

Introduction to Sociology
SYG 1000- 05; M, W (3:35-4:50)
HCB 210; Spring 2009

Instructor Information

Instructor: Jason M. Laguna
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Office Phone: 850-644-6416
Office Hours: Mondays from 1:15-2:15 p.m. & by appt.
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Blackboard: www.campus.fsu.edu

Required Text

1. *Society: The Basics, 9th Ed.*
(John Macionis; ISBN: 0132284901)

Other Requirements

1. To satisfactorily complete the work required in this course, it is essential that you be able to access the internet and the Blackboard site, read .pdf documents, view audio and video online, and use MS Word to complete paper/extra credit assignments. Papers typed in Word Perfect or in other word processing programs are not acceptable for this course as FSU does not furnish these programs to instructors.

Course Goals, Description, and Student Expectations

This course is designed to introduce students to the academic discipline of Sociology. Consequently, the course material will cover issues related to social theory, social institutions, social processes, and social change. Throughout the semester, students will become familiarized with core sociological concepts and theoretical perspectives and will be presented with pertinent examples that emphasize socio-political context and cross cultural comparisons of social behavior. Considering the sensitive subject matter discussed in this class (e.g. race, social class, gender, politics, etc.), it is imperative that students maintain a professional attitude and refrain from attacking other students based on their political beliefs, race, social class backgrounds, etc. Likewise, tests and quizzes are meant to test students' knowledge of sociological concepts and theories rather than their personal beliefs. Theoretically, this class should provide a safe forum for students to learn new ways of viewing the world and an opportunity to question long held assumptions about the way society functions. As an instructor, I will try my best to facilitate and moderate class discussions in order to allow for a wide range of ideas and topics. As a sign of respect, I expect students to, refrain from interrupting class discussions or lectures, notify me if you have to leave class early or if you can't attend class due to illness, religious holiday, etc., and turn all cell phones and electronic devices off (or put them on silent).

Content Specific Objectives

1. To understand each topic covered in this class by being able to remember, describe, and apply sociological principles to various issues.
2. To satisfactorily comprehend major differences between sociological theories and explanations of social phenomena, to be demonstrated through examinations which are multiple choice and true/false.
3. To broaden the student's overall knowledge-base by completing all assigned readings.

Syllabus Change Policy

While this syllabus may be considered a contract between me, the instructor, and you, the student, I reserve the right to amend the syllabus at any time, especially according to class progression through the material. If the syllabus is changed, students will be notified in class and via an announcement on the Blackboard platform.

Assessments

1. *Quizzes:* A total of 10 in-class quizzes will be given during the course of the semester. These quizzes will be unannounced, so it is important to stay on top of the reading and assigned materials to effectively answer quiz questions. The top 8 quiz scores will contribute to your final grade (20% of total grade). There are no quiz make-ups, as a student may miss up to 2, penalty free. This is essentially attendance credit, and you cannot receive credit if you are not in class, hence the no make-up rule.
2. *Examinations:* Four exams will be given. Each exam is worth 20% of the final grade. The final exam is a cumulative test based on material learned throughout the semester as well as current material learned at the end of the semester. I must be notified beforehand if a student needs to miss an exam due to a scheduled reason. Documentation must be provided to be considered for a makeup; doctor's notices which are photocopied or have any white-out or erase marks on them are not suitable documentation. Makeup exams will be administered during regular office hours. The exams will be a combination of multiple choice and true false questions. Makeup exams may be in a different format from regular exams. More information about the format of the tests will be given in the class before the exams are administered.
3. *Extra Credit Option:* Three options for extra credit will be offered through the semester. These options may consist of written papers, small research assignments, or social experiments. In total, the extra credit is worth up to 3 percentage points added onto the student's final grade. More information will be given in class.

Rubric

Quizzes	20%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%

Exam 3	20%
Exam 4	20%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Grades for the course will be based on the following scale:

60-0: F	60-62: D-	63-65: D	66-69: D+	70-72: C-	73-75: C
76-79: C+	80-82: B-	83-85: B	86-89: B+	90-92: A-	93-100: A

Email and Blackboard

All students should activate and check daily their FSU email account. This account will be utilized through the blackboard platform to notify of syllabus changes, send reminders, and/or transmit other class related information. If there is a problem logging on to blackboard or to access the email account, please notify ACNS to resolve the situation.

www.cars.acns.fsu.edu

Academic Honor Code

This course will conform to all the standards set forth in the University Honor Code. This means all students will avoid any violations of academic integrity, such as cheating, plagiarism, hiring others to do work, key logging another student's computer, etc. Any further questions regarding these matters should be consulted in the University Bulletin outlining student responsibilities. If there are uncertainties, consult the instructor before any questionable work begins.

