Economic Sociology

Sociology 587
Fall 2013
Building/room: S Sci 415
Meeting Time: Tues/Thur, 3:30-4:45

Professor Jeff Sallaz
Office: S Sci 439A
jsallaz@email.arizona.edu
Office Hours: Friday 1:30-3:30

Overview
The purpose of this course is to introduce graduate students to economic sociology, the sociological study of economic life.
Requirements
50% Participation
Student will give a short statement and/or pose a question on Tuesday of each week. In addition, students will (in pairs) lead discussion on one Thursday.

50% Term Paper
This could be a theory piece (comparing two traditions, interrogating a paradigm, etc); it could propose an empirical study; or it could write up research undertaken previously or during the semester.

Readings to acquire through barter, purchase, loan, etc.
• Polanyi, Karl. The Great Transformation. (any version).

There, there it is again—the invisible hand of the marketplace giving us the finger.
Calendar

INTRODUCTION
Week 1
Tues, Aug 27 : Course overview.
Thur, Aug 29 :
  • Accounts: ASA Economic Sociology Newsletter. 2013. 12(3). (D2L)

FOUNDATIONS
Week 2: Economic Anthropology I: Theoretical Debates
Tues, Sept 3; Thur, Sept 5:
  • Adam Smith. 1776. The Wealth of Nations, Book 1, Ch 1-2. (D2L)

Week 3: Economic Anthropology II: Empirical Evidence
Tues, Sept 10; Thur, Sept 12:
  • Geertz, Clifford. “The Bazaar Economy” in TSOEL.
  • Polanyi, Karl. “The Economy as Instituted Process” in TSOEL.
  • Bourdieu, Pierre. Outline of a Theory of Practice. Pp. 3-9 (D2L)

Week 4: The Emergence of Market Society
Tues, Sept 17; Thur, Sept 19:
  • Collins, Randall “Weber’s Last Theory of Capitalism: A Systematization” in TSOEL.
  • Polanyi, Karl. 1957. The Great Transformation. Ch 3, 5, 6, 12, & 13

Week 5: An Economic Sociology of Economics
Tues, Sept 24; Thur, Sept 26:
  * Fourcade, Marion. 2010. Economists and Societies.
THREE RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

Week 6: Markets as Culture
Tues, Oct 1; Thur, Oct 3:

Week 7: Markets as Politics
Tues, Oct 8; Thur, Oct 10:
  • Fligstein, Neil and Adam Goldstein. “The Anatomy of the Mortgage Securitization Crisis.” (D2L)

Week 8: Markets as Networks (Embeddedness)
Tues, Oct 15; Thur, Oct 17:
  • Granovetter, Mark. “Economic Action and Social Structure” in TSOEL.
  • Macaulay, Stewart. “Non-Contractual Relations in Business” TSOEL.
  • Uzzi, Brian. “Social Structure and Competition in Interfirm Networks: The Paradox of Embeddedness” in TSOEL.
  • Saxenian, AnnaLee. “Inside-Out: Regional Networks and Industrial Adaptation in Silicon Valley and Route 128” in TSOEL.

FOUR THEORETICAL CONCEPTS

Week 9: Governance
Tues, Oct 22; Thur, Oct 24:
  • Dobbin, Frank. "Why the Economy Reflects the Polity: Early Rail Policy in Britain, France and the United States” in TSOEL.

Week 10: Commensuration.
Tues, Oct 29; Thur, Oct 31:
  • Aspers, Patrik and Jens Beckert. “Value in Markets.” Ch. 1 in *The Worth of Goods*.
  • Fourcade, Marion. “Price and Prejudice.” Ch. 2 in *The Worth of Goods*.
  • Mears, Ashley. “Pricing Looks: Circuits of Value in Fashion Modeling Markets.” Ch. 7 in *The Worth of Goods*. 
Week 11: Financialization  
*Tues, Nov 5; Thur, Nov 7:*
- Carruthers, Bruce. “What is Sociological about Banks and Banking?” in TSOEL.

Week 12: Contested Commodification  
*Tues, Nov 12; Thur, Nov 14:*

THREE FOLK CONCEPTS  
Week 13: Selling  
*Tues, Nov 19; Thur, Nov 21:*

Week 14: Working  
*Tues, Nov 26; No class Thur Nov 28 (Tofurkey Day)*

Week 15: Consuming  
*Tues Dec 3; Thur, Dec 5:

Week 16  
*Tues, Dec 10: Course wrap-up  
Friday, Dec 13: Final Paper Due by 5pm.*