understandable most of the time?

YES: 85%

- ⊕ Organized = YES Understandable = YES Interesting = NOPE
- ⊕ I thought the lectures were very interesting. You present things much more in depth than I normally was taught.
- ⊕ I thought the lectures were very interesting. Its good to have a professor that is enthusiastic about the topics.
- ⊕ YES- I really like the globalization section and Native American section.

16. Was the d2l site helpful? Please comment.

Good: 85%

Not so good: 11%

Didn't use: 3%

17. Did you meet with me during office hours?

a. If YES, please comment on the meeting. (How helpful, how available, how comfortable, etc.)

Most didn't come. Two did—helpful experience.

18. Did you email me?

a. If YES, please comment on the interaction. (How helpful, responsive, timely, etc.)

Good: 100%

- ⊕ YES, in regards to sending research question and the answer was swift.
- ⊕ YES. very timely.
- ⊕ YES, helpful & very quick responses
- ⊕ YES, you responded very quickly & with all the information I needed.

- ✦ YES, very helpful, answered my question quickly
- ✦ YES- quick responses
- ✦ YES, you responded quickly
- ✦ YES- very attentive and responsive to my questions and timely- never had to wait more than a couple of hours @ most for response. also very detailed in answering questions extremely helpful

19. After this class, do you feel prepared to move on to higher level Sociology courses?

YES: 100%

- ✦ I feel like I have learned a lot in this course- I am very happy w/ what I learned & development from this course- I feel as though it has prepared me for a variety aspects, not only other courses.

20. Did you learn something in this class? What and were the things that you thought it was important to learn? Please explain.

YES: 96%

- ✦ I learned more on how much institutions play a greater role than personal prejudices in inequality.
- ✦ this class open my eyes to several issues which I was not aware of. It helped me understand the real world a bit better.
- ✦ I learned to look beyond just the individuals and this is important because it takes into account the larger processes at work.
- ✦ to not always think on an individual level and also much about Native American issues which is important because they are a people often forgotten.
- ✦ I learned to a greater extent the ways in which inequality is Facilitated and maintained; I think that is important
- ✦ Racism goes a lot deeper than individual experiences. It is most prominent at an institutional level.
- ✦ they were very important. They helped me understood more about society and helped clear up topics that were fuzzy to me
- ✦ I did learn in this class -gender issues - corporations vs powerless - power dominance in certain groups I think that it was important to learn. I think that without talking and learning about these things we wouldn't know how to start to change.
- ✦ social inequality is part of everyday life
- ✦ The difference between race & ethnicity. Stereotypes that. How bad global warming is effecting other countries
- ✦ I learned the complexity of inequality, rather than surface issues. The course was very in depth and touch on many issues that are a part day to day living in this globalized capitalist society. It is important to understand the impact of such actions that are made daily in order to make social change.

- ✦ I learned a lot about the inequality minorities face & how that affects their everyday lives. I also learned about the way animals are treated just for us to eat and how many chemicals are in the processed meat. I also learned about world pollution and how its affecting global warming and that could and will cause many floods (loosing countries) and droughts.
- ✦ I feel that in this course I learned an immense amount that is really beneficial to the “real world.” I found this to be one of my most effective classes. Inequality in general is so important to educate about in order to make a change.
- ✦ in this class I understood fully the importance of not looking at inequality on an individual level, rather focus on a government level. Because only when you do this, it becomes possible to react properly to social injustices.
- ✦ I learned everything we spoke about all semester. I’ve always known that inequalities existed but w/ this class, I actually thought about them & understood why.
- ✦ It was important to learn how to link together inequalities w/ institutions.
- ✦ specifically the parts on white privilege were relevant & thought provoking. Also that our government doesn’t want us to know everything, but it was presented in an educated manner instead of as a ‘conspiracy theory’ of sorts, which is good.
- ✦ I knew about the topics we talked about, for instance, Race, gender, global warming, Wal-mart, etc. But I never went in so much depth. She really made me think very deeply in a lot those areas and changed my perspective on a more educated basis.
- ✦ they made me think about how I live my life & about how everything is interconnected w/ each other.
- ✦ I have gained a greater appreciation of science, academics, the complexities of social problems, inequality and relations in regards to complex racializations and the concept of “race.” I have learned how to research, write and think more critically. I have learned to participate more in discussions. I have been made aware of global facts that I was not previously aware of. I have learned about Native American struggles and achievements, also how they are reclaiming their culture and life.

