COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course we will begin by defining the field of sociology. We will discuss the similarities and differences between sociology and other social sciences, such as psychology, anthropology and political science. Once we have defined the field, we will discuss the different theoretical perspectives that sociologists have developed to explain society and various social phenomenon and the methods that sociologists use to study social behavior. Next, we will examine many of the topics of interest to sociologists, such as culture, society, social interaction, socialization, groups, deviance and social control, social class, and global stratification. We will conclude the course by examining several different components of society such as gender and age, marriage and family and education and religion.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the concepts, terminology, and major figures in the field of sociology.

2. Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of the sociological inquiry and methods.

3. Demonstrate an understanding of the major sociological perspectives.

4. Have gained insight into the social behavior of people in other cultures.

5. Understand the process of socialization and how we become social beings.

6. Have learned about the different ways in which people act, feel, think and define their situations based on their sex, social class, age, ethnic group, geographical region, family or nationality.

7. Have an increased understanding of the issues of diversity and globalization and their impact on our lives.
REQUIRED READINGS:


Other course readings will be drawn from James M. Henslin, *Exploring Social Life: Readings to Accompany Essentials of Sociology A Down To Earth Approach* 4th edition, Allyn and Bacon 2009.


My SOC LAB by Allyn and Bacon.

CLASSS FORMAT AND INSTRUCTOR’S EXPECTATIONS

The format will be lecture/discussion with the addition of a number of films and in-class projects. The instructor of this course makes several assumptions about the students enrolled in this course. As a student in this course, you will be expected to:

1. **Attend class on a regular basis.**

2. **Be prepared for class** (i.e., have a writing instrument and paper or a computer in your possession; have read the assigned materials prior to class).

3. **Participate in class.** Students are expected to actively participate and will be assigned a grade for participation. If something is covered in lecture or in the text which you do not understand, **ASK A QUESTION** (chances are at least one or more of your colleagues will have the same or similar question). You will be held responsible for the assigned materials on the examinations, so it is in your best interest to ask questions.

4. **Be present and prepared for all examinations.** The term “prepared” in this context means not only having studied the materials you are to be tested on and showing up at the appropriate time, but also having a **BLUE BOOK**, or a **SCANTRON** and a Blue or Black Pen and a pencil in your possession on the day of exam.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Grades will be determined on the basis of the following point scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three Exams Each worth 150 points</td>
<td>450 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Quizzes Each worth 50 points</td>
<td>150 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Participation 100 points
In Class and Out of Class Exercises 300 points
TOTAL POSSIBLE 1000 points

EXAMS
There will be three examinations for the class, the first, the week of September 28th, the second, the week of November 2\textsuperscript{nd} and the third, the week of December 7\textsuperscript{th}. Each exam will count 15\% and each quiz will count 5\% toward the final grade.

Exams will consist of multiple choice, matching, true/false and essays unless otherwise instructed. They will cover only the material since the last exam (i.e. non-comprehensive). Exam material will come from lecture and assigned readings. Any handout materials supplied by the instructor may also appear on that section’s exam.

The supplemental instructor will provide a review session prior to the test.

MAKE-UP EXAMS
The dates of exams and other assignments are indicated on the class schedule. Only extreme and unusual physical or emotional circumstances will be considered as an excuse for not taking an exam or completing assignments by the due date, or receiving an Incomplete grade in the course. If you fail to take an exam or turn in a paper or assignment without reasonable excuse, you will receive a “0” for that item. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade. No make-up exams will be given except in rare cases, with written documentation needed. \textbf{THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UPS FOR QUIZES}. Students requesting Incomplete grades must do so in writing by the last regularly scheduled meeting of the class.

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY

Cheating is defined as the willful giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination, illicitly obtaining examination questions in advance, using someone else’s work for assignments as if it were your own, or any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of the course.

Plagiarism is defined as the use of an author’s work or ideas as if they were one’s own without giving credit to the source, including but not limited to failure to properly acknowledge a direct quote or paraphrase. Punishment for cheating and/or plagiarism is outlined in the Scholastic Dishonesty section of the current Undergraduate catalogue. Students are expected to read and understand their rights and responsibilities under the Code.

Any student in this class accused of cheating or plagiarism will be given an automatic grade of “0” (zero) on the test or assignment and will be turned over to the appropriate college authorities for possible further disciplinary action (which could include suspension or expulsion from the college). Cheating and plagiarism are very serious offenses and will not be tolerated.
IN CLASS AND OUT OF CLASS EXERCISES
Each student is required to complete six out of class exercises and one in class exercise. The in class exercise will be worth 60 points and the out of class exercises will each be worth 40 points for a total of 300 points. More detailed information will be forthcoming in class. These exercises will NOT be accepted LATE.

CLASS SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1
8/21

Introduction

Week 2
8/24-8/28

Overview of the Course
The Sociological Perspective
Henslin (H): Chapter 1
Henslin Reader (HR): 1

Week 3
8/31-9/4

Culture
Henslin (H): Chapter 2
Henslin Reader (HR): 2

Week 4
9/7-9/11

Culture (continued)
H: Chapter 2 and 3
HR: 2
NO CLASS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th
QUIZ 1—WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th
EXERCISE #1 DUE—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th

Week 5
9/14-9/18

Socialization
H: Chapter 3
HR: 3

Week 6
9/21-9/25

Social Structure and Social Interaction
H: Chapter 4
HR: 4
EXERCISE #2 DUE—WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd

Week 7
9/28-10/2

EXAMINATION #1
ESSAYS DUE—WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th
MULTIPLE CHOICE—WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th
IN CLASS EXERCISE—FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2nd

Week 8
10/5-10/9

Social Groups and Formal Organizations
H: Chapter 5, HR: 5
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Week 9
10/12-10/16
Deviance and Social Control
H: Chapter 6
HR: 6
EXERCISE #3 DUE—MONDAY, OCTOBER 12th

Week 10
10/19-10/23
Global Stratification
H: Chapter 7
HR: 7
QUIZ 2-MONDAY, OCTOBER 19th

Week 11
10/26-10/30
Global Stratification (continued) and Social Class
EXERCISE #4 DUE—MONDAY, OCTOBER 26th

Week 12
11/2-11/6
Social Class in the United States
H: Chapter 8
HR: 8
EXERCISE #5 DUE—WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4th
EXAM #2 MULTIPLE CHOICE—FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6th

Week 13
11/9-11/13
Gender and Age
EXAM #2 ESSAYS DUE—MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9th
H: Chapter 10
HR: 10

Week 14
11/16-11/20
Marriage and Family
H: Chapter 12
HR: 16
EXERCISE #6 DUE—WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18th

Week 15
11/23-11/27
Marriage and Family continued
QUIZ 3—MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd
NO CLASS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27th

Week 16
11/30-12/4
Education and Religion
H: Chapter 13
HR: 13

Week 17
12/7
EXAMINATION #3
ESSAYS DUE—MONDAY, DECEMBER 7th
MULTIPLE CHOICE—MONDAY, DECEMBER 7th
This schedule is tentative and will be modified as necessitated by class discussions and outside speakers.

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