

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

SOCI 1101/01: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Spring 2016

Credit Hours: 3-0-3

Class time: M&W 8:00-9:15, 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 through D2L).

Office: Room 4076, Social Science Building

Office Hours: M&W 11:00-12:30 and by appointment

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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. Evaluate the contribution of diverse sociological perspectives and concepts in understanding everyday personal and social situations.
2. Assess the dynamic relations between individuals, social groups, and the larger society.
3. Illustrate how sociological data is collected and analyzed through systematic research.
4. Demonstrate the ability to think critically about social issues as they apply to local, national and global policies through oral and written communication.

Course Philosophy

As there are different learning styles preferred by students, I will use a combination of several methods of instruction including interactive lectures using PowerPoint presentations, in-class discussions and group 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. I will post lecture slides online, but they contain basic information, therefore taking notes in class is very important for preparing for quizzes and exams.

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 Technology: I will primarily use D2L to post the syllabus, additional readings, assignment rubrics, course resources, lecture outlines, and grades. Moreover, emails or announcements to the entire class will be sent via D2L, therefore you should also activate the mail forwarding option to your university account (if any) on D2L so that you don't miss them. Although I will try to inform you of announcements in class, it is your responsibility to check D2L frequently. But please send me emails only through your university account and not D2L.

Course Requirements

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| • Attendance & Active Participation | 5% |
| • In-class Writing | 10% |
| • Quizzes (best 5 of 6 @ 3% each) | 15% |
| • Field Observation Assignment | 15% |
| • Media Analysis Assignment | 15% |
| • Two In-class Exams (20% each) | 40% |
| • Extra-Credit Film Review (2%) | |

Total:	100%
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Attendance & Active Participation (5%): An important part of our class discussions involves raising questions about the reading(s). Don't hesitate to ask a question or to say, "I didn't understand what so and so means." There will be others who are probably as clueless as you are.

In-Class Activities/Writing (10%): Occasionally, you will do an in-class activity or write a "quick reflection" based on a question or prompt related to specific issues that we will discuss in class. I may even call on you sometime to "present" what you have written (this counts as participation). Please bring a notebook/plain papers to class everyday to write the reflections. These responses will be graded on a scale of 0-5, with 0 indicated no effort to answer the question and 5 indicating outstanding effort.

Quizzes (15%): I will assign 6 quizzes on D2L. Each quiz will consist of 10 questions combining multiple-choice questions and short answers. Please note that although we may not be

able to cover all assigned materials in the class, it is your responsibility to know all material for the quizzes. The purpose of the quizzes is to test your understanding on the material read and discussed in the previous two weeks. These quizzes are *timed*. Only 5 quizzes will be counted toward your final grade, each worth 3%. You may take all 6 and drop the one with the lowest grade.

Field Observation Assignment (15%): 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 3-4 pages (double-spaced, almost full 3 pages minimum). 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 **2/10**. The final report assignment is due on D2L by 11:59 pm on **4/11**. A detailed assignment rubric is available on D2L.

Media Analysis Assignment (15%): The purpose of this assignment is to critically analyze cultural messages produced and consumed in popular culture. Through increased awareness of the role of media and popular culture in shaping our views of the world, we become “media literate” and, thereby, more conscientious consumers of media. The assignment will be 3-4 pages (double-spaced, almost full 3 pages minimum). The assignment is due on D2L by 11:59 pm on **2/22**. A detailed assignment rubric is available on D2L.

Two In-class Exams (40%): There will be two in-class exams: Exam 1 (**3/2**) and Exam 2 (**5/2**). These in-class exams will include a combination of multiple choice questions and short answer questions based on readings, films, and discussions covered in class. Exam 1 will include material from the first half of the class and Exam 2 will include material from mid-term onwards.

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

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 “SOCI 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.

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:

- Avoid walking in late or leaving early.
- Also, avoid stepping outside of the classroom while I am talking (please take of all your business before class).
- Please switch off your cell phones before coming to the class. You can use your computer to take notes, but internet surfing, emailing, messaging is strictly prohibited.
- 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.

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/ucat2006-07/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 1/11	Introduction	No readings	
1/13	Sociological Imagination	Ch. 1 (pp. 1-10)	In-class sociological imagination exercise
Wk2 1/18	No class: MLK Day Holiday		
1/20	Sociological Theories	Ch. 1 (pp. 10-16)	
Wk3 1/25	Sociological Theories	Ch. 1 (pp. 16-27)	
1/27	Applying the three sociological approaches	Friedrich (D2L) (only pp. 18-23)	Case Study: Pak Mun Dam Quiz 1 (D2L)
Wk4 2/1	Sociological Methods	Ch. 2 (pp. 29-39)	
2/3	Sociological Methods	Ch. 2 (pp. 40-47)	
Wk5 2/8	Socialization	1. Ch. 4 (pp. 83-88 and pp. 93-97) 2. Sorrells Article on D2L	
2/10	Socialization	Ch. 4 (pp. 98-105)	*Get observation setting approved by this date Quiz 2 (D2L)
Wk6 2/15	Social Interaction and Everyday Life	Ch. 5 (pp. 107-119)	
2/17	Social Interaction and Everyday Life	Ch. 5 (pp. 119-131)	
Wk7 2/22	Conformity, Deviance, and Crime	Ch. 7	DUE: Media Analysis Paper by 11:59 pm on D2L
2/24	Conformity, Deviance, and Crime		Quiz 3 (D2L)

Wk8 2/29	Mid-term Review		*Mid-term evaluations
3/2	Exam # 1 (in-class)		
Wk9 3/7	Stratification, Class, and Inequality	Ch. 8 (193-213)	
3/9	Stratification, Class, and Inequality	Ch. 8 (pp. 213-227)	
Wk10 3/14	Global Inequality	Ch. 9 (pp. 229-243)	
3/16	No Class: UAA Conference Watch Extra-Credit Film <i>Nero's Guests</i>	No readings	
Wk11 3/21	Global Inequality	Ch. 9 (pp. 243-253)	Quiz 4 (D2L) DUE: Extra-credit Film Review by 11:59 pm on D2L
3/23	Gender Inequality	Ch. 10 (pp. 255-270)	
Wk12 3/28	Gender Inequality	Ch. 10 (pp. 270-289)	
3/30	Ethnicity and Race	Ch. 11 (pp. 291-306)	
Spring break: No class on 4/4 and 4/6			
Wk13 4/11	Ethnicity and Race	Ch. 11 (pp.306-319)	Quiz 5 (D2L) DUE: Field Observation Report by 11:59 pm on D2L
4/13	Families and Intimate Relationships	Ch. 15 (pp. 435-453)	
Wk14 4/18	Families and Intimate Relationships	Ch. 15 (pp. 454-469)	
4/20	Education	Ch. 16 (pp. 471-483)	
Wk15 4/25	Education	Ch. 16 (pp. 484-499)	Quiz 6 (D2L)
4/27	Globalization and Social Movements End-term Review	Ch. 13 (only pp. 372-380); Ch. 20	
Wk16 5/2	Exam # 2 (in-class)		

Last day to drop/add courses is Jan 17. The last day to withdrawal without academic penalty is March 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