

Introduction to Sociology (1101)

CRN 10232

Spring 2016

T,TH 6:30pm – 7:45pm

SSB 2038

Instructor: Chandra Ward

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Office Hours: T,TH 3:30pm – 4:30pm

Required Texts: “Voices From the Margins: Fresh Perspectives on an Introduction to Sociology,” 1st edition by Chandra Ward. ISBN: 978-1-63189-300-1

Optional Reading: An optional text can be found by copying and pasting this link into your browser:

<http://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/introduction-to-sociology>

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of sociology. The introduction includes, but is not limited to, an overview of sociological theory, research methods, and concepts that are used in the development of sociological ideas. Throughout the semester, we as a class will learn and discuss the social institutions which shape our everyday social reality. We will ask ourselves, how and why these institutions shape the world we live in. We will think with a critical lens about social conventions we take for granted, challenging the foundation in which they are embedded.

Course Goals

For the successful completion of this course, students will...

- Learn to think sociologically, using a sociological lens.
- Apply sociological lens to critically analyze and engage in sociological topics.
- Clearly articulate and have a working knowledge of sociological theories and concepts.
- Challenge conventional wisdom about the social world using a sociological lens.
- Develop critical thinking and writing skills.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS: 40%

Throughout the semester, there will be short writing assignments based on the assigned readings in your primary text, "Voices From the Margins." 10 points each.

Students are expected to complete the assignment prior to class. Papers are to be one-page applied analysis of the reading. Papers will not be accepted via email or D2L. If for some reason you cannot hand the paper to me in person in class, contact me in advance for alternate arrangements.

Furthermore, because the assignments will be posted in advance, late papers and extensions will NOT be given for students who do not complete the assignment by the due date.

EXAMS: Midterm (30%) and final (30%)

There will be 2 exams during the semester. Exams will consist of multiple choice questions.

Make up exams will automatically be granted for the following reasons: ***official University business (documentation provided at least 2 weeks in advance), religious holiday (if I am notified by the end of the first week of the semester) and official legal obligations (required to testify, etc.).*** If you have a dire emergency, you **must** notify me by phone or email in advance or as soon as possible if you are unable to give advanced notice. Based upon this, I reserve the right to decide if I will allow you to take a make-up exam **at my own discretion**. Students who have been granted a make up exam have exactly **one week** from the time of the original exam to provide approved documentation.

Grading: Keep Track of Your Own Grade!!

Midterm + Final Exam + Written Assignments = 100

Final Grade: Total score out of 400 points divided by 4.

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

Accommodations

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. The Office of Disabilities Services can be contacted at 770-423-6443.

Academic Honesty

According to KSU's academic policy in the student handbook "No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt 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.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior [that] a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s)".

http://www.kennesaw.edu/student_life/forms/shb/ksushp16.pdf

**Plagiarism is only one example of academic dishonesty. Familiarize yourself with the above website concerning all aspects of academic dishonesty. Violation of the Academic Honesty policy will result in an F in the course and possible disciplinary action. All violations will be formally reported. Do not cheat, plagiarize, or violate any of the rules concerning this policy! Again, do not cheat, plagiarize, or violate any of these rules!

Withdrawal Procedures

The final day to withdraw from this class without incurring a "WF" (Withdrawal failing) is March 3rd. You must withdraw by this date in order to receive a "W." If you withdraw by March 3rd but are failing the course, you will receive a "WF."

Course Evaluations

Your constructive assessment of this course plays an indispensable role in shaping education at Kennesaw State University. Upon completing the course, please take time to fill out the online course evaluation.

Classroom Conduct

To help facilitate a classroom environment conducive to learning, students will be expected to adhere to the following rules of conduct.

- Students are expected to arrive to class on time and prepared. Tardiness (as well as leaving during the middle of class) is a both a distraction to other students and myself, thus interfering with an optimal learning space.
- Please do not bring food to class to eat that is of a highly odorous nature that can permeate the room. For example, hot wings are a type of food that when brought into a room completely fills it with its smell. We will have a long break during class, so if you cannot eat before class, you have the opportunity to eat during the break outside of class.
- Upon entering class, please put away your cell phone and put it on silent. Do not text during class. **Please do not use your laptop or any other mobile device for anything other than class purposes while in class. If I find you checking Facebook or anything unrelated to the class while class is in session, I may request that you not bring your laptop to class for the remainder of the semester.**
- I **DO NOT** and **WILL NOT** offer extra credit. There are no exceptions.
- I will not email final grades to individuals.
- Please be respectful of your other classmates during discussion. There will be controversial, thought provoking topics covered in this course. In order to be fair to everyone, please do not speak out of turn unless otherwise told and refrain from making personal insults to another student whose views may differ from yours. You should only critique another student's idea or argument. This is an intellectual environment, not the Jerry Springer Show. Discriminatory, hateful language will not be tolerated.

Phone Numbers That May be Useful

- **Teaching Support Numbers**

- Writing Center: 770-423-6380

- **Health and Medical Services**

- Student Health Service Clinic: 770-423-6644
- KSU Counseling and Psychological Services: 770-423-6600

Course Outline*

Please note: The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary. Unless otherwise noted, all readings appear in our text book, *The Real World: an introduction to sociology*.

Date	Topic	Assigned Readings	Assignment Due
<u>Thinking Sociologically</u> 01/12/16	Introduction to the course		
01/14/16	Sociological Imagination		
01/19/16	Sociological Theory	“Black Feminist Thought”	
01/21/16	Sociological Theory/Methods		
01/26/16	Sociological Methods	“Studying Black and Latino Youth”	
<u>Framing Social Life</u> 01/28/16	Culture	“We Don’t Sleep Around Like White Girls Do”	
02/02/16	Culture		
02/04/16	Self and Interaction	“The Microsystem Level”	

02/09/16	Self and Interaction		
02/11/16	Deviance	“Society, sexuality, & disabled/ablebodied relationships”	
02/16/16	Deviance		
02/18/16	Midterm Exam		
02/23/16	Social Class	“The Price of Poverty”	
02/25/16	Social Class		
03/01/16	Race and Ethnicity	“Whiteness as contingent hierarchies”	
03/06/16 Last Day to Withdraw	Race and Ethnicity		Written assignment 3 due
03/08/16	Gender and Sexuality	“Gender roles in sociocultural and historical context”	
03/10/16	Gender and Sexuality	“Crossing the Borders of Gendered Sexuality”	
03/15/16	Social Institutions	“Learning Privilege”	

03/17/16	Social Institutions		
03/22/16	Work	“The Job Market”	
03/24/16	Work		
03/29/16	Family and Home	“Out of Wedlock”	
03/31/16	Family and Home	“Marginal and Misunderstood”	
04/05/16	Health and Illness	“Laboring On”	
04/07/16	Spring Break		
04/12/16	Spring Break		
04/14/16	Health and Illness	“Race, Social Contexts, and Health”	
04/19/16	City and Environment	“Environmental Justice”	
04/21/16	Environment		
04/26/16	TBA		

04/28/16	Last Day of Class		
05/03/16 6pm – 8pm	Final exam		