

Structural Aspects of Social Interaction Fall 2010
Sociology 552 Wednesday 1:00-4:00 in Tarbutton 206
Professor Cathryn Johnson
Office Hours: M 2:00-4:00, or by appt.

This course examines theories that address how status, power, and legitimacy processes operate in small group interaction. We will see the development and extension of theories in the status, power, and legitimacy areas, as well as review the empirical support for these theories. We will discuss the various new directions in the status and networks literature. The status characteristic, gender, will be emphasized, but other status characteristics will be given attention as well.

Requirements include:

1) Memos:

For each weekly topic, class members will offer reviews of the readings. A memo consists of a summary of the article, identification of its strengths and weaknesses, statement of how a reading fits in with others, and identification of new questions stemming from the article. Class members and I will choose readings to review within each weekly session. Students should write up their critiques in no more than two double-spaced, type-written pages (per article). Students will do the same number of critiques during the course of the semester. These will be graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory. The evaluation is based on thoroughness and thoughtfulness. Students will re-write any memo on which they receive an unsatisfactory.

2) Paper or Two Essays:

a) A 15-20 page extensive theoretical paper to be discussed in class. I will expect a short proposal of your paper before the Thanksgiving break:

Because students take this course for different reasons, and are at different stages of their graduate student careers, the intent of this research paper is to allow you to study in detail a topic that is specific to your own purpose. Thus it may take one of the following forms:

- 1) a position paper presenting a cogent argument regarding a theoretical or empirical issue on a topic relevant to evaluations in social interaction.
- 2) a research proposal that includes a review of relevant literature, hypotheses, and/or tentative research methods.
- 3) an analytical synthesis of topics stemming from the two different parts of the course.
- 4) a substantially revised version of a previous paper that draws upon the areas studied in this course.

Or

b) Two 10-page essays (prelim-like) – one required in the status area and one in the power area.

3) Paper Critiques:

Seminar members will read and critique papers of two of their classmates. Authors are responsible for copying papers and distributing them to class members approximately one week before discussion dates.

Readers will take the role of “journal reviewer” in examining the papers. Each review (1-2 pages) should critique the author’s argument and identify other inadequacies as well as offer constructive suggestions for revisions. Readers should provide copies of their reviews to all class members. The critiques will form the basis for the paper discussions; authors will have the opportunity to address these critiques and use the reviews as a basis for revising their papers.

Course schedule

- Sept. 1 Introduction to Course
- I. Framing the Issue: Classical Studies of Emergence and Operation of Status Orders.
- Sept. 8 Bales, Robert. 1965. "The Equilibrium Problem in Small Groups." Pp. 444-476 in Small Groups: Studies in Social Interaction, edited by Hare, Borgatta, and Bales, 2nd edition. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.
- Strodtbeck, F.L., R. M. James and C. Hawkins. 1957. Social status in jury deliberations. *American Sociological Review* 22:713-19.
- Whyte, William F. 1943. Street Corner Society, pp. 2-25. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- II. The Expectation States Theory of Status Processes
- A. Overview and Basic Assumptions
- Berger, J. and T.L. Conner. 1974. Performance expectations and behavior in small groups: a revised formulation. Pp. 85-109 in *Expectation States Theory: A Theoretical Program*, edited by Berger, J. T.L. Connor, and M.H. Fisek. Cambridge MA: Winthrop.
- Berger, J., S. Rosenholtz, and M. Zelditch, Jr. 1980. Status organizing processes. *Annual Review of Sociology* 6:479-508.
- Sept. 15 B. Gender Status and Interaction
- Wood, W. and S.J. Karten. 1986. Sex differences in interaction styles as a product of perceived sex differences in competence. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 50:341-7.
- Ridgeway, C., J. Berger, and L. Smith. 1985. Nonverbal cues and status: an expectation states account. *American Journal of Sociology* 90:955-78.

Ridgeway, C. 1987. Nonverbal behavior, dominance, and the basis of status in task groups. *American Sociological Review* 52:683-94.

