

## **Teaching Portfolio**

Dylan Sears

## **Teaching Statement**

When recalling the courses that I found most fulfilling as an undergraduate student, three characteristics come to mind: (1), the professors drew from broad sources and related the material back to daily life (2), they were reactive, and taught to both their own research and the interests of students which communicated passion for the subject and (3), their courses encouraged and facilitated student engagement without the threat of sanctions. My experience in these classes informs three guiding statements I consider when I craft a course:

1. Course materials should encourage students to read and think beyond the textbook and empower them examine and critique daily life.
2. Learning and teaching are reactive; a course should demonstrate the instructor's passion for the subject and respond to student interests when possible.
3. In-class activities and discussion do more to foster engagement, facilitate retention, and allow for quicker evaluation than solely relying on quizzes and exams.

An effective college course empowers students to evaluate arguments in both scholarly and nonacademic contexts. Textbooks provide vital background information, but they can be supplemented with additional resources to demonstrate that any material may be evaluated from a scholarly perspective. Initially brought on by student financial constraints, the use of journalistic and pop culture material made my classroom environment more active and responsive. Students stated they enjoyed the additional readings and found them helpful in clarifying complex criminological concepts.

I make my courses reactive by teaching to my own research and encouraging students to suggest topics through “special topics” modules. For example, a session on “vigilante violence” drawn from my work demonstrates the research process, theoretical and methodological synthesis, and data interpretation, encouraging students to raise critical questions, evaluate arguments, and analyze my scholarly work collectively. The same occurs in student-suggested subjects, such as additional crime and deviance sessions in which students critically examine common myths and misconceptions about crime while seeking collective solutions through a social lens.

These principles are informed by my broader “discussion first” course design. Class discussion is vital to retaining information and using it in the future. I facilitate this through daily warm-up activities and frequent checks for understanding. This creates multiple opportunities to clarify points, debate issues, and critique arguments presented in class; By frequently offering these opportunities, students can ask more questions and typically perform better on written and oral assignments, such as my end of semester “movie review” essay.

My courses thus emphasize critical thinking beyond the text, are reactive to student needs and interests, and place focus on engaged discussion. I facilitate creative problem-solving in the classroom without the need for tight structural constraints and I aim to meet students where they are at, learning through a conversational, respectful, and accessible process.

## DYLAN SEARS TEVAL SUMMARIES

### Quantitative Summary:

<b>QUANTIATIVE TEVAL SUMMARIES</b>			
TERM\COURSE (STUDENTS)	STATISTICS	COMPARATIVE	
	RAW\ADJUSTED	RAW\ADJUSTED	
<b>F22\SOCIO 460 A: Youth and Crime (19) 53% Responding</b>			
Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.4\4.2	HM\H	
Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.4\4.1	HM\HM	
Amount learned in the course	4.1\3.8	M\H	
<b>S23\SOCIO 211: Intro to Sociology (46) 46% Responding</b>			
Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.7\4.9	H\H	
Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.7\5.0	H\H	
Amount learned in the course	4.4\4.6	HM\H	
<b>F23\SOCIO 211: Intro to Sociology (73) 59% Responding</b>			
Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.7\4.9	H\H	
Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.6\4.9	H\H	
Amount learned in the course	4.5\4.7	H\H	
<b>S24\SOCIO 211: Intro to Sociology (48) 52% Responding</b>			
Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.6\4.8	HM\H	
Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.2\4.6	HM\H	
Amount learned in the course	4.2\4.7	HM\H	
<b>F24\SOCIO 211: Intro to Sociology (74) 61% Responding</b>			
Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.6\4.9	HM\H	
Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.2\4.8	HM\H	
Amount learned in the course	4.0\4.6	M\H	
<b>SU24\SOCIO 211: Intro to Sociology (15) 20% Responding (Online)</b>			
Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.7\4.5	H\HM	
Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.7\4.5	H\H	
Amount learned in the course	3.7\3.4	M\LM	
<b>S25\SOCIO 211: Intro to Sociology (47) 30% Responding</b>			
Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.7\5.0	H\H	
Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.3\4.8	HM\H	
Amount learned in the course	4.3\4.4	HM\HM	

### **Qualitative Summary:**

Students often find me approachable and easy-going in the classroom, they appreciate my passion and excitement for sociological and criminological topics, and they find that my teaching methods and classroom engagement activities make the class more enjoyable to attend. Common positive notes or points of praise relate to the practice in my classroom of tying course material into current events and relating them to aspects of life outside of the classroom through the use of pop culture, images, and applied activities. With regards to classroom activities and assignments, students appreciate the depth of my applying sociology activities, stating they give them something concrete to reference with regards to the type of work sociologists and criminologists might do. Students noted that this gave them a greater understanding and appreciation of both disciplines, as many of them lacked understanding of the work professionals in these fields did prior to taking my courses. Students also appreciated the simplicity of my quiz and exam structure, finding them less stressful than similar assignments in other courses. In terms of common points of critique, prior to Spring 2025, students often noted that slides in my courses were too text heavy which could, at times, make material difficult to follow in class. They also noted that there were moments where it felt as though I was reading from the slides rather than the slides being supplemental to the lecture, which could create a boring classroom atmosphere. Additionally, students in the Spring 2025 course noted that the book club was in need of tweaking to encourage more rigorous and engaged reading across the classroom, as the group-oriented nature of the book clubs resulted in some students failing to read any material before discussion days.



**Teval Report: Student Ratings of Instruction**  
Teaching and Learning Center | Kansas State University

Faculty Member: <b>Sears, Dylan</b>	Course Name: <b>Youth and Crime(16227)</b>	Course #: <b>SOCIO 460 A</b>
Hr./Days: <b>1330 MWF On Campus</b>	College: <b>Arts and Sciences</b>	Term: <b>Fall 2022</b>

Responses from 10 of the 19 enrolled (53%)

Offered: 11/30/22 - 12/17/22

**Overall Effectiveness**

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Obtained Responses</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	0	1	0	2	5	2	1.0	4.4
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	0	1	0	2	5	2	1.0	4.4
14. Amount learned in the course	0	0	2	3	3	2	0.8	4.1
							Statistics	
							Comparative Status <sup>2</sup>	
							Raw	Adjusted <sup>3</sup>
<b>Averages and Comparative Status</b>							Raw	Adjusted <sup>3</sup>
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher							HM	M
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject							HM	HM
14. Amount learned in the course							M	M

**Ratings of Student Attributes and Instructional Styles**

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Relevant Student Attributes</b>								
12. Interest in the course before enrolling	0	0	2	2	4	2	0.8	4.3
13. Effort to learn in the course	0	0	1	4	3	2	0.7	4.3
<b>Instructional Styles</b>								
A. Establishing a Learning Climate								
2. Made the course goals and objectives clear	0	0	0	2	6	2	0.4	4.8
3. Well prepared for class	0	0	0	2	6	2	0.4	4.8
5. Interest in helping students learn	0	0	1	1	6	2	0.7	4.6
10. Willingness to help outside of class	0	0	0	3	5	2	0.5	4.6
B. Facilitating Student Learning								
4. Explained the subject clearly	0	0	0	1	7	2	0.3	4.9
6. Stimulated thinking about the subject	0	1	1	1	5	2	1.1	4.3
7. Made helpful comments on student work	0	1	1	0	6	2	1.1	4.4
8. Grading procedures fair and equitable	0	0	0	2	6	2	0.4	4.8
9. Realized when students did not understand	0	0	0	2	6	2	0.4	4.8

**Instructor's Description of Class**

A. Type of class	Lecture
B. Class size	About right
C. Physical facilities	Exceptionally good
D. Previously taught this course?	None
E. Approach significantly different this term?	No
F. Description of teaching load?	Average
G. Attitude toward teaching this course	I wanted to
H. Control of course decisions	Yes- I was responsible for all decisions
I. Differences in student preparation	Not a problem
J. Student enthusiasm	Moderate; neither high nor low
K. Student effort to learn	Satisfactory
L. Additional comments?	No additional comments

