

∞ Principles of Sociology ∞

Soci2201/02, CRN#80325; TR 6:30-7:45pm Instructor: Daniel Farr Fall 2013
Classroom: SO 2030 Office: Social Science (SO) 5006 Email: dfarr4@kennesaw.edu
Office hours: M/W 8:30-9:00 & 11-12; T 4:30-5:30 & by appointment Phone: 770-794-7970

Catalog Description:

This course is an overview of sociology which emphasizes the social nature of human behavior, including an introduction to culture, social structure, socialization, deviance, stratification, family, gender, religion, demography, and complex organization.

Course Description: This course will be an introduction to the field of sociology. We will examine some of the basic patterns of social behavior and the structures and functions of social organizations. The focus will be on developing an understanding of the unique perspective of sociology as the study of human interaction. The goal of this course is to expand one's understanding of their social existence and to examine the social world with a critical eye. As well as learning from the assigned text, class activities and group exercises, you will also gain a better sense of your own world by thinking sociologically about the structures and networks that make up your own social life. Class meetings may include formal lectures, structured and informal discussion, debate, learning exercises, group work, computer applications, and the analysis of visual and other media.

Classroom Environment: Some of the issues/topics that are addressed in this course may be sensitive in nature. We each come to the table with varying experiences and perspectives, thus will have different understandings and beliefs about our social world. I expect you to be respectful of each other and of differing perspectives and beliefs. I ask that you try to maintain an open and inquisitive mind as we work through the course material. An important aspect of sociology is not only the exposure to differing perspectives, but also learning to challenge traditional perspectives and beliefs. I will not be asking you to change what you believe, but I will be asking that you be open to understanding why others may have differing beliefs and practices. You are welcome to challenge or question the material presented by myself and the textbook, but it is not appropriate to simply state “___ is ‘WRONG’”. If you wish to challenge or create a dialogue about an issue or topic it may be useful as an aide in the understanding of material for all students. I enjoy a classroom environment that has student participation, interaction, and critical questioning.

If there are topics in this course that you find personally difficult please speak with me. Additionally, if you should have questions/problems with the course always feel free to speak with me. I want this course to be a positive and productive experience for us all, without feedback and student input I cannot shape the course to be the best it can be.

Prerequisites: None

Course Objectives:

At a minimum, after completing this course, the successful student will have developed:

1. An ability to describe the subject matter of sociology and how sociology differs from other social sciences (e.g. political science, anthropology, psychology).
2. An ability to express the dominant theoretical approaches (e.g. structural-functionalism, interpretative, conflict, feminist) that sociologists use to comprehend social reality

3. An ability to define and illustrate key sociological concepts (e.g. culture, social structure, diversity, sociological imagination, socialization and social institutions).
4. Finally, since this is a General Education course, this class will provide you with a strong knowledge base in sociology; will help you analyze and apply sociological information; and will help you communicate more effectively and appropriately.

Required Text: Sociology, 14th Edition. John J. Macionis. 2012. Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-205-11671-3
- a study guide is also available for this text, but is not required.

Grading Structure: Exam 1: 20%
Exam 2: 25%
Final Exam: 25%
Online (Blackboard) quizzes: 20% (4% each, 5 best of 6 quizzes)
Participation & Preparedness: 10%

Course grades will be assigned based upon above weighted grades and the below grade guideline.

A = 90-100	D = 60-69.9
B = 80-89.9	F = <59.9
C = 70-79.9	

Exams: The exams are non-cumulative. The exams will be multiple-choice, with a possible total of 102 points. Each exam will cover approximately six book chapters, as indicated in tentative schedule.

Quizzes: There will be a number of online quizzes available on D2L during noted time periods. There are six quizzes available; the best 5 grades will be used in course grade calculations. Each quiz will be 11 multiple-choice questions in length and timed to 10 minutes – quizzes are open-book and open-notebook. You will be allowed one attempt on the quiz. Each question is worth 10 points – so, answering 10/11 questions will count as “100” in quiz grade calculations; answering 11/11 questions correctly will count as “110” in quiz grade calculations – which ultimately means extra credit! The questions will be spread roughly equally across the chapters included in the quiz (roughly 3 chapters per quiz).

Participation & Preparedness: Participation will be based upon your preparedness, discussion of readings, and intelligent class dialogue. Occasional in-class quizzes and writing exercises may be taken into consideration. Participation grades will be determined for each third of the course (correlating roughly with the exams). You will be rated in whole points out of 10 (10=100, 9=90, etc.) --- however, if warranted you may receive “11” out 10 points. The three scores will be averaged before the percentage is applied for your course average. If you are a person who does not care to speak in class, use of the online discussion board can help bolster this aspect of your grade.

