

SOCI 101/7011
Introduction to Sociology: Human Interaction
Spring 2010

Instructor: **Rebecca A. Siders, M.A.**
Office Hours: By Appointment on Mon, Wed, & Fri
Email: rebecca.siders@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 724.866.6018
Office: Mather Memorial Rm# 24A
Office Phone: 216.368.0112
Meeting Days: 10:30am – 11:20am on M/W/F at Clark Hall Rm#309

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

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

**Supplemental readings will be posted on Blackboard (BB) or handed out during class. Please be sure to check BB 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!*

CLASSROOM RULES:

- Laptops 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 and out of sight during class.
- Finally, please do not have earplugs in your ears during class.

****Repeated violation of any of these requests will 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.



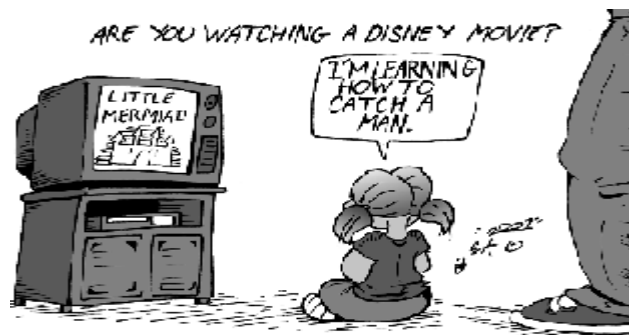
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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

1. **Read ALL assigned materials.** Students are responsible for purchasing the required textbook. The textbook is the **most recent edition**. If students decide to purchase earlier editions of the textbook, the student *assumes* the risk of missing specific content from the newer editions that may appear on exams or quizzes.
2. Students are responsible for reading all supplemental readings and assignments posted on Blackboard.

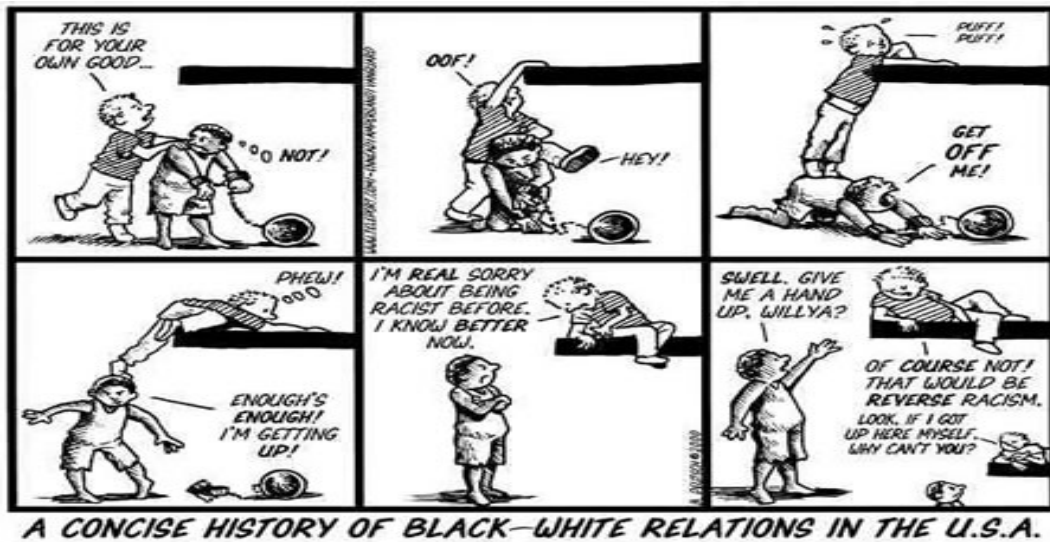


3. **2 Exams (200):** There will be two exams throughout the semester (100 pts each) – a mid-term and a final. The exams are comprehensive and consist of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and true/false questions. Exam questions will be drawn from the required textbook. Attendance on Exam days are **MANDATORY**. There are **NO MAKE UP EXAMS** (Final exam day is scheduled on SIS).
4. **Assignments/Class participation (110):** All assignments/class exercises will be handed out during class. Some assignments will be take-home with a specified due date. Assignments **MUST** be turned in **during class** on the assigned due date. **LATE** assignments will be accepted but with **3 pts subtracted** for *each class past the due date*. **NO assignments will be accepted via email or BB** – UNLESS class is canceled or otherwise stated by the Instructor. ALL assignments **MUST** be turned in **during class** (including LATE ones) or in the Instructor's mailbox located in Mather Memorial Department of Sociology.