21. Please comment on something you would have liked to see in the course but that may not have been there (e.g. a topic, an assignment, an approach.) Alternatively, please add additional comments here.

More videos

More on global warming

More discussion of readings

- ✦ maybe a bit more of the other side of the spectrum not just the anti-white/anti-male/ etc viewpoint it seemed a bit too extreme in those regards.
- ✦ More emphasis on the other view. Too much it felt trying to go against one side (white, male, hetero, etc) without a broader view of all sides working together.
- ✦ Class was overall good, just upset some people felt the way they did giving an negative atmosphere at times where I could have been learning. Possibly discuss readings a bit more overall, class challenged me and was good. Learned a Lot!
- ✦ I cant really think of anything the class covered broad topics that were very interesting to me. I learned about inequality in people, places, and animals.

- ✦ Thank you for your offering a challenging and rich course w/o such courses, learning would never take place. I learned a lot in the course and feel very confident in taking other courses.

Shorter writing assignments: 2

More people participating in online discussions: 1

Lecture on Rwandan genocide and on body image: 2

Acknowledge that you're not always right: 1

More movies: 1

- ✦ I thought everything was just fine. I am going to miss being able to be informed in such a unique way. I wish my friends would take this class so that we could discuss such issues in this manner.
- ✦ I enjoyed the class, I learned a lot. There are many things I view differently now when I think of social inequalities.
- ✦ Assignments & readings were pretty perfectly spaced out, & the work load was reasonable without being too demanding or overwhelming. The syllabus was great, though parts sounded almost harsh, which scared a buddy of mine out of the class. Nevertheless I found that structure & list of requirements to be very helpful. Good class and I'm glad I took it.
- ✦ Cannot think of any improvements. Was great.

SPRING 2007

Social Inequality, 31 total students (3 sections)

Rachel Slocum

1. Did the ideas presented in this course sometimes challenge how you were accustomed to thinking? If so, how? If not, why not?

YES: 90%

Somewhat: 6%

- ✦ YES, I struggle w/some issues like allowing religions belief to intertwine in work places. This class was useful to help me re-evaluate and explore my beliefs.
- ✦ YES. Before taking the class it was easy to ignore all the inequalities in the world
- ✦ YES, I saw other viewpoints of situations dealing w/inequality
- ✦ YES; there was more critical thinking & looking at the whole picture
- ✦ YES, Concepts introduced required to look from a different view. Concepts were also new so thought was needed.
- ✦ YES-about institutionalized-isms about same sex or sexual orientations
- ✦ YES, because, when talking you had to re-word what you'd normally say
- ✦ Sometimes YES. I have taken many sociology classes, but some materials were new to me.
- ✦ The ideas presented were greatly similar to my experience in other sociology classes. While some of the material and readings were new, the main themes were not.

- ✦ YES, think not about the individual and more about the institutions
- ✦ Not really, and I couldn't explain why. Possibly because other classes I have taken (160, etc) have prepared me for this kind of material, and possibly because that's just how I am.
- ✦ YES they did. That's why I like sociology so much. I love opening my mind to new knowledge and other ideas than what is presented in the general public. Just on the way over to class today I was walking and worrying about how I am going to keep affording everything in my life I began to wonder, does it really matter what job I end up in, as long as I can live a stable life? I mean, why is there all this push in society to get a \$300,000/year job? Aren't we all here on earth living right now for a more important reason than money and being the best in the world?
- ✦ YES-I usually don't have to do a lot of reading for my classes & with this class I had to spend more time on the readings
- ✦ YES, I was raised with a very conservative view on society. I always looked @ the individual issues ie: I personally am not racist etc...versus the institutionalized ways of our society. I never understood 'white privledge' and assumed those who were less fortunate should just go work @ mcdonalds, make \$ and get off welfare.