Extra credit: You may earn up to 4 points added to each exam by posting comments, feedback, and reactions via D2L discussions. You may respond to course material with intelligent questions and comments about the reading; response/questions that came to mind during discussion in class; intelligent responses to the postings of others; responses to movies; interesting web links that were relevant to class; even scanned document/pictures. Responses and postings should be relevant to the material currently being addressed in class. You *do not* necessarily earn a point for each posting (though you could earn up to 2 points for a single posting), nor do you necessarily receive *any* points

for a posting --- it is dependant upon quality, not quantity. You may post up until exam time towards an exam—after an exam you may not post that day to earn credit towards the completed exam.

For each exam, there are three time periods defined in the discussion board, you cannot earn more than 2 points in any given discussion period, which are defined in D2L (obviously, you should not be posting DURING class, thus showing you aren't attending!). I encourage students to post regularly to create a good class dialogue. I will be trying to review and update extra credit earnings regularly between each exam, but if all students make efforts to earn this extra credit it may take time to read all responses. It is likely that I will respond and add to the dialogue fairly heavily, but I will not be able to respond to every student comment or posting. The last day to post for the semester is Dec 4, 2013 (the last day of classes).

Attendance: You are permitted to miss 4 classes without excuse. However, paper due dates and exam dates are secure – your absence (if unexcused) will not allow you to turn in work late. If you miss an in-class activity, without appropriate documentation you will not be able to make it up. Also, I will not accept a paper via email on the due date if you are not in attendance of class that day (thus, don't email me your paper and then skip class). Upon your 5th class absence your final average will lose 3 points; each additional date thereafter will result in an additional 1 point loss; thus 5th absence 3 points loss, 6th lose 4 points, etc. Excused absences as described above do not affect your 4 permitted excused absences---within reason; this matter will be handled on a case-by-case basis. I encourage you to speak to me regarding potential conflicts as they arise—especially travel for sports/etc.

On occasion, the instructor will be unable to be present during the scheduled course time (for example, due to attendance of a conference or professional activity). In such instances an alternate class activity will be assigned. This activity may take the form of an in-class film showing, an online class lesson supplement, or an out-of-class activity assignment. The timely completion (deadline will be established in advance) of the alternate class session supplement will be required. Failure to attend or complete such activities will be counted as an absence and included in the above described attendance policy. Those with expected absences due to military, sporting, or academic events should consult with the instructor individually to determine reasonable attendance expectations.

Due Dates & Make-up exams/quizzes, etc.:

Make-up exams/quizzes will only be allowed in extreme circumstances with appropriate documentation such as: 1) documented illness (a note from a physician indicating your inability to take an exam due to illness or medical treatment), 2) written certification of a death in the family, 3) written certification (through the Dean's office, or other appropriate offices) is provided for rare events (not covered by 1 or 2 that would make attendance of the exam impossible).

Plagiarism and Cheating are unacceptable behaviors. If you are found to have cheated or submitted uncited or plagiarized work you will be reported to the Judiciary Committee and fail this course. If you are uncertain about what constitutes plagiarism you should consult the undergraduate catalog & handbooks.

Academic Integrity Statement

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification

cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement.

disAbleD Student Support Services

Kennesaw State University welcomes all students, recognizing that variations of abilities contribute to a richly diverse campus life. Prospective students are encouraged to visit the university -- explore the campus and talk with faculty, staff and current students. Find out that KSU is the place for you.

http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/dsss.html

Student Success Services (SSS): The SSS center (Kennesaw Hall, Room 2401; phone: 770-423-6600) provides year-round counseling, advising, and testing services. For incoming students, First Year, Transfer and Parent Orientation services are also available. They have recently added a program devoted to Alcohol and Drug Education & Prevention and a Collegiate Recovery Center. The SSS website is <http://www.kennesaw.edu/studentsuccess/>

KSU's Student Development Center: The Student Development Center (Carmichael Student Center, Suite 267; phone: 770-423-6443) provides information of particular interest to adult learners, minority students, multicultural and international students, and disabled students; and provides links to opportunities for student community service and a peer mentor program. The Student Development website is http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/home/home.html

KSU's English as a Second Language (ESL) Study and Tutorial Center: The ESL Study and Tutorial Center (Library, Room 442) offers tutoring in writing a paper, reviewing grammar, reading, and preparing for the Regents' tests. Appointments are usually necessary. For an appointment, contact David Schmidt at (770) 423-6377, or dschmidt@kennesaw.edu. The ESL Study and Tutorial Center website is http://www.kennesaw.edu/university_studies/esl/center.shtml

Writing Lab: "The KSU Writing Center is a free service offered to all KSU students. Experienced, friendly writing assistants work with you throughout the writing process on concerns such as topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and mechanics. For more information or to make an appointment (appointments are strongly encouraged), visit <http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter> , or stop by Room 242 in the English Building."

