

Soc 100 Spring 2018 Essay 2  
The Sociological Imagination and Social Change  
Due May 10, 5pm in turnitin (in your section mycourses folder) only

In this second section of the course we have examining how common personal experiences and problems are underpinned by larger social and global contexts. Individual problems are, in brief, often rooted in global social problems. Week by week we have approached different topics with this in mind. This global sociological comprehension illuminates common difficulties and, often, provides paths and possibilities for social change.

Use one the following topics to write a 4 to 5 page paper that demonstrates how individuals are “trapped” by larger social structures.

- Urbanization (e.g. segregation/gentrification)
- Tourism across national, racial or gender boundaries
- Criminal In/Justice (mass incarceration/policing, reform)

Advice:

- Focus on only one topic.
- Integrate long-term (e.g. historical) or large-scale (e.g. global) analysis across racial/class/gender boundaries with common personal experiences as relevant.
- Pull in lecture and readings in relation to your topic. Use at least four course readings, including one main, longer reading.

No additional research or citation beyond course materials is required, expected, or credited. You may bring in, if necessary for your argument, one external, supporting reading (this should not be the focus of the paper).

Paper Format: 4-5 double-spaced pages, one-inch margins, a standard font (Calibri, Arial or Times Roman), size 12. Use either footnotes or in-text citations and bibliography to indicate sources; in either case list author, title, and where possible page of a citation (the syllabus does not provide full citations, so your references may be limited to author and title (and no page if a web site but provide the hyperlink)). Be very careful not to plagiarize—and this includes patch-writing, i.e. the use of multiple small snippets of text from multiple sources. Papers with be checked for plagiarism.