

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

SOCI 1101/01: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Fall 2015

Credit Hours: 3-0-3

Class time: M&W 11:00-12:15, Social Science Building 2025

Instructor: Dr. Ravi Ghadge

Email: rghadge@kennesaw.edu (please write “SOCI 1101/01” in the subject line. Please do not email me on D2L/Brightspace).

Office: Room 4076, Social Science Building

Office Hours: M&W 12:30-2:00 and by appointment

Web page: <http://facultyweb.kennesaw.edu/rghadge>

Course 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.

Why study Sociology? Sociology is deeply related to our everyday experiences. It provides us with the conceptual, analytical, and theoretical tools—the “sociological imagination”—to understand the world around us. It challenges our taken-for-granted understanding and enables us to see how social forces that may appear to be unrelated to us impact our lives. In today’s global world our lives are connected to people far away from us. Sociology enables us to critically see those connections, thereby enlarging our worldviews. Therefore, Sociology helps us in becoming informed and responsible global citizens.

Course Objectives

1. Define and describe basic sociological concepts and theories and what is known in the discipline as the “sociological perspective.”
2. Describe how sociological concepts can be applied in their personal lives and the world around them and how these applications may have changed over time and/or are likely to change in the future.
3. Describe the complex nature of relationships between and among individuals, social groups, and the larger society, of which they are a part, including the ways in which individuals, groups and the larger society handle issues of similarity and diversity.
4. Demonstrate the ability to analyze data and scientific research as applied in the discipline of sociology.
5. Demonstrate the ability to think critically about sociological issues as they apply to local, national and global policies through oral and written communication about such.

Course Philosophy

Our class sessions will involve lectures, in-class discussions and activities, and films. Therefore, students are **expected to read all the assigned reading materials prior to each class and be prepared to participate in class discussions**. Students reading comprehension and engagement will be evaluated through class discussions and course assignments. If you do not feel comfortable to speak aloud in class, then please discuss the issue with me early in the semester. To perform well in this course, it is important that you read the assigned readings carefully, take copious notes in class, and review the material regularly. Lecture slides will not be posted online.

Required Reading Material

- Text Book: *Introduction to Sociology (Seagull 9E edition)* by Anthony Giddens, Mitchell Duneier, Richard P. Appelbaum, and Deborah Carr, W.W. Norton & Co., 2014 ISBN: 978-0-393-92223-3. **Please buy the Seagull edition, which is cheaper.**
- Additional reading material is available on D2L

Course Requirements

• Attendance & Class Participation	10%
• Field Observation Assignment	20%
• Integrated Film Review Assignment	10%
• Exam 1, 2, and 3 (20% each)	60%
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Total:	100%

Attendance & Class Participation (10%): I will take attendance during every class. I appreciate your regular attendance and active participation in class. Even a single absence from class will make you fall behind in class. Further, your presence in class is beneficial to all, while your absence creates a void. I understand that we all can have unexpected personal emergencies. Therefore, you can have two free absences during the course without losing any points. However, every additional absence (after two) will lead to a reduction of 2% per absence of your final grade. If you miss a class due to any personal emergency, I may consider not counting that as an absence, provided you present a documented proof of this emergency. However, if you remain absent for more than 4 classes, I may have to drop you from the class.

Field Observation Assignment (20%): The purpose of this assignment is to apply your sociological imagination to real life everyday experiences. It will further demonstrate your understanding and application of sociological concepts learned in the course. The assignment will be 4-5 pages (double-spaced). For this assignment students will need to complete one hour of individual observation of a particular social setting and write a report that includes description and sociological analysis of the observations applying sociological concepts read/discussed during class. You need to get your observation setting approved by me by 9/16. The assignment is due on D2L by 5 pm on 10/14. A detailed assignment rubric is available on D2L.

Integrated Film Review Assignment (10%): You will need to select any one of the films shown in class and write a 2-3 page (double-spaced) analytical integrated response to the film, situated in the context of the class readings and discussions. The responses will be due on D2L a week after the film completion. A detailed assignment rubric is available on D2L.

Exam 1, 2, and 3 (60%): The exams will consist of multiple choice questions based on readings, films, and discussions covered in class.

Final Grading Scale: The final grade for the class will be calculated as per the following:

90 % – 100 % = A
80 % – 89 % = B
70 % – 79 % = C
60 % – 69 % = D
Below 59 % = F

Course Policies

Contacting me: The best way to contact me is by email at rghadge@kennesaw.edu. Please include “SOC1 1101/01” in the subject line, as this will help me identify your emails quickly. I will respond to your email in 1-3 business days. Please do not send emails through D2L/Brightspace.

Attendance and Tardiness: I will take attendance during every class. I appreciate your regular attendance and active participation in class. If you are going to be absent, you must email me before the class. I strongly urge you to come to class on time. Habitual tardiness may affect your overall grade in class. I understand that we all can have unexpected personal emergencies. Therefore, you can have two free absences during the course without losing any points. However, every additional absence (after two) will lead to a reduction of 2% per absence of your final grade. If you miss a class due to any personal emergency, I may consider not counting that as an absence, provided you present a documented proof of this emergency. However, if you remain absent for more than 4 classes, I may have to drop you from the class.

Grading: I will grade assignments and provide feedback in 7-14 business days from the time the assignment is due.

Late assignments and Exam Make-up policy: Late assignments will not be accepted unless permission is granted before the due date. There will be no make-up exams.

Class Protocol: Please switch off your cell phones before coming to the class. You can use your computer to take notes, but internet surfing and emailing is strictly prohibited.