<sup>1</sup> STANDARD DEVIATION<sup>2</sup> RELATIVE TO KSU CLASSES RATED BY 10 OR MORE STUDENTS: H=UPPER 10%; HM=NEXT 20%; M=MIDDLE 40%; LM=NEXT 20%; L=LOWEST 10%<sup>3</sup> ADJUSTED FOR STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS & CLASS SIZE: SEE TEVAL GUIDE



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Youth and Crime(16227)** Course #: **SOCIO 460 A**  
Hr./Days: **1330 MWF On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences** Term: **Fall 2022**

### Additional Questions

1. What aspect of the course and/or my teaching style do you think should be changed?
- N/A
  - I believe for your first year of teaching the class I think you did a great job. You engaged with the class and had common sense and were understanding to any situation that came about.
  - Keep up the good work
  - Nothing, I have learned so much in this class and you made it interesting and fair. The exact outcome I was hoping for when I signed up for the class.
  - Nothing
  - Provide greater incentives for students to come to class, and make the in-class discussions less awkward somehow
  - I enjoyed the in-class assignments. The more interactive classes kept me engaged and interested in the material, I would add more interactive elements.
2. What aspect of the course and/or my teaching style did you enjoy?
- watching videos bc I'm a visual learner!
  - I thought the whole class was good. You seemed fair to everyone evenly and didn't show favoritism and treated each student with respect and fairness.
  - Getting everyone involved
  - I enjoyed learning about the get tough era, moral panics and how schools relate to delinquency in children.
  - I really enjoyed this class. I feel like I got a lot out of it and really learned a lot. I enjoyed the book clubs and all of the in-class discussions.
  - you are pretty chill and are not big on tests or quizzes
  - I enjoyed the book club.
  - I enjoyed your laidback nature of teaching helped me learn more than I would have.

### Additional Comments

1. Additional Comments
- I thought you did a great job and feel that each year you teach your reputation will be great and respected.  
It'll get more comfortable each year. Great job and thank you .



Faculty Member: <b>Sears, Dylan</b>	Course Name: <b>Intro Sociology(11750)</b>	Course #: <b>SOCIO 211</b>
Hr./Days: <b>130 MWF On Campus</b>	College: <b>Arts and Sciences</b>	Term: <b>Spring 2023</b>

Responses from 21 of the 46 enrolled (46%)

Offered: 04/25/23 - 05/13/23

### Overall Effectiveness

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Obtained Responses</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	0	0	2	2	17	0	0.6	4.7
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	0	0	3	1	17	0	0.7	4.7
14. Amount learned in the course	0	0	3	6	12	0	0.7	4.4
							Statistics	
				Raw			Adjusted <sup>3</sup>	Adjusted <sup>3</sup>
<b>Averages and Comparative Status</b>							Raw	Adjusted <sup>3</sup>
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher				4.7	4.9			H
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject				4.7	5.0			H
14. Amount learned in the course				4.4	4.6			HM

### Ratings of Student Attributes and Instructional Styles

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Relevant Student Attributes</b>								
12. Interest in the course before enrolling	1	1	7	8	4	0	1.0	3.6
13. Effort to learn in the course	0	0	4	10	7	0	0.7	4.1
<b>Instructional Styles</b>								
A. Establishing a Learning Climate								
2. Made the course goals and objectives clear	0	0	0	3	18	0	0.3	4.9
3. Well prepared for class	0	0	0	1	20	0	0.2	5.0
5. Interest in helping students learn	0	0	2	4	15	0	0.7	4.6
10. Willingness to help outside of class	0	0	2	5	14	0	0.7	4.6
B. Facilitating Student Learning								
4. Explained the subject clearly	0	0	0	6	15	0	0.5	4.7
6. Stimulated thinking about the subject	0	0	3	2	16	0	0.7	4.6
7. Made helpful comments on student work	0	0	2	4	15	0	0.7	4.6
8. Grading procedures fair and equitable	0	0	1	2	18	0	0.5	4.8
9. Realized when students did not understand	0	0	2	2	17	0	0.6	4.7

### Instructor's Description of Class

A. Type of class
B. Class size
C. Physical facilities
D. Previously taught this course?
E. Approach significantly different this term?
F. Description of teaching load?
G. Attitude toward teaching this course
H. Control of course decisions
I. Differences in student preparation
J. Student enthusiasm
K. Student effort to learn
L. Additional comments?

<sup>1</sup> STANDARD DEVIATION

<sup>2</sup> RELATIVE TO KSU CLASSES RATED BY 10 OR MORE STUDENTS: H=UPPER 10%; HM=NEXT 20%; M=MIDDLE 40%; LM=NEXT 20%; L=LOWEST 10%

<sup>3</sup> ADJUSTED FOR STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS & CLASS SIZE: SEE TEVAL GUIDE



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11750)** Course #: **SOCIO 211**  
Hr./Days: **130 MWF On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences** Term: **Spring 2023**

### Additional Questions

1. What aspect of the course and/or my teaching style do you think should be changed?
- I liked everything about the way Dylan taught this class.
  - I think it could be beneficial to add more in class discussion activities.
  - I loved how Dylan taught and how he made the slides accessible to the students so that we could keep our notes up to date.
  - Maybe more interactive lessons.
  - The only thing I would change is the powerpoint slides. Some of them were difficult to reach because of the bright colors or fonts. Otherwise, I really enjoy the material and how you presented it.
  - sometimes the lectures were boring but that was normally because I was tired or stressed about another class
  - Some more in-class activities to make sure we understand the materials would be good.
  - I think the due dates should be shorter. Sometimes there was too much time in between quizzes and I would forget the lecture material by then.
  - Have students do more writing in class.
  - I honestly don't think much should change from Dylan's teaching style, because it wasn't so test structured like you won't know anything unless you come type feeling, I was interested in attending class.
  - None
  - Nothing, you were a great professor and taught the course very well!!
  - NONE
  - I think you did a great job teaching and was a fun teacher!
  - I liked the way you lectured.
  - I can't think of anything that really needs to be changed.
  - I feel I would've learned more if the test were in person
2. What aspect of the course and/or my teaching style did you enjoy?
- I enjoyed how much Dylan cared for the subject which in turn made it more fun to learn.
  - I liked that you posted all of your notes online.
  - I enjoyed creating scenarios for the guy that we were screwing up his life and saw how his social life, work life, and everything else was affected by it.
  - I enjoy how flexible and stress free your teaching style is.
  - I enjoy how you kept students engaged by including them in the class discussions
  - I love the way you have the quizzes and assignments
  - I enjoyed the style of the class and how you made lectures interesting.
  - I liked how when we learned certain concepts you applied them to real life and created an example on the board and explained different variables or aspects, or created an activity that related to real life events.
  - I liked the applying sociology assignments and the lectures.
  - I enjoyed the slides.
  - I truly enjoyed his teaching style, if I had to miss class for any reason at all I would just email him, look at the slides or go to the next class for the recap at the beginning of class. I really enjoyed Dylan.
  - I liked the assignments that were given because they were interactive and helped me better understand concepts.
  - I really enjoyed how you spoke with us rather than to us. You asked us a lot of questions, making us think about certain aspects of the class. And torturing poor Fred
  - In class discussions
  - how you made the content relate to our lives and made it fun and easy to understand.
  - I liked how we had short 5 question weekly quizzes to review the information. I also liked the exam review sessions!
  - I love how low-key you made class. It felt warm and like a whole class discussion every day. You were great at communicating new ideas and engaging the class.
  - I enjoyed how his class and how laid back it is. I enjoy how when he teaches he doesn't lecture his students to death. Rather he engages with his student by getting our opening on the sociological world.