- ✦ YES-I never gave the ideas much thought before the class. Especially the idea of whiteness-I hadn't heard of that before
- ✦ YES it did challenge me, it helps one to think outside the box.
- ✦ A bit since I knew a bit, just not everything about inequality.
- ✦ YES, being able to look at the whole picture and just looking at what I know.
- ✦ YES, in a pos & neg way. It sucks to know how bad things can get and are. Pos-because I am leaving this class with more ways to approach situation and have a better understanding of inequalities.
- ✦ YES, I was interested in the things learned in the course and some of the info. Was new
- ✦ This was a course that challenge the way I thought in many ways. I thought more traditionally all the time and this course really opened up my eYES to the subtle inequalities people face in the world today.
- ✦ YES, it definitely challenged how I was accustomed to thinking. This class was somewhat of an eye opener to the way the world really is today.
- ✦ YES, brought up interesting views/theories. That broke many normal ways of thinking. Have a new out look on society & how it works.
- ✦ YES, it brought up things that I hadn't really thought about before at least not in detail.
- ✦ I felt challenged every day to think "outside the box."
- ✦ YES, they were quite opposite at times.
- ✦ I think YES because there is so many facts that opposed what I used to think about.
- ✦ YES. Just about always. I grew up in a Republican home so the ideas were constantly challenged b/c the class gave explanations behind what happened.
- ✦ I believe that it did challenge my way of thinking because their have been issues that have set norms within our society and I never thought about change within those norms and the class helped me understand that aspect of it.

- ✦ YES they were challenging. Really made you think about how things in society connect & make you think about why things are the way they are.
- ✦ YES, made me look past individual thinking

2. What was the most useful, most interesting or best thing about the class? Why?

Discussions: 13%

Topics (climate, global, gender, whiteness, globalization, Race exhibit): 45%

Overall class method/material: 16%

Lectures: 6%

Presentations: 6%

Readings: 3%

Not lots of homework: 3%

Importance of geography: 3%

- ✦ That we learned about inequality of many populations rather than just one segment (African American inequality etc.) I have a better understanding of globalization & affects.
- ✦ Presentations. It was nice to see a topic like healthcare covered so deeply
- ✦ Useful new knowledge
- ✦ I liked that there were videos & presentations because it was a change of everyday lecture
- ✦ Readings, they were good readings (interesting).
- ✦ Get to know a lot about social inequality, poverty, healthcare, racism
- ✦ All of the different class related issues when talking about how we maintain inequality.
- ✦ Science Museum visit-it opened my eYES to many new ideas & thoughts & I didn't know a lot of the things I read there.
- ✦ The most interesting thing about this class was going through the race exhibit and also seeing presentations on what other people were working on for their research paper.
- ✦ Best was the free form laid back setting
- ✦ The case studies/examples given to exemplify certain concepts –such as caren & unpaid labor. They relate what we're learning about to real life examples that are a little easier to understand.
- ✦ Learning new bits of information that sprouts a seed in my brain.
- ✦ The different topics we covered. Wide variety of topics.
- ✦ The realization of 'white privledge' & institutionalized racism, sexism, & other oppressions due to societies view as a whole
- ✦ Whiteness-great to learn
- ✦ Lectures, very rich & for the most part easy to understand.
- ✦ The section on gender since we get more discussion output.
- ✦ Being able to read into things more deeply to gain more knowledge.
- ✦ All of it! There was not a single thing I all ready knew.

- ✦ The overall approach to the class and the global approach.
- ✦ I would say the most useful and most interesting thing about the class was global climate change, I learned a lot.
- ✦ Discussions amongst the whole class were very interesting. The way things were presented without fear of going against the norm was greatly appreciated.
- ✦ The discussion helped a lot in the understanding of topics. Topics presented were always involving & interesting.

- ✦ I think the best thing was not really having a lot of homework other than the 2 tests and project.
- ✦ I thought the most interesting part about class was learning how geography played a huge role in class.
- ✦ Discussions on different people's/writer's views.
- ✦ Discussion about race was the most interesting because race is involving everyone in class. It is sensitive topic but we could have good discussion.
- ✦ Just the explanations of why certain people or societies are underprivileged and why they stay underprivileged.
- ✦ I like how we learned the information, because discussion based helps in grasping information and understanding key ideas
- ✦ Everything was useful. It was all about why everything connects race, class, sex, age, and gender.
- ✦ I enjoyed the section on Race a lot. Gave me some more perspective. Also I really thought the section on American Indians & Indigenous people was interesting.

