

SOCI 1101: Introduction to Sociology
Kennesaw State University
Fall 2016
T/Th 5:00pm-6:15pm
Social Sciences Building 3021

Instructor: Blair Yates

Office: Room 4005, Social Science Building

Office hours: Available before and after class and by appointment

Email: byates3@kennesaw.edu

I check email frequently, but please allow 24 hours for a response during the week, and 48 hours on weekends. In the subject line of the email, please write "SOCI 1101."

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.

SOCI 1101 satisfies one of Kennesaw State University's general education program requirements. It addresses the Social Sciences general education learning outcome. The learning outcome states: Students analyze how human relationships develop, persist, and/or change. For more information about KSU's General Education program requirements and associated learning outcomes, please visit

http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=29&poid=3434

3 Class Hours 0 Laboratory Hours 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: None.

Learning Objectives

1. Learn basic terminology, concepts, research methods, and theoretical approaches in sociology.
2. Challenge common sense understandings about the social world using the "sociological imagination."
3. Assess the dynamic relations between individuals, social groups, and the larger society.
4. Understand how the social location of individuals influences their lives, behaviors, and perceptions.
5. Enhance ability to think critically about the social world and human behavior, and communicate this knowledge and assessment to others.

Required Textbook and Readings

- Conley, Dalton. 2015. *You May Ask Yourself*, 4th edition. W.W. Norton.
ISBN: 978-0-393-93773-2 (eBook: <https://digital.wwnorton.com/youmayask4>)
- Additional required readings on D2L.

Course Technology

D2L (<http://d2l.kennesaw.edu/>): Please familiarize yourself with D2L and contact service@kennesaw.edu should you encounter any technological problems. I will post materials, such as the syllabus, study guides, activities/assignments, PowerPoints, additional readings, and other important items. Please check D2L regularly for any changes to the course, updates, etc.

Class Format

The format for each class will consist of a mixture of lecture, large-group and small-group discussion, in-class debates, videos, activities, and small presentations. Although the lectures will correspond with the assigned readings, students should not rely solely on the lectures to teach all of the material covered in the readings. Students should come to class prepared to ask questions about the readings and to participate in any and all class discussion, activities, etc.

Course Requirements, Policies, and Expectations

Attendance: **Please note that this policy is subject to change**

Although I will not take daily attendance, regular class attendance is expected and essential to your success in this class. However, it is not enough to simply *show up* to class; your success in this class is largely determined by the degree to which you read and engage the material, and come to class prepared to discuss, ask questions, participate in activities, and so on.

PowerPoints will be posted on D2L before each class; however, PowerPoints are a mere *outline* of topics covered in class. Thus, it is necessary for you to be in class to obtain the information from the lecture, class discussion, and activities.

Excusable absences: Jury duty, military orders, religious observances/weddings (with written request during the first week of class), funerals (with prior appropriate documentation), contagious or severe illness affecting you or your dependents (with dated doctor's note), and university-sponsored events (with prior approval from the Office of the Provost)

*Enrollment Status Statement: Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a course; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

“Pop” Reading Quizzes (5% of your grade)

To underscore the importance of reading for class and to prompt attendance, throughout the semester there will be several “pop” reading quizzes in class before lecture begins. Quizzes will consist of questions about the readings assigned for that day. No extra time will be provided to students who arrive late.

Participation (15% of your grade)

Participation points are earned through completion of in-class and out-of-class activities and by contributing to class discussion and debates.

Online Writing Assignments (20% of your grade)

Several Thursdays during the semester there will be no class and instead there will be an online writing assignment. These assignments require you to read some additional material, view a

video, or otherwise involve you to think critically and sociologically, and write a one to two page written response to a prompt. Detailed instructions for each assignment will be posted to D2L. All completed assignments should be turned in to the appropriate D2L dropbox by the due date.

Exams (60% of your grade; 20% each)

There will be 3 exams, including the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer questions. Exams will cover lecture, assigned readings, discussion, activities, and videos. The final exam will take place on the last day of class (Thursday, Dec. 1st). If you are unable or unwilling to take the exam on 12/1 and would like to take the exam during the scheduled final exam period (Thursday, Dec. 8th), please speak with me by 9/22.

