Instructor: Jennifer Givens
Class Meetings: Wednesdays 6-8:45pm, Sandy room 122
http://continue.utah.edu/sites/sandymap.php
Office Hours: Before and after class and by appointment
Email: jennifer.givens@soc.utah.edu

Required Text:
Anderson and Taylor, Sociology: Understanding a Diverse Society, 4th ed.


1. Course Description and Objectives
What is sociology? Sociology is a field of social scientific study that helps us to perceive the forces that structure every aspect of our lives. The primary goal of this course is to familiarize students with the sociological perspective; once you know this perspective, some sociologists say you will never be bored – there is always something to analyze about social life. In this course students will be introduced to several key sociological theories, and learn to apply them to a wide range of specific sociological topics. Research methodology will be discussed to familiarize students with many of the methods used, as well as ethical issues in social science research. Discussion of current research and readings from a globalization reader will also add to an understanding of contemporary issues in the field of sociology.

2. Grading Procedures
The final course grade will be determined by your performance on 2 equally weighted objective type exams, 2 in class quizzes, 9 brief outside class assignments, and class participation. There is no comprehensive final exam in this course. Each exam is worth 100 points for a total of 200 points. The quizzes are worth 5 points each for a total of 10 points. The assignments are worth 10 points each, a total of 90 points. Participation is worth 100 points and will be based on both general class participation and your role as discussion leader (with a partner or group) during the semester.

The following schedule will be used to determine grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Grade</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
<th>Course Grade</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>372-400</td>
<td>93-100%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>292-307</td>
<td>73-76%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>360-371</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>280-291</td>
<td>70-72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>348-359</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>268-279</td>
<td>67-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>332-347</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>252-267</td>
<td>63-66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>320-331</td>
<td>80-82%</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>240-251</td>
<td>60-62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>308-319</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>0-239</td>
<td>0-59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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3. Important Dates
Exam #1 – Wednesday, Feb 24, 2010 (Chapters 1-13 and readings on globalization)
Exam #2 – Wednesday, April 28, 2010 (Chapters 14-23 and readings on globalization)
Exams will cover the assigned readings, lectures, and any other in-class activities. If you miss an exam, an essay type make-up must be scheduled with the instructor within one week of the regular exam. THERE IS NO MAKE-UP FOR EXAM #2.

4. Exams (200) and Quizzes (10)
The two exams will consist of multiple choice and true-false type questions. There will be two brief in class quizzes during the semester. The first one will be given before the first exam so you will have an idea of what types of questions to expect. The quizzes will be unannounced and given at the beginning of class. If you arrive later for class, you will not be allowed to take the quiz.

6. Assignments (90)
Assignments will be due at the beginning of class. Assignments not turned in on time will NOT be graded. This means at the beginning of class, on the due date.

7. Participation (100)
Twice during the course of the semester you (with a partner or group) will be asked to take the role of discussion leader. This means you will come with a summary of the reading and questions to pose to the class regarding the readings for that day of class. Discussion leaders will focus mainly on the globalization readings. Your performance as discussion leader, in addition to your general daily participation, will comprise your participation grade.

8. Learning Environment and Testing
I love learning and I enjoy transferring this enthusiasm to students in the classroom. I believe schooling can be an enjoyable and enriching experience and that sociology is a dynamic field to study with many interesting applications to our lives. I will strive to make the course interesting and useful for the participants.

9. Student Code
All students are expected to maintain respectful and professional behavior in the classroom setting. Appropriate behavioral guidelines are spelled out in the student code found in the student handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the code. The code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the responsibility of the faculty to enforce responsible classroom behaviors. Violations of the student code may result in a written warning, dismissal from the class, a failing grade, or dismissal from the university. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavioral Committee.

