AMST 355   Michael R. H. Swanson, Ph. D.
Class and Culture   Office: GHH 215
M, W, F, 1:00-1:50   Hours M, W, F, 11:00 - 12:00
GHH 208   T: 2:00 - 3:00 and By Appointment
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Week of August 29, 2012

For *Wednesday, August 29*

I'll do the traditional things for the first day. I'll welcome you, and thank you for taking *Class and Culture*, I'll introduce you to the class website and explain how the online syllabus will constitute the "real" syllabus for the course. I'll introduce you to Bridges and some of the features we'll be using there, and I'll introduce what we'll do on Friday.

For *Friday, August 31*

From the Class Website page for this week,
        Download and read The Pew Report on Segregation by Income

Warning. There are a *lot* of statistics here. Don't let that scare you off. Obviously no one is expected to memorize these–me included. But what I want to have you do is get a sense of the generalizations–both for the country as a whole, and for the various regions and metropolitan districts.

Be aware of the variations, both in terms of time and in terms of dollars. For example, take a look at the chart *Definition of Household Income Groups* on p. 23. What has happened across time? What was the minimum income for the upper class in 1980. What is the minimum income now? What does that suggest to you?

In your journal, speculate a little about what this all means for American Society. How is the general community affected by the widening segregation by income?