

Introduction to Sociology

Soc 101

Fall 2012 – T-Th 10-11:40

East Village Alpha 257

Instructor: Dr. Diogo L Pinheiro

Office hours: T/Th 12:30-1:30 or by appointment

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Course Overview

The objective of this course is to familiarize students to the sociological approach to understanding social phenomena. What is sociology? What does it study? And how is it different from other social sciences? These are some of the questions we will be discussing this semester. In doing so, we will cover a range of sociological topics, emphasizing the importance of sociological concepts and theories. Topics covered will include issues related to race, gender, inequality, religion, family, crime and social norms and institutions in general.

Course Readings:

- 1- Patricia Adler & Peter Adler. *Sociological Odyssey: Contemporary Readings in Introductory Sociology*. 3rd edition. 2009. Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth. (abbreviated A&A below).
- 2- MacLeod, Jay. 2009. *Ain't No Makin' It: Aspirations and Attainment in a Low-Income Neighborhood*, 3rd edition. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, Inc. (Abbreviated JM below).
- 3- Readings on Electronic Reserve
- 4- Class notes on Blackboard

It is your responsibility to complete all the required readings before class and be prepared to contribute to class discussion. Please note that some days the reading assignment is heavier than others, so plan adequate time to complete the readings before class. If you are having problems finding the specified reading on reserve, or if you are having problems accessing Blackboard, let me know as soon as possible.

Course Requirements

- 1- Attendance and participation:** Lectures and class discussions are integral components of this class. While lectures will make up the majority of time spent in class, student participation is encouraged and, in many instances we will have class discussions in which students will participate constructively. Attendance is expected, and excessive tardiness will not be tolerated. Students arriving more than 10 minutes late will be allowed to sit in class, but will be considered absent for that day. Also, class discussions are to be conducted in a respectful and tolerant manner. Offensive behavior will not be tolerated.

Attendance and participation will also be components of your final grade. Students with more than 2 unexcused absences will have a point deducted from their participation grade for each additional absence. Participation will include debating and presenting your views in class.

- 2- Short Essays:** At different points during the semester, students will be asked to write a 2 page short essay answering a specific question. The question will be handed out in advance and students will have a week to turn in their answers.
- 3- Tests:** This class will have 3 tests during the semester. They may include multiple choice, short answer, and short essay questions. We will have review sessions prior to each test, and students should come prepared for those.
- 4- Grade Distribution:**

Attendance and Participation: 15%

Tests: 60% (20% each)

Short Essays: 25%

- 5- Letter Grades:**

Percent grade	Letter Grade
93-100	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
60-66	D
0-59	F

Course Policies:

Late Assignments - It is crucial that you turn in all assignments on time. Assignments are to be turned in on the specific date. Specific deadlines will be distributed well in advance with the instructions for every assignment. Thus, all unexcused late assignments will be penalized 1 points per day including weekends.

Academic Honesty: All students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the policies of Oxford College with respect to conduct and academic honesty. Anyone engaging in acts that violate these policies, such as plagiarism or cheating, will be referred to the Honors Council. More information on Oxford's honor code can be found at http://oxford.emory.edu/audiences/current_students/Academic/academic-success/student-honor-code/

Disability Statement: Students with disabilities that require class accommodations must contact the Office of Disability Services (Ph. 770-784-8415; URL <http://www.ods.emory.edu/>) to obtain proper documentation. I strongly encourage you to make sure that everything is in order early in the semester. In order for to provide the necessary accommodation, Oxford must receive proper documentation early in the term.

Disruptive class behavior: As previously stated, disruptive class behavior will not be tolerated, and will be dealt with in accordance to Emory University regulations. Disruptive class behavior includes use of offensive language, being offensive to others, and any behavior that negatively affects the learning environment.

Make-Up Policy: My permission is needed to make-up exams and the short assignments. If you are going to miss an exam or assignment, please make every effort to notify me before the missed class and to gather appropriate material to justify your absence. If you are unable to notify me before the class/due date, please try to have a friend, roommate, etc. contact me via e-mail and inform me of your absence. A mutually convenient time will be arranged for you to make up the assignment. Makeup assignments will only be allowed in a situation of an excused absence (e.g., illness, family emergency, etc.). A note from the Dean will be required to make up the final exam.

Other Policies: Student work submitted as part of this course may be reviewed by Oxford College and Emory College faculty and staff for the purposes of improving instruction and enhancing Emory education.

The use of cell phones and/or pagers is not permitted in this class. Please turn OFF your phones and pagers before entering the classroom.

Class Schedule (Subject to change – any changes will be announced in class and on blackboard):

August 30th: Introductions

PART I: The Sociological Perspective

September 4th: What is sociology?

Sharon Begley. 2009. "Why Why Do We Rape, Kill and Sleep Around?" *Newsweek* June 29, 2009

September 6th : What is sociology?

C. Wright Mills, 1959, *The Promise of Sociology* (A&A, pp. 10-15).

Joel Charon, 2004, *Should We Generalize about People?* (A&A, pp. 16-23).

September 11th : Sociological Methods:

Michael J. Lovaglia, 2003, "From Summer Camps to Glass Ceilings: The Power of Experiments" (A&A, pp. 39-46)

Howard Schumann, 2002, *Sense and Nonsense about Surveys* (A&A, pp. 47-52).

Patricia A. Adler and Peter Adler, 1985, *The Promise and Pitfalls of Going into the Field* (A&A, pp. 53-61).

September 13th: Sociological Methods:

Jacobs, Bruce A. 2007. "Dealing Crack: Doing Research with Streetcorner Dealers" in: Henslin, James. 2007. *Down to Earth Sociology: Introductory Readings*, 14th edition. New York: NY: The Free Press.