Grading

Students can expect grades to be posted within 10 days of receipt of graded assignments.

Activity	Percentage
“Pop” Reading Quizzes	5%
Participation	15%
Online Writing Assignments	20%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

Calculating your final grade in the class

[“Pop” reading quiz average x .05] + [Participation average x .15] + [Written assignments average x .20] + [Exam average x .60] = final grade in course out of 100%

- A 89.5% and above
- B 79.5% - 89.4%
- C 69.5% - 79.4%
- D 59.5% - 69.4%
- F 59.4% and below

Extra Credit:

I may provide extra credit opportunities throughout the semester for the entire class. There will be no extra credit assignments offered to individual students.

Late Assignments and Make-up Policy

- “Pop” reading quizzes: there are NO make-ups for reading quizzes
- Participation: make-ups for in-class activities will be given at my discretion and only under certain circumstances (see “excusable absences” above). *To be considered eligible for a make-up, students must provide documentation for their excused absence on the day they return to class.* Late out-of-class activities are accepted, however, points will be deducted from your activity grade (number of points deducted at my

discretion). Out-of-class activities submitted after 72 hours past the original due date and time will not be accepted.

- *Written Assignments*: assignments are considered “late” beginning at one minute past the due date and time on D2L. Late assignments will result in point deduction (number of points deducted at my discretion). Assignments submitted after 72 hours past the original due date and time will not be accepted.
- *Exams*: make-up exams will be given at my discretion and only under certain circumstances (see “excusable absences” above). *To be considered eligible for a make-up exam, students must contact me at least 24 hours prior to the originally scheduled exam time and provide documentation for their excused absence on the day that they return to class.* Note: Make-up exams may be essay exams.

Classroom Policies

Respect:

My teaching philosophy is based on mutual respect. I will treat you all with respect and will work to create a classroom environment that is welcoming to all, honoring the fact that we are diverse with respect to race and ethnicity, gender, social class, sexual orientation, age, ability/disability, country of origin, and religion. In return, I expect you to show me the same kind of respect. The classroom should be a comfortable environment that encourages the participation of everyone. With this goal in mind, we can agree and disagree about ideas and theories. However, please be respectful to me and your fellow classmates during class discussion, lecture, debates, activities, etc.; remember this is a college classroom and you should respect everyone’s opinions, even if you do not agree with them. The following behaviors are unacceptable and will not be tolerated:

- (a) Personal attacks, including attacks on a person’s appearance, demeanor, or religious and political beliefs.
- (b) Interrupting your instructor or other students. Raise your hand and wait to be called on by the discussion leader or myself to prevent this problem.
- (c) Using the discussion to argue for political positions and/or beliefs. If political discussions arise, they must be discussed as scholarly endeavors (see above).
- (d) Using raised tones, yelling, engaging in arguments with other students, and/or being physically aggressive.
- (e) Ignoring or undermining my authority and responsibility as an instructor to protect the integrity of the classroom.

Anyone who violates these guidelines will be asked to cease and desist and may be asked to leave the classroom and/or drop the course.

Furthermore, as a sign of respect to me and to your fellow classmates, please do not text, sleep, or talk during class time, and do not pack up your books before class ends. Not only are those things disrespectful and disruptive to your classmates and me, but they also limit your ability to participate in class and understand the material. Repeated disruption of class may lead to penalties that reduce your final grade. **Failure to abide by these principles listed above can result in academic penalties ranging from a lowered grade, to dismissal, to failing the course.**

Electronic Devices:

Cell phone use is not permitted in the classroom and texting will not be tolerated. Laptops, iPads, tablets, etc. are permitted SOLELY for learning purposes (read: note-taking and/or in-class activities). If I find that students are using them for other reasons, I will ban them from the classroom. Students may not record classroom lectures/discussions or take videos or pictures during class without permission (permission granted to students with documentation from the Office for Disabled Student Support Services).

