

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Soc 1101: Summer 2023

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Introductions & Course overview

Lecture 1

TODAY'S LECTURE OUTLINE

- **Introductions**
- **Course overview and goals**
- **Housekeeping & Syllabus**
- **Reading social sciences**
- **Next lecture: What is sociology? What do sociologists do?**

INTRODUCTIONS

- Me (**Xuewen Shelley Yan**)
- TA: **Chance A. Smith [Congrats! Dr!]**
- You! (**Sections**)

Being a sociologist means being a social worker.

- A) Strongly agree**
- B) Agree**
- C) Disagree**
- D) Strongly disagree**

Students achieve admission to elite universities, like Cornell, based mainly on merit.

- A) Strongly agree**
- B) Agree**
- C) Disagree**
- D) Strongly disagree**

People are classified into different races because they look different.

- A) Strongly agree**
- B) Agree**
- C) Disagree**
- D) Strongly disagree**

People commit suicide because of their idiosyncratic personal miseries and trajectories.

- A) Strongly agree**
- B) Agree**
- C) Disagree**
- D) Strongly disagree**

COURSE GOALS & PURPOSE

- **Think:** Learn to “make the familiar strange” through a sociological perspective
- **Know:** Learn about domains and stylized facts that concern sociologists
- **Do:** Develop an understanding of the toolkit that sociologists use to interrogate the world

WHAT CAN SOCIOLOGY DO FOR YOU?

- Increase your understanding of self
- Allow you to see the social world from fresh perspectives
- Develop your analytic thinking
- Open up career doors in government, non-profits, journalism, law, medicine, and beyond
- Equip you with the heart and tools to make a difference to the world

WHAT CAN SOCIOLOGY DO FOR YOU?

“I’m not a sociologist or psychologist. If I can do it, you can do it too...” —Daryl Davis

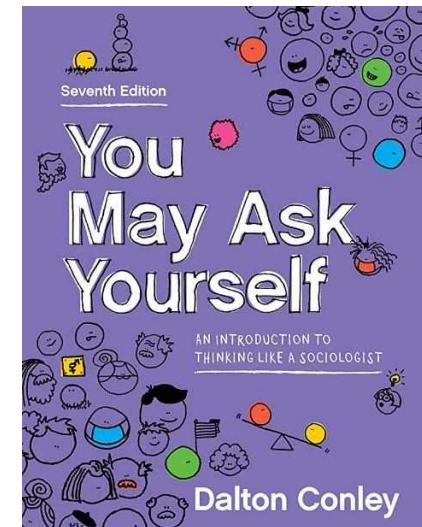
“Sociologists are doing healing energy to other people. We need to know how to understand each other and how to live in harmony...” —psychic

HOUSEKEEPING & SYLLABUS 1: Attendance & readings

- **Lecture –Daily Videos available 24 hours before section**
- **Section – M to F (8-9 pm EST)**
 - **15% of grade.**
 - **2 free rides.**
 - **Make-up assignments (1 page, double-space) available for those who can't attend.**

HOUSEKEEPING & SYLLABUS 2: Readings

- **Assigned readings to be done before lecture**
 - **Required readings (articles, journalistic essays, book excerpts): Canvas-Modules-Readings**
 - **Textbooks: Optional but recommended**
 - **Canvas-Course Material**
 - **Certain chapters assigned as “required” readings**



HOUSEKEEPING & SYLLABUS 2: Requirements and Evaluation

- **Quizzes – 55%**
 - Starting: 21:30 PM on Wednesdays and Fridays;
closing: 7:30 PM on Fridays and Sundays.
 - 45 minutes for 30 questions once you start.
 - Don't cheat!
- **Daily reading posts – 15%**
- **Short essays – 15%**
- **Section attendance and participation – 15%**

HOUSEKEEPING & SYLLABUS 3:

- **Daily reading posts**
 - Short (80~150 words) posts to Canvas-Discussion board that address 2+ readings from the day
 - Check or non-check
 - Due by 6pm; 10% penalty if submitted by 8pm
 - 2 slip days
- **Short essays**
 - 2 short essays assigned on Wednesdays of the 2nd and 3rd weeks (1.5 to 2 page double-spaced)
 - Due by 10 pm the following Mondays
 - Graded 100/80/50
 - No penalty if late but submitted within the next 24 hours. 50% penalty if late beyond 24 hours.