### Additional Comments

1. Additional Comments
- N/A
  - Dylan did a really good job of making this class interesting for students.
  - no

*question continued on next page*



**Teval Report: Student Ratings of Instruction**  
*Teaching and Learning Center | Kansas State University*

Faculty Member: <b>Sears, Dylan</b>	Course Name: <b>Intro Sociology(11750)</b>	Course #: <b>SOCIO 211</b>
Hr./Days: <b>130 MWF On Campus</b>	College: <b>Arts and Sciences</b>	Term: <b>Spring 2023</b>

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I absolutely love Dylans class structure and his teaching!</li><li>• N/A</li></ul> |
|--|--|



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11691)**

Course #: **SOCIO 211**

Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Term: **Fall 2023**

Responses from 43 of the 73 enrolled (59%)

Offered: 11/30/23 - 12/19/23

### Overall Effectiveness

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Obtained Responses</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	0	1	1	9	31	1	0.6	4.7
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	0	1	2	9	30	1	0.7	4.6
14. Amount learned in the course	0	1	3	11	27	1	0.7	4.5
<b>Averages and Comparative Status</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.7			4.9			H	H
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.6			4.9			H	H
14. Amount learned in the course	4.5			4.7			H	H

### Ratings of Student Attributes and Instructional Styles

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Relevant Student Attributes</b>								
12. Interest in the course before enrolling	2	4	11	11	14	1	1.2	3.7
13. Effort to learn in the course	0	1	6	14	21	1	0.8	4.3
<b>Instructional Styles</b>								
A. Establishing a Learning Climate								
2. Made the course goals and objectives clear	0	0	1	5	36	1	0.4	4.8
3. Well prepared for class	0	0	0	6	36	1	0.3	4.9
5. Interest in helping students learn	0	0	2	8	32	1	0.5	4.7
10. Willingness to help outside of class	0	1	1	9	30	2	0.6	4.7
B. Facilitating Student Learning								
4. Explained the subject clearly	0	0	1	5	36	1	0.4	4.8
6. Stimulated thinking about the subject	0	2	1	6	33	1	0.7	4.7
7. Made helpful comments on student work	1	1	1	10	29	1	0.9	4.5
8. Grading procedures fair and equitable	0	0	1	4	36	2	0.4	4.9
9. Realized when students did not understand	0	0	4	5	32	2	0.6	4.7

### Instructor's Description of Class

A. Type of class
B. Class size
C. Physical facilities
D. Previously taught this course?
E. Approach significantly different this term?
F. Description of teaching load?
G. Attitude toward teaching this course
H. Control of course decisions
I. Differences in student preparation
J. Student enthusiasm
K. Student effort to learn
L. Additional comments?

<sup>1</sup> STANDARD DEVIATION

<sup>2</sup> RELATIVE TO KSU CLASSES RATED BY 10 OR MORE STUDENTS: H=UPPER 10%; HM=NEXT 20%; M=MIDDLE 40%; LM=NEXT 20%; L=LOWEST 10%

<sup>3</sup> ADJUSTED FOR STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS & CLASS SIZE: SEE TEVAL GUIDE

Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11691)**

Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Course #: **SOCIO 211**

Term: **Fall 2023**

### Additional Questions

1.	What did you most enjoy in this course? (In other words, what assignments/lectures/topics worked best?)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I enjoyed the lectures and the assignment. Dylan Sears was a great professor and did a great job keeping everyone's attention throughout the whole lecture.</li> <li>• I thought the "Applying Sociology" assignments were a great way for student to apply concepts they were learning and to better understand those ideas.</li> <li>• I enjoyed the criminal subjects the most</li> <li>• Notes</li> <li>• I enjoyed the two projects, it was fun to go out and find signs and watch people in a different light.</li> <li>• I really liked the applying sociology activities actually! It was really interesting actually getting to use and think more deeply about the thinks we were learning in class.</li> <li>• Analyzing basic components of society that led to a strong foundation of further understanding of how things are. Topic of true crime/cults was fun!</li> <li>• I enjoyed how the notes worked</li> <li>• As a criminology major, I really enjoyed the crime and deviance portion of the course, as well as when we talked about the satanic panic.</li> <li>• I enjoyed the lectures and the applying sociology assignments.</li> <li>• I enjoyed taking what we learned and applying it in real life situations.</li> <li>• I learned a lot abt the people who invented sociology</li> <li>• I enjoyed the moral panics sections.</li> <li>• I enjoyed the lectures and the applying sociology assignments.</li> <li>• I really enjoyed the lectures, because he made them very interesting and was able to teach in a way that was not over-complicated and easily understandable.</li> <li>• Work load was a sufficient amount. I like how the instructor got the class engaged.</li> <li>• I enjoyed the Applying Sociology activities. It felt rewarding to go outside of my comfort zone and watch social interactions and behavior. I also really enjoyed the lectures themselves, they were very clear and explained the concepts very well.</li> <li>• I enjoyed the few assignments we had because they helped me apply what I learned in class to the real world.</li> <li>• I just enjoyed the overall course itself. I found it quite interesting and the way he taught it was very understandable.</li> <li>• Regular lecture powerpoints</li> <li>• I really enjoyed the weekly tests being short and sweet and still managing to cover everything we had learned. I also had a lot of fun doing the applying sociology assignments.</li> <li>• I really enjoyed this course and I am glad I took it. I've always been curious in learning more about sociology and this course delivered everything about it. I especially enjoyed my professor's passion for the subject and the way he engaged us every lecture. He included our thoughts and listened to our opinions on matters.</li> <li>• Learning about how different appearances or social role can affect how society sees you</li> <li>• The crime and deviance section</li> <li>• I enjoyed a lot of the labs we did because I feel like they gave you a break from the computer work to see applications. I think the pre-class lectures helped a lot since we got to talk about prior knowledge that helped us during the actual classwork.</li> <li>• Learning about social behaviors</li> <li>• For me, it was how we would review for midterms/exams, it really helped to review in class along other students so that I felt more confident going into a test and knowing there were other students who needed to review in class just as much as I did.</li> <li>• I liked learning about the way people think and act.</li> <li>• I overall liked this whole class but i did like to do the assignment about signs in our day to day life's that are there for a reason.</li> <li>• I enjoyed the conversations that we had in class and the debates but also the information and how it was presented in class.</li> <li>• I enjoyed the crime and deviance lecture we went over because it was very interesting to me.</li> <li>• I liked learning about criminal sociology</li> <li>• I enjoyed learning what sociology really is and what it can do for society.</li> <li>• Very good tecaher</li> <li>• the observation assignment</li> <li>• I enjoyed having a class that was not related to math, physics, or engineering (I'm an electrical engineering major). I enjoyed not having an equation to solve but rather having to think critically about why people do what they do in a society.</li> <li>• I enjoyed all of the real-life examples and being able to see how each of the concepts we discussed were not just ideas but patterns.</li> </ul>
2.	What did you not enjoy in this course? (In other words, what assignments/lectures/topics need improvement?)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nothing I enjoyed all of it. The work was manageable and the lectures were easy to follow along.</li> <li>• No complaints</li> </ul>

*question continued on next page*



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11691)**  
Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Course #: **SOCIO 211**  
Term: **Fall 2023**

- the begining of this course
- lectures
- Some of the histories were a little hard to grasp, at least they were hard to keep interest.
- Literally my only complaint is that I couldn't write fast enough to keep up with the slides during the lecture
- n/a
- Enjoyed the course
- N/A
- N/A
- The lectures were very repetitive and I got bored a lot.
- I didn't enjoy talking about what sociologist do instead of learned why they do what they do
- Nothing
- The course was very repetitive.
- I thought this course was good and was enjoyable.
- I enjoyed the different topics we covered, and the assignments were created to help us understand the concepts a lot better.
- My only thing I wish we had was the lector slides before the week started so that we could follow along with the lecture. And sometimes it's harder for me to see the screen.
- The quizzes were honestly too easy, which I'm sure isn't something other people will say, but they were very easy to complete with 100%.
- there wasn't really anything I didn't enjoy about this course
- I would've preferred to have had access to the powerpoints during the lecture so i can make notes on the actual powerpoint instead of a whole new doc.
- I really have no complaints for this class. all the assignments were fair and helpful towards the class subject and weren't too much work.
- I honestly had nothing I disliked about this course.
- Class discussion about society
- I did not enjoy the computer work sometimes because I feel like when there are not anything outside of it to help, I do not retain information as well.
- I actually really enjoyed the class over all
- I think in some lectures we would go through the slides really fast and it sometimes made it hard to retain the information but we did have access to the slides at the end of the week so that helped.
- The quizzes.
- I thought that the class needed to be more than just him reading information off the slides that he would send out.
- Nothing. Great class and teacher
- The Satanic Panic section
- a possible opportunity for more points in the class since there aren't very many assignments.
- N/a
- Just the length of the lecture in a topic I am not super interested in
- Some of the content was kind of intuitive, like some stuff taught is just kind of common sense. I know it's just in intro class so that's to be expected to some extent. Otherwise I enjoyed the class a lot.
- I mean, I didn't "enjoy" doing assignments. But they were engaging, and fairly easy as well as there weren't many of them. I wouldn't change anything.

