

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Fall 2017

Instructor: Dr. Wm. Reed Benedict

Office: Blair Hall 3149

Office Hours: Tues - Thurs 7:00 & 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The aim of this course is to introduce the student to rudimentary concepts of the "Sociological Perspective." Sociology is the systematic study of human societies and human behavior in social settings. The emphasis of the course will be to give the beginning student a basic understanding of perspectives and methods that characterize sociological studies in a variety of important areas. Sociology invites you to place your personal experience in the context of a social world.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- 1) My primary goal is to equip you with an in-depth understanding of what the field of "sociology" entails, and more importantly, how the "sociological perspective" can be instrumental in understanding the society in which you live. (function as responsible citizens)
- 2) The second is to improve your ability to sort out important facts, retain those facts, and be able to apply them appropriately in logical arguments. (Speak effectively, think critically)
- 3) The last objective will be to further develop your analytic skills. (critical thinking)

The first objective can be accomplished by regular class attendance and participation. The second and third objectives will be accomplished by adequately meeting the class requirements/assignments.

TEXT BOOK:

Chambliss, William J.

2016. Discovery Sociology. 2nd Edition. SAGE Publications, Inc.

EXAMS

Grading will be based upon either three or four objective (both true/false & multiple guess) examinations, each being worth 100 points and constituting one-third/one-fourth of the grade. The examinations will cover both the readings and lectures. Please take note--it will be important to attend class and take notes as you will be responsible for material which is covered in lecture, but **will not** be found in your text.

MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS:

All make-up exams, regardless of the rationale, will be given at 7:00 a.m. on the last day of the semester and will consist of both multiple choice and essay questions. You must contact me within one week of the scheduled exam to indicate that you would like to take the make-up exam at the end of the semester. Please take this policy seriously as I will make no exceptions.

GRADING SCALE FOR THIS CLASS IS:

90 - 100 = A

80 - 90 = B

70 - 80 = C

60 - 70 = D

0 - 60 = F

CLASS PARTICIPATION/DISCUSSION:

Even though I will be lecturing most of the time, everyone is expected to have read the assigned material and be prepared to discuss it. If you have a comment you would like to interject which is pertinent to the material being covered, make me aware of this fact in a polite fashion and by all means share your insights, experiences, and opinions with myself and your fellow students.

I will do what is in my power to communicate the course material clearly to you and provide you with the tools that are necessary to do well in this class. However, you are responsible for making a serious and concerted effort to understand the assigned material. I am not clairvoyant, if the readings or lecture are confusing to you, I expect you to seek clarification. Toward this end, you are responsible for asking questions during class or office hours.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT:

DO NOT **Talk** during class.

DO NOT **Eat** during class.

DO NOT **Arrive Late** or **Leave** during class. If you arrive later than 5 minutes after the class begins, then you will be asked to leave.

DO NOT **Send or Receive text messages**

CONSEQUENCES OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic integrity - Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct

(<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on the exam, paper or project; failure of the course; and/or expulsion from the University.

THE STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER:

The Student Success Center - Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/~success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to 9th Street Hall, Room 1302.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities - If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by Ninth Street Hall, Room 2006, or call 217-581-6583.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE:

Is just that--tentative--which means the student will be responsible for attending class, thus keeping up with the material and assignments each week. You will be given ample time (at least one week) advance notice of all tests and/or assignments which will be graded.

Introduction to Course

Chpt. 1: Discover Sociology

Chpt. 2: Sociological Research

Chpt. 3: Culture & Mass Media

EXAM I

Chpt. 4: Socialization

Chpt. 5: Groups, Organizations, and Bureaucracies

Chpt. Not in text – Social Interaction & Social Structure

EXAM II

Chpt. 6: Deviance and Social Control

Chpt. 7: Social Stratification & Social Class

Societal Functions: A Sociological Perspective

FINAL EXAM Monday Dec. 11th 12:30 – 2:30. All students must take the final during the scheduled day and time. No exceptions!!