

**Sociology 621 Lecture 8. Outline. Complexities of Class Structure  
September 26, 2013**

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**I. The problem of “complexity”**

1. Complexities in the character of locations
2. Complexities in how lives are linked to locations

**II. The Middle Class**

**1. The Middle Class: a Double Problem:**

- a. Level of abstraction problem
- b. Micro-Macro levels of analysis

**2. Problematic cases:** engineers, actors, teachers, athletes, white collar employees, etc.

**3. Methodological issue in constructing a solution – Double constraint:**

- a. Conceptual Constraints
- b. Empirical Constraints

**4. General Character of my proposals:**

- version 1:** a given location can be simultaneously in more than one class | contradictory class locations.  
**version 2:** a given location can be simultaneously exploiter and exploited with respect to distinct mechanisms.

**5. Attractiveness of these strategies**

**6. Problems of the strategies**

- Contradictory Locations
- Multiple Exploitations

**7. My current “solution” to the middle class**

**III. Other complexities**

1. *Mediated locations*
2. *Career structure*
3. *Capital Ownership and the Class Character of Jobs*
4. *Unemployment/underemployment:* a dualistic structure of employment relations
5. *The State*
6. *Global Classes?*