Course Overview: An introduction to the basic nature of society and the relationship between society and the individual. This course focuses on how society functions and is organized, and how society impacts and influences individual motivation, understanding, action, and well-being. Basic sociological ideas regarding social relations, social interaction, social structure, and social change are examined. Students are introduced to key issues addressed by contemporary sociologists; class, race, gender, religion, globalization, education, crime, the media, and the environment. The knowledge gained in this course will aid students in future studies within a variety of fields and careers, and encourage the development of critical thinking about important issues (Taken from “Sociology Course Descriptions,” web page, U of U).

Course Objectives:

By the end of this class you will be able to:

- Comprehend how our lives are influenced by global processes, national institutions and local communities.
- Comprehend why there is so much inequality and injustice in our society and in the world.
- Comprehend why societies and people change over time.
- Comprehend how you and others can influence political decisions and thereby have a (positive) affect on other people’s lives, as well as your own ☺
Required Course Materials (Articles may be added during the semester):

Book (Paperback): (Can be found in the University Bookstore):

Book:

Article on Web-CT: (If questions, contact The Marriott Library Reserve Desk):

Article: The Promise.

University Information:

ADA Statement: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

Withdrawal Information: For information go to:
(www.utah.edu/bulletin/registering/RWP)

Add/Drop Information: For information go to:
(www.saff.utah.edu/regist/pages/Deadlines)

Faculty Responsibility: For information go to:
(www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-12-4.html)
Academic Conduct: In order to ensure that the highest standards of academic conduct are promoted and supported at the University, students must adhere to generally accepted standards of academic honesty, including but not only limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, research misconduct misrepresenting one’s work, and/or inappropriate collaborating. A student who engages in academic misconduct will receive a failing grade.

Attendance and Participation: You are expected to attend all classes. You should complete the assigned reading by the date assigned. This will enable you to participate knowledgeably in class discussions (there will regularly be different forms of active discussions/activities!) and better understand the material. Participation counts for 10% of the final grade!

Web-CT: Class notes will be posted on Web-CT. I will try to have them posted by 5 pm the day before class. I recommend students to print out these notes before coming to class.

Examinations:

Some combination of take-home, group work, and in class exams. More information later!

Course Grade:

Typical grading scale - details later about which exam will count for how many percentages of the final grade.

Course Calendar: Days, dates, topics to be covered, and assigned reading are identified here. The class will mainly be organized around chapters from the textbook. Generally, we will cover one chapter over each class meetings. In addition to the textbooks, one article will be covered. It can be found on Web-CT connected to the Marriot Library. The course will for the most follow the text, however, some of the lecturing as well as the class activities will focus on a more in depth understanding of certain sociological issues. Lectures and exams are subject to change!

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