3. Is there something I should change about the class? Why?

No: 29%

Reminders/no penalties: 4

Less lecture: 1

More global: 1

Shorter paper/different topic: 2

Open to opinions/comfortable atmosphere: 2

More coherence: 1

Discuss readings: 1

More multimedia: 1

More group activities: 2

Quiz on readings/go over readings/fewer: 3

Info on how we can make change: 1

- ✦ No-I liked it.
- ✦ Give reminders that things are going to be due instead of punishing us for missing a due date that was never mentioned in class.
- ✦ Less lecture because it felt like there should be more interactive/group work
- ✦ If you can maybe broaden the perspective ie. "global inequality" focus globally
- ✦ Be more open to other students' opinions and listen more carefully to what they have to say.

- ✦ The paper should not have to be 12 pages & deadlines reminded.
- ✦ I felt that a lot of the readings did not correlate well with each other and felt random. It would be nice if the class content throughout the semester worked together in a more cohesive manner. Topics and documents were related only in the broad context of sociology.
- ✦ No
- ✦ No. At the beginning of the semester I was a little worried and I thought it would possibly be overwhelming- however currently this is my favorite class!
- ✦ Possibly, making it a little more comfortable for people to offer up ideas or answer questions in class. Sometimes I felt like when I spoke up, what I said was nowhere near the answer you expected and totally wrong.
- ✦ None I can think of. No
- ✦ For papers I think people should write about specific institutions where oppression occurs like schools, government, jobs etc. not just with in one area like healthcare.
- ✦ Students should do readings but it is helpful to discuss them in class as well otherwise people may not read them.
- ✦ Maybe more multimedia aspects
- ✦ Be more prepared for discussions where people don't answer. Use more group activities.
- ✦ No.
- ✦ No-I loved it!
- ✦ The clarification of tests/papers. Also the way the syllabus is followed in regards to dates.
- ✦ Have short quizzes about the readings so that it is imperative that students read.
- ✦ More information on what we can do to help would be great, and it would make the class a little less depressing.
- ✦ Put more emphasis on readings, equal out between lecture & readings.
- ✦ Nope
- ✦ Not really.
- ✦ Basically No, but I would like you to make deadlines more clear.
- ✦ Fewer readings. 1 really good article speaks louder than 10. Sometimes less is more, and I feel that is absolutely the case.
- ✦ I don't think much should be changed because I learned more in this class than any other.
- ✦ NO, but essay tests are very long. And hard to fit into the time given.
- ✦ More group work to get more peer input

4. Please comment on the readings, in class activities, trip to museum and videos.

Science Museum Race exhibit good (but hard to get to): 39%

Science Museum not worth it: 10%

Readings good: 39%

Readings less good: 6%

- ✦ I really enjoyed the readings & videos. Out of class assignments are difficult as a non-trad student; but I did enjoy the science museum.
- ✦ The museum was a good thing to do...however it would have been nice to have a little more notice
A few of the readings I have read in other classes
- ✦ Readings were good & understandable, trip to museum honestly not worth the extra time & money (would have been better to arrange a bus) videos fine.
- ✦ The trip was interesting, but a lot to go to mpls. for.
Readings also were interesting for the most part
- ✦ Wasn't many in class activities, the videos, and trip were good.
- ✦ Reading so diverse
very good museum treap & video were eye opening. I think you did good job on those.
- ✦ The readings were very helpful. The trip to the museum worked out, but there needed to be better planning.
- ✦ Compared to my other SOC class the readings were easier & the videos were informative
- ✦ Material was interesting but perhaps more emphasis are current professional opinions and not on current events and student opinions
- ✦ Readings were ??? as was discussing them in class
I did not like the museum trip
- ✦ I found all of the above helpful & interesting. I think that the trip to the museum should or could have been planned a little more in advance but nevertheless was a very good idea.
- ✦ The trip to the museum was enjoyable and helpful, however I felt it should have either been extra credit or on a class day as it was very unfair to make people get off work to drive to the cities to the museum for an assignment.
- ✦ I can see why the museum was useful, but I thought we could've watched a video about similar things. I didn't have available time to go there & gas money & admission fee to much hassle I thought.
- ✦ Articles in Tracey's book were very informative and made me think. The power video is an area most people don't see, all we hear about is the negative views on AI and don't see the internal struggles. The trip to the museum was great. There was a lot of history about race is was unaware of like skull size for intelligence, & I was a history major.
- ✦ It was all very informational. I really did not want to take the trip to the museum but am very glad we did because it was so interesting. I recommend those activities whenever possible.
- ✦ Readings were supplemental & relevant to class discussions. Trip to museum was fun & also interesting.
- ✦ The readings helped clarify what the subject was.
- ✦ I though all we very appropriate for the class.
- ✦ Having a book to look back to –ref. would be nice- or sylybus be a little more organized other than that the materials were interesting.