ADA NOTICE: University guidelines for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) require the following to be included in all syllabi:
“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 the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternate format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.”
This is a basic outline of the Chapters or Topics covered by week in the course. Research and historical perspectives will be a component of each section. Please note that all chapters or topics in the text may not be covered explicitly in class; it is the student’s responsibility to read the textbook as outlined. Students are expected to come prepared to discuss the readings that have been assigned for the week.

Week 1, Jan 13: Introduction to the course and Chapters 1 and 2

Week 2, Jan 20: Chapters 3 and 4

Week 3, Jan 27: Chapters 5 and 6

Week 4, Feb 3: Chapters 7 and 8

Week 5, Feb 10: Chapters 9 and 10

Week 6, Feb 17: Chapter 11, 12, and 13

Week 7, Feb 24: EXAM #1

Week 8, March 3: Chapter 14 and 15

Week 9, March 10: Chapters 16 and 17

Week 10, March 17: Chapter 18

Wednesday March 24th is during SPRING BREAK

Week 11, March 31: Chapters 19 and 20

Week 12, April 7: Chapter 21

Week 13, April 14: Chapters 22 and 23

Week 14, April 21: make up week

Week 15, April 28: last day of classes EXAM #2

* Readings from the Globalization reader will be added to the syllabus before the start of the course. Generally it will be one, occasionally two articles per week.

** Schedule may be subject to change.

***Please note there is NO comprehensive Final Exam in this course
Course Assignments for Introduction to Sociology

The following out of class assignments require the student to define/utilize/and apply many relevant sociological concepts presented in the class. These activities are intended to be interesting, fun, and enlightening. The addition of these exercises in all sections of introduction to sociology reflect the University of Utah requirements to increase the class from a three credit hour class to a four credit hour class. Your written assignment should be one typed page in length. Assignments are due on the dates indicated below. Late assignments will NOT be graded. Each assignment is worth 10 points towards your course grade. Assignments May NOT be submitted electronically. These assignments are subject to change.

#1 Week Two: Conduct a brief survey of at least 10 people regarding an issue or topic of your choice. In a brief summary paper include the survey, summarize your findings, and draw conclusions regarding your research.

#2 Week Three: Conduct a brief participant observation or ethnographic study wherein you study and/or participate in a particular group event or social organization. Samples of events could include an Indian powwow, visit a religious group other than the one you usually attend, hang out at a greasy spoon café or coffee shop, attend a sporting event, or any volunteer organization. To complete the assignment simply write down your observations, note any patterns you observe, or point out any observations or patterns that particularly surprise you.

#3 Week Four: Conduct a non-intrusive “breaching experiment”, wherein you attempt to validate the existence of a particular norm. This may include singing on the bus, singing in an elevator, not talking to anyone for a day, or any other unusual activity. In writing describe your experiment, and report people’s reactions to your behavior.

#4 Week Five: Watch and review the video “Lord of the Flies” or any of the other books or movies on the list of suggestions. In writing the brief paper, do not address the plot in detail, but rather interpret the movie in terms of sociological concepts, phenomena, and research addressed in the text and/or in class.

#5 Week Six: Any time during the first 7 weeks of class, attend a lecture on any subject or topic that you feel is relevant to sociology. These can be attended on campus, or off, and many will be announced in class. Summarize the presentation and its relevance to any topic covered in this class.

#6 Week Eight: Watch the video “Mississippi Burning” or any of the other books or movies on the list of suggestions. Again, summarize the book or movie in terms of sociological concepts, phenomena, or research addressed in the class.

#7 Week Nine: Any time during the first 12 weeks of class, attend a lecture on campus or off that has relevance to sociology. Summarize your reaction and understanding of the material.

#8 Week Ten: Evaluate a book or video from the suggested books/videos list that will be provided. Please summarize your interpretation of the material from a sociological perspective.

#9 Week Fourteen: Write a short (2-3 pages) biography wherein you highlight the sociological factors that have influenced your life. Those could include social class, religion, race/ethnicity, position in the global social structure, or any other topics covered in the class.