

**Sociology 122  
Social Change  
UC-Riverside  
Spring 2013  
9.40-11.00 TR, Watkins 1000**

**Professor:** Professor Stephen Sanderson

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**Office Hours:** MTW, 2:00-3:00

***Reading Materials:***

**Required**

Stephen K. Sanderson, "Social Change." In *21<sup>st</sup>-Century Sociology: A Reference Handbook*, pp. 560-68. PDF file on iLearn.

Stephen K. Sanderson, *Human Nature and the Evolution of Society* (HNES) (forthcoming book, brief selections totaling 36 pages) PDF file on iLearn

Stephen K. Sanderson, "Civilizational Approaches to World-Historical Change." In *Civilizations and World-Systems*, pp. 15-21. PDF file on iLearn

Stephen K. Sanderson, *Revolutions: A Worldwide Introduction to Social and Political Contention*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boulder, CO: Paradigm Publishers, 2010. Buy at Bookstore

Jared Diamond, *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*. Viking, 2005. Buy at Bookstore

**Optional**

Stephen K. Sanderson and Arthur S. Alderson, *World Societies: The Evolution of Human Social Life*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 2005. Chapters 10 and 11 only. PDF file on iLearn. Read only if you choose to take the bonus exam.

## ***Exams***

There will be four exams, the final included. These will consist of multiple-choice and true-false questions. Each exam counts 100 points, for a total of 400 points.

On the day of the final exam, I will also give a bonus exam for extra points if you choose to take it. It will contain about 20 to 25 questions worth one point each. These questions will be drawn from Chapter 6 of *Revolutions* and Chapters 10 and 11 of *World Societies*, which will not be covered in class. Obviously the bonus test is optional.

## ***Critical Paper***

The book *Collapse* is to be used for a critical paper. Your paper is to be 3,000 words in length. Spend about half of your time summarizing the main ideas in the book, and then the other half providing your own reaction to it. Do you agree or disagree with the author? Why or why not? You can't just give personal opinions; you have to back them up with evidence and argument. It doesn't matter whether you agree or disagree with Diamond.

Your paper will be graded by one of our graduate student assistants. He will judge your paper on how well it develops the relevant ideas, not on the point of view you take. If you have additional questions, see the assistant.

I will give out a list of questions to help guide your thinking on *Collapse*. This will occur on the 10<sup>th</sup> class meeting during the discussion of this book.

## ***Grading***

Your grade is based on 400 points for the 4 exams and 100 points for the critical paper, for a total of 500 points. At the end of the quarter I total up your points, determine your final percentage, and assign your grade based on the following scale:

A+ = 95% and above

A = 88-94.9

A- = 85-87.9

B+ = 82-84.9

B = 78-81.9

B- 75-77.9

C+ = 72-74.9

C = 68-71.9  
C- = 65-67.9  
D+ = 62-64.9  
D = 54-61.9  
D- = 50-53.9  
F = 49.9 and below

### **Course Outline and Reading Assignments**

**1/ Course introduction; types of social change (Sanderson, "Social Change")**

**2/ Social Evolution: Theories**

**3/ Social Evolution: The Neolithic Revolution (Sanderson, HNES, pp. 1-15)**

**4/ Social Evolution: The Rise of Civilizations and States (Sanderson, HNES, pp. 15-22)**

**5/ Social Evolution: The Rise of the Modern World (Sanderson, HNES, pp. 23-32)**

**6/ Exam 1**

**7/ Cyclical Change (Sanderson, "Civilizational Approaches to World-Historical Change")**

**8/ Societal Collapse**

**9/ Societal Collapse (cont'd)**

**10/ Societal Collapse (discussion of Diamond)**

**11/ Exam 2**

**12/ Social Movements: Their Nature, and the Women's Movement**

**13/ Social Movements: Civil Rights and Anti-Apartheid Movements**

**14/ Social Movements: Terrorist Movements (*Revolutions*, ch. 8)**

**15/ Exam 3**

**16/Revolutions: France, Russia, and China (*Revolutions*, chs. 1 and 2)**

**17/Revolutions: Cuba, Iran, and Nicaragua (*Revolutions*, ch. 3)**

**18/Revolutions: Theories (*Revolutions*, ch. 4)**

**19/Revolutions: Theories (*Revolutions*, ch. 5)**

**20/Revolutions: Outcomes (*Revolutions*, ch. 7)**

**Final exam during finals week**

**Optional bonus exam based on Chapters 10 and 11 of Sanderson and Alderson, *World Societies*.**