Arriving Late/Leaving Early:

Please get to class on time and do your best to avoid stepping out or leaving early. Notify me beforehand if you know you will be late for class or need to leave early. *Students that leave shortly or directly after signing the attendance sheet or taking a reading quiz will be counted as absent and/or not receive a 0 for that quiz.*

University Policies

Academic Integrity:

Academic Honesty/Integrity Statement: <http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct (<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/docs/KSU%20Codes%20of%20Conduct-2015.pdf>), as published in the Undergraduate and Graduates Catalogs. Section III 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 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.

Cheating: Receiving, attempting to receive, knowingly giving or attempting to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.) is considered cheating, as is engaging in any behavior that a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or class discussion. Unless specifically authorized, using and/or having access to electronic devices during an examination, quiz, test or other assessment is automatically considered cheating, regardless of the student's reason for using/accessing the device

Plagiarism: Including direct quotations from other sources into work required to be submitted for credit without indicating them as such by quotation marks, block quotes or other appropriate formatting. Incorporating the work of someone (e.g. ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information, illustrations, etc.) into a paper or project without due acknowledgement

Student Disability Services

Students with a documented disability should meet with the instructor during the first week of class to discuss any special classroom or testing accommodations needed. Also, a number of services are available to help students with disabilities with their academic work. In order to make arrangements for special services, students must visit the Student Disability Services office and make an appointment to arrange an individual assistance plan. In most cases, certification of disability is required. For more information, please visit:

<http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds/institutional-policies.php>

Additional University Policies and Resources

Confidentiality and Privacy Statement (FERPA)

<http://enrollmentservices.kennesaw.edu/training/ferpa.php>

University – Student Rights Statement

<http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=2263>

Ethics Statement

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Sexual Harassment Statement

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Course Accessibility Statement (ADA statement)

<http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds/institutional-policies.php>

Writing Center

The Writing Center is a free service available to all members of the university community; it is a place where anyone who writes can come for help in becoming a better writer. In fact, the goal of the Writing Center to produce not just better writing but better writers. Please visit:

<http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter/index.shtml>

Tentative Course Schedule

(NOTE: The schedule and content of the course outline are tentative and subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Deviations from the schedule will be announced in class or on D2L and students are responsible for keeping up with all schedule changes)

Last day to add/drop: 8/22

Last day to withdraw without academic penalty: 10/5

Dates	Topic(s)	Assignments (DUE on the indicated date)
<u>Week 1:</u> 8/16 & 8/18	Course Introduction What is Sociology? Using the Sociological Imagination	8/16: 1) Read syllabus 8/18: 1) Conley, Ch. 1
<u>Week 2:</u> 8/23 & 8/25	What is Sociology? Using the Sociological Imagination, cont. Research Methods in Sociology	8/23: 1) Conley, finish Ch. 1 2) Bring syllabus to class 8/25: 1) Conley, Ch. 2
<u>Week 3:</u> 8/30 & 9/1	Culture 9/1: NO CLASS (Online Writing Assignment #1)	8/30: 1) Conley, Ch. 3 (stop at p. 90) 2) Miner, "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema" (D2L) 9/1: 1) Conley, finish Ch. 3 2) Begin writing assignment #1 (see D2L)
<u>Week 4:</u> 9/6 & 9/8	Socialization, Social Interaction, & the Social Construction of Reality	9/6 & 9/8: 1) Conley, Ch. 4 2) The Girl in the Window (Dani's Story) 3) Recommended video: The Secret of a Wild Child 4) Zurcher, "The Naval Recruit Training Center" (D2L) *9/6: Writing Assignment #1 due at 11:59pm on D2L

<p><u>Week 5:</u> 9/13 & 9/15</p>	<p>Groups, Networks, & Organizations</p>	<p>9/13 & 9/15: 1) Conley, Ch. 5 2) Weber, “Characteristics of Bureaucracy” (D2L) 3) Ritzer, “The McDonaldization of Society” (D2L)</p>
<p><u>Week 6:</u> 9/20 & 9/22</p>	<p>9/20: EXAM 1 9/22: Crime, Deviance, & Social Control</p>	<p>9/20: 1) Study! 9/22: 1) Conley, begin Ch. 6</p>