### Additional Comments

1. Additional Comments
- an amazing teacher who explained everything very well and cared about student success! perfect example of a wonderful teacher
  - I really enjoyed Dylan, he kept class light and made it lots of fun to show up. Had lots of humor involved but also taught well too. It was the perfect mix to keep motivation going for the class. I would recommend him to anyone that may have the chance to take his class, even if not going into sociology.
  - Great teacher! Enjoyed the class/humor.
  - N/A
  - 10/10 fun class  
middle school teacher vibes asf
  - none

question continued on next page



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11691)**

Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Course #: **SOCIO 211**

Term: **Fall 2023**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I think Mr. Dylan is a pretty good teacher. Hearing about his journey thorough academia and how he applied what he learned from sociology to his life experiences was pretty cool. I liked how (even if the class wasn't willing to participate all the time) there was class discussion of ideas which is very different from science, engineering, and math lectures I'm used to. Overall, cool guy and a nice class to take :)</li><li>• More people need to be as prepared as Dylan when teaching. Most people who teach off of slides are boring, but his presentations were always engaging and you could tell he knew what he was talking about well and enjoyed it.</li></ul> |
|--|---|



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11634)**  
 Hr./Days: **105 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Course #: **SOCIO 211**  
 Term: **Spring 2024**

Responses from 25 of the 48 enrolled (52%)

Offered: 05/01/24 - 05/13/24

### Overall Effectiveness

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	Avg
<b>Obtained Responses</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	0	0	3	4	18	0	0.7	4.6
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	1	1	3	6	13	1	1.1	4.2
14. Amount learned in the course	0	1	4	9	11	0	0.8	4.2
	Statistics						Comparative Status <sup>2</sup>	
	Raw			Adjusted <sup>3</sup>			Raw	Adjusted <sup>3</sup>
<b>Averages and Comparative Status</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.6			4.8			HM	H
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.2			4.6			HM	H
14. Amount learned in the course	4.2			4.7			HM	H

### Ratings of Student Attributes and Instructional Styles

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	Avg
<b>Relevant Student Attributes</b>								
12. Interest in the course before enrolling	1	7	9	2	6	0	1.2	3.2
13. Effort to learn in the course	0	4	5	7	9	0	1.1	3.8
<b>Instructional Styles</b>								
A. Establishing a Learning Climate								
2. Made the course goals and objectives clear	0	0	1	2	22	0	0.5	4.8
3. Well prepared for class	0	0	1	0	24	0	0.4	4.9
5. Interest in helping students learn	1	0	2	4	18	0	0.9	4.5
10. Willingness to help outside of class	0	1	3	5	16	0	0.9	4.4
B. Facilitating Student Learning								
4. Explained the subject clearly	0	0	1	3	21	0	0.5	4.8
6. Stimulated thinking about the subject	1	0	1	2	21	0	0.9	4.7
7. Made helpful comments on student work	0	1	2	3	19	0	0.8	4.6
8. Grading procedures fair and equitable	0	1	0	2	22	0	0.6	4.8
9. Realized when students did not understand	0	1	4	3	17	0	0.9	4.4

### Instructor's Description of Class

A. Type of class
B. Class size
C. Physical facilities
D. Previously taught this course?
E. Approach significantly different this term?
F. Description of teaching load?
G. Attitude toward teaching this course
H. Control of course decisions
I. Differences in student preparation
J. Student enthusiasm
K. Student effort to learn
L. Additional comments?

<sup>1</sup> STANDARD DEVIATION

<sup>2</sup> RELATIVE TO KSU CLASSES RATED BY 10 OR MORE STUDENTS: H=UPPER 10%; HM=NEXT 20%; M=MIDDLE 40%; LM=NEXT 20%; L=LOWEST 10%

<sup>3</sup> ADJUSTED FOR STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS & CLASS SIZE: SEE TEVAL GUIDE



Faculty Member: <b>Sears, Dylan</b>	Course Name: <b>Intro Sociology(11634)</b>	Course #: <b>SOCIO 211</b>
Hr./Days: <b>105 TU On Campus</b>	College: <b>Arts and Sciences</b>	Term: <b>Spring 2024</b>

## Additional Questions

1. What aspect of this course and/or the instructor's teaching style do you think should be changed?
- I don't think anything should be changed about the instructor's teaching style. Mr. Sears was one of the best instructors I have had while attending higher education since 2002.
  - I think it's great how prepared he was for class each day, but reading straight off a powerpoint is never a way that students learn best or a way to encourage interest in the subject.
  - I thought the course was well taught and wouldn't suggest any changes.
  - I wish there would have been more time to do small group discussions or work related to the topic. I felt like I didn't get to engage with my classmates much.
  - I think maybe do other stuff in class rather than just reading off a presentation because we can read it in our own time.
  - Somehow making the class more interactive than lecture all the time.
  - The only thing I can think of is putting less words on the slides. Sometimes they can get a little overwhelming when it's a wall of text.
  - I think that one thing I would change is not posting all of the notes online, maybe only posting partial slides. I found it hard for me to make it to class even though I enjoyed the class because I knew all of the lecture was online. I think it would just give students more reason and desire to show up to class.
  - I have no complaints.
  - more participation, felt like this class was more of just sitting and listening.
  - I think it was all great. Felt very chill but still informative.
  - Emphasis that weekly readings need to be read since there's questions on exams about them.
  - I wish the slides weren't so dense and text heavy, just personal preference. I prefer having minimal things to potentially copy from a slide and have more to write from what the teacher is saying/asking.
  - I think he did a great job!
  - I think the course could have been a little more interactive rather than just lecture after lecture.
  - I think the slides should have a fill in the blank style. That way lecture is more engaging because students have to follow along and write things for themselves. Completed notes could be posted after the lecture for reference, but I think having room to write notes on the slides would help people pay better attention.
  - I honestly would not change much minus having more activities to have during classes.
  - Nothing. I admired the way that he taught. He made me focus on the class without having to stress about it
  - Lectures are long, sometimes that can't be helped but it's something
  - Good teaching, sometimes the text on the slides get a bit small to read but maybe that's just me.
  - I think the notes should be more engaging. I think it would've made me engage more if I had to fill in the blanks for take more notes in general.
2. What aspect of this course and/or the instructor's teaching style did you most enjoy?
- Mr. Sears was extremely knowledgeable in the subject he taught, he was very engaging with the class, and made learning theories fun to learn about. Kansas State University needs to pay Mr. Sears more money and offer him a job as a Professor when he finishes his Doctorate.
  - he was always very laid back and didn't put pressure on the students and it was always an enjoyable class from the environment he created.
  - I liked how flexible the teacher was and how he made sure his students understood and enjoyed the material.
  - I liked how Dylan was able to connect the course topics to real-life things happening in the world. It made the information more accessible & relevant to my life.
  - I enjoyed how Dylan explained the concepts thought and would make references. He is smart and knows his stuff.
  - The freedom of doing assignments at your own pace
  - I enjoyed how he always applied it to our lives in ways that we, as college students, could understand.
  - I really enjoyed that this class was a lot of big group discussions and questions. I also enjoyed that there were in class assignments to do where we were able to work with other students around us. I think my favorite thing was doing the applying sociology outside of class, it made me think about the concepts in my own day to day life that is typically something I would just look over.
  - I liked that a lot of real-life examples were used, and not just made-up scenarios. I liked that we got honest opinions on certain topics and people.
  - I enjoyed how relatable Dylan is. The communication we had before class started was a good way to make the class feel more comfortable.
  - I enjoyed how it wasn't a super stressful class. You just have to show up and there were only a few assignments and weekly quizzes so I think it was a very good course for me at least.
  - I appreciated the way the material was explained. This subject was completely new to me and it's very helpful when a professor is able to take the material and put it in words that we can all understand. I also liked that we were able to use the things we learned in class and apply them to the real world through apply sociology activities.