ADA

Any student with a documented disability or condition which undermines their ability to satisfactorily complete the course requirements or attend class regularly must notify me immediately. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate your needs. If there is any problem with this policy, you must notify me in writing within the first week of class. To register, contact the Student Disability Resource Center: 850-644-9566.

Schedule (Subject to change according to course progress)

Date	Topic	Assignments
<i>WEEK 1</i> Jan. 7 th -9 th	Hello! Introduction—what is sociology?	Buy textbook; read Ch. 1; log into BB; read Mills <i>Sociological Imagination</i> (on BB) by Wed, Jan 14 th .
<i>WEEK 2</i>		

Jan. 12 th -16 th	Finishing Ch. 1; Starting Ch. 2: “Culture.”	Read Ch. 2 this week. Also read <i>The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down</i> excerpt online. Have this done by Friday, Jan. 16 th .
WEEK 3 Jan. 19 th -23 rd	NO SCHOOL MONDAY—MLK DAY Finishing Ch. 2; Starting Ch. 4: “Interaction.”	Read Ch. 4 by Jan. 23 rd .
WEEK 4 Jan. 26 th -30 th	<u>EXAM 1 on Friday, Jan 30th.</u>	Finish all reading and Print out study guide 1. Bring this to class on <u>Wed, Jan 28th.</u>

WEEK 5 Feb. 2 nd -6 th	Ch.8. “Social Stratification.”	Read Ch. 8 by Friday, Feb. 6 th .
WEEK 6 Feb. 9 th -13 th	Ch.9, “Global Stratification.”	Read Ch. 9. by Friday, Feb. 13 th .
WEEK 7 Feb. 16 th -20 th	Ch. 12: “Economics and Politics.”	Read Ch. 12 by Friday, Feb. 20 th .
WEEK 8 Feb. 23 rd -27 th	Exam 2 Review on Wed, Feb. 25 th ; <u>EXAM 2 on Friday, Feb. 27th.</u>	Finish all reading and Print out study guide 2. Bring this to class on <u>Wed, Feb. 25th.</u>

WEEK 9 Mar. 2 nd -6 th	Ch. 11, “Race and Ethnicity.”	Read Ch. 11 by Friday, Mar. 6 th .
WEEK 10 Mar. 9 th -13 th	SPRING BREAK—NO SCHOOL	No assignments.
WEEK 11 Mar. 16 th -20 th	Finishing Ch. 11; Starting Ch. 10: “Gender Stratification.”	Read Ch. 10 by Monday, Mar. 23 rd .
WEEK 12 Mar. 23 rd -27 th	Ch. 6, “Sexuality and Society.”	Read Ch. 6 by Monday, Mar. 30 th .
WEEK 13 Mar. 30 th -Apr. 3	Finishing Ch. 6; Exam 3 Review on Wed, April 1 st . CLASS IS CANCELLED FRIDAY, Apr. 3rd.	Finish all reading and Print out study guide 3. Bring this to class on <u>Wed, April 1st.</u>
WEEK 14 Apr. 6 th -10 th	<u>EXAM 3 on Monday, April 6th.</u> Starting Ch. 14: “Education, Health, and Medicine.”	Read Ch. 14 by Monday, April 13 th .

<i>WEEK 15</i> Apr. 13 th -17 th	Finishing Ch. 14; Starting Ch. 15: “Population, Urbanization, and Environment.”	Read Ch. 15 by Wed, April 22 nd .
<i>WEEK 16</i> Apr. 20 th -24 th	Finishing Ch. 15 this week. Friday the 24 th is the last day of class. This is also the review for the Final exam. Remember, the final is cumulative.	Finish all reading and print out the study guide(s) For the final exam. Bring These on <u>Friday, Apr. 24th</u> .
<i>WEEK 17</i> Apr. 27 th -May 1 st	EXAM 4 (FINAL EXAM) on Friday, May 1st from 3-5 p.m. in the regular room.	

Help and Tutoring

If you find yourself struggling to complete the requirements for this course or not comprehending the material, please contact me. You may come by my office hours, schedule an appointment, call or email me, etc. I will work with any student who feels s/he needs additional help. Additionally, there are other resources available to students, listed below. After this course is over, it may also be helpful to keep these numbers on file for your future use while at FSU.

Reading and Writing Center (644-6495)
Strozier Library (644-3278)/(644-2706)
Retention and Academic Support (644-0387)
Center for Intensive English Studies (644-4797)

Victim Advocate Program (644-7161)
Student Counseling Center (644-2003)
Crisis Hotline (211)
Foreign Student Center (644-1702)