

HSS 141 C, D

Prof. K.T.Chun(Ph.D.)

Introduction to Sociology

Fall 2020

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Email: kchun@stevens.edu

Office Hours: T & Thurs 10:00 to 11:00 A.M. & by appointment

Course Description

The purpose of this introductory course is to provide students with a variety of subject areas to study, leading to a more comprehensive understanding of contemporary society and its different parts. Given the complexity of modern society, this course will attempt to help the student see through many issues, some of which might have previously passed them by, or possibly may not have been placed in their proper context.

Some of the subject areas to study in this course include the following:

- The sociological imagination
- The nature and origins of the self- the self and academic success
- Classical and modern sociological theories
- Social stratification
- Political sociology
- Ethnicity and minority groups
- The Family
- The Criminal Justice System

Students will be expected to keep up with the assigned readings. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in class, discussing what they feel is necessary (or not important) or how their assignment has helped them (or not helped them) in their efforts to understand society.

Hybrid Class

We will have an in-person class every Thursday and Zoom class on Tuesday. Please make a note of it.

Zoom Class

I will conduct a Zoom class every Tuesday and Thursday. Please be sure to join me on time. Given the particular condition we are under, it is incumbent on us to make our online class useful for all of us. It means we need to interact and engage with each other as best as we can. Let us try our best to make our educational experience as good as the in-person class.

STUDENT LEARNER OUTCOMES:

1. Explain and illustrate an understanding of key sociological concepts.
2. Exhibit a basic understanding of major sociological theories, which requires the use of good listening, communication, and critical thinking skills.
3. Demonstrate critical thinking in substantive sociological areas, e.g. family, deviance, and population.
4. Explain sociological changes affecting diverse groups in the United States, which requires the ability to compare and contrast as well as an appreciation for good citizenship.
5. Demonstrate a basic sociological understanding of global interconnectedness, which requires the ability to compare and contrast, as well as the application of evaluative skills to understand international data.

Course Objectives:

This course will seek to achieve the following objectives:

1. To introduce students to the major concepts of sociology.
2. To present a critical overview of the major sociological theories.
3. To encourage and stimulate critical thinking.
4. To help students make sense of the society/world in which we live.
5. To enable students to question *the taken for granted*.
6. To assist students to become less ethnocentric and more tolerant of cultural, religious and racial differences.

Core Curriculum Learner Outcomes:

1. Listen and effectively communicate ideas through written, spoken, and visual means
2. Think critically via classifying, analyzing, comparing, contrasting, hypothesizing, synthesizing, extrapolating, and evaluating ideas
3. Apply information literacy/research skills to assist their systematic process of critical thought; articulating the problem, gathering information from multiple sources and venues; evaluating the accuracy/thoroughness/timeliness of the collected data, and determining when/if the problem has been satisfactorily resolved
4. Compare and contrast self and others and explain their interdependence in terms of historical, social, political, economic, psychological, health and moral/ethical factors
5. Demonstrate good citizenship and service to one's community. Students also benefit when they engage in free intellectual inquiry seeking truth, understanding and appreciating self as well as a readiness to learn from and about different cultural and/or linguistic perspectives
6. Demonstrate positive interpersonal skills by adhering to the principles of freedom, justice, equality, fairness, tolerance, open dialogue and concern for the common good.

Required Text:

Kendall Diana, Sociology in Our Times. Cengage Learning (2018), 11th edition.
ISBN-13: 978-1337287944

CLASS ROOM ETIQUETTE:

Students are expected and required to be to class on time. All cell phones are not to be used in class. There is no- texting- during- class rule imposed. If you must have your cell phone in class, please turn the ringer off and place it on vibrate mode.