question continued on next page



Faculty Member: <b>Sears, Dylan</b>	Course Name: <b>Intro Sociology(11634)</b>	Course #: <b>SOCIO 211</b>
Hr./Days: <b>105 TU On Campus</b>	College: <b>Arts and Sciences</b>	Term: <b>Spring 2024</b>

- I really enjoyed the Applying Sociology Activities, I thought it was a great way for us to see what actual sociologists might do and how they interpret the word around them. I enjoyed that there were moments in class where Dylan asked the class how a sociologist might perceive things, again giving us the chance to interpret things in ways we wouldn't have thought of before.
- I liked how he was always willing to help.
- I liked how he was so lighthearted when he taught and was always in a good mood.
- I enjoyed how he connected with the classroom and was personal with us. I also really liked all the examples he used throughout.
- I really enjoyed the laid back nature, and understood that this was an introduction course, and treated it as such, unlike some of my other professors that I have had.
- all of it
- Subject was interesting
- Relaxed teacher but still effectively teaches.
- I enjoyed the flexibility that this course brought to my schedule.

### Additional Comments

1.	Additional Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I enjoyed having Dylan as my instructor. He made class fun and easy to attend while still getting the course material across in an effective manner.</li><li>• I really enjoyed this class and all of the topics we were able to cover. I found myself learning and enjoying what I was learning. This was probably one of my favorite classes I have taken, and I believe the teacher had a lot to do with it. One of my new favorite teachers throughout all of my years in different schooling.</li><li>• The material was interesting, and the sociological assignments made me change the way I looked at society.</li><li>• none</li><li>• Thanks for all the fun conversations Dylan!</li></ul>



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(12345)**

Course #: **SOCIO 211**  
**ZA**

Hr./Days: **Global Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**  
**Courses**

Term: **Summer 2024**

Responses from 3 of the 15 enrolled (20%)

Offered: 07/23/24 - 08/16/24

### Overall Effectiveness

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Obtained Responses</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	0	0	0	1	2	0	0.5	4.7
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	0	0	0	1	2	0	0.5	4.7
14. Amount learned in the course	0	1	0	1	1	0	1.2	3.7
<b>Averages and Comparative Status</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.7			4.5			H	HM
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.7			4.5			H	H
14. Amount learned in the course	3.7			3.4			M	LM

### Ratings of Student Attributes and Instructional Styles

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Relevant Student Attributes</b>								
12. Interest in the course before enrolling	0	0	0	3	0	0	0.0	4.0
13. Effort to learn in the course	0	1	0	0	2	0	1.4	4.0
<b>Instructional Styles</b>								
A. Establishing a Learning Climate								
2. Made the course goals and objectives clear	0	0	0	1	2	0	0.5	4.7
3. Well prepared for the course	0	0	0	1	2	0	0.5	4.7
5. Interest in helping students learn	0	0	0	1	2	0	0.5	4.7
10. Willingness to help students	0	0	0	1	2	0	0.5	4.7
B. Facilitating Student Learning								
4. Explained the subject clearly	0	0	0	1	2	0	0.5	4.7
6. Stimulated thinking about the subject	0	0	0	1	2	0	0.5	4.7
7. Made helpful comments on student work	0	0	1	1	1	0	0.8	4.0
8. Grading procedures fair and equitable	0	0	0	2	1	0	0.5	4.3
9. Realized when students did not understand	0	0	2	1	0	0	0.5	3.3

### Instructor's Description of Class

A. Type of class
B. Class size
C. Physical facilities
D. Previously taught this course?
E. Approach significantly different this term?
F. Description of teaching load?
G. Attitude toward teaching this course
H. Control of course decisions
I. Differences in student preparation
J. Student enthusiasm
K. Student effort to learn
L. Additional comments?

<sup>1</sup> STANDARD DEVIATION

<sup>2</sup> RELATIVE TO KSU CLASSES RATED BY 10 OR MORE STUDENTS: H=UPPER 10%; HM=NEXT 20%; M=MIDDLE 40%; LM=NEXT 20%; L=LOWEST 10%



**Teval Report: Student Ratings of Instruction**  
*Teaching and Learning Center | Kansas State University*

Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(12345)**

Course #: **SOCIO 211**  
**ZA**

Hr./Days: **Global Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Term: **Summer 2024**

**Courses**

<sup>3</sup> ADJUSTED FOR STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS & CLASS SIZE: SEE TEVAL GUIDE



**Teval Report: Student Ratings of Instruction**  
Teaching and Learning Center | Kansas State University

Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(12345)**

Course #: **SOCIO 211**  
**ZA**

Hr./Days: **Global Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**  
**Courses**

Term: **Summer 2024**

### Distance Courses

		1	2	3	4	5	OMIT	SD	AVG
1.1	Enthusiasm for teaching online.	0	0	1	1	1	0	0.8	4.0
1.2	Timely return of graded materials.	0	0	1	1	1	0	0.8	4.0
1.3	Ability to create an environment that is conducive to learning and sharing.	0	0	1	1	1	0	0.8	4.0
1.4	Effective use of technology to deliver course content.	0	0	0	1	2	0	0.5	4.7
1.5	Ease of navigating the course (course structure).	0	0	0	1	2	0	0.5	4.7
1.6	Ability to engage students in communication, discussion, and group interaction	0	0	1	1	1	0	0.8	4.0
1.7	Timely and useful response to your communications.	0	0	0	2	1	0	0.5	4.3

1 = Very Low | 2 = Low | 3 = Medium | 4 = High | 5 = Very High

		1	2	3	4	5	OMIT	SD	AVG
2.1	Your enthusiasm for online learning.	0	0	1	1	1	0	0.8	4.0
2.2	Your effort to prepare for this distance learning course (for example - making sure you met the minimum technology requirements, were able to sign in to your course and reviewed the syllabus).	0	0	1	0	2	0	0.9	4.3
2.3	Your effort toward involvement/participation in class discussion and group interaction.	0	0	1	1	1	0	0.8	4.0

1 = Very Low | 2 = Low | 3 = Medium | 4 = High | 5 = Very High

### Additional Questions

1.	What aspect of this course and/or the instructor's teaching style do you think should be changed? • No comment • I am more of a fan of recorded lessons than quizzes over assignments.
2.	What aspect of this course and/or the instructor's teaching style did you most enjoy? • No comment • Longer quizzes.

### Additional Comments

1.	Additional Comments
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Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11612)**

Course #: **SOCIO 211 C**

Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Term: **Fall 2024**

Responses from 45 of the 74 enrolled (61%)

Offered: 12/03/24 - 12/17/24

### Overall Effectiveness

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Obtained Responses</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	0	0	3	10	32	0	0.6	4.6
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	1	4	7	4	27	2	1.2	4.2
14. Amount learned in the course	0	0	14	16	15	0	0.8	4.0
							Statistics	
	Raw			Adjusted <sup>3</sup>			Raw	Adjusted <sup>3</sup>
<b>Averages and Comparative Status</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	4.6			4.9			HM	H
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	4.2			4.8			HM	H
14. Amount learned in the course	4.0			4.6			M	H

### Ratings of Student Attributes and Instructional Styles

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Relevant Student Attributes</b>								
12. Interest in the course before enrolling	6	9	16	6	8	0	1.3	3.0
13. Effort to learn in the course	0	5	15	14	11	0	1.0	3.7
<b>Instructional Styles</b>								
A. Establishing a Learning Climate								
2. Made the course goals and objectives clear	0	0	1	4	40	0	0.4	4.9
3. Well prepared for class	0	0	1	6	38	0	0.4	4.8
5. Interest in helping students learn	0	1	3	9	32	0	0.7	4.6
10. Willingness to help outside of class	0	0	6	12	26	1	0.7	4.5
B. Facilitating Student Learning								
4. Explained the subject clearly	0	0	1	5	39	0	0.4	4.8
6. Stimulated thinking about the subject	0	2	5	7	31	0	0.9	4.5
7. Made helpful comments on student work	0	1	9	9	26	0	0.9	4.3
8. Grading procedures fair and equitable	0	0	0	5	40	0	0.3	4.9
9. Realized when students did not understand	0	0	6	11	27	1	0.7	4.5

### Instructor's Description of Class

A. Type of class
B. Class size
C. Physical facilities
D. Previously taught this course?
E. Approach significantly different this term?
F. Description of teaching load?
G. Attitude toward teaching this course
H. Control of course decisions
I. Differences in student preparation
J. Student enthusiasm
K. Student effort to learn
L. Additional comments?