- ✦ The trip to the museum was something that should either be done in class or not at all. Readings were beneficial.
- ✦ I loved the class activities, museum, and videos. Some readings went a little over board on the left wing point of view, but I did still learn good things from them.
- ✦ There was a lot of reading, but you can't really change that. The trip to the museum was nice. Videos are a plus if they are informative.
- ✦ Readings were supplemental to class lecture, discussions in class good for learning

- ✦ I liked the trip to the museum it was interesting to learn outside of the classroom
- ✦ I really enjoyed the trip to the museum I learned a lot there and I though it really helped on the test. Video's were helpfull for the test.
- ✦ Worthwhile.
- ✦ Reading assignments were sometimes hard for me in terms of understanding, but it really helped me out. Trip to museum was a really good experience for me to think about race.
- ✦ The readings were difficult and too many, but still helpful after explanation. Lectures were always interesting, the museum was nice, but shouldn't be required, or should be paid for. The videos were either good or bad. Power was bad, Al Gore's was good.
- ✦ I like the trip to the museum because it "opened" the eYES if you will. The readings sometimes were difficult to understand, but all in all was interesting and useful in the process of learning about inequality
- ✦ Museum trip was good –learned a lot. reading long & hard but very interesting & helpful. videos were interesting.
- ✦ Thought the trip was really interesting

5. Did you talk in class?

YES: 84%
Some: 16%
No: 0

a. Did I enable you to feel comfortable talking in class?

YES: 81%
Somewhat: 16%
No: 0

b. If not, can you suggest what should have happened to make more comfortable about speaking up?

Don't just say we're wrong
Open discussion
Group work
Restate the question more often

c. Please comment on class discussions.

Good: 39%

Wish there was more participation by other students: 29%

Got better toward the end/good days bad days: 10%

Sometimes confusing: 6%

- ✦ I wish more students would have participated. It is nice to hear other points of view.
- ✦ I think it would have been better if not the same people always talked, but sometimes people don't like talking
- ✦ I enjoyed it when the class participated and I got to hear other perspectives
- ✦ Basic lecture. When discussed it was more fun. Also it was challenging & required thought
- ✦ Was ok. around the last it is picking up real well.
- ✦ At first, everyone was quiet, but as we opened up, the content became easier to understand.
- ✦ Most the time it was good, other days it was a bit quiet.
- ✦ Not a very engaged class, students often did not complete readings
- ✦ Seems to drag on when not everyone was talking, some days good some days bad
- ✦ There were some people who barely ever talked, which kind of doesn't make sense to me because the material should compel you to have some kind of opinion, at least, or that's what I think!
- ✦ They were interesting. There were definitely "good" days where everyone spoke and it was more like a conversation, and days where no one would say anything. But sometimes it was shocking to hear some of the things other people thought.
- ✦ Talking about readings instead of lectures was helpful in understanding the analysis of what authors were trying to get across.

- ✦ They were good, got us all thinking & you challenged us
- ✦ Productive & intense at times
- ✦ Sometimes discussions were a bit lacking but that was probably because people didn't read the material
- ✦ Very insightful.
- ✦ Confusing at times-had to make sure I was getting the point that was being given.
- ✦ Usually it was dominated by 2-3 people.
- ✦ Our class was very comfortable with each other thus, making it easy to talk.
- ✦ This class was very open to discussions. Discussions were very helpful in learning the material.

- ✦ Discussion good, very useful learning aid
- ✦ Liked it interesting to hear different view points
- ✦ Some days it went well other days class discussion was too drawn out. Too many questions asked!
- ✦ I enjoyed them.
- ✦ I think discussions were really mind-nourishment.
- ✦ Sometimes I didn't know where they were going or what I was supposed to get out of it. But eventually I understood and enjoyed them.