NOTE: If you use campus computers, please do not save your work on the computers. Use a usb drive or email it to yourself. Computers are periodically wiped clean and your work will be lost. This is not an excused reason to not turn in papers on time.

Misc. information:

1. Be certain to turn off cell phone ringer/pager before coming to class. If your phone/pager rings in class and you are located, the persons sitting on each side of you will be awarded 2 points towards their next exam and you will lose 4 points from your next exam grade. Please speak to me prior to class if there is an emergency reason to have the phone turned on to ring.
2. If you are seen using/on your phone (texting/etc.) (or if you are using your laptop for non-class activities) in class, you will be asked to leave and you will be marked absent for that class session. To be counted as attending on subsequent class sessions you will be expected

- to leave your phone at the front podium when you arrive to class, to be then collected when you leave class. If you do not leave the phone at the front, you will be marked absent regardless of your attendance – to be “attending” your phone must be at the front of the room. If the issue relates to your use of a laptop, you will forfeit the use of a laptop in class.
3. Please arrive on time. Coming late is distracting. If you come late please try to be quiet and settle in the most convenient seat. Excessive lateness will be taken into consideration in attendance matters. Be certain to consult with professor after class to assure you were marked as attending – failure to speak with the professor may result in noted absences, which will “count” towards course attendance policy.
 4. In email PLEASE be certain to include your name and course section (its surprising how often that is forgotten!). Ideally, put course info in the subject line (for example, “deviance m/w - test question”).
 5. PLEASE do not wait until the last moment to be in touch with me with questions about papers/ exams. I am happy to discuss any questions with you about papers/exams either before/after class, via email, or arrange appointments but it is inappropriate to be asking me questions via email the evening before or morning a paper is due. If you wait till the last moment to ask questions I cannot guarantee a response quickly enough for your use.

Note: The following chapters will not be assigned 12, 15, 19, 21 & 24 are skipped. Only part of Chapter 4 will be addressed, as noted.

Tentative Schedule:

This schedule is a preliminary outline of the course. The class will be updated of changes regularly should they occur.

- (T) Aug 20 - **FIRST DAY**
(R) Aug 22 - Sociological Perspective - **Chpt 1**
(T) Aug 27 - Sociological Investigation - **Chpt 2**
(R) Aug 29 - Culture - **Chpt 3** & Society - **Chpt 4*** (Chpt 4, only pp. 80-85 thru "Limits of Technology")
(T) Sept 3 - cont. Quiz 1: (F) Aug 30 – (T) Sept 3 [Chpt 1-4]
(R) Sept 5 - Socialization - **Chpt 5**
(T) Sept 10 - Social Interaction - **Chpt 6**
(R) Sept 12 - Groups & Organizations - **Chpt 7**
(T) Sept 17 - catch-up Quiz 2: (F) Sept 13 – (T) Sept 17 [Chpt 5-7]
(R) Sept 19 - **EXAM #1**
- (T) Sept 24 - Gender Stratification - **Chpt 13**
(R) Sept 26 - Sexuality and Society - **Chpt 8**
(T) Oct 1 - Start film *Middle Sexes*
(R) Oct 3 - finish film
(T) Oct 8 - catch-up & start Deviance - **Chpt 9**
(R) Oct 10 - finish Deviance & start Social Stratification - **Chpt 10**
Quiz 3: (F) Oct 11 – (T) Oct 15 [Chpt 13, 8, 9]
- (T) Oct 15 - Social Class in the U.S. - **Chpt 11**
(R) Oct 17 - Race & Ethnicity - **Chpt 14**
(T) Oct 22 - catch-up Quiz 4: (F) Oct 23 – (T) Oct 22 [Chpt 10, 11, 14]
(R) Oct 24 - **EXAM #2**
- (T) Oct 29 - Families - **Chpt 18**
(R) Oct 31 - cont.
(T) Nov 5 - Economy & Work - **Chpt 16**
(R) Nov 7 - Politics and Government - **Chpt 17** Quiz 5: (F) Nov 8 – (T) Nov 12 [Chpt 16-18]
(T) Nov 12 - Education - **Chpt 20**
(R) Nov 14 - Population, Urbanization, & Environment - **Chpt 22**
(T) Nov 19 - Start film (*World in Balance* (?))
(R) Nov 21 - Collective Behavior & Social Movements - **Chpt 23**
(T) Nov 26 - TBD Quiz 6: (F) Nov 21 – (T) Nov 26 [Chpt 20, 22, 23]
(R) Nov 28 - NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING
(T) Dec 3 - LAST DAY
- (T) Dec 10 - 6-8pm **EXAM #3**