

Sociology/Rural Sociology 985
Research: Sociology of Environment, Technology, and Agrofood Systems

The “SociETAS” Seminar

Fall Semester, 2005

Faculty Coordinator: Michael Bell (michaelbell@wisc.edu)

Fridays, 1:30-2:40pm 354 Ag Hall

Purpose

The SociETAS Training Seminar is offered each semester to provide opportunities for graduate student/faculty interchange on topics relating to environment, technology, and agrofood systems.

Format

We aim to make the SociETAS seminar a lively intellectual forum as well as a supportive environment in which students and faculty—primarily from Sociology and Rural Sociology, but from across campus as well—can present their work. Students and faculty members interested in presenting their work should speak to me. As well, we will have occasional outside speakers. Plus SociETAS is integrated with the new rural sociology departmental seminar series, and four sessions each semester are devoted to that.

Talks presented in the seminar should be in the neighborhood of twenty minutes long and certainly no long than thirty minutes. Each presenter should provide an abstract of her/his talk one week prior to presentation, and ideally a paper. Attendees are encouraged to read papers, but presenters should not assume that all participants will have done so.

We also will be having panel discussions and other formats for sessions. If you have an idea for a session, please contact the SociETAS coordinating committee. And if you are interested in helping out with the committee some semester, please come forward with your name.

Who Should Participate in the SociETAS Training Seminar?

All graduate students and faculty interested in environment, technology, and agrofood systems are warmly invited to participate. The seminar affords an opportunity for entering students to become acquainted with ongoing research on SociETAS topics and for more senior students to present their work. Presentation of research being undertaken for masters theses, dissertations, conference papers, journal articles, and books is appropriate for this forum. Practice job talks are also welcome. In addition to work in the social and cultural study of SociETAS topics, we encourage presentations on natural science topics related to the interests of seminar participants.

Requirements for Enrolled Students

Students who are responsibly regular participants in the seminar usually enroll for one credit. As we will be meeting weekly, you may receive one credit for this seminar if you attend three-fourths of our sessions. Students making a presentation to the seminar or who organize a discussion of a reading may take the seminar for two credits, assuming that they also attend two thirds of weekly seminar meetings. Students who wish to receive three credits for the seminar must attend at least three-fourths of the sessions, make a presentation, and submit a paper on a SociETAS topic of approximately twenty pages in length. However, enrolling for three credits is not encouraged. If you think you have a good reason for doing so, please contact Mike Bell. Also, ordinarily the seminar is not graded on an A-B-C basis. Again, if you think you have good reason for being graded on an A-B-C basis, please contact Mike Bell.

SociETAS Faculty

Samer Alatout, Michael Bell, Jane Collins, Jeremy Freese, Joan Fujimura, Jess Gilbert, Roger Hammer, Daniel Kleinman, Jack Kloppenburg, Peter Nowak