- ✦ Class discussions gave different view points towards the understanding of where we came from and where we are going with inequality
- ✦ They were good, sometimes the questions ask were hard to understand and to have a response that could go with the questions.
- ✦ Bigger classes would have made it easier

6. Was the breakdown of the writing assignment helpful (topic, research question, sources, topic sentences/outline, draft)?

YES: 81%

No: 16%

a. Prior to this class, had you written a research question, argument, analytic paper or done an interview? Please comment.

YES: 68%

No: 39%

7. Were my comments on your draft helpful?

YES: 84%

No: 3%

8. Were the lectures organized and understandable? Why/Why not?

YES: 97%

9. Did I seem passionate about the material I was presenting (most of the time)? Was that helpful to your general level of interest?

YES: 100%

10. Did you meet with me during office hours or email me?

a. If YES, please comment on the interaction.

YES/good: 74%

No/didn't come: 16%

11. Was the class fair in terms of?

a. Clarity of assignments and expectations?

YES: 94%

b. Time provided for you to do assignments?

YES: 97%

- c. Changes to the syllabus explained to your satisfaction?

YES: 90%

- d. Syllabus gave you a good sense of class expectations?

YES: 100%

- e. Tests?

YES: 87%

- f. Expectations about written and oral work?

YES: 90%

- g. Grading?

YES: 90%

- 12. Did the expectations of the class challenge you?

- a. Intellectually (difficulty of the material overall)

YES: 90%

Somewhat: 10%

- b. Challenge you to improve your writing?

YES: 77%

Somewhat: 19%

No: 3%

- c. Challenge you with readings that were difficult?

YES: 77%

Somewhat: 19%

No: 3%

- d. Challenge you to present orally in a professional manner?

YES: 52%

Somewhat: 23%

No: 16%

N/A: 6%

13. Are there other things you want to say? Please add them here.

- ✦ I enjoyed learning more than just the fact that inequality exists. For example, the actual stories of the nannies & maquiladoras you shared. The readings were interesting as well. Especially the one about Carmen.
- ✦ I really enjoyed taking this class. I learned a lot about inequalities and how they affect people in society
- ✦ I think your attitude towards students is not the best, somewhat demeaning and I didn't really feel respected, almost as if we aren't very smart just because we are younger than students.
- ✦ Like I said before, can the course be more wide in terms of Global inequality everything else is alright.
- ✦ The class seemed to be very difficult for an undergrad class. You seemed to be very intimidating during class at the beginning, especially when going through the syllabus! However, I did learn new stuff about inequality and you seemed to know what you expect from students, but it seems to be expecting more from what the average student can handle
- ✦ Class was good, but at times I felt judged & more looked down upon than being taught. At first I didn't like the class, but after a while teaching style was learned & the class got better.
- ✦ No
- ✦ No, class was good, one of the best SOC classes I have taken
- ✦ Like I said before, I was worried about this class at the beginning of the semester, but it has become my favorite class. I believe this probably has a lot to do with the personality of the professor, and also the fact that I am quite interested in the material presented in this class.
- ✦ Obama '08! Just kidding, but you did mention the wrong doings of the Bush regime many times. Not that I don't totally agree, but from my own experience debating with friends, people get really heated over this guy. They either fight real hard in defense or fight against, but it never ends. Maybe present broader ideas that aren't so definitely good or bad. Hope that didn't sound mean...
- ✦ Great class! I was very worried the first few days after seeing the syllabus but I'm glad I stuck with it. I loved learning about the material
- ✦ Good class. Very intellectual professor & clear communication.
- ✦ The class was great, learned a lot and took away useful information!
- ✦ I loved this class & would love to take more by this prof!
- ✦ After the first two weeks I was intimidated and felt single out during discussions. Yet, after I got comfortable and we did a couple of group discussions it was better. The class was challenging.
- ✦ This class was very challenging, and I really appreciate that.

- ⊕ I hope I do better than I think I am doing but due to lack of time/busy schedule I didn't really get a chance to do as well as I would have liked to.
- ⊕ Tests should be done on computer. Way too much to write by hand. My hand still hurts from the last test. + -more visuals needed to keep class attention during discussions.
- ⊕ Enjoyed the class, discussing things most people don't want to touch with a ten foot pole.
- ⊕ No.
- ⊕ Very helpful & insightful class that I really enjoyed

Typed by office personnel, Sociology and Anthropology Office, St. Cloud State University. Typed exactly as student stated on evaluation.