

## Sociology 3251 W: Race, Class, and Gender Journal Assignments

**Length:** These journals should be approximately 1-3 pages in length, typed, and double spaced.

**Directions:** Below I provide questions for each journal. You should answer the question in your writing by utilizing class readings and material and provide your own analysis and insight. The goal of the journals is for you to have a place to critically think and reflect upon class materials. I do not want a summary, but instead show analytical and critical thinking. If you have questions, please see me.

**Grading:** The journals are worth up to 3 points. They will be graded as follows:

5 points: Outstanding; Completely answers the question; Utilizes and integrates class material; Excellent insight. Exemplifies critical thinking.

4 points: Good; Answers the question and utilizes class material. Average insight. Shows critical thinking.

3 points: Average; Answers the questions. Lacks critical thinking.

2 points: Poor job; Attempts to answer the question, but does not completely. Summarizes rather than providing critical thinking and insight.

1 point: Terrible job; Does not answer question.

0 points: Does not do assignment.

### The Journal Assignments

J#	Date due	Question
1	R 6/16	How do you define power and agency? What's the balance between them? In answering these questions, think about the following questions: What affect does power and agency have on social problems related to R,C,&G? What are the risks and benefits of assigning power labels to groups?
2	R 6/23	Why do you think racism exists? How do we as a society alleviate racism? Think about the following terms: types of racism; power; privilege; social constructions; government
3	R 6/30	How does class shape/affect American society? How does it shape/affect individuals' lives? (You may use yourself as

		an example for the latter question).
4	R 7/7	a) Define Gender. In your answer think about the following questions and terms: essentialism; intersectionality; sex and biology. b) Utilizing your answer for a, what are the problems of organizing around gender
5	T 7/12	Explain how examining race, class, gender, and sexuality debunks the “traditional family” myth. Discuss the power that is embedded within this myth. (if you want, you can use your own family or another family you know as an example).
6	T 7/19	What is a similar problem across both articles (“We’d Love to Hire Them” and “The Glass Escalator”). What solutions do you pose in relation to both articles?
7	T 7/26	Analyze a television show ( a sitcom or a “reality” show). What race, class, and gender images do they portray? Are they accurate? Why or why not?
8	T 8/2	Details of this journal will be handed out in class