Sociology of Gender: M.A. level exam

Spring 2017

You have 3 hours. When you have finished the exam, email it to yourself, Susan Miller (slmiller@udel.edu), and Deanna Nardi (dgurcz@udel.edu) and return the USB and laptop to Linda or Deanna.

Answer TWO of the following questions:

- 1. Sociologists conceptualize and use gender in many different ways. For some analysts, gender is a dichotomous variable to be included in quantitative analysis. For others, gender is produced and maintained through interactional/relational processes. Others conceptualize and deploy gender in alternative ways. Please select three different ways sociologists conceptualize gender and present examples from the readings that illustrate these different approaches. For each type of gender conceptualization, discuss its strengths and limitations for producing sociological insights.
- 2. "Doing gender" has long been a dominant theory in the sociology of gender. For this question, discuss the theory of "Doing Gender" by addressing the following four points:
- (a) Review the major concepts of the theory.
- (b) Discuss how the theory has been applied in two of the following areas: crime, health, or sexuality.
- (c) Discuss the theory's strengths and limitations.
- (d) Address the question of whether or not it is possible to "undo gender."
- 3. Intersectional feminists argue that conventional understandings of gender are narrow because they almost always build from the experiences of white, middle class, heterosexual women. Explain this critique through reviewing feminist scholarship on <u>two</u> of the following areas: Family, Violence, Work.
- 4. Imagine that you had to give a lecture on "the construction of the gendered subject/self" to an audience of fellow graduate students. The members of the audience are interested, but have not read the important psychoanalytical, symbolic interactionist, and postmodern/post-structuralist works with which you are now familiar. What would you say to them in your lecture?