

SOC 1010-01

Introduction to Sociology

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10:00-11:20
P.E. Building 101

Dr. Randle J. Hart
Office: Centrum 225F
Office Phone: 435-865-8693
email: hart@suu.edu

Office Hours: Mondays, 1:30-3:30; Tuesdays, 3:00-4:00, Wednesdays, 1:30-2:30. Or by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Broadly conceived, sociology is the study of the relationships between extra-individual processes and individual/collective agency. Traditionally, this has meant that sociologists have examined social structures (e.g., patriarchy) and social institutions (e.g., family) and how these provide us with either barriers or opportunities in our individual and group lives. In this course, we will explore how sociologists study the world and what we know about how the individual acts in a world of social structures.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

There are three primary course objectives.

- ✓ First, you will learn *factual knowledge* about sociology and American society.
- ✓ With this factual knowledge, you will, second, enhance your *critical thinking skills*.
- ✓ Third, you will be provided with tangible and intangible skills which will help you to succeed in your career choices as well as your in education.

REQUIRED READING:

Conley, Dalton. 2011. *You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking Like a Sociologist*. 2nd Edition. New York: W. W. Norton. ISBN: 0-393-92760-1

Brym, Robert J. 2009. *Sociology as a Life or Death Issue*. Wadsworth Cengage. ISBN: 0-495-60075-X

Other (free) readings are listed in the class schedule (below).

ASSIGNMENTS:

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Test 1 | 30% | Sept. 20 (in class) |
| Test 2 | 30% | Nov. 1 (in class) |
| Test 3 | 30% | Dec. 15, 11:00-12:50 |
| Attendance/Participation | 10% | |
| Total: | 100% | |

***Extra-Credit:** From time to time there will be opportunities to earn extra credit.

Tests: There are three tests required for this course. Each will be comprised of multiple choice and true-false questions. A SCANTRON card is needed.

Attendance & Participation: Throughout the course, I will have frequent attendance checks. If you are not in class during one of these checks, you may provide documentation (e.g., doctor's note) explaining your nonattendance. The only way to get full points is by being in class!

You are required to participate in all class and small group discussions to the best of your ability. You will be evaluated according to the usefulness of your contribution as well as on how diplomatically you treat your fellow students (and me).

THE FINE PRINT: If you are found to have engaged in academic misconduct you will receive 0/10 on your attendance/participation score. By the end of the course, no extra-credit points will be awarded to students who have low attendance/participation scores. Extra-credit points are only awarded to students who have good attendance and who participate well.

GRADING:

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| 100-93 = A | 73-76 = C |
| 90-92 = A- | 70-72 = C- |
| 87-89 = B+ | 67-69 = D+ |
| 83-86 = B | 63-66 = D |
| 80-82 = B- | 60-62 = D- |
| 77-79 = C+ | 59-below = F |

Make Up Tests: Upon receipt of valid documentation, a make up test will be held for those students who were unable to write a test. All documentation must be submitted within one week of the missed test (unless this is impossible).

Technology: Video recording, audio recording, and/or photography during class is not permitted unless I have given consent. Anyone found using any unauthorized electronic device during class time will be asked to leave class immediately and will receive 0/10 for attendance/participation.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Week One: Aug. 23, 25 Sociology, The Sociological Imagination, Research Methods

You May Ask Yourself, Chapters 1 & 2

Sociology as a Life or Death Issue:

Chapter 1: "Sociology as a Life or Death Issue"

Chapter 5: "Sociology as a Vocation"

Week Two: Aug. 30, Sept. 1 Socialization and the Social Construction of Reality

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 4

Week Three: Sept. 6, 8 Family

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 12

Week Four: Sept. 13, 15 Religion

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 16

Week Five: Sept. 20, 22 Capitalism & the Economy

Test One (Sept. 20)

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 14

Kenworthy, Lane. 2009. "Tax Myths." *Contexts*. 8(3).

<http://contexts.org/articles/summer-2009/tax-myths/>

Week Six: Sept. 27, 29 Stratification & Poverty

You May Ask Yourself, Chapters 7 & 10

Week Seven: Oct. 4, 6 Gender

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 8

Week Eight: Oct. 11, 13 Race

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 9

Sociology as a Life or Death Issue:

Chapter 4 "Hurricane Katrina & The Myth of Natural Disasters"

Week Nine: Oct. 20 Education

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 13

Week Ten: Oct. 25, 27 Social Control and Deviance

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 6

Sociology as a Life or Death Issue:
Chapter 3 “Explaining Suicide Bombers”

Sampson, Robert J. 2008. “Rethinking Crime and Immigration.” *Contexts*. 7(1).
<http://contexts.org/articles/winter-2008/sampson/>

Week Eleven: Nov. 1, 3 Authority and the State

Test Two (Nov. 1)

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 15

Week Twelve: Nov. 8, 10 Social Movements

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 18

Week Thirteen: Nov. 15, 17 Science, The Environment, & Society

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 17

Week Fourteen: Nov 22 War & Peace

McCoy, Katherine. 2009. “Uncle Sam Wants Them.” *Contexts*. 8(1): 14–19.
<http://contexts.org/articles/files/2009/02/contexts-winter09-uncle-sam-wants-them.pdf>

Lindner, Andrew M. 2008. “Controlling the Media in Iraq.” *Contexts*. 7(2).
<http://contexts.org/articles/spring-2008/controlling-the-media-in-iraq/>

Week Fifteen: Nov. 29, Dec.1 Culture and the Media

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 3

Read, Jen'nan Ghazal. 2008. “Muslims in America.” *Contexts*. 7(4).
<http://contexts.org/articles/fall-2008/muslims-in-america/>

Week Sixteen: Dec. 6, 8 Health and Society

You May Ask Yourself, Chapter 11

Skocpol, Theda. 2011. “People Like Health Reform When They Learn What It Does.” *Contexts*. 10(1).
<http://contexts.org/articles/winter-2011/people-like-health-reform-when-they-learn-what-it-does/>

STUDENT DISABILITY NOTICE

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring academic adjustments, accommodations or auxiliary aids will need to contact the Southern Utah University Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD), in Room 205C of the Sharwan Smith Center or phone (435) 865-8022. SSD determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. You are expected to have read and understood the current issue of the student handbook (published by Student Services) regarding student responsibilities and rights, and the intellectual property policy, for information about procedures and about what constitutes acceptable on-campus behavior.

HEOA Compliance

HEOA Compliance statement: The sharing of copyrighted material through peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing, except as provided under U.S. copyright law, is prohibited by law. Detailed information can be found at <http://www.suu.edu/it/p2p-student-notice.html>.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

In case of emergency, the University's Emergency Notification System (ENS) will be activated. Students are encouraged to maintain updated contact information using the link on the home page of the *mySUU* portal. In addition, students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Emergency Response Protocols posted in each classroom. Detailed information about the University's emergency management plan can be found at <http://www.suu.edu/emergency>.

DISCLAIMER:

Information contained in this syllabus, other than the grading, late assignments, makeup work, and attendance policies, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.