

Sociology 3750
Sociology of Work and Industry
Spring Semester 2008

Instructor: Dr. William Finlay

Class Hours: T, Th 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., 322 Baldwin

Office: 113 Baldwin Hall

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Electronic reserve: <https://gil.uga.edu/> (password is “sociology2”)

I. Course Objectives

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to how sociologists have analyzed work and workers in modern industrial societies. Topics covered include the rise of the modern corporation, industrial relations and labor management, blue-collar work and labor unions, and the new service economy and occupations. There is no textbook for the course; instead there are two books and a set of thirteen readings that are available on electronic reserve through the UGA library (the password is “sociology2”). My job will be to provide a framework or context for the various books and articles, to help you understand why and how they are relevant to the broader issues we will be discussing in class. Your job is to keep up with them—I have selected material that I think is both interesting and readable. I want you to read each article carefully and critically in the order in which it has been assigned, prior to the lecture to which it refers. I expect you to come to class ready to discuss the reading that has been assigned.

The two books I have assigned are:

1. Geoghegan, Thomas. *Which Side Are You On?* (New Press, revised edition, 2004).
2. Finlay, William and James E. Coverdill. *Headhunters: Matchmaking in the Labor Market.* (Cornell University Press, Paperback edition 2007).

I will be posting the lecture notes I use for each topic on my web site. They will be there no later than the day before the first class for each new topic, to give you the opportunity to print them out and bring them with you to class. The six topics that you will find on the

class web page match those you will find below in the Topics and Assignments section of the syllabus. The web site will also be where I will post your exam scores and other items of interest.

II. Exams, Papers, Attendance, and Grading

Grades will be based on three exams (85% of your grade), one short paper (10% each of your grade), and class participation (5% of your grade). *The exams will be weighted equally and will not be cumulative.* Make-up exams will be given only under circumstances of illness or emergency; written proof may be required before a request for a make-up exam is granted. The papers will consist of a review of one of the two books. Each book has a deadline, indicated below, by which it must be reviewed. What I want you to do in these reviews is to write a short evaluation—700 to 1,000 words or about 3 pages of double-spaced typing—indicating what you think the strengths and weaknesses of the book are. The reviews, let me emphasize, must be evaluations not summaries of the books. I invite you to show me a rough draft of their reviews or to discuss them with me, before handing in your final version. *There will be no extra credit projects.*

The participation grade is based on a combination of your attendance and your participation in class; what I am looking for here is regular attendance in class and a good-faith effort to take part in discussions.

I do not expect students to miss class. If you do need to be absent, you should inform me in advance. More than FOUR unexcused absences may lead to your being withdrawn from the course.

Grades will be assigned as follows:

A:	93% and above
A-:	90%-92%
B+:	87%-89%
B:	83%-86%
B-:	80%-82%
C+:	77% - 79%
C:	73%-76%
C-:	70%-72%
D:	60%-69%

A grade of C- or lower will not count toward major coursework. Students in the Franklin College must earn a grade of “C” or better in major required courses.

Please note that all academic work must conform to UGA’s Honor Code and its Academic Honesty Policy. It must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

The outline below is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

III. Topics and Assignments

TOPIC 1 (Jan. 8 – Jan. 15): Introduction; Why Work Matters

- Reading:
- (1) Wilson (1996), “Ghetto-Related Behavior and the Structure of Opportunity”
 - (2) Hochschild (1997), “The Time Bind”

TOPIC 2 (Jan. 17 – Feb. 12): Who Runs the Shop? The Transformation of the 19th Century Workplace into the Modern Corporation

- Reading:
- (1) Micklethwait and Wooldridge (2003), “The Company”
 - (2) Jacoby (1985), “The Way It Was: Factory Labor Before 1915”
 - (3) Ciulla (2000), “Taming the Worker”
 - (4) Donkin (2001), “Modern Times”
 - (5) Adler et al. (1997), “The United States: Variations on a Theme”

February 12 (in class): FIRST EXAM

TOPIC 3 (Feb. 14 – Feb. 28): The Worker as Industrial Citizen

- Reading:
- (1) Geoghegan, *Which Side Are You On?*

March 18: deadline for review of Geoghegan

TOPIC 4 (Mar. 4 – Mar. 25): On the Job: The Official and Unofficial World of Work

- Reading:
- (1) Chinoy (1992), “On the Line”
 - (2) Hamper (1991), “Rivethead”
 - (3) Roy (1959), “Banana Time”
 - (4) Finlay (1988), “The Break-Bulk Operation: Working On and-Off”

March 25 (in class): SECOND EXAM

TOPIC 5 (Mar. 27- April 17): Front-Line Service Work

Reading: (1) Finlay and Coverdill (2007), *Headhunters*

TOPIC 6 (April 22 – April 24): Emotional Labor

Reading: (1) Pierce (1995), “Rambo Litigators: Emotional Labor in a Male-Dominated Job”
(2) Mears and Finlay (2005), “Not Just a Paper Doll”

April 24: deadline for review of Finlay and Coverdill

** Thursday, May 1: FINAL EXAM (noon) **

Human Rights Statement

All students should know that the Department of Sociology has a Human Rights Committee for the resolution of student grievances. Any student registered for a sociology course at the University of Georgia who feels that he or she has not been treated in a fair or professional manner by an instructor is advised to follow these procedures:

- (1) The student should discuss his or her problems with the instructor of the course, unless extenuating circumstances prohibit this.
- (2) If that discussion does not resolve the grievance, the student should then discuss the problem with the Head of the Department of Sociology.
- (3) If that discussion does not resolve the grievance to the satisfaction of the student, the student may request the activation of the Human Rights Committee by submitting a letter to the Chair of the Human Rights Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Georgia.

The Human Rights Committee will have the responsibility of investigating all charges in accordance with procedures on file in the Sociology office, copies of which are available to students. The Committee will also have the responsibility of making recommendations in writing to the Head, copies of which will be made available to the student complainant and the instructor involved. The Department Head will review the recommendations and make a decision in writing, with copies to the student complainant and the instructor or staff member involved. Any appeal of that decision must be to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

SOCI 3750 INFORMATION SHEET

Name: _____

Your email address: _____

Name by which you wish to be addressed: _____

Major: _____

Graduation Date: _____

Where were you born? _____

Where did you grow up? _____

Anything else you'd like me to know about you (hobbies, interests, etc.)

List the other Sociology courses you have taken or are taking:

<u>Name or Number</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
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Have you held a job and, if so, doing what?