<sup>1</sup> STANDARD DEVIATION

<sup>2</sup> RELATIVE TO KSU CLASSES RATED BY 10 OR MORE STUDENTS: H=UPPER 10%; HM=NEXT 20%; M=MIDDLE 40%; LM=NEXT 20%; L=LOWEST 10%



**Teval Report: Student Ratings of Instruction**  
*Teaching and Learning Center | Kansas State University*

Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11612)**  
Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Course #: **SOCIO 211 C**  
Term: **Fall 2024**

<sup>3</sup> ADJUSTED FOR STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS & CLASS SIZE: SEE TEVAL GUIDE

Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11612)**  
Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Course #: **SOCIO 211 C**  
Term: **Fall 2024**

### Additional Questions

1. What did you most enjoy in this course? (In other words, what should this instructor do again, or do more of in the future?)
- I really enjoyed the in class discussions, and how passionate Dylan Sears is about sociology.
  - I enjoyed his lecture style and how he was a very skill and laid back teacher. He did a good job of connecting with the class and giving us assignments that helped us learn but also didn't overload us with too much work to the point where it was overwhelming.
  - I liked the in class participation and how we studied before exams.
  - I enjoyed the applying sociology activities throughout this course because they helped me to understand how sociology applies to my everyday life.
  - I enjoyed learning about all the different topics that was covered in the semester, I wasn't too excited to take this class at first because I had no interest in it one bit, but I ended up actually enjoying it and found it interesting to see how people interact and how backgrounds and lifestyles really play an effect in people. I also liked the small collaborative assignments that we would have randomly.
  - I thought he taught this course very well. I thought it was funny he would make fun of his own profession for the purpose of us understanding the topic.
  - I enjoyed his reviews, they were clear and helped ease the stress of exams. I also enjoyed his passion for the subject. Although I came into it thinking it would be boring, he did a good job of making it seem more fun. His attitude my the class better.
  - Topics on the Moral Panics were really interesting and I enjoyed learning about it.
  - I enjoyed when fun examples were used during lectures to make it more interesting.
  - The amount of assignments and tests
  - I enjoyed the professor. He made learning so interesting that I was excited to learn because he is passionate about the topic. It feels rare for a professor to noticeably show how much they enjoy teaching but it truly makes the course way more enjoyable and engaging. I wish I could take another course with him just because of how well he did as a professor
  - I liked how the notes were posted. It took stress off of me if I was sick. I also really liked the applying sociology activities.
  - I appreciated the applying sociology activities that connected concepts to everyday life.
  - I enjoyed the Crime and Deviance unit as well as the Race unit.
  - I enjoyed all of the topics and the pace in which the course went throughout the semester. I think the class is really well set up that students can succeed and not be overwhelmed
  - I most enjoyed the applying sociology assignments!
  - I loved watching the documentary and doing the reflection paper.
  - I enjoyed learning about crime and deviance.
  - I enjoyed getting to learn how humans act in society and our behaviors in it. I think Mr. Sears does a good job of going into detail about the specific topics we cover and is very knowledgeable about them.
  - I enjoyed the criminology subject and the way the course was structured.
  - I enjoyed how structured the class was.
  - I enjoyed the applying sociology activities the most.
  - Just generally learning in the class
  - I enjoyed how he taught things and his humor.
  - I enjoyed learning about crime/deviance through a sociological lens.
  - Liked the style of class might be boring for some but very effective for learning information.
  - Do special topics again that was honestly the only part I liked
  - criminology and deviance was cool to learn about
  - I enjoyed how passionate he was about the topics.
  - I really enjoyed the interactive assignments that we did in class to help use the information we learned and apply it to a real scenario.
  - I enjoyed the inclusion of samples of video clips from outside of lecture that tied into the topics being discussed. It helped me connect the dots from class to the outside world.
  - I liked the lectures they aren't overwhelming me with information like some.
  - The class was interesting and fun
  - I really enjoyed the way the information was presented in the power point slides. They were easy to follow and helped me get a clear understanding of what was being taught
  - Sociology is just a very big topic. Talking and learning about all of the different parts is what I enjoyed most.
  - I enjoyed the applying sociology assignments the most because it gave me a chance to apply what I had learned in class and it allowed me the chance to look at society through a sociological lens.



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11612)**

Course #: **SOCIO 211 C**

Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Term: **Fall 2024**

2.	What did you least enjoy in this course? (In other words, what do you wish the instructor would have done differently/should do differently in the future?)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I honestly don't have something I didn't enjoy. The "weekly" quizzes were helpful recaps, the in class assignments active content reinforcement, and the exams were fair content.</li><li>• Maybe have more clear units/structure. He outlined the units that we would go over at the beginning of the year, and he pointed out when we were beginning a new topic. However, a lot of my notes had the same definitions/terms and kind of were repetitive, despite the new units. Maybe it is because sociology overlaps a lot, and it wasn't necessarily a bad thing, I just noticed some repetitiveness and overlap.</li><li>• nothing, i enjoyed this class.</li><li>• Although I know that there is a lot of information that needed to be taught in this course, I would have liked more hands on activities or assignments during class. The lectures got slightly boring and repetitive towards the end of the semester.</li><li>• This is nothing on Dylan or the course, but I just hated to the time and location of the class and for me it was all so inconvenient which made me kind of dread going to class. Other than that, I cant think of anything I didnt like about the structure of the class or the way it was taught.</li><li>• There were a lot of slide presentations, some days with around 70 slides, which is a lot to cram into one day as well as in our own notes. So maybe shorten the slides a bit.</li><li>• Just some of the history of theories weren't as interesting.</li><li>• Sometimes the lectures seemed repetitive or not interesting enough because the professor often just read off the slides.</li><li>• The classes got long after an hour of talking about conflict theory</li><li>• Honestly nothing. I feel like the layout of this course worked extremely well with my learning style and I feel out of all the courses I took this semester, I got the most out of this one.</li><li>• The instructor reading from powerpoint and thats it.</li><li>• N/A</li><li>• Many of the lectures were simply reading the slides, so it did not feel as though attending lecture was necessary.</li><li>• The Lecture often felt unstimulating and I don't think many people were engaged in the subject.</li><li>• N/A</li><li>• honestly nothing was awful.</li><li>• The lectures were boring.</li><li>• N/A</li><li>• I don't think they should do anything different in the future.</li><li>• I least enjoyed how long classes were.</li><li>• I least enjoyed sitting in front of slides every lecture; however, that is common so it's understandable.</li><li>• Timeslot for when I took it in the day</li><li>• sometimes it did get a little boring with the lectures.</li><li>• N/A</li><li>• nothing</li><li>• Try and do more in class activities with the material</li><li>• the functionalist theories were not super interesting</li><li>• How long the class was for how short of stuff we learned.</li><li>• i dont think there was anything that i didnt enjoy</li><li>• I have nothing for this! Dylan Sears was an excellent instructor.</li><li>• Sometimes the slides move too fast for me to get any information down.</li><li>• Nothing really</li><li>• Nothing</li><li>• THere isn't anything I think the teacher should do differently. the course was taught very well.</li><li>• I sometimes found the lectures kind of boring or slow, so maybe some more class participation would make certain content more interesting?</li></ul>

### Additional Comments

1.	Additional Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I enjoyed the class and learned a lot!</li><li>• good professor, understands the needs of students!</li><li>• Sociology was not bad</li><li>• I cannot express enough how well Dylan did as a professor.</li></ul>