GRADING SCALE:

	B+ 87-89	C+ 75-79	D+ 60-64
A 94-100	B 84-86	C 70-74	D 55-59
A- 90-93	B- 80-83	C- 65-69	F 54 and below

Grading

You must fulfill ALL of the following requirements to complete this course. A Non-submission of any one of the requirements can result in a failing grade for the course. The submission itself does not guarantee a passing grade (In other words, you may receive zero points for an assignment if your work is not at a passable level). Your course grade will be determined by the sum of your performances in these requirements. Feel free to come and discuss with me early on to develop strategies to improve your grades. **You will not get a good grade (A or A-) if you are absent more than 3 times without providing proper documentation. I may give you a chance to do extra credit work only if I am convinced that you are serious about your study. An extra credit work does not guarantee the change of your overall grade.**

Determination of Grade:

1. Two Examinations 50% of grade
2. Term Paper..... 30% of grade
3. Class participation, quiz, attendance and assignment----- 20% of grade

50% Two Exams (25% each)

The exams measure your understanding of class materials (including whether you read the assigned textbook chapter), and your ability to critically discuss issues reviewed in class. Two exams will be a short answer essay test (content and your idea or interpretation part).

20% Term paper

7 to 8 typed double-spaced pages----Choose any social issue of your interest (race, class, gender, sexuality.....) which deals with any sociological issue and find out how sociological theories and practices we discuss in the class is related to that issue. Through library research, you will identify updated studies on the issue you chose, read them critically, and discuss how it may be related to theorist we talk about. (For example, if you observe the surge of a religious family in America, you will write how it may be studied in the light of Emile Durkheim's idea of religion) and providing materials (quantitative data and qualitative findings such interviews) to prove your argument is strongly encouraged.

30% Class Participation, Quiz, Assignment and Attendance

Active class participation is necessary. I encourage everybody to engage in debate and ask questions if any of the topics we discuss in the class are not clearly understood.

Furthermore, I am planning to have very live and active discussion in every class and may assign discussion topic to each student which will be graded (20 pts, at least). Attendance is particularly important for this class. Lateness and inappropriate behavior during the class hour will result in the deduction of points towards the final grade.

You are supposed to turn in answers for the assignment based on the textbook reading and your thought in each class on the Moodle by the due date and time (20 pts, at least). I may have a quiz unannounced if I suspect you are doing a reading.

Accommodations:

If you have any disability and need accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. Information regarding your disability will be confidential. I will try to make the course a full and accessible learning experience for all students.

My Policies:

READING: Reading is frontloaded. I expect that you come to the class being prepared to talk about the readings. **You will NOT be able to pass without reading the text. Also, bring the textbook to every class.**

ATTENDANCE and class behavior: Regular attendance is expected. There will be no penalty up to 2 absences for legitimate reasons (sick or emergent situation). After the 2nd absence, I reserve the right to take a grade reduction for additional absences. **If you miss more than 3 classes with or without legitimate reasons, that alone can result in an F for the course. I don't allow eating, cell-phone use, and talking to other students during the class.**

NO MAKE-UP EXAM POLICY: No make-up exams will be given for any reason. Only in case of a LEGITIMATE AND FULLY DOCUMENTED EMERGENCY, I will consider an alternate arrangement. See item d) below for what documents are required. Traffic and parking problems will NOT be accepted as an excuse to miss a test. It is your responsibility to allow sufficient time for the commute on test days.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR MISSED EXAMS AND PROLONGED ABSENCE. In order to be considered for excuses for missed tests or for prolonged medical absence, follow the university policy which is specified in the Student Handbook. **MISSED CLASS MATERIALS: You are responsible** for the contents of any class(es) you may miss, as well as announcements/hand-outs made in those classes. I will NOT provide class notes for missed classes (Ask a classmate). You may ask me for handouts by visiting my office. **Please make a note that I do NOT respond to email inquiries about missed class materials.**

ASSIGNMENTS ARE EXPECTED ON TIME: Late assignments will be accepted with a **grade reduction.** **I will NOT accept an assignment after 3 days from the due date.** If you are absent on the day an assignment is due, you still need to submit it electronically. Otherwise, it will be considered a late submission. **Please do not submit your assignments as an email attachment.** If you put your assignment in my mailbox or on my office door, put the date on the assignment and immediately notify me by email. If you leave your paper without telling me, I will consider the day I find it as the day of submission.

