

## INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

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Welcome to your introduction to the “scientific study of human societies”, otherwise known as Sociology. During your time in this course you will come to understand some of the key concepts in the study of society. Our time together will focus on understanding the society around us; making sense of the familiar in a social scientific way and the examination of social patterns. Keeping in mind this is a mere introduction, we will focus on some of the theoretical explanations as well as data collection methods in Sociology. Additionally, a critical examination of race, class, gender, stratification, education, crime and deviance, culture and collective behavior and their impact on society will offer opportunities for discussion and debate.

The objectives for this course will be:

1. To develop a sociological imagination.
2. To be able to identify the impact various social forces have on society
3. To be able to translate that impact into our daily lives
4. To become comfortable with basic sociological ideas and concepts
5. To deepen your ability to think critically.

The objectives will be met through lecture, text, movies, web links and homework assignments. It is important for you to participate in your education through class discussion. This will deepen your sense of the use of a sociological imagination. This course is designed to offer you “room for thought” about many of the issues facing human societies today. It will be up to you to foster an ability to apply what you learn in this course to your own life. It is my hope that this application allows you a deeper understanding of the concept of “citizenship”.

The course format is based on lecture, class discussion, class exercises, outside readings and assignments. Your assigned text is “Sociology” by John J. Macionis. You should bring this book to class; we will be referring to it often during the lecture.

Your grade will be based on 4 tests, 3 pop quizzes, 5 assignments and a class project. Tests are worth 100 points each. Pop quizzes are worth 10 points, writing assignments are worth 10 points each and the class project will be worth 25 points. Total points: 505.

The grading scale is:

90% - 100 A

80% - 89 B

70%-79 C

60%-69 D

Below 60% Failing.

## CLASS GUIDELINES

**Assignments:** Any assignment given will have a corresponding due date. Your assignment must be turned in on that date. Early assignments may be accepted. LATE assignments will not be accepted, unless there is proper notification to the instructor. Unless otherwise stated in class, all assignments must be TYPED!! Any information included in these assignments that is not yours must be correctly referenced.

**Tests:** Missed tests will be counted as a ZERO. No exceptions. Prior arraignments must be made if you will not be available on the test date.

**CELL PHONES:** MUST BE ON VIBRATE OR TURNED OFF. NO TEXTING IN CLASS. If it's that important, stay home.

**Attendance:** I will take regular attendance, but you will not receive credit for your attendance. It's just a great idea to show up! Some of the information you will be given may not be in the text and you don't know when POP quizzes will be given.

**Quizzes:** POP quizzes will not be announced in advance. They will be given at various times throughout the semester. If you miss a quiz, you will not be able to make it up, unless you have a Dr.'s note (not health services slip), death in the family, or other situation that can be verified by an outside source.

**Class Discussion:** Often times Sociology students engage in lively debates and discussions. Remember that your ideas and opinions are as valuable as your peers. We will be respectful of one another at all times.

**Plagiarism:**

1. If it's not your work it needs to be cited.
2. If it's off the Internet, it must be cited
3. You can NOT download and print information from the Internet and turn it in as your own work.
4. You can NOT cut and paste without correct citation.
5. If it is not common knowledge and you state it in your document, it needs to be cited (the world is round).

Plagiarism is a serious offense and if you are caught you may receive an F for the assignment or the course. You will also be referred to Judicial Affairs.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

January 13, 15 & 20	Chapter 1 "The Sociological Perspective"
January 20 & 22	Chapter 2 "Sociological Investigation"
January 27 & 29	
February 3	Chapter 3 "Culture"
February 10, 12 & 17	Chapter 4 "Society"
<b>EXAM 1</b>	February 19, 2009

February 24, 26 &  
March 3 Chapter 5 "Socialization"  
March 5 & 10 Chapter 6 "Social Interaction in Everyday Life"  
March 12 & 24 Chapter 7 "Groups and Organizations"

**EXAM 2** March 26, 2009

March 31,  
April 2 & 7 Chapter 8 "Sexuality and Society"  
April 9 & 14 Chapter 9 "Deviance"  
April 16 & 21 Chapter 10 "Social Stratification"  
April 23 & 28 Chapter 18 "Families"

**April 30, 2009** CLASS PRESENTATIONS

**FINAL EXAM** \_\_\_\_\_ Chapters 8, 9, 10 & 18

#### CLASS PROJECT

You will be placed into small groups of usually no more than 6. This project is worth 25 points. Your group will choose a country other than the United States and find an authentic recipe from that country. You will be asked to prepare this for the class. You will have a paper to write that will describe the relationship of the dish to the country. The grading will be based on the following:

- Following instructions: 1 point
- Spelling and grammar: 2 points
- Source Citations: 2 points
- Participation in preparation of the dish: 5 points
- Discussion of cultural relevancy: 15 points

DUE DATE FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT IS **April 30, 2009**. Notice you are not being graded on taste or creativity in the dish. This assignment will require you to spend a little bit of time looking into some of the customs and traditions of the country your group has chosen. From that you must related your discussion of the dish and its ingredients, preparation and presentation or for what occasion it is prepared to the country of origin.

- You are required to detail out your participation in the preparation of the dish.
- You must cite your sources accurately for all your information.
- Each person must turn in their own paper, not as a group.
- Put all group members' names on your paper.
- Include a copy of the recipe.
- Staple it together.

ASSIGNMENTS  
DUE DATE

1. Take 5 pictures with your phone, camera etc. that serve as symbols of American culture. Label and describe.  
**February 5, 2009**
  
2. List 5 inventions that have helped change society. Any society. Discuss how this invention impacted societal change.  
**February 17, 2009**
  
3. Find and type out no less than 5 jokes that represent some form of conflict and disadvantage. Cite sources.  
**March 3, 2009**
  
4. Find 15 examples of sex in advertising. Include the examples and discuss what 10 of them mean to you.  
**April 7, 2009**
  
5. Put together a family tree, going back at least 3 generations with Places of birth for great grandparents and grandparents.  
**April 16, 2009**  
Use the guide attached to the syllabus.

You can use this table to record and keep track of your grades.

Tests	Quizzes	Assignments	Project
1. /100	1. /10	1. /10	1. /25
2. /100	2. /10	2. /10	
3. /100	3. /10	3. /10	
4. /100		4. /10	
		5. /10	