COURSE NUTS AND BOLTS 4

- Academic accommodations
 - Happy to make any and all needed!
- Contacting the instructors
 - Syllabus → Office hours → Email TA/me
(subject title “SOC 1101 STUDENT QUESTION”)
- Office hour sign-up (will collect your preferences too during section)
 - M to Thurs, One hour before Section
 - <https://soc1101su23.youcanbook.me>

COURSE EXPECTATIONS 1

- Be curious, thoughtful and engaged learners
- Follow the code of Academic Integrity
 - Course material share: educational ✓ vs commercial ×
 - AI assisted writing
- Be smart and respectful with electronics usage during class
- Exercise mutual respect and be cognizant of diversity of thought, background, experience and opinions

COURSE EXPECTATIONS 2: More on generative AI & GPT

- You **can** ask AI to check your grammar and style, brainstorm ideas, and find information on your topic, etc.
- You **cannot** ask AI to impersonate you in classroom contexts, such as by using it to write entire sentences, paragraphs, or posts for you.
- Must **disclose** the use of AI technologies in your assignment. For example, “I used ChatGPT to proofread my work.” as a footnote.
- You are responsible for the content you submit based on an AI query.

READING SOCIAL SCIENCE

- **Empirical social science articles follow a formula**
 - Introduction
 - Literature Review/Theoretical Framework
 - Methods (& Data)
 - Results
 - Conclusion (& Discussions)
- **Other key social science readings are in other formats, such as essays, that are less formulaic**
- **Some social science writing is clear and some is more dense**
 - Expect but do not feel crushed by challenges!
 - You can always come to us for help through Sections & OH.

ASA SECTIONS

AGING AND THE LIFE COURSE

ALCOHOL, DRUGS, AND TOBACCO

ALTRUISM, MORALITY AND SOCIAL SOLIDARITY

ANIMALS AND SOCIETY

ASIA AND ASIAN AMERICA

BODY AND EMBODIMENT

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

COLLECTIVE BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

COMMUNICATION, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES AND MEDIA SOCIOLOGY

COMMUNITY AND URBAN SOCIOLOGY

COMPARATIVE AND HISTORICAL SOCIOLOGY

CONSUMERS AND CONSUMPTION

CRIME, LAW, AND DEVIANCE

CULTURE

DEVELOPMENT

DISABILITY AND SOCIETY

ECONOMIC SOCIOLOGY

EDUCATION

EMOTIONS

ENVIRONMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

ETHNOMETHODOLOGY AND CONVERSATION ANALYSIS

EVOLUTION, BIOLOGY AND SOCIETY

FAMILY

GLOBAL AND TRANSNATIONAL SOCIOLOGY

HISTORY OF SOCIOLOGY

HUMAN RIGHTS

INEQUALITY, POVERTY AND MOBILITY

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

LABOR AND LABOR MOVEMENTS

LATINA/O SOCIOLOGY

LAW

MARXIST SOCIOLOGY

MATHEMATICAL SOCIOLOGY

MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY

MENTAL HEALTH

METHODOLOGY

ORGANIZATIONS, OCCUPATIONS, AND WORK

PEACE, WAR, AND SOCIAL CONFLICT

POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE WORLD-SYSTEM

POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

POPULATION

RACE, GENDER, AND CLASS

RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES

RATIONALITY AND SOCIETY

RELIGION

SCIENCE, KNOWLEDGE, AND TECHNOLOGY

SEX AND GENDER

SEXUALITIES

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

SOCIOLOGICAL PRACTICE AND PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

TEACHING AND LEARNING

THEORY

COURSE MODULES

- 1. The Sociological Perspective**
- 2. Social Stratification, Inequality, and Socialization**
- 3. Structure, Culture, and Interaction**
- 4. Social Difference – Race, class, sexuality, gender, and intersectionality**
- 5. Social Institutions – Families, schools and the criminal justice system**
- 6. Social Networks, Globalization, and Health**
- 7. Science, Technology and The Future of Sociology**

WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY?

- **The scientific study of the social world**
- **The study of human social life, groups and societies**
- **The study of the development, structure, and functioning of human society**
- **The study of social problems**
- **The study of human social relationships and institutions**

TO DO

- This Class Readings
 - The Syllabus
 - “Guides to Reading Social Sciences”
- Next Class Readings
 - Berger 1963
 - “Sociology as an individual pastime”
 - Mills 1959
 - *The Sociological Imagination*, Chapter 1: “The promise”

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

- **What is Sociology? How is sociology similar to or different from other social science disciplines?**
- **What is sociological thinking?**

TO DO

- **Read carefully the syllabus –It will show up on the quiz!**