Note to students: This is a suggested reading list, surely too large and inclusive for all, but meant to provide a strong foundation from which to choose. A good reader, if you want general graduate-level overviews of the sociological study of stratification, good places to look are David Grusky’s edited volume: *Social Stratification – Class, Race, and Gender in Sociological Perspective* (Boulder, CO: Westview) and Annette Lareau and Dalton Conley, eds., *Social Class: How Does It Work?* (New York: Russell Sage Foundation). Class).

**Theories of Class and Stratification**

Marx, Karl. “Manifesto of the Communist Party” in The Marx-Engels Reader. 28 pages

Marx, Karl. 1847. The Poverty of Philosophy (selections)

Marx, Karl. The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte. (selections)


______________. 1996. Class Counts

Wallerstein, Immanuel. Class Conflict in the Capitalist World Economy


______________. Economy and Society, esp. sections on social closure.


Frank Parkin, Marxism and Class Theory: A Bourgeois Critique

Lareau and Conley, eds., Social Class (reader, RSF)


**Occupational Prestige and Measures of SES**


Hauser, Robert and John Robert Warren. Socioeconomic Indexes for Occupations: A Review, Update and Critique

**Status Attainment and Social Mobility**

McLeod, Jay. 1995. Ain’t No Makin’ It: Aspirations and Attainment in a Low Income Neighborhood. Westview Press. (2nd Edition). There may be a third edition too. This work is perhaps most important for its theoretical introduction etc.


Herrnstein, Richard J. and Charles Murray. 1996. The Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class Structure in American Life


**Ruling Class/Elites/Upper Class**


Fred Block, Revising State Theory (stresses role of state managers as a part of class domination)

**Class Boundaries and the Middle Class**

Mills, White Collar

Poulantzas, Classes in Contemporary Capitalism (chapters on the new petty bourgeoisie)


**The Salience and Reproduction of Class Relations**


**Poverty and the Underclass**


Wilson, ed. The Urban Underclass

Eli Anderson, Code of the Street

Note that there is critical literature on this concept of the underclass. Good to approach the concept critically. See 2002 exchange in AJS betw Wacquant and co.

**Race/Ethnicity**

Wilson, William Julius. The Declining Significance of Race: Blacks and Changing American Institutions


David Roediger, The Wages of Whiteness.

Noel Ignatieff, How the Irish Became White.


Intersectionality


Labor Markets and Economic Inequality


**Class, Culture, and Consciousness**


Sigelman and Welch. *Black Americans’ Views of Racial Inequality*. 