*The Instructor reserves the right to give Pop Quizzes throughout the semester – which may count as some of the Assignment points.

5. **Creative Assignment (100):** Students will do a creative project that best illustrates the sociological concepts and themes discussed throughout the semester. Guidelines for the project will be posted or given to students after Spring Break. All projects will be presented to the class and turned in no later than the last week of classes. Due to the large number of students in this class, if some students get the project done early, they may arrange to present it and turn it in with the approval of the Instructor before the last week of class. Also, none of the projects can be presented or turned in prior to Spring Break.



6. **Attendance (90):** My attendance policy is such that students are not severely punished for missing a couple of classes; however, reward those who do make it to class each day and on time. Therefore, students will receive 2 pts for attending each class. Attendance will be taken within 10 minutes of class beginning OR 10 minutes prior to class concluding. For EXCUSED classes, the attendance policy specified in the Student Handbook is respected for students missing class due to religious and/or medical reasons. The instructor must receive written notice PRIOR to the absence or a COPY TO KEEP of the doctor's excuse, hospital record, and/or note from Student Affairs due on the day the student returns to class, otherwise all missed classes will be concluded as absent. Any other "excused" absences are left at the discretion of the Instructor.

ASSIGNED READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1-JANUARY 11 – 15

Introduction to Sociology – Syllabus
Chapter 1 – Understanding Sociology
Chapter 2 – Sociological Research

Week 2-JANUARY 18-22 **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY – NO CLASS!**

Chapter 3 – Culture
Supplemental readings: *Size 6-The Western Women's Haren* (Fatima Mernissi).
Men and Women-Mind and Body (Sharlene Hesse-Biber)
Assignment #1

Week 3-JANUARY 25-29

Chapter 4 – Socialization and the Life Course
Supplemental readings: *Leaving Home for College-Expectations for selective reconstruction of self* (David Karp et al.).
Barbie Girls vs Sea Monsters (Michael Messner)
Assignment #1 DUE

Week 4-FEBRUARY 1-5

Chapter 10 – Racial & Ethnic Inequality
Supplemental reading: *Everyday race-making-Navigating racial boundaries in schools*
(Amanda Lewis)
Class exercises

Week 5-FEBRUARY 8-12

Chapter 10 Continued...
MOVIE: *Understanding Race*
Assignment #2

Week 6-FEBRUARY 15-19

Chapter 11 – Stratification by Gender
Supplemental reading: *The social construction of gender* (Margaret Andersen)
Class exercises

Week 7-FEBRUARY 22-26

Chapter 11 Continued...
MOVIE: *Still Killing Us Softly* (Jean Kilbourne)
Assignment #2 DUE

Week 8-MARCH 1-5

Review for Mid-Term
Mid-Term Exam

Week 9-MARCH 8-12 **SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES!**

Mid-term exam grades MIGHT be posted on BB during break

Week 10-MARCH 15-19

Chapter 8 – Stratification and Social Mobility in the U.S.

Supplemental reading: *Shadowy lines that still divide* (Scott & Leonhardt)

Assignment #3 hand out

Creative Project Guidelines

Week 11-MARCH 22-26

Chapter 9 – Global Inequality

Supplemental reading: *The Nanny Chain* (Hochschild)

MOVIE: *Born Into Brothels*

Assignment #3 DUE

Week 12-MARCH 29-31 (GOOD FRIDAY OFF per Instructor)

Chapter 12 – The Family and Intimate Relationships

Supplemental readings: *Population and Urbanization-Living on spaceship earth*
(Ballantine & Roberts)

MOVIE: *World in the Balance*

Class exercise/Assignment #4

Week 13-APRIL 5-9

Chapter 15 – Health, Medicine, and the Environment

MOVIE: *Sick Around the World*

Class exercise/Assignment #4 DUE

Week 14-APRIL 12-16

Chapter 16: Social Change in the Global Community

Supplemental reading: *The Process of Change-Can we make a difference?*

Class exercise/Assignment #5

Creative Project Presentations

Week 15-APRIL 19-26

Assignment #5 DUE

Creative Project PRESENTATIONS

Questions re: Final Exam (Chs. 8, 9, 12, 15, 16 Only)

**** FINAL EXAM is scheduled on May 6th at 8:30am-11:30am**

This may be NEGOTIATED depending on how the semester goes. **

GRADING

Mid-Term Exam
Final Exam
Assignments
Attendance
Creative Assignment
TOTAL

POINTS (%)

100 (20%)
100 (20%)
110 (22%)
90 (18%)
100 (20%)
500 (100%)

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.

