

SOCIOLOGY 1010-020, Spring 2013

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Bruce Rigby

Class Meetings: Tuesdays, 6-8:45pm, BTFL 202

Office Hours: Before/After class and by appointment

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Text: Anderson and Taylor, Sociology: Understanding a Diverse Society, Wadsworth, 2004, ISBN 0-495-03555-6

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 in class quizzes, and 9 brief outside class assignments. There is no comprehensive final exam in this course. The exams will consist of multiple choice and true-false type questions. PLEASE bring a #2 pencil with you on exam days.

Each exam is worth 100 points. The quizzes 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 Tuesday, February 5th, 2013 (Chapters 1-6)

Exam #2 Tuesday, March 19th, 2013 (Chapters 7-15)

Exam #3 Tuesday, April 23rd, 2013 (Chapters 16-23)

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 cases of student hospitalization or a death in the immediate family. **THERE IS NO MAKE-UP FOR EXAM #3.**

4. Assignments

Assignments will be due on Fridays 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 via the assignment function in WebCT, on the due date / time.

5. Quizzes

There will be 3 brief in class quizzes during the semester. They 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. Learning Environment and Testing

Classes meeting at the University of Utah often present challenges with regard to learning and testing. The following expectations will be part of the student's responsibility during this course.

One: Talking with friends during class lectures will not be tolerated if it disrupts or interferes with other students trying to pay attention and take notes. Excessive talking is disrespectful to others. Students who engage in this type of activity may be asked to leave the classroom.

Two: No cell phones should be in operation during class time. ANY usage of a cell phone or other electronic device during an exam will result in a failing grade for that exam.

Three: To insure a quiet and proper environment for exams, students should not sit with friends on exam days. Talking or any contact between friends may result in your exam being picked up and a referral to the Student Behavioral Committee.

7. Student Code: All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, 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.

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.

Course Outline for Soc 1010-020

This is a basic outline of the Chapters or Topics covered by week in the course. Please note that there will not be lectures in class on all chapters or topics in the text. It is the student's responsibility to read the textbook as outlined.

Please note that as this is a lecture format class, lecture notes and/or Power Point Presentations will NOT be posted to WebCT. Student attendance in class is expected on a regular basis.

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

Week 1, January 7 - 12: Introduction to the course and Chapter 1: The sociological perspective and sociological theories

*****Martin Luther King Day Holiday, Mon, Jan 21, No Classes*****

Week 2, January 14 - 19: Chapter 2, Doing sociological research, and Chapter 3, Culture.

Week 3, January 21 - 26: Chapter 4, Socialization and Chapter 5, Social Structure.

*****Survey Assignment Due Thursday, January 24th*****

Week 4, January 28 - February 2: Chapter 6, Groups and Organizations. Review for exam #1.

*****Exam #1 is Tuesday, February 5th*****

Week 5, February 4 - 9: Exam #1

*****Participant Observation Assignment Due Thursday, February 7th*****

*****Presidents Day Holiday, Mon Feb 18th, No Classes*****

Week 6, February 11 - 16: Chapters 7 & 8, Deviance and Crime and Chapter 9, Social Class and Stratification.

*****Breaching Experiment Assignment Due Thursday, February 14th*****

Week 7, February 18 - 23: Chapter 10, Global Stratification and Chapter 11, Race and Ethnicity.

*****Lord of the Flies Assignment Due Thursday, February 21st*****

Week 8, February 25 - March 2: Chapter 12, Gender and Chapter 13, Sexuality.

Week 9, March 4 - 9: Chapter 14, Age and Aging and Chapter 15, Families.

*****Lecture Assignment Due Thursday, March 7th*****

Week 10, March 10 - 16: SPRING BREAK, NO CLASSES

*****Mississippi Burning Assignment Due Thursday March 21st*****

Week 11, March 18 -23: EXAM #2 IS TUESDAY, MARCH 5TH

Week 12, March 25 – 30: Chapter 16, Education and Chapter 17, Religion

*****Lecture Assignment Due Thursday March 28th*****

Week 13, April 1 - 6: Chapter 18, The Economy and Work and Chapter 19, Government and Politics.

Week 14, April 8 - 13: Chapter 20, Healthcare Chapter 21, Population and Urbanization and Chapter 22, Social Movements.

*****Book or Video Assignment Due Thursday, April 11th*****

Week 15, April 15 - 20: Chapter 20, Social Movements and Chapter 23, Social Change in a Global Perspective, and review of course.

*****Biography Assignment Due Thursday, April 18th*****

Week 16: April 22 - 27: Exam #3, Tuesday, April 23rd.

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

Course Assignments

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.**

Week Three (1/24): Conduct a brief survey of at least 30 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. Refer to Chapter 2, Doing Sociological Research.

Week Five (2/7): 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 (2/14): 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 (2/21): 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 (3/7): 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 that two pages, summarize the presentation and it's 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 (3/21): 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 (3/28): 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 Fourteen (4/11): 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 (4/18): 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

Books

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

“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 or graduate teaching assistants*****

*****THIS IS A PRELIMINARY SYLLABUS THAT MAY HAVE MINOR CHANGES PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF CLASSES ON MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2013*****