Philip Meyer, 1970, *If Hitler Asked You to Electrocute a Stranger, Would You? Probably*. in: Henslin, James. 2007. *Down to Earth Sociology: Introductory Readings*, 14th edition. New York: NY: The Free Press.

Jay McLeod, "Social Mobility in the Land of Opportunity" (JM, pp. 3-10)

September 18th: Sociological Theory:

Colomy, Paul. "Three Sociological Perspectives" (A&A, pp. 30-38)

Jay McLeod. "Social Reproduction in Theoretical Perspective" (JM, pp. 11-23)

Part II: Social Structures, Socialization, and Culture

September 20th: Social Structure

Allan G. Johnson. "The Forest and the Trees" in: *Sociology: The Essentials* / Margaret L. Andersen, Howard Francis Taylor

Erving Goffman, 1959, *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*. (In James Henslin, ed., *Down to Earth Sociology*, 13th ed. New York: The Free Press.).

September 25th: Social Structure

Philip Zimbardo, 1972, *Pathology of Imprisonment*. (In James Henslin, ed., *Down to Earth Sociology*, 13th ed. New York: The Free Press.).

September 27th: Socialization

Harry Gracey. "Kindergarten as Academic Boot Camp" In James Henslin, ed., *Down to Earth Sociology*, 13th ed. New York: The Free Press.).

Ira Silver. "Packing the College Identity Suitcase" (A&A, pp. 110-117)

October 2nd: Socialization

Patricia Adler and Peter Adler, "Inclusion and Exclusion in Adolescent Cliques" (A&A, pp. 118-130)

October 4th: 1st test

October 9th: Culture

Ayres Boswell and Joan Spade, "Fraternities and Collegiate Rape Culture" (A&A, pp 71-78)

James M. Henslin. 2003. Eating Your Friends is the Hardest: The Survivors of the F-227. (In James Henslin, ed., *Down to Earth Sociology*, 13th ed. The Free Press.)

October 11th: Culture

Charis Kubrin. "Gangstas, Thugs, and Hustlas: The Code of the Street in Rap Music" (A&A, pp. 79-89)

Ross Haenfler, "Core Values of the Straight Edge Movement" (A&A, pp 90-100)

October 18th: Deviance

Devah Pager, "The Mark of a Criminal Record" (A&A, pp. 156-167)

Adina Nack, "Identity and Stigma of Women with STDs" (A&A, pp. 168

October 23rd: Deviance

Jay McLeod, "Teenagers in Clarendon Heights: The Hallway Hangers and the Brothers" (JM, pp. 25-49)

Part III – Key Social Institutions**October 25th: Families**

Gordon Carmichael and Andrea Whittaker. "Living Together in Australia" (A&A, pp. 271-279)

Edward Anderson and Shannon M. Greene. "Repartnering after Divorce" (A&A, pp. 280-286)

Pamela Jolicoeur and Teresa Madden, "The Good Daughters: Acculturation and Caregiving among Mexican American Women" (A&A, pp. 287-296)

October 30th: Families:

Jay McLeod, "The Influence of the Family" (JM, pp 50-60)

November 1st: 2nd test**November 6th: Organizations**

Nicole Woolsey Biggart, 1990. Charismatic Capitalism: Direct Selling Organizations in America. Chapter 6, "Charisma and Control" (pp. 126-159)

November 8th: Religion**Part IV: Social Stratification****November 13th: Inequality**

Earl Wysong and Robert Perrucci, "The U.S. Class Structure" (A&A, pp 183-190)

Peter Dreier, "The United States in Comparative Perspective" (reserves)

November 15th: Race

Joe R. Feagin. 1991. The Continuing Significance of Race: Antiblack Discrimination in Public Places. (American Sociological Review 56:101-116)

Lawrence Wright, "One Drop of Blood" (on reserve)

November 20th: Race

Erica Owens Yeager, "Constructing Visions of Ethnicity: Internet Dating" (A&A, pp. 213-225)

Karyn R. Lacy, 2004, Black Middle-Class Suburbia. (A&A, pp. 191-200)

Melissa Milkie, 1999, The Impact of Pervasive Beauty Images on Black and White Girls' Self-Concepts. (A&A, pp. 101-109)

November 27th: Gender

Martin Tolich & Celia Briar. 1999. Just Checking it Out: Exploring the Significance of Informal Gender Divisions among American Supermarket Employees. (Gender, Work, and Organization 6:129-133).

Ashley Mears and William Finlay, "How Models Manage Bodily Capital" (A&A, pp. 245-252)

Eric Anderson, "Varieties of Masculinity in Male Cheerleading" (A&A, pp. 253-262)

November 29th: Gender

Christine Williams, 1992. "The Glass Escalator: Hidden Advantages for Men in the "Female" Professions" Social Problems, Vol. 39, No. 3 (Aug., 1992), pp. 253-267

J. Gregg Robinson and Judith S. McIlwee. 1989. "Women in Engineering: A Promise Unfulfilled?" *Social Problems* Vol. 36, No. 5 (Dec., 1989), pp. 455-472

December 4th: Social Class :

Elizabeth Aries and Maynard Seider, Lower Income College Students at Elite vs. State Schools, (A&A, pp. 319-328)

Jay McLeod, "The World of Work" (JM, pp. 61-81)

December 6th: Social Class

Jay McLeod, "Leveled Aspirations: Social Reproduction Takes its Toll" (JM, pp. 112-134)

December 11th:

Review

Final exams: Final exams will be held at the time assigned by the college