Carli, Linda. 1995. "Nonverbal behavior, gender, and influence." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 68:1030-1041.

*Ridgeway, C. and L. Smith-Lovin. 1999. The gender system and interaction. *Annual Review of Sociology* 25:191-216.

Sept. 22 no class

Sept. 29 C. Status and Legitimacy

Meeker, B. and Weitzel O'Neill. 1977. Sex roles and interpersonal behavior. *American Sociological Review* 42:92-105.

Ridgeway, C. and J. Berger. 1986. Expectations, legitimation and dominance in task groups. *American Sociological Review* 51:603-17.

Ridgeway, C., C. Johnson, D. Diekema. 1994. External status, legitimacy, and compliance in male and female groups. *Social Forces* 72:1051-1077.

Hysom, Stuart. 2009. "Status Valued Goal Objects and Performance Expectations." *Social Forces* 87:1623-1648.

*Berger, Joseph, Cecilia L. Ridgeway, M. Hamit Fisek, and Robert Z. Norman. 1998. "The Legitimation and Delegitimation of Power and Prestige Orders." *American Sociological Review* 63:379-405.

*Berger, J. and M. Webster Jr. 2006. Expectations, Status, and Behavior. Pp. 268-300 in *Contemporary Social Psychological Theories* edited by Peter J. Burke. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Oct. 6 D. Status and Legitimacy Processes in Organizations

Owen-Smith, Jason. 2001. Managing Scientific Laboratory Work Through Skepticism. *American Sociological Review* 66:427-452.

Lucas, Jeffrey N. 2003. Status Processes and the Institutionalization of Women as Leaders. *American Sociological Review* 68:464-480.

Correll, Shelley J. 2004. Gender, Status and Emerging Career Aspirations. *American Sociological Review* 69:93-113.

Roscigno, Vincent J., Steven H. Lopez, and Randy Hodson. 2009. "Supervisory Bullying, Status Inequalities and Organizational Context." *Social Forces* 87:1561-1588.

Ridgeway, Cecilia. 1997. "Interaction and the Conservation of Gender Inequality." *American Sociological Review* 62:218-235.

Oct. 13 F. Origin of Status Characteristics

Ridgeway, C. L. 1991. The social construction of status value: gender and other nominal characteristics. *Social Forces* 70:367-386.

Ridgeway, C. L. and K. G. Erickson. 2000. Creating and spreading status beliefs. *American Journal of Sociology* 106:579-615.

Ridgeway, C. L., K. Bachor, Y.E. Li, J.E. Tinkler, and K. G. Erickson. "How Easily Does a Social Difference Become a Status Distinction?" 2009. *American Sociological Review*. 74:44-62.

*Ridgeway, C. 2006. Status Construction Theory. Pp. 301-323 in *Contemporary Social Psychological Theories*, edited by Peter J. Burke. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Oct. 20 G. Status, Legitimacy, Race, and Ethnicity

Brezina, Timothy and Kenisha Winder. 2003. Economic Disadvantage: Status Generalization, and Negative Racial Stereotyping by White Americans. *Social Psychology Quarterly* 66:402-418.

Hochschild, Jennifer L. and Vesla Weaver. 2007. "The Skin Color Paradox and the American Racial Order." *Social Forces* 86:643-670.

Frank, Reanne, Ilana Redstone Akresh, and Bo Lu. 2010. "Latino immigrants and the U.S. Racial Order: How and Where do They Fit In?" *American Sociological Review* 378-401.

II. Framing the issue: Conceptions and Theories of Power and Legitimacy

Oct. 27 1. Individual-Based Power

French, J. and Raven. 1959. The basis of social power. Pp. 150-67 in *Studies in Social Power*, edited by Cartwright. Ann arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.

2. Relational Dependence Power

Emerson, R. 1962. Power-dependence relations. *American Sociological Review* 27:31-40.

3. Legitimate Forms of Power

Zelditch, M. and H. Walker. 1984. Legitimacy and the stability of authority. *Advances in Group Processes* 1:1-25.