PROPER CITATIONS are expected for all paper assignments (including short assignments). Citations and bibliography **MUST** follow **ASA (American Sociological Association) style.** **ASA style guide is provided through the website,** http://www.asanet.org/sites/default/files/savvy/documents/teaching/pdfs/Quick_Tips_for_ASA_Style.pdf. If you are not a sociology major and your discipline uses different citation styles (such as APA), let me know at the time of your paper submission; you may use the convention of your discipline. For students in sociology, ASA style referencing is required in most sociology courses, and **it is important that you learn this before you write your senior seminar paper.** I expect that everyone will study the webpage thoroughly and use this format for all your written assignments. Citation not conforming to the acceptable format will incur a significant grade reduction.

YOU MUST KEEP AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF ALL YOUR ASSIGNMENTS! It is your responsibility to save all your assignment as computer files. Make sure you save files on at least two locations. You are required to submit an electronic copy upon my request. Any work suspected of plagiarism will be run through turnitin.com. **If you fail to present an electronic copy upon my request, I reserve the right to give you a zero for the assignment.**

CELL PHONE USE IS PROHIBITED IN CLASS: Please turn off your cell phone before each class. By the university policy, text-messaging, picture-taking, and video-recording using cell phones are strictly prohibited. Excessive use of a cell phone will result in point reduction for the course.

CONTACTING ME BY EMAIL: Normally, I answer your emails **within 48 hours during the week.** But make a note that **I DO NOT read emails on Saturdays and Sundays and during the school breaks.** Emails received on Friday night will be returned on Monday. Please exercise proper etiquettes in your email messages; for example, always sign your name (since I often cannot recognize student's name from his/her personal email addresses) and use professional language in your messages. I treat my students with respect and I expect mature and respectful manners from my students.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Any student who engages in academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, and facilitating academic dishonesty), as defined and discussed in the Academic Integrity Policy and as stated in the Student Handbook, will face the most severe penalty possible. No student may submit and represent as his/her own work any paper that another person has written (which includes documents on the World Wide Web), that contains portions written by other persons which are not properly documented as such, or any other type of copying or reproducing the work of others without properly acknowledging the source. Such representation of another's work as one's own constitutes plagiarism and will be treated as

such. If you have any questions or concerns about what constitutes plagiarism or academic dishonesty, please ask me.

Academic Accommodations: Should you require academic accommodations, you must file a request with the Office of Educational Affairs (BC 119B, extension 3962). It is your responsibility to self-identify with the Office of Educational Affairs and to provide me with the appropriate documentation from that office at least one week prior to any request for specific course accommodations. There are no retroactive accommodations.

READING ASSIGNMENTS: Reading assignments should be completed, and you are required to submit summaries prior to attending class. All topics and reading assignments are subject to modification during the semester.

GRADES WILL ONLY BE DISCUSSED INDIVIDUALLY AND OUTSIDE THE CLASS: I will never discuss grade issues over emails and phones. If you have questions about your grades, speak to me individually during my office hours.

The content of the syllabus can be subjected to change at the discretion of an instructor.

Course Assignments:

Week 1	What is sociology? Reading: Chapter 1
Week 2	Sociological Research Methods: Readings: Chapter 2
Week 3	Culture Reading: Chapter 3
Week 4	Socialization Reading: Chapter 4
Week 5	Society, Social structure, and interaction Reading: Chapter 5
Week 6	Groups and Organization Reading: Chapter 6
Week 7	Deviance and Crime Reading: Chapter 7
Week 8	First Exam
Week 9	Class and Stratification Reading: Chapter 8
Week 10	Global Stratification Reading: Chapter 9
Week 11	Race and Ethnicity Reading: Chapter 10
Week 12	Sex and Gender Reading: Chapter 11
Week 13	Group Discussion and Review
Weeks 14	Discussion continued, Thanksgiving Break
Week 15	Review and Second Exam