Certain things that we discuss in class may make you feel uncomfortable. I present material from a sociological perspective potentially challenging some of your own views and beliefs. Of course, you may disagree with them and are welcome to express your disagreement. But, your argument has to be supported with reason and evidence. If you continue to feel uncomfortable with the class material or discussion or have any other problems in class, please contact me.

One of the objectives of this class is to learn from each other's perspectives and experiences. In order to achieve this objective we require some ground rules to establish a good learning environment. I hope we will agree to abide by these rules throughout the semester:

- We will be respectful of others and their ideas even when we disagree with someone.
- We create a safe atmosphere in the classroom that is conducive to learning.
- We will not verbally attack each other.
- No one dominates the discussions in class.
- No one discriminates, harasses, or intimidates other student(s).
- We will try to raise issues relevant to the class discussion.
- We will not cross talk with others during class.
- We will respect the role of the instructor as the moderator and facilitator of the class.
- We will observe other common sense courteous behavior in class.

I reserve the right to take action against consistently disruptive students according to legal and university guidelines.

Course Technology: I will use D2L to post the syllabus, additional readings, assignment rubrics, course resources, lecture outlines, grades, and sending group emails to the class. Although I will try to inform you of announcements in class, it is a good idea to check D2L frequently.

Academic Honesty: You are required to adhere to the tenets of the Kennesaw State University Policy on Academic Honesty. This policy can be found at:
http://www.kennesaw.edu/academicaffairs/acadpubs/acadpub/ucats2006-07/x.General_Policies.pdf

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Definitions and consequences of plagiarism are posted on the KSU website: <http://www.kennesaw.edu/elearning/proseprep/plagiarism.html>. **If any portion of your work is plagiarized you will receive a 0 for the assignment, an F for the course, and disciplinary action will be taken.**

Accommodations: This course will be conducted in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you are a student with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation, please inform me at the beginning of the semester and also contact the ADA Compliance Officer for Students—Nastassia Sanabria, Assistant Director of Student Disability Services, Student Center, Suite 267, 470-578-6443.

Writing support: The KSU Writing Center helps students in all majors improve their writing. Experienced, friendly writing assistants help with topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and more. For more information or to make an appointment, visit writingcenter.kennesaw.edu or stop by English Building, Room 242 (Kennesaw campus) or Building A, Room 184 (Marietta campus). As this is a writing intensive course, I encourage you to use this valuable resource on campus to improve your written assignments.

Course Schedule and Readings

Tentative Calendar

Week	Topic	Readings (complete prior to class)	Course Work
Wk1 8/17	Introduction	No readings	
8/19	Sociological Imagination	1. Ch. 1 (pp. 1-10) 2. Mills (D2L)	In-class sociological imagination exercise
Wk2 8/24	Sociological Theories	1. Ch. 1 (pp. 10-27)	
8/26	Applying the three sociological approaches	No readings	Case Study: Pak Mun Dam
Wk3 8/31	Sociological Methods	1. Ch. 2	
9/2	Culture and Society	1. Ch. 3	
Wk4 9/7	No Class: Labor Day Holiday		
9/9	Socialization	1. Ch. 4	
Wk5 9/14	Socialization	1. Kane (D2L) 2. Van Ausdale and Feagin (D2L)	
9/16	Film 1: <i>Divide of the Sexes: Gender Roles in Childhood</i>	No readings	*Get observation setting approved by this date
Wk6 9/21	Social Interaction and Everyday Life	1. Ch. 5	
9/23	Groups, Networks, and Organizations	1. Ch. 6 2. Adler and Adler (D2L)	
Wk7 9/28	Exam # 1	No Readings	
9/30	Conformity, Deviance, and Crime	1. Ch. 7	
Wk8 10/5	Stratification, Class, and Inequality	1. Ch. 8 (193-213)	*Complete mid-term feedback on D2L
10/7	Stratification, Class, and Inequality	1. Ch. 8 (pp. 213-227) 2. Ehrenreich (D2L)	

Wk9 10/12	Global Inequality	1. Ch. 9	DUE: Field Observation Assignment on D2L by 5:00 pm
10/14	Film 2: <i>Nero's Guests</i>	No readings	
Wk10 10/19	Gender Inequality	1. Ch. 10 (pp. 255-270)	
10/21	Gender Inequality	1. Ch. 10 (pp. 270-289) 2. Lucal (D2L)	
Wk11 10/26	Ethnicity and Race Film 3: Begin watching <i>The Color of Money</i>	1. Ch. 11 (pp. 291-306)	
10/28	Ethnicity and Race Film 3: Finish watching <i>The Color of Money</i>	1. Ch. 11 (pp.306-319) 2. McIntosh (D2L) 3. Nakano Glenn (D2L)	
Wk12 11/2	Government, Political Power, and Social Movements	1. Ch. 13	
11/4	Exam # 2	No readings	
Wk13 11/9	Work and Economic Life	1. Ch. 14	
11/11	Families and Intimate Relationships	1. Ch. 15	
Wk14 11/16	Education	1. Ch. 16	
11/18	Population, Urbanization, and the Environment	1. Ch. 19	
Thanksgiving break: No class on 11/23 and 11/25			
Wk15 11/30	Film 4: <i>TBD</i>		
12/2	Globalization and Social Change	1. Ch. 20	
Wk16 12/7	Exam # 3		

Last day to drop/add courses is August 24. The last day to withdrawal without academic penalty is October 7.

The course syllabus presented in this document will be followed as closely as possible. However, it is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor or in the event of extenuating circumstances. This includes the tentative calendar presented above.

By remaining enrolled in this class, you agree that you have read the syllabus, understand the syllabus (or have contacted the instructor for clarification), and agree to abide by the conditions of this syllabus