*question continued on next page*



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11612)**

Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Course #: **SOCIO 211 C**

Term: **Fall 2024**

- He is a good teacher. Always prepared and he gets all the subject matter completed. He also listens to the wants of the students. I recommend him as a teacher over some of the other intro sociology teachers because I have heard many not so great things about them but I have no qualms with Dylan.
- Dylan Sears was a fantastic teacher who is very passionate about what he is teaching. He also seems to care a lot about his students and their success!
- Although this class has a lot of information, the lectures were boring and hard to pay attention to.
- n/a
- i really enjoyed this class and the instructor was funny and i felt like he was one of us not like a teacher who was above everyone.
- dylan is very personable and funny!! i hope he has a good day :)
- Great teacher



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11530)**

Course #: **SOCIO 211 D**

Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Section: **SOCIO 211 D**

Term: **Spring 2025**

Responses from 14 of the 47 enrolled (30%)

Offered: 05/07/25 - 05/16/25

### Overall Effectiveness

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Obtained Responses</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher	0	0	1	2	10	1	0.6	4.7
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject	1	0	0	4	7	2	1.1	4.3
14. Amount learned in the course	0	1	1	4	6	2	0.9	4.3
							Statistics	
							Comparative Status <sup>2</sup>	
				Raw			Adjusted <sup>3</sup>	
							Raw	Adjusted <sup>3</sup>
<b>Averages and Comparative Status</b>								
1. Overall effectiveness as a teacher				4.7		5.0		H H
11. Increased desire to learn about the subject				4.3		4.8		HM H
14. Amount learned in the course				4.3		4.4		HM HM

### Ratings of Student Attributes and Instructional Styles

	Number Responding [VL=1, VH=5]						Statistics	
	VL	L	M	H	VH	OMIT	SD <sup>1</sup>	AVG
<b>Relevant Student Attributes</b>								
12. Interest in the course before enrolling	1	1	5	3	2	2	1.1	3.3
13. Effort to learn in the course	1	0	2	2	7	2	1.2	4.2
<b>Instructional Styles</b>								
A. Establishing a Learning Climate								
2. Made the course goals and objectives clear	0	0	1	3	9	1	0.6	4.6
3. Well prepared for class	0	0	1	1	11	1	0.6	4.8
5. Interest in helping students learn	0	0	1	1	11	1	0.6	4.8
10. Willingness to help outside of class	0	0	1	6	6	1	0.6	4.4
B. Facilitating Student Learning								
4. Explained the subject clearly	0	0	0	3	10	1	0.4	4.8
6. Stimulated thinking about the subject	0	1	1	3	8	1	0.9	4.4
7. Made helpful comments on student work	0	1	3	4	5	1	1.0	4.0
8. Grading procedures fair and equitable	0	0	1	0	12	1	0.5	4.8
9. Realized when students did not understand	0	0	3	3	7	1	0.8	4.3

### Instructor's Description of Class

A. Type of class	Lecture
B. Class size	About right
C. Physical facilities	Less than adequate
D. Previously taught this course?	4 or more
E. Approach significantly different this term?	Yes
F. Description of teaching load?	Average
G. Attitude toward teaching this course	I was really enthusiastic
H. Control of course decisions	Partially- Some decisions were made by a department committee
I. Differences in student preparation	Not a problem
J. Student enthusiasm	Moderate; neither high nor low
K. Student effort to learn	Satisfactory
L. Additional comments?	Comments written on the FIF



**Teval Report: Student Ratings of Instruction**  
*Teaching and Learning Center | Kansas State University*

Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11530)**

Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Course #: **SOCIO 211 D**

Section: **SOCIO 211 D**

Term: **Spring 2025**

<sup>1</sup> STANDARD DEVIATION

<sup>2</sup> RELATIVE TO KSU CLASSES RATED BY 10 OR MORE STUDENTS: H=UPPER 10%; HM=NEXT 20%; M=MIDDLE 40%; LM=NEXT 20%; L=LOWEST 10%

<sup>3</sup> ADJUSTED FOR STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS & CLASS SIZE: SEE TEVAL GUIDE



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11530)**

Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Course #: **SOCIO 211 D**

Section: **SOCIO 211 D**

Term: **Spring 2025**

### **Instructor FIF Comments**

Classroom facilities were not well-structured for a class that hinges on a discussion-lecture hybrid approach. The tables bolted to the floor and crowded nature of the room undermined the potential for extensive engagement in the class.



Faculty Member: **Sears, Dylan** Course Name: **Intro Sociology(11530)**

Hr./Days: **1305 TU On Campus** College: **Arts and Sciences**

Course #: **SOCIO 211 D**

Section: **SOCIO 211 D**

Term: **Spring 2025**

## Additional Questions

1.	What did you most enjoy in this course? (In other words, what should this instructor do again, or do more of in the future?)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I enjoyed that the lectures were fun and also how there were always fun examples on harder topics that better helped me to understand what we were learning.</li><li>• I really enjoyed the class discussions and real-world examples that connected sociological theories to everyday life. They helped me better understand complex concepts and made the material more engaging. I think more interactive discussions or case studies like that would be great to include in future courses.</li><li>• His way of teaching was enjoyable and engaging. The book that we read had insights into an important topic regarding sociology, which I also enjoyed.</li><li>• It's easy</li><li>• The way the information was presented. It was engaging and interesting.</li><li>• I liked how the slides picture wise always related to the topic of that class day. It made it more intriguing.</li><li>• I enjoyed when Dylan linked modern examples in the lectures. It was also interesting to take what we learned and apply it within a book club.</li><li>• I enjoyed the applying sociology assignments as they made me think about sociology in my daily life. This activity deepened my understanding of the sociology topics covered in lecture.</li><li>• I enjoyed how he used different videos from popular shows/movies to help us understand what we were learning. It was a fun and different approach.</li></ul>
2.	What did you least enjoy in this course? (In other words, what do you wish the instructor would have done differently/should do differently in the future?)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Have individual points for book club meetings so the people that actually read and filled out the paper get credit and the people that just hope their group members read, won't.</li><li>• The applying sociology assignments</li><li>• The classroom.</li><li>• I wasn't a big fan of the book club days, but it was only a few so it wasn't too bad.</li><li>• I did not entirely enjoy the book club activities. I understand the meaning and effort behind this application, but most students do not read the required readings. Sadly, the students lacked effort in reading the book, and therefore, I feel that the assignments did not contribute to the class.</li><li>• I didn't enjoy the required book or book clubs.</li></ul>

## Additional Comments

1.	Additional Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• He deserves a raise. Also, no one deserves to be in that classroom with that many people.</li><li>• The course was enjoyable. The information is important, relevant, and presented in an engaging way. If only people would show up more often, not a fault of the professor, just the way things go.</li><li>• I really enjoyed this class, it was maybe my favorite one. His teaching style was great and I learned a lot. He found ways to make the subjects relatable and how to apply what we learned to our lives and the world around us. I will miss this class.</li></ul>

## INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY

SOCIO 211D

Spring 2024

**Meeting Times:** TU 1:05pm – 2:20pm

**Location:** Calvin 212

**Instructor:** Dylan Sears

**Email:** [dmsears@ksu.edu](mailto:dmsears@ksu.edu)

**Office:** N/A

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

*“Men make their own history, but they do not make it just as they please; they do not make it under circumstances chosen by themselves, but under circumstances directly encountered, given and transmitted from the past.” – Karl Marx, *The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte**

**Course Description:** A survey of the field of sociology, its theories, and key concepts. In this course, we will explore the sociological imagination and how we can use it to understand the world around us, especially with regards to cultural and social processes.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Establish a clear definition of what sociology is.
- Develop an understanding of the background historical development of sociology.
- Explore the major theoretical approaches of sociology and its central figures.
- Learn the various methods that sociologists use in their research.
- Apply sociology to the social inequality we see in American life.

### **Assignments:**

- 2 Exams
- 4 “Applying Sociology” Activities
- 10 Weekly Quizzes
- In-class participation activities

**Exams:** 2 multiple choice/short answer exams will be administered via Canvas, one as a midterm, and the other as a final. The exams will open on Canvas on the Monday of their given week and close the following Sunday at 11:59pm. On the Tuesday of each exam week, we will hold an **exam review session** to help prepare for the exam and alleviate any stress related to it.

