

SOCI 101/08719
Introduction to Sociology: Human Interaction
Spring 2009

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REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Shaefer, Richard T. (2009). *Sociology: A Brief Introduction (8th Edition)*. New York, NY: McGraw Hill Companies.

Andersen, Margaret L., Kim A. Logio, and Howard F. Taylor. *Understanding Society: An Introductory Reader (3rd Edition)*. Wadsworth Sociology Reader.

**Please be sure to check Blackboard and your Case email on a regular basis for class announcements, grades, supplemental readings, and assignments.*

***Due to the winter season, any classes cancelled by the University or by the instructor will be announced via Blackboard and/or Case email alerts. Please be aware of such announcements as well as any posted assignments on Blackboard.*

**** Lap tops are not necessary in class. Please do not bring them, or store them out of sight (e.g. in book bag) during class. Please make sure cell phones are turned OFF or on vibrate and stored out of sight during class. Finally, please do not have earplugs in your ears during class. Repeated violation of any of these requests may result in temporary confiscation by the instructor during class time.*

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course will provide a general introduction to the discipline of Sociology. Core topics that will be examined and discussed include sociological theoretical frameworks, research and methodology, culture, socialization, social interaction, social structure and institutions, the mass media, crime and deviance, stratification, racial and ethnic relations, sex and gender, social inequality, globalization, and social change. Furthermore, students will understand and apply sociological perspectives (e.g., functionalist, conflict, interaction) as a social science as well as in contemporary social issues.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To complete this course, students MUST complete the following requirements:

1. **Read ALL assigned materials.** Students are responsible for purchasing the required textbooks. Both textbooks are the **most recent editions** and therefore if students decide to purchase earlier editions of the same textbook, the student assumes the risk of missing specific content from the newer editions that may appear on the exams. In addition, students are responsible for downloading and printing all other assigned/supplemental readings that are posted on Blackboard. Power point presentations will NOT be posted.

2. **3 Exams (300):** There will be three exams throughout the semester (100 pts each). The exams consist of true and false, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Exam questions will be drawn from the required textbooks and in-class materials. Exams are NOT cumulative. Attendance on Exam days are MANDATORY. There are NO MAKE UP EXAMS.
3. **Quizzes (100):** There will be 10 quizzes throughout the semester. The quizzes consist of true and false, multiple choice, and fill-in-the-blank questions. The quizzes are to assess whether students are reading the assigned materials as well as prepare them for the exams. Quizzes will not be announced ahead of time, therefore, students should be prepared by having read the assigned readings before coming to class. Attendance is **required** for taking the quizzes. THERE ARE NO MAKE UP FOR QUIZZES.
4. **In-class Activities / Participation (150):** There will be 10-15 in-class assignments that include worksheets, group activities, etc. in which each student is responsible for participating in and completing. Each assignment will be graded on a 5-10 point scale. Some assignments may be done in groups and/or individually. All such assignments will be completed IN-CLASS. Therefore, students who are absent miss these opportunities for participation points. THERE ARE NO MAKE UPS FOR IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES.
5. **Out-of-class Assignments (25):** There will be assignments to be completed outside of class which will be posted on Blackboard TEN days prior to the DUE DATE. Such assignments MUST be turned in **during class** on the assigned due date. LATE assignments may be accepted via Blackboard Digital Dropbox no later than 11:59pm on the **due date** with a ½ point deduction. NO assignments will be accepted for a grade after 1 class past the due date.
6. **Creative Assignment (25):** Students will do a creative project that best illustrates the sociological concepts and themes discussed throughout the semester. This project may include but are not limited to a collage poster of a collection of pictures from magazines, articles, newspapers, drawings or paintings that best illustrate sociological concepts. Students are encouraged to be as creative as possible. Such projects may also be done as a group, but no more than 3 students per group. Group projects must be approved by the instructor ahead of time. Groups must provide a description of the project and a ‘division of labor’ list for each student in the group. Individual projects do not need to be approved ahead of time. All projects will be presented to the class and turned on the last week of the semester.
7. **Attendance:** The attendance policy specified in the Student Handbook is respected for students missing class due to religious reasons. The instructor must receive written notice **before** such absences take place. For such absences, only “out-of-class assignments” are available to be turned in via Blackboard without any point penalty. Although attendance will be taken during each class, attendance is **not** required. *However*, participation points are not awarded to absent students. For students who are late to class, some activities may or may not be available for make up. If late students come in after quizzes are collected, there is no make up for the quiz. Students who alert the instructor 6 hours prior to being LATE for class, may be able to make up the missed quiz but only AFTER that particular class.

