



## **SOCIOLOGY 1010-090, FALL 2013**

### **INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY**

#### **Course Syllabus**

**Instructor: Bruce Rigby**

**Class Meetings: This is an Online Course**

**Office Hours: On campus by appointment**

**Office: 311 BEHS Phone: 581-5842 or 581-6153 (message)**

**E-Mail: [bruce.rigby@soc.utah.edu](mailto:bruce.rigby@soc.utah.edu) or through the Canvas mail feature.**

#### **Required Text:**

**Anderson and Taylor, *Sociology: Understanding a Diverse Society*,**

**Wadsworth, 2008, ISBN 0-495-00742-5**

**System Requirements: This is an online class that can be attended from anywhere there is an internet connection. Assignments and discussions will be submitted electronically. Exams will be taken electronically via the “Quizzes” function within the course. You must be able to view PowerPoint presentations, as well as have a Media Browser on your system. Students must be able to use an internet browser, send attached files via e-mail, and create text messages.**

#### **1. Objectives**

**The primary goal of this course is to familiarize students with the sociological perspective. The student will be introduced to several key sociological theories, and learn to apply them to a wide range of specific sociological topics. Research methodology will also be discussed to familiarize the student with many of the methods used, as well as ethical issues in social science research. The student will be asked to become familiar with sociological issues, and how they appear in nearly every aspect of daily life.**

#### **2. Grading Procedures**

**The final course grade will be determined by your performance on 3 equally weighted objective type exams, 3 electronic discussion boards, and 9 brief outside class assignments.**

There is no comprehensive final exam in this course. The exams will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions.

Each exam is worth 100 points. The discussions are worth 10 points total, and the assignments are worth 10 points each for a total of 90 points.

The following schedule will be used to determine grades:

Course Grade	Total Points	Percentages	Course Grade	Total Points	Percentages
A	372-400	93-100%	C	292-307	73-76%
A-	360-371	90-92%	C-	280-291	70-72%
B+	348-359	87-89%	D+	268-279	67-69%
B	332-347	83-86%	D	252-267	63-66%
B-	320-331	80-82%	D-	240-251	60-62%
C+	308-319	77-79%	E	0-239	0-59%

### 3. Important Dates:

**Exam #1 Week 5, Date TBA**

**Exam #2 Week 11, Date TBA**

**Exam #3 Week 16, Date TBA**

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. Make-up exams will only be allowed in the case of hospitalization or a death in the immediate family. **THERE IS NO MAKE-UP FOR EXAM #3.**

### 4. Assignments

Assignments will be due on Thursdays beginning week #3. There is a complete listing of the assignments under the "Assignment" icon on the home page for this course. These assignments are similar if not identical to the assignments for the other sections of Sociology 1010. Assignments not turned in on time will NOT be graded. This means on time on the due date. Assignments are due by 11:59 PM on the scheduled date. Assignments must be submitted in either MS .doc(x) format or copy/pasted into the text box in the assignment function of Canvas.

### 5. Discussions

There will be 3 discussion boards for students to post comments to during the semester. They will be on various sociological topics that your instructor feels are relevant to this course..

### 6. Testing

Exams in this course will be taken electronically. Exams will be available for a 24 hour period. Students will have 45 minutes to complete a 50 question multiple-choice exam. Exams may NOT be retaken.

**7. Student Code:** All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, and in all electronic interactions according to the student code, spelled out 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.

**ADANOTICE:** 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.

## **Course Outline for Sociology 1010-090**

This is a basic outline of the Chapters or Topics covered by week in the course. It is the students responsibility to read the textbook and view the PPT presentations as scheduled in the course outline.

**\*\*Detailed instructions for completing the assignments are outlined in the assignment section of this syllabus\*\***

**Week 1:** Introduction to the course and Chapter 1: The sociological perspective and sociological theories

**Week 2:** Chapter 2, Doing sociological research, and Chapter 3, Culture.

**Week 3:** Chapter 4, Socialization and Chapter 5, Social Structure.

**\*\*\*Labor Day Holiday, Mon, September 2nd, No Classes\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Assignment #1 is Due\*\*\***

