Dear Students,

Have you ever wondered about the underlying reasons of who gets what and why? What does social inequality in the U.S. look like? Consider learning about social inequality in an interactive class this summer. During this ongoing global economic recession, it is especially salient for us to understanding the social and economic disparities we face. This summer session II course will be held M-F 1:15-2:45.

Best wishes,

Cheryl Roberts

**SOCI/MNGT 412 – Social Stratification**  
**Summer II, 2013**

M-F, 1:15-2:45  
Instructor: Cheryl Roberts  
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**Course Overview:**

The current economic crisis has brought more attention to the fact that economic inequalities have increased in the United States and many other countries during the last thirty to forty years. Does economic inequality matter in a free market economy, such as the U.S.? What does inequality in the U.S. look like? Is the U.S. a classless society or not? How likely is it that someone born poor in the U.S. will move up the economic ladder? Why do people in higher socioeconomic positions live longer than others?

In this course, we will learn about systems of inequality, including theories of stratification, types of inequality, processes generating inequality, and consequences of inequality. We will learn about theories of class, gender, and raced based stratification, as well as empirical research that examines these theories. This course focuses on inequality in the U.S., but we will also compare inequality in the U.S. today with other countries around the world. This interactive and hands-on class will give you tools to increase your awareness and understanding of stratification in human societies. You will also be able to critically examine and discuss processes that produce and maintain social inequalities.