

Introduction to Sociology

SOCI 101

Fall 2009

Class Meeting: Tues, Thurs 1:15 – 2:30 pm
204 Nord Hall

Instructor: Dr. Jessica Kelley-Moore

230 Mather Memorial Hall

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Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday, 3 - 4 pm, or by appointment.

Course Objectives

After taking this class, you should be able to:

1. Think critically and scientifically about how an individual is influenced by society.
2. Discuss basic concepts of sociology, sociological theory, and the foundations of society.
3. Understand how inequality, social change, and social institutions shape beliefs, attitudes, and opportunities for individuals.
4. Apply sociological concepts to different aspects of society, especially across cultures.

Texts

Schaefer, Richard T. 2006. *Sociology: A Brief Introduction*. 6th Edition. Boston: McGraw-Hill.

Supplemental Readings. Available on Blackboard under “External Links.”

Blackboard

This course requires the use of Blackboard, which is an online course management program. All of your grades, will be posted on Blackboard, and you can access them at any time. You will be the only one who can see your grades.

Assignments and announcements will be posted here as well. You are responsible for keeping up with the material on Blackboard. Lectures will not be posted on Blackboard. You must attend class to get the notes.

Grade Distribution

Component	Points	Date
Exam 1	100 pts.	September 24
Exam 2	100 pts.	November 3
Exam 3	100 pts.	December 10
Application Exercise 1	50 pts.	September 22
Application Exercise 2	50 pts.	November 17
In-Class Assignments/Quizzes	50 pts.	Variable
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Total	450 pts.	

Exams

All three of the exams have multiple-choice and short answer questions. **BRING A PENCIL TO CLASS FOR THE EXAM.** About one week before the exam, I will post a study guide for the exam on Blackboard. I will also answer any questions about the study guide or material during office hours or by appointment.

All missed exams will count as a **zero** unless I have prior notification that you will not be present. An email or phone message minutes before class or during class does not count.

Application Exercises

You will have two application exercises due during the semester. The assignment will be posted on Blackboard and you will have at least 1 week to complete the assignment.

Both application assignments should be typed (double spaced in 12pt. font). You will be asked to observe a social phenomenon and apply a particular sociological concept to it. No outside sources other than your text and lecture notes will be necessary.

You will be graded on the clarity of your argument, use of examples, and presentation. Grammar and spelling errors in your paper will significantly lower your grade. **It is strongly suggested that you visit the Writing Center when preparing your assignments.**

In-Class Assignments/Pop Quizzes

Consistently throughout the semester, I will administer in-class assignments or activities based on the material covered in the texts or class. Persons who are not present will receive a zero for that day. **No exceptions.** The in-class assignment could come in the form of a pop quiz. At the end of the semester, I will drop your lowest score and total the remaining items. Together, these are worth one exam grade.

Attendance

Students who come late to class must sit in the back. Do not disrupt class by trying to sit in your regular seat. Only those with university-excused absences will be allowed to make up work. Be prepared to show documentation.

Course Conduct

Absolutely no cell phones or other devices that beep, ring, chirp, ding, or otherwise make noise will be tolerated. Please turn them off or, if absolutely necessary to have them, program the signal to silently alert you.

Laptops are allowed for note taking. Students will lose this privilege if they are found to be surfing the web or other non-course activities.

We will have students from different backgrounds and perspectives. Students are expected to respect opinions different from their own and allow others the same opportunity to share those. This is a safe classroom and what is shared stays within those walls.

I am sure that this is an unnecessary statement, but no academic dishonesty will be tolerated. First offense results in a score of zero for the assignment. Second offense results in failure in the course. Academic dishonesty includes copying the work of others, cheating, and plagiarism (writing statements or ideas in a paper without citing the source).

Class Assignments and Schedule

Tuesday August 25 Introduction	Thursday August 27 Origins of Sociology Schaefer, p.1 – 27
September 1 Components of Culture Schaefer, p. 54-77	September 3 Cultural Diversity and Change
September 8 Agents of Socialization Schaefer, p. 78-101	September 10 Total Institutions Blackboard: “Anybody’s Son Will Do”
September 15 Statuses and Roles Schaefer, p. 102-114	September 17 Presentation of Self
September 22 Facebook – Presenting Oneself <i>Application Exercise #1 Due</i>	September 24 EXAM 1
September 29 Groups and Bureaucracy Schaefer, p. 115 - 127	October 1 Decline of Social Groups Blackboard: “Bowling Alone”
October 6 Deviance Schaefer, p. 152 - 181	October 8 Labeling Deviants Blackboard: “Being Sane in Insane Places”
October 13 Containment of Deviance: The Case of the Body	October 15 Social Stratification & the Culture of Class Schaefer, p. 182 - 209
October 20 Fall Break: NO CLASS	October 22 Unemployment and Poverty Blackboard: “Job Ghetto”
October 27 Gender Stratification Schaefer, p. 264 - 285	October 29 Gendered Society Blackboard: “If Men Could Menstruate”
November 3 EXAM 2	November 5 Age in U.S. Society

November 10 Mass Media Schaefer, p. 128 - 151	November 12 Race and Ethnicity Schaefer, p. 234-263
November 17 Work and Economy Schaefer, p.342 - 369 <i>Application Exercise #2 Due</i>	November 19 NO CLASS
November 24 Work and Alienation Blackboard: "Hanging Tongues"	November 26 Thanksgiving: NO CLASS
December 1 Health and Disease Schaefer, p. 370 - 397	December 3 Modern and Postmodern Society Blackboard: "McDonaldization of Society"
December 10; 12:30 – 3:30pm EXAM 3	