In this course we explore the relationship between individuals and community and how each interacts to “create” the other. The process involves shaping their respective identities and community cohesiveness. We concentrate on understanding theories of the formation of individual “selves” and community by working to understand theoretical explanations of the social and political forces that create differentiation as well as communal experiences based on race, ethnicity, class, and gender. We then consider these theories in relation to “real world” communities and those located in virtual space (the internet) and weigh their similarities relative to how they operate and impact social cohesion, feelings of belongingness, and sense of one’s self. For example, for race and ethnicity, the subtitle one book we read, *The Cosmopolitan Canopy*, is “race and civility in everyday life; for class and ethnicity, the subtitle of a second book, *Ain’t No Makin’ It*, is “aspirations and attainment in a low-income neighborhood”; for dynamics relating to “virtual” communities and gender are explored in readings on women’s online communities and on harassment of women in the online community of gamers.

We also have four field undertakings, three designed to explore and apply our readings to St Louis and an internet community. The fourth is to attend the Washington University Powwow, held on Saturday, April 20th.

**Requirements:** One mid-term exam; a final paper, and four field expeditions with writeups. Attendance and participation (5%).

**Contact Info:**
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Office Hours: Tuesday 12:00-1:45
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**Twitter:** For those interested news I am reading that relate to my classes you can check in with ProfDarnell on twitter (it is an open account and you can read the feed without signing in—search “a darnell @profadarnell twitter” on google and I come up in the first hits).

**Books on order in the bookstore:**
Approximate Reading Schedule.
All reading due the day it appears on the schedule

Week 1: Jan 14-16

Mon: Introduction—no readings.
Wed: Conceptualizing Community: Kasarda and Janowitz, “Community Attachment in Mass Society,” pp. 328-332 and
Renninger & Shumar, “On Conceptualizing Community” (both on CANVAS).
Some practical considerations on field work: Elijah Anderson: “Jelly’s Place: An Ethnographic Memoir” (CANVAS).

Week 2: Jan 21-23—Conceptualizing Community

Mon: MLK Day—No class

Week 3: Jan 28-31—An Urban Community (or CommunitieS): Philadelphia and a Cosmopolitan Experience

Mon: Anderson: The Cosmopolitan Canopy, Ch’s 1-3.
Wed: Anderson, The Cosmopolitan Canopy, Ch 4, 5, & 7
Fri: Assignment #1 Due

Week 4: Feb 4-6—Theorizing the Social Foundations of Community and their Physical Manifestations

Mon: Networks plus strong & weak ties: Granovetter: “The Strength of Weak Ties” (CANVAS).
Wed: Berger & Luckman, Excerpt from The Social Construction of Reality
Dick Hebdige, Subculture: the Meaning of Style, “Introduction” & Chapter 1, pages 1-19 (both on CANVAS)

Week 5: Feb 11-14—Theorizing the social foundations of individual identitieS

Mon: George Herbert Mead: “Self.” (CANVAS).
Week 6: Feb 18-20—Individual, Community, and Change

Mon: McCleod, Ain’t No Makin’ It, Chapters 1-6
Wed: McCleod, Ain’t No Makin’ It, Chapters 11-14
Fri: Assignment 2 due

Week 7: Feb 25-27

Mon: Review + reading to be assigned.
Wed: MID TERM EXAM (Take home, essays)

Week 8: March 4-6 Virtual Communities

Lessig, Code V2, Ch. 2, “Four Puzzles from Cyberspace” (pp. 9-28)
(both on CANVAS).
Wed: Three Virtual Communities: (1) Fandom, (2) The Alt Right, and
(3) suggestions? Readings on CANVAS.

Week 9: March 11-17

SPRING BREAK

Week 10: March 18-20—Virtual Communities Continued

Mon: Three Virtual Communities Continued. Progress & update on Assignment 3
Wed: Progress & update on Assignment 3; Reading to be assigned.

Week 11: March 25-27: Order, Control, and Authority.

Mon: Weber: Class, Status, and Party” and “Types of Authority” (CANVAS).
Wed: DOJ Investigation of Ferguson (CANVAS).
Fri: Assignment #3 on Virtual Communities due.

Week 12: 1-3 Community and Gender Roles

Wed: TBA
Week 13: 8-10 The Dis-functional Community: Alienation, Anomie, and Anomic Society

Mon: Durkheim on Anomie excerpts (CANVAS) & Marx on “Estranged Labour” (or Alienation) Excerpt (CANVAS).


Mon: Remaking and Maintaining Community—Issues of authenticity: Canada’s Inuit (on CANVAS); Ethnic Communities in the US (CANVAS); return to Cohen: symbolic boundaries, oppositional forces, identity. Essay guidelines handed out.
Wed: The Powwow as a Public Arena for Negotiating Unity and Diversity in American Indian Life” (CANVAS) + read links on www.buder.wustl.edu/Events/Pages/PowWow.aspx.


Week 15: April 22-24

Mon: Discuss Powwow. Authenticity revisited—“Who Get’s To Choose Who is Native American.”
Wed: Reading TBA
Fri: Short essay on Pow Wow due. Last Day of Classes.

Final Paper for Class, Due Noon, May 1, 2019.