**“Applying Sociology” Activities:** This semester we will engage in 4 activities in which we engage the sociological imagination outside the classroom by examining a different aspect of our daily lives. These allow us to engage critically with sociological topics, write about/reflect on our thoughts and experiences, and consider the plethora of social pressures we encounter on a daily basis.

**Submission Guidelines:** Assignment submissions should conform to the typical college/university submission rules as follows:

- Microsoft Word/Google Docs/Apple Pages documents (.docx or equivalent files).
- Times New Roman 12pt font.
- Submitted via Canvas.
- Includes student name and date at top of paper.
- When in doubt conform to MLA formatting which can be found here at: [Purdue OWL](#).

**Quizzes:** 10 quizzes consisting of 10 questions each which will open on canvas the Monday of their given week and will close the following Sunday at 11:59pm. They will cover that given week's lecture/reading material. The quizzes are open-book/open-note.

**Participation Activities:** In lieu of taking attendance in the traditional sense we will engage in weekly in-class participation activities that involve discussion, analysis, or reflective writing related to the lecture topics or current events (you will need pencils/pens and paper for this).

**Groups:** During the first week of the semester, we will form groups in which we will complete many of the participation activity assignments together as a group. More will be discussed on this in-class. **Groups will only be used for the participation activities.**

**Assessment:** This class is graded on a 500-point scale with point totals corresponding to grades below.

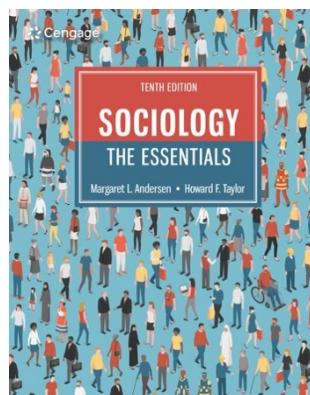
**Grade Breakdown:** A: 500 - 450 B: 449 - 400 C: 399 - 350 D: 349 - 300 F: 299 - 0

Assignments:	Points:
Participation Activities	100 Points
Exams	200 Points
Weekly Quizzes	100 Points
“Applying Sociology” Activities	100 Points
<b>Total</b>	<b>500 Points</b>

**Extra Credit:** No extra credit is offered in this course.

**Readings:** Most weeks there will be short reading assignments alongside the lecture material, these readings will be provided via Canvas in the given week's module.

**Textbook:** *Sociology: The Essentials*, 10<sup>th</sup> edition, by Margaret L. Andersen and Howard F. Taylor



## **Class Policies:**

**Discussion:** Engaged discussion is an important part of the college experience, so please come to class prepared to discuss the topic at hand with your peers. Additionally, this is sociology, and we analyze the social world, something we each engage with daily, you may hear things in this class you disagree with, if that is the case, please be respectful of others and engage with the material. Even if you disagree with the material, you should learn it to effectively critique the arguments it presents.

**Communication:** Please contact me via your **K-State email address** to ensure that I receive your messages (personal emails sometimes filter into spam). Additionally, allow 48 hours for reply, if I have not replied by then, do not hesitate to follow up. Finally, I only respond to emails from 9 to 5 on weekdays and rarely check my email on the weekends, so try to contact me with those constraints in mind. **You are not required to contact me if you are going to miss class.**

**Announcements:** Announcements will be made via the course canvas page and/or at the end of class.

**Office Hours:** Office hours are available by appointment via zoom or in-person, please email me or talk to me in class to schedule an office hours meeting.

**Electronics:** Laptop use is permitted in the classroom, but please be courteous to the rest of the class. Cell phone use is not permitted within the classroom if you need to respond to a message/call, please step into the hallway to do so.

**Attendance:** There are no points tied to attendance directly, but attendance is expected and to succeed in this class you must do your best to come to class on time and on the days we meet.

**Makeup Assignments:** This class does not offer makeup assignments outside of extenuating circumstances. If you have a life event that impacts your ability to complete assignments, please contact the office of student life who will then reach out to me at which point we can discuss next steps.

## **Schedule (Tentative):**

DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT/READING
<b>Week 1 – Introductions: What is Sociology?</b>		
1/16	Syllabus Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Syllabus, available on Canvas – week 1 module</li></ul>
1/18	What is Sociology?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quiz 1 due Sunday 1/21 at Midnight</li></ul>
<b>Week 2 – Introductions: What is Sociology?</b>		
1/23	Sociology: Influences and Origins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read: C. Wright Mills, “The Sociological Imagination” via Canvas</li></ul>
1/25	The Sociological Imagination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quiz 2 due Sunday 1/28 at Midnight</li></ul>
<b>Week 3 – Foundational Sociological Theory</b>		
1/30	Social Theory: Key Figures	
2/1	Social Theory: Functionalism	
<b>Week 4 – Foundational Sociological Theory</b>		

2/6	Social Theory: Conflict Theory	
2/8	Social Theory: Interactionist Theory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 3 due Sunday 2/11 at Midnight</li> <li>• Applying Sociology Activity 1 – Due Sunday, 2/18</li> </ul>
<b>Week 5 – Class, Stratification, and Consumerism</b>		
2/13	What do we mean by class and Stratification?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read: <i>Hinterland</i>: “The Cult of the City” via Canvas</li> </ul>
2/15	Class and Consumerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 4 due Sunday 2/18 at Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>Week 6 – Race &amp; Ethnicity</b>		
2/20	A Sociological Perspective on Race	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read: <i>Doing Race</i>: “Defining Race and Ethnicity” on Canvas</li> </ul>
2/22	Race and US Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 5 due Sunday 2/25 at Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>Week 7 – Midterm Week</b>		
2/27	Midterm Review Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study Guide posted via canvas and covered in-class</li> </ul>
2/29	Midterm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit Midterm by 3/3 at 11:59pm via Canvas</li> </ul>
<b>Week 8 – Sociological Methods</b>		
3/5	Sociological Research Methods	
3/7	Sociological Data in Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 6 due Sunday 3/10 at Midnight</li> <li>• Applying Sociology Activity 2 assigned – Due Sunday, 3/24</li> </ul>
<b>Week 9 – NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK</b>		
<b>Week 10 – Social Structure</b>		
3/19	The Structuring of Daily Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read: TBD</li> </ul>
3/21	Social Structure and Stratification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 7 due Sunday 3/24 at Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>Week 11 – Culture</b>		
3/26	What is Culture?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read: Hebdige, “Subculture” via Canvas</li> </ul>
3/28	Culture, language, symbols, and other forms of Meaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 8 due Sunday 3/31 at Midnight</li> <li>• Applying Sociology Activity 3 – Due Sunday, 4/7</li> </ul>
<b>Week 12 – Gender, Masculinity, and Femininity</b>		
4/2	A Sociological Perspective on Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read: Erving Goffman, <i>Presentation of Self</i>, “Introduction”</li> </ul>
4/4	Gender and Consumerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 8 due Sunday 4/7 at Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>Week 13 – Crime and Deviance in American Society</b>		

4/9	The social construction of crime and deviance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read: William Chambliss, “The Saints and the Roughnecks” via Canvas</li> </ul>
4/11	The Panopticon of (Late)Modern Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 9 due Sunday 4/14 at midnight</li> <li>• Applying Sociology Activity 4 – Due Sunday, 4/21</li> </ul>
<b>Week 14 – Education</b>		
4/16	The US Education System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read: Vox, “The School-to-Prison Pipeline, Explained” via Canvas</li> </ul>
4/18	The School-to-Prison Pipeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 10 due Sunday 4/21 at Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>Week 15 – Catch-up/Special Topics</b>		
4/23	Catch-up/Special Topics	
4/25	Catch-up/Special Topics	
<b>Week 16 – Dead Week</b>		
4/30	Final Exam Review Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study Guide posted via canvas and covered in-class</li> </ul>
5/2	No Class	
<b>Finals Week</b>		
5/6 – 5/10	Final Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit Final Exam by 5/10 at 11:59pm via Canvas</li> </ul>