ASSIGNED READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

1-JANUARY

12—14: Introduction to Sociology – Syllabus
SHAEFER: Chapter 1 – Understanding Sociology
READER: Ch1 – *The Sociological Imagination* (Mills)
Ch2 – *The Forest and the Trees* (Johnson)

2-JANUARY

19—21: **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY – NO CLASS!**
SHAEFER: Chapter 3 – Culture
READER: Ch5 – *Size 6: The Western Women’s Harem* (Mernissi)
Ch7 – *Mass Murder and Its Roots in the Symbolism of American Consumer Culture* (Ritzer)

3-JANUARY – **Assignment #1 DUE DATE (1/28)**

26—28: Class Exercise/Discussion
MOVIE: *Culture: English takes center stage*

4-FEBRUARY

2—4: SHAEFER: Chapter 4 – Socialization & the Life Course
READER: Ch9 – *Leaving Home for College* (Karp et al.)
Ch11 – *We Don’t Sleep Around Like White Girls Do* (Espiritu)
Class Exercises/Discussion
MOVIE: *Borderless: The lives of undocumented workers*

5-FEBRUARY

9—11: Finish Chapter Exercises/Discussion
Review for Exam #1
Exam #1

6-FEBRUARY – **Assignment #2 DUE DATE (2/18)**

16—18: SHAEFER: Chapter 8: Stratification & Social Mobility
READER: Ch23 – *The Communist Manifesto* (Marx & Engels)
Ch24 – *Shadowy Lines that Still Divide* (Scott & Leonhardt)

7-FEBRUARY

23—25: SHAEFER: Chapter 9: Global Inequality
READER: Ch28 – *The Garment Industry in the Restructuring Global Economy*
Ch29 – *The Nanny Chain* (Hochschild)
MOVIE: *Born Into Brothels*

8-MARCH

2—4: SHAEFER: Chapter 10: Race and Ethnic Inequality
READER: Ch32 – *Color-Blind Privilege* (Gallagher)
MOVIE: *Understanding Race*

9-11 – MARCH **SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES!**

10-MARCH – **Assignment #3 DUE DATE (3/18)**

16—18: SHAEFER: Chapter 11: Stratification by Gender
READER: Ch36 – *The Social Construction of Gender* (Andersen)
MOVIE: *The Gender Tango*

11-MARCH

23—25: **EXAM #2**
READER: Ch68 – *Generations X, Y, and Z* (Alwin)
MOVIE: *Population Paradox*

* **March 27th is the LAST day to DROP this course!** *

12-MAR/APRIL – **Assignment #4 DUE DATE (4/01)**

30—01: SHAEFER: Chapter 14: Government and the Economy
READER: *Nickel-and-Dimed* (Ehrenreich)
MOVIE: *Waging a Living*

13-APRIL

6—8: SHAEFER: Chapter 15: Health, Medicine & the Environment
READER: Ch62 – *What do we think of the U.S. Health Care System?* (Budrys)
 Ch63 – *Uninsured, Exposed and at Risk – But not powerless* (Rivera)
MOVIE: *Sick Around the World*

14-APRIL

13—15: SHAEFER: Chapter 16: Social Change in the Global Community
READER: Ch69 – *Jihad vs. McWorld* (Barber)
 Ch70 – *The Genius of the Civil Rights Movement* (Morris)
MOVIE: *Global Grassroots: The ramifications of globalization*

15-APRIL – **Assignment #5 DUE DATE (4/22)**

20—22: Creative Assignment PRESENTATIONS
Review for Exam #3

** **EXAM #3 WILL TAKE PLACE DURING FINAL EXAM WEEK – TBA** **

GRADING

POINTS (%)

Exam 1	100 (17%)
Exam 2	100 (17%)
Exam 3	100 (17%)
Quizzes	100 (17%)
In-Class Activities	150 (24%)
Creative Assignment	25 (4%)
Out-of-class Assignments	<u>25 (4%)</u>
TOTAL	600 (100%)

** **Extra Credit:** *Extra credit assignments and opportunities will be presented during class time. The accumulation of extra credits points will be added to the upcoming exam score. Students who are absent during the time in which the extra credit assignment is given will NOT have the opportunity for the extra credit assignment. Extra credits **must** be turned in during class on the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted.*

GRADE SCALE

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
<=59	F

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: The University's mission rests on the premise of intellectual honesty, in the classroom, laboratory, office, and the solitary examination desk. Without a prevailing ethic of honor and integrity not only in scientific pursuits but also in all scholarly activity, the very search for knowledge is impaired. Each of us must therefore accept individual responsibility for our behavior and our own work and refrain from taking credit for the work of others. I highly encourage that you review Case Western Reserve University's *Academic Policies and Procedures*, including what constitutes an academic integrity violation as well as reporting and adjudicating violations at <http://studentaffairs.case.edu/groups/aiboard/policy.html>. In compliance with CWRU's policy and procedures, any student found committing acts (or suspected of committing such acts) of academic dishonesty by the instructor will be referred to the Departmental Chair as well as the Dean of Undergraduate Studies to determine the appropriate course of action. Please read these policies and procedures thoroughly! ***There will be NO exceptions to this policy!***

DISABILITY STATEMENT: Case Western Reserve University recognizes that students with documented disabilities may need assistance or accommodations in order to take full advantage of the university's educational programs. Student Affairs Handbook Policy outlines the policies and procedures used in determining a student's eligibility for disability services. These procedures are applicable to all undergraduate students and all graduate students. You may read the handbook policy at <http://studentaffairs.case.edu/office/handbook/policy/disability.html>. Any documented students who need assistance or accommodations due to a disability are encouraged to inform the instructor as soon as possible so that these needs may be met in a timely manner.