Introduction to SOCIOLOGY

1010-001, Spring 2014

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Bruce Rigby

Class Meetings: M/W/F 9:40-10:30 AM, S BEH

Auditorium

Office Hours: Before/After class and by

appointment

Office: 311 BEHS Phone: 581-5842 or 581-6153

(message)

E-Mail: bruce.rigby@soc.utah.edu or through the

Canvas mail feature.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: TBA

Required Text:

Anderson and Taylor, Sociology: Understanding

a Diverse Society,

Wadsworth, 2008, ISBN 978-0-495-00742-5

YOU ARE AN EXPLORER.

YOUR MISSION IS TO DOCUMENT AND OBSERVE THE WORLD AROUND YOU AS IF YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE. TAKE NOTES. COLLECT THINGS YOU FIND ON YOUR TRAVELS. DOCUMENT YOUR FINDINGS. DOCUMENT YOUR FINDINGS. NOTICE PATTERNS. COPY. TRACE. NOTICE PATTERNS. COPY. TRACE. FOCUS ON ONE THING AT A FOCUS ON ONE THING AT A TIME. RECORD WHAT YOU ARE DRAWN TO.

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, 4 electronic discussion boards, and 6 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 40 points total, and the assignments are worth 10 points each for a total of 60 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%	С	292-307	73-76%
A-	360-371	90-92%	C-	280-291	70-72%
B+	348-359	87-89%	D+	268-279	67-69%
В	332-347	83-86%	D	252-267	63-66%
В-	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 (Chapters 1-6) Exam #2 Week 11, Date TBA (Chapters 7-15) Exam #3 Week 16, Date TBA (Chapters 16-23)

Exams will cover the assigned readings, Power Points, and any other material from the class lectures. 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 Thursday's beginning week #3. There is a complete listing of the assignments in this syllabus and under the "Assignment" icon on the Canvas system 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 to be submitted electronically via the "Assignments" function on the course homepage.

5. Discussions

There will be 4 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. Discussion postings will be submitted via the "Discussions" icon on the course homepage.

The grading rubric for Assignments and Discussion Postings is:

10 points: Excellent7-8 points: Acceptable4-5 points: Marginal effort0 points: Not submitted

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. As I believe all students can complete the exams within the 24 hour period, make-up exams will only be allowed in the cases of student hospitalization or a death in the immediate family. Documentation will be required for any make-up exam.

7. Student Code: Per University of Utah regulations (Policy #6-400). "A student who engages in academic misconduct," as defined in Part I,B. and including, but not limited to, cheating, falsification, or plagiarism, "may be subject to academic sanctions including but not limited to a grade reduction, failing grade, probation, suspension or dismissal from the program or the University, or revocation of the student's degree or certificate. Sanctions may also include community service, a written reprimand, and/or a written statement of misconduct that can be put into an appropriate record maintained for purposes of the profession or discipline for which the student is preparing." Please refer to the Student Code for full

elaboration of student academic and behavioral misconduct policies (http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php).

<u>ADA NOTICE:</u> 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. 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.

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

Week 1, January 6 - 10: Introduction to the course and Chapter 1: The sociological perspective and sociological theories

Week 2, January 13 - 17: Chapter 2, Doing sociological research, and Chapter 3, Culture.

Week 3, January 20 - 24: Chapter 4, Socialization and Chapter 5, Social Structure.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No Classes Monday, Jan 20th

Assignment #1, Survey is Due Thursday, January 23rd

Week 4, January 27 - 31: Chapter 6, Groups and Organizations. Review for exam #1.

Exam #1: TBA

Week 5, February 3 - 7: Chapters 7 and 8, Deviance and Crime in a sociological perspective.

Week 6, February 10 - 14: Chapter 9, Social Class and Stratification.

Assignment #2, Ethnographic Study, February 13th

Week 7, February 17 - 21: Chapter 10, Global Stratification and Chapter 11, Race and Ethnicity.

President's Day Holiday, No Class Monday, February 17th

Week 8, February 24 -28: Chapters 12 and 13, Gender and Sexuality.

Week 9, March 3 - 7: Chapter 14, Age and Aging and Chapter 15, Families.

Assignment #3, Breaching Experiment, Due Thursday, March 6th

Week 10, March 9-16: SPRING BREAK, NO CLASSES

Week 11, March 17 – 21: Review and Exam #2, Date TBA

Week 12, March 24 - 28: Chapter 16, Education, Chapter 17, Religion and Chapter 18, The Economy and Work.

*** Assignment #4, Lecture Attendance, Due Thursday March 27th ***

Week 13, March 31 - April 4: Chapter 19, Government and Politics and Chapter 20, Healthcare.

Week 14, April 7 - 11: Chapter 21, Population and Urbanization and Chapter 22, Social Movements.

Assignment #5, Book or Video Summary, Due Thursday April 10th

Week 15, April 14 - 18: Chapter 23, Social Change in a Global Perspective, and review of course.

Assignment #6, Biography, Due Thursday April 17th

Week 16: April 23 - 25: Exam review and Exam #3, Date TBA.

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 2-3 pages in length double-spaced is preferred. Assignments must be submitted in MS .doc(x) or .rtf format. 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 Assignments function in Canvas.

Week Three (1/23) 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 Six (2/13) 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 Nine (3/6) 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 Twelve (3/27) Assignment #4: Any time during the first 11 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 some will be announced in class. You may also listen to a podcast via iTunesU on any topic relevant to the material in this 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 Fourteen (4/11) Assignment #5: 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 (4/17) Assignment #6: 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, or any other topics

Suggested Books and Videos

Suggested Books and Videos for Assignment #5:

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)
- "Capitalism: A Love Story" (economy, culture, inequality)

Other books/videos may be used for this assignment with prior approval by your instructor or graduate teaching assistant

THIS IS A PRELIMINARY SYLLABUS, SOME MINOR CHANGES MAY BE MADE PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF CLASSES ON JANUARY 6, 2014