My areas of preparation for general examinations are Cultural Sociology with Professor Michèle Lamont (chair of my generals committee), Sociology of Organizations with Professor Frank Dobbin, and Russia and Central Asia in Comparative Perspective with Professor Gilbert Rozman. The contract includes a reading list for each area of preparation and brief summaries of my two empirical papers.

### Pre-Generals Coursework

**Theory**
- SOC 501 Classical Sociological Theory Prof. Walter Wallace
- SOC 502 Contemporary Sociological Theory Prof. Michèle Lamont
- SOC 704 Reading Course in Sociological Theory Prof. Robert Wuthnow

**Methods**
- SOC 503 Techniques and Methods of Social Science Prof. Alejandro Portes
- SOC 504 Social Statistics Prof. Bruce Western
- SOC 530x Introduction to Methods of Network Analysis Prof. Peter Marsden
- SOC 550 Research Seminar in Empirical Investigation Prof. Frank Dobbin
- WWS 507b Quantitative Analysis (Basic) Prof. Mark Watson

**Cultural Sociology**
- SOC 530w Selected Topics in Social Processes: Sociology of Culture Prof. Paul DiMaggio
- SOC 702 Reading Course in Cultural Sociology Prof. Michèle Lamont
Attended the Culture and Inequality Workshop

**Sociology of Organizations**
- SOC 530a Selected Topics in Social Processes: Complex Organizations Prof. Frank Dobbin
- SOC 530y Selected Topics in Social Processes: Social Organization Prof. Frank Dobbin
Attended the JOIE Economic Sociology Workshop

**Russia and Central Asia in Comparative Perspective**
- SOC 560 Research Seminar in Comparative Studies Prof. Gilbert Rozman
- HIS 559 Soviet Empire and Successor States Prof. Stephen Kotkin

**Other Relevant Courses**
- SOC 510s Political Sociology of the Advanced Societies Prof. Paul Starr
- SOC 520p Selected Topics in Social Institutions: Economic Sociology Prof. Viviana Zelizer
- SOC 707 Reading Course in Economic Sociology Prof. Viviana Zelizer

**Language Proficiency**
Examined and passed in French by Prof. Michèle Lamont in June 2000.
Pre-Generals Papers

1. "Gender, Residence, and Housework in the 1990s' Russia."

Readers: Frank Dobbin (empirical seminar) and Sara Curran.

The study draws on the 1994 round of the Russia Longitudinal Monitoring Survey to investigate the effect of rural-urban residence on Russian men’s and women’s housework time. Regression analysis reveals that Russian women and men’s performance of domestic labor is influenced by residence in dissimilar ways: urban and rural women spend the same amount of time doing housework, while urban men spend significantly more time on it than rural men do. I suggest one explanation for the difference in men’s hours of housework: the erosion of the symbolic status of urban Russian men. Russians’ housework time is also found to be influenced by time commitments outside home (paid employment), education, personal (age, marital status) and household (the presence of children and female adults) characteristics, with the effects varying by gender.

The paper has been accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association in Anaheim, California, in August 2001.


Readers: Miguel Centeno and Paul DiMaggio

Guided by neoinstitutional organizational theory and historical research on foundations, this study (1) develops a theoretical framework for analyzing the organizational profile of recipients of foundation grants, and (2) examines the peace grantmaking of large U.S. foundations in 1988-1996 using this framework. Legitimacy concerns underlie foundation giving. As foundations confer legitimacy on causes and organizations they fund, they also seek to gain legitimacy from causes and organizations they fund. Elite recipients of grants - with which foundations are most isomorphic - play the latter function, while foundations’ authority in conferring legitimacy is prominent vis-à-vis non-elite organizations, particularly social movements which often seek to mobilize foundation support. The study assesses the size and general characteristics of peace grantmaking; compares the relative shares of peace funding attracted by elite institutions, social movement and other organizations; analyzes the differences in funding patterns between four major peace funders and other foundations; and examines foundations’ response to the end of the Cold War. The paper discusses how the patterns of foundation peace grantmaking have to do with the relationship between the U.S. nonprofit sector and the state, and suggests that this relationship needs to be studied further.

The paper has been accepted for presentation at the 7th Researching the Voluntary Sector Conference of the British National Council for Voluntary Organisations in London, UK, in September 2001.

Precepted Courses

SOC 201 American Society and Politics
SOC 250 The Western Way of War

Prof. James Jasper
Prof. Miguel Centeno
I. READING LIST IN CULTURAL SOCIOLOGY

Theory and Method

a. Classical


b. Contemporary


**Production of Culture, and Consumption/Reception**


**Inequality**


**Meaning-Making, and Micro-Sociology of Culture**


**Identity, Politics, and Culture**


Comparative Cultural Sociology


Cultural Sociology and Civil Society


II. READING LIST IN SOCIOLOGY OF ORGANIZATIONS

General Review


Classical


Marxism On the Division of Labor and Control


Rationalization and the Evolution of the Modern Corporation


**National Institutions and the Corporation**


**Natural System Approaches: The Carnegie School and Human Relations**


**Contingency Theory and Resource Dependence**


**Network Theory**


**Population Ecology**


**Institutionalism**


Labor Markets and Stratification


Philanthropic Foundations and Other Nonprofit Organizations


III. READING LIST ON RUSSIA AND CENTRAL ASIA IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

I. States and Revolutions: General Overview

1. State in Historical and Comparative Perspective


2. Developmental State

3. Totalitarian State

4. State and Modernization

5. Revolutions in Comparative Perspective


Skocpol, Theda. 1979. States and Social Revolutions: A Comparative Analysis of France, Russia, and China. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

II. The Bolshevik Revolution and the Creation of the Soviet State

6. General Overview of the Bolshevik Revolution

7. The Spread of the Revolution and the Emergence of the Soviet State


8. The Building of the Soviet State at the Periphery


III. The Soviet State and Society


10. Soviet Industrial Policy in Central Asia

11. Education (Language) Policy

12. Post-War Changes at Home

13. Post-War Relations with the Eastern Block

14. Post-War Relations with Japan

15. Nationality Problems in the Soviet Union


16. Social Contract


17. Poverty

18. Daily Life


19. Gender Inequality in the Soviet Union
20. Gender and Rural-Urban Inequality

IV. Post-Soviet Transition
21. Origins of the Reform


22. The Demise of Communism


23. Political Power: Continuity or Change?

24. Social and Economic Aspects of Transition in Russia and Central Asia


25. The Demise of the Soviet Union

26. Post-Soviet States and Nations


27. Gender and Transition