Course Description:

This course will focus on the study of the social world in the United States. Our first endeavor will be to define what sociology is and explore how to think like a sociologist when examining our social world. Utilizing our sociological perspective we will look at topics such as Culture, Socialization, Social Interactions, Social Groups, Crime and Deviance, Race, Gender, Social Movements, War, and Social Change. It is my hope that we can critically look at the nature of our social world and our place within it.

Statement on general educational requirement: this course is a Kennesaw State University general education requirement. For more information about KSU’s general education program, please visit HTTP://CATALOG.KENNESAW.EDU/preview_program.php?CATOID=10&POID=704

Course Objectives

(1) We will determine what sociology is, specifically addressing what distinguishes sociology from other disciplines like psychology and anthropology.

(2) We will be challenged to think critically.

(3) We will explore social groups and social interactions within the social institutions that we live in.

(4) We will examine and debunk certain stereotypes and/or myths associated with some social problems like deviance, crime, racism, and sexism and how these myths might aid in the perpetuation of social problems.

(5) We will respect the beliefs and opinions of others, listening and waiting until they are finished to present our side of an argument.

(6) We will be challenged to remember that everything has a context.
Readings:

DO NOT GET THE 5TH EDITION!

D2L and KSU Email:

Students should check their official KSU and Brightspace (D2L) email daily. This is the electronic way that I will contact the students. I will occasionally send classroom announcements, assignments, and class updates to your KSU or D2L email accounts.

I will also use D2L to periodically post interesting articles for you to read and use for your writing assignments and/or any extra credit assignments.

D2L is where I will post grades.

Components of Evaluation:

Exams (4 total and lowest exam grade is dropped): 30% each for 90% of overall grade
Quizzes (4 total and lowest two dropped): 5% each for 10% of overall grade

Exams: There will be 4 total exams (3 chapter exams and a cumulative final) in the course but only 3 of them will count. Your lowest exam grade will be dropped. If you have taken the first 3 exams and are content with your exam grade at that point, you may opt out of the final exam. However, if you miss any of the first 3 exams, then you must take the final to replace that grade. Additionally, if you have taken the first three exams, you may opt to take the final, too, as it can’t hurt your grade. Each exam will consist of multiple choice. 30% each and 90% of total grade. Make-up exam policy can be found below.

Due to the large class size, we will be using scantrons for our exams.

Quizzes: There will be 4 unannounced quizzes in the course. Only two of them will count towards your final grade. There will be no makeups given on the quizzes. They will consist of multiple choice and fill in the blank. 5% each and 10% of total grade.

Attendance: Attendance is NOT required. Studies show that students who attend class receive higher grades, but this course will not require you to attend class. That being said, the quizzes will be unannounced and there are absolutely no makeups for quizzes. I will take attendance everyday as a way to give potential extra points at the end of the semester. If you miss 2 classes or less during the course of the semester, 3% will be added to your overall test grade.
Grading Scale:

A= 90-100   B=80-89   C=70-79   D=60-69   F=59 and below

Make-up Policy:

Unless you have a significant reason for missing an exam, I will not allow any make-ups. Trying to juggle make-ups for exams while continuing future material is too difficult and not fair to those students who are present. In the event that you have an absence for an exam, you must notify me as soon as possible. A make-up for a significant personal reason is entirely at my discretion and will only be offered in the most extreme circumstances. The dates for the exams are posted at the beginning of the semester. If you foresee a conflict, you must take the exam prior to the day the rest of the class takes it.

There will be no makeups allowed for quizzes.

Electronic Devices and Cell Phones:

A true learning environment requires attention and participation from everyone. Please do not text, Facebook, or be otherwise distracted by the electronic devices in your life. Photography and videotaping are not allowed. I understand that there are times when an emergency might require a cell phone to be turned on. Discuss this with me before class to seek special permission. But, for every other situation, please keep your outside conversations outside the classroom.

Accommodations Statement:

Students who wish to request accommodations for a disability may do so by registering with the Office of Disability Services. Students may only be accommodated upon issuance by the Office of Disability Services, of a signed Accommodation Plan and are responsible for providing a copy of that plan to instructors of all classes in which an accommodation is sought.

Academic Honesty

Please be advised of the Student Code of Conduct as published in the KSU Undergraduate Catalog. Section III addresses issues on academic honesty, including cheating and plagiarism, among other violations. If you are unsure of how plagiarism is defined or if you are not clear on what “academic honesty” means, go to the catalog and familiarize yourself. Ignorance of the policy is not an acceptable excuse! Students suspected of academic dishonesty will be investigated and if confirmed, will receive a zero on the assignment and potentially fail the course.
Course Outline

****This material is subject to change. You are responsible for all material, including videos, watched in class. If you miss class, be sure to read lectures online and find out what clips were watched.****

January 11\textsuperscript{th}: Introduction and Syllabus
January 13\textsuperscript{th}: Chapter 1 Sociology and the Real World
January 18\textsuperscript{th}: Continue Chapter 1 and video on historical figures in Sociology
January 20\textsuperscript{th}: Chapter 3 Culture
January 25\textsuperscript{th}: Continue Chapter 3 and video clips on Culture
January 27\textsuperscript{th}: Chapter 4 The Self and Interaction
February 1\textsuperscript{st}: Continue Chapter 4 and videos on Socialization
February 3\textsuperscript{rd}: \textbf{Exam 1}
February 8\textsuperscript{th}: Chapter 5 Separate and Together
February 10\textsuperscript{th}: Chapter 6 Deviance/Video Clips on Deviance
February 15\textsuperscript{th}: \textbf{No Class}
February 17\textsuperscript{th}: Chapter 7 Social Class/Video Clips on Social Class
February 22\textsuperscript{nd}: Continue Social Class
February 24\textsuperscript{th}: Chapter 8 Race and Ethnicity
February 26\textsuperscript{th}: Video on Race and Ethnicity
March 2\textsuperscript{nd}: \textbf{Exam 2 and last day to withdraw without academic penalty}
March 7\textsuperscript{th}: Chapter 9 Constructing Gender and Sexuality
March 9\textsuperscript{th}: Video on Gender and Sexuality
March 14\textsuperscript{th}: Chapter 10 and 11 Social Institutions and Work
March 16\textsuperscript{th}: Chapter 13 Leisure and Media and Propaganda (NOT IN TEXTBOOK)
March 21\textsuperscript{st}: War (NOT IN TEXTBOOK) and Clips of Propaganda and War
March 23\textsuperscript{rd}: Chapter 16 Social Change and Social Movements
March 28\textsuperscript{th}: \textbf{Exam 3}
March 30\textsuperscript{th}: \textbf{Cumulative Final Exam in our classroom during regularly scheduled class period!}