

- 1.) Imagine you are a local newspaper columnist and in your next column you would like to address the factors that help explain rising inequality in the U.S. In researching inequality you run across Timothy Noah's "The Great Divergence" and after reading it, you decided to provide a brief review of Noah's main points for your readers. In your essay, be sure to address Noah's main arguments and discuss which factors you find most convincing. Reference other readings and lecture in your response.
  - Discusses: Race/Gender, Immigration, Technology, Political Parties/Taxes, Unions, Trade, The Stinking Rich, Education (16pts)
  - Clearly captures Noah's main arguments (4pts)
- 2.) T.H. Marshall's article "Citizenship and Social Class" discusses the role of economic mobility in the development of three specific types of rights: civil, political and social. Briefly describe this evolutionary process, and then, apply Marshall's analysis to a specific case. (The U.S. was discussed in class but one could use a different country as well.) Where appropriate, reference other readings and lecture in your response.
  - Clearly outlines Marshall's core concepts (10pts)
  - Effectively applies Marshall's concepts to a specific case (5pts)
  - References other readings (5pts)
- 3.) As an expert on inequality and poverty, you have been invited to speak at an event sponsored by the Society for Women CEOs of America. In your speech you have been asked to address the factors that explain the lingering income gap between men and women in the U.S. In your speech you should address the income gap in terms of race and ethnicity. Moreover, as often as possible, you should mention important studies in the field. In the space below please provide a copy of your speech.
  - Clearly presents issue (5pts)
  - Discusses factors that influence gap: race/ethnicity, employment type, discrimination, etc. (10pts)
  - References other readings (5pts)
- 4.) It is common to hear "race" explanations for lingering income and wealth gaps between African Americans and Anglos. In contrast, "economic" accounts for such gaps focus on macro-economic shifts. In the space below please clarify how both of these arguments are potentially useful. In your response you should discuss Douglas Massey's "The Psychology of Social Stratification" and William Julius Wilson's "Jobless Poverty". Feel free to cite additional studies as well.
  - Clearly outlines both studies (15pts)
  - Clearly highlights the relationship between each study (5pts)