**Week 4:** Chapter 6, Groups and Organizations. Review for exam #1.

**Week 5:** **Exam #1** and Chapter 7, Deviance in a sociological perspective.

**\*\*\*Assignment #2, Ethnographic Study is Due\*\*\***

**Week 6:** Chapter 8, Crime and Criminal Justice and Chapter 9, Social Class and Stratification.

**\*\*\*Assignment #3, Breaching Experiment is Due\*\*\***

**Week 7:** Chapter 10, Global Stratification and Chapter 11, Race and Ethnicity.

**\*\*\*Assignment #4, Lord of the Flies Video is Due\*\*\***

**Week 8: \*\*\*Fall Break NO CLASSES\*\*\***

**Week 9:** Chapter 12, Gender and Chapter 13, Sexuality.

**\*\*\*Assignment #5, Lecture Attendance is Due**

**Week 10:** Chapter 14, Age and Aging and Chapter 15, Families.

**Week 11:** **Exam #2 and** Chapter 16, Education.

**\*\*\*Assignment #6, Mississippi Burning Video is Due\*\*\***

**Week 12:** Chapter 17, Religion and Chapter 18, The Economy and Work.

**\*\*\*Assignment #7, Lecture Attendance is Due\*\*\***

**Week 13:** Chapter 19, Government and Politics and Chapter 20, Healthcare.

**\*\*\*Assignment #8, Book or Video Summary is Due\*\*\***

**Week 14:** Chapter 21, Population and Urbanization and Chapter 22, Social Movements.

**\*\*\*Thanksgiving Break, November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>\*\*\***

**Week 15:** Chapter 23, Social Change in a Global Perspective, and review of course.

**\*\*\*Assignment #9, Biography is Due\*\*\***

**Week 16: Exam review and Exam #3**

**\*\*\*Please note there is NO comprehensive Final Exam in this course\*\*\***

## **Course Assignments for Sociology 1010-090**

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 1-2 pages 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 should be submitted electronically to the Assignment Drop Box.**

**Week Three Assignment #1:** Conduct a brief survey of at least 30 people regarding and issue or topic of your choice. In a brief summary paper include the survey, summarize your findings, and draw conclusions regarding your research. Refer to Chapter 2, Doing Sociological Research.

**Week Five Assignment #2:** 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 cafe 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. Refer to Chapter 1, The Sociological Perspective, and Chapter 3, Culture.

**Week Six Assignment #3:** 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 peoples reactions to your behavior. Refer to Chapter 1, The Sociological Perspective, and Chapter 5, Social Interaction and Structure.

**Week Seven Assignment #4:** Watch and review the assigned video Lord of the Flies. 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. Refer to Chapter 1, The Sociological Perspective, Chapter 5, Social Interaction and Structure, and Chapter 6, Groups and Organizations.

**Week Nine Assignment #5:** Any time during the first 9 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. In no more than two pages, summarize the presentation and its relevance to any topic covered in this class. This assignment would include any material from the text or lecture from a sociological perspective.

**Week Eleven Assignment #6:** Watch the assigned video Mississippi Burning. Again, summarize the movie in terms of sociological concepts, phenomena, or research addressed in the class. Refer to Chapter 8, Crime and Criminal Justice, and Chapter 11, Race and Ethnicity.

**Week Twelve Assignment #7:** Any time during the first 12 weeks of class, attend a lecture on campus or off that has relevance to sociology. In 2 pages or less, summarize your reaction and understanding of the material.

**Week Thirteen Assignment #8:** Evaluate a book or video from the suggested books/videos list.

Please summarize your interpretation of the material from a sociological perspective. This assignment will allow the student to choose a topic of interest and analyze that topic using various concepts from the course.

**Week Fifteen Assignment #9:** Write a short (2 pages) biography wherein you highlight the sociological factors that have influenced your life. Those could include social class, religion, race/ethnicity, or any other topics

### Suggested Books and Videos

#### **Suggested Books and Videos for Assignment #8:**

The Acorn People (disabilities, illness, stigma)

Cannery Row, John Steinbeck (culture, human nature, social criticism)

Democracy for the Few, Michael Parenti (elitism, class conflict)

The Lemming Condition, Alan Arkin (family, deviance, labeling)

Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck (stratification, social organization, poverty)

On Civil Disobedience, Henry David Thoreau (morality and society, social dissent)

**The McDonaldization of Society, George Ritzer (modernization, globalization, organizations)**

**Race Matters, Cornel West (racism)**

**The Sociological Imagination, C. Wright Mills (sociology, social meaning, and morality)**

**Theory of the Leisure Class, Thorsten Veblin (stratification, class conflict)**

**Under the Banner of Heaven, John Krakauer (religion, deviance, faith based violence)**

**Who Rules America, G. William Domhoff (power elite model, social class, politics, stratification)**

### **Videos**

**"A Clockwork Orange" (crime, deviance, anomie, violence)**

**Boys in the Hood (race/class/poverty)**

**Crash (alienation, racism, class)**

**The Gods Must be Crazy (culture, modernization, globalization)**

**Hotel Rwanda (racism, genocide)**

**An Inconvenient Truth (global warming)**

**Inherit the Wind (religion, education, Evolution versus Creationism)**

**Modern Times, Chaplin (industrialization and modernization)**

**Pleasantville (norms, culture, socialization, prejudice and discrimination)**

**Roger and Me (capitalism, exploitation, class conflict)**

**Sicko (healthcare)**

**Taxi Driver (anomie, powerlessness, alienation)**

**The Village (culture, norms and values, modernization)**

**\*\*\*Other books/videos may be used for this assignment with prior approval by your instructor\*\*\***

**\*\*\*This is a preliminary syllabus that may be modified prior to classes beginning on Monday, August 26, 2013\*\*\***