4. Power in Organizations

Kanter, R.M. 1977. Power. Pp. 164-205 in *Men and Women in the Corporation*. New York: Basic Books.

Nov. 3

B. Social Exchange Networks

Johnson, Cathryn, Rebecca Ford, and Joanne Kaufman. 2000. "Emotional reactions to conflict: Do dependence and legitimacy matter?" *Social Forces* 79:107-137.

Emerson, R. 1972. Exchange theory, Part II: Exchange relations and networks. Pp. 58-87 in *Sociological Theories in Progress*, Vol. 2, edited by Berger, Zelditch and Anderson. Boston: Houghton-Mifflin.

Cook, K. and R. Emerson. 1978. Power, equity and commitment of reward and punishment power. *Social Psychology Quarterly* 51:108-122.

Kollock, P. 1994. The emergence of exchange structures: an experimental study of uncertainty, commitment, and trust. *American Journal of Sociology* 100:315-45.

Kuwabara, Ko, Robb Willer, Michael W. Macy, Rie Mashima, Shigeru Teraai, and Toshio Yamagishi. 2007. "Culture, Identity, and Structure in Social Exchange: A Web-based Trust Experiment in the United States and Japan." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 461-479.

*Yamagishi, T., M. Gillmore and K. Cook. 1988. Network connections and the distribution of power in exchange networks. *American Journal of Sociology* 93:833-51.

Nov. 10

C. Exchange Network Extensions

Lawler, Edward J. 2001. An affect theory of social exchange. *American Journal of Sociology* 107:321-352.

Lawler, Edward J., Shane R. Thye, and Jeongkoo Yoon. 2008. "Social Exchange and Micro Social Order." *American Sociological Review* 73:519-542.

Molm, L., N. Takahashi, and G. Peterson. 2000. Risk and trust in social exchange: An experimental test of a classical proposition. *American Journal of Sociology* 105:1396-1427.

Molm, L., J. Collett, and D. Schaefer. 2007. Building solidarity through generalized exchange: A Theory of Reciprocity. *American Journal of Sociology* 113:205-242.

*Molm, Linda M. 2006. The Social Exchange Network. Pp. 24-45 in *Contemporary Social Psychological Theories*, edited by Peter J. Burke. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

*Lawler, Edward J. 2006. The Affect Theory of Social Exchange. 2006. Pp. 244-267 in *Contemporary Social Psychological Theories*, edited by Peter J. Burke. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

November 17 D. Status, Power, and Legitimacy

Thye, Shane R. 2000. "A status value theory of power in exchange relations." *American Sociological Review* 65:407-432.

Thye, Shane R., David Willer, and Barry Markovskyy. 2006. "From Status to Power: New Models at the Intersection of Two Theories." *Social Forces* 84:1471-1495.

Johnson, C., T.J. Dowd, and C.L. Ridgeway. "Legitimacy as a Social Process." *Annual Review of Sociology* 32:53-78.

Johnson, C. 1994. Gender, legitimate authority, and leader-subordinate conversations. *American Sociological Review* 59:122-35.

Piven, Frances Fox. 2007. Can power from below change the world? 2007 ASA Presidential Address. *American Sociological Review* 73:1-14.

*Correll, Shelley J. And Cecilia L. Ridgeway. 2003. Expectation States Theory. Pp. 29-52 in *Handbook of Social Psychology*, edited by John Delamater. New York: KluwerAcademic/Plenum Publishers.. (For Review)

*Cook, Karen S. And Eric Rice. 2003. Social Exchange Theory. Pp. 53-76 in *Handbook of Social Psychology*, edited by John Delamater. New York: KluwerAcademic/Plenum Publishers.. (For Review)

*Zelditch, Morris Jr. 2006. Legitimacy Theory. Pp. 324-352 in *Contemporary Social Psychological Theories*, edited by Peter J. Burke. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Nov. 25 Thanksgiving

Dec. 1 Discussion of Paper Drafts/Wrap-up

Dec.10 FINAL PAPERS/ESSAY DUE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, BY 5:00 P.M.