

**SYLLABUS-SPRING 2017**  
**SOCI 3304-01 SOCIAL ORGANIZATION**  
**T/R 5-6:15**  
**SOCIAL SCIENCES BLDG. Room 2021**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**SOCI 3304 - Social Organization**

**3 Class Hours 0 Laboratory Hours 3 Credit Hours**

**Prerequisite: SOCI 1101 or 2201.**

This course is an introduction to large scale social organizations, with an emphasis on bureaucracy. It examines both the formal and informal aspects of bureaucracy, including topics ranging from power and authority, to centralization and decentralization, red tape, and professionalism.

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:**

Mr. Tim Lubben, Instructor

OFFICE PHONE: 470-578-6739

E-MAIL: [tlubben@kennesaw.edu](mailto:tlubben@kennesaw.edu)

My preferred method contact is via email

OFFICE HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

In this course we will focus on social science and sociological literatures that explain and define the important features of organizations in modern societies. Wide variety exists in organizational forms; these differ over time and across cultures. We will discuss how organizations and their members adapt to change-including changes in markets, populations, and the needs of members of the organization. Other main themes include theories of power and control and how these are framed in terms of race, social class, and gender intersections. We will also be concerned with ethics and organizational deviance. At the completion of the course, students should be able to use the theories and course concepts to summarize and critique key arguments and to apply these principles in an organizational case study paper, presentation, and exams.

At the end of the course students should be able to:

1. Describe the social and historical context for the emergence of organizations.
2. Explain the major theoretical models for organizational analysis in the contemporary social science literature.
3. Identify alternative ways of understanding organizations.
4. Evaluate the increasing scope and centrality of organizations in contemporary society.
5. Explore the implications of increasing organizational scope for social economic and political life.
6. Apply the theories and methods of organizational analysis as researchers, workers, and professionals.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

**ORGANIZATIONS+ORGANIZING**

Author SCOTT

Edition/Copyright 07

Published Date 2007

ISBN 9780131958937

Publisher TAYLOR

Other readings will be distributed in class or available on D2L

**CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE: (10% of course grade)**

Attendance will be taken every class. Every student is expected to participate in class. This means contributing to class discussions as well as active participation in class exercises, which will be held at announced and unannounced times throughout the course. Examples of in-class exercise include short writing assignments, small group discussions, and in-class projects. **You cannot get credit for class participation unless you are in class and are contributing.**

**Note about attendance:** Absences from class will only be excused for students who have documentation that severe illness, incapacity, or official university business prevented them from being present. Students are responsible for all readings and attendance at lectures and films. Attendance will be taken in every class.

**EXAMS:** There will be three exams for this class. Each exam will make up 10% of your final course grade. See “weekly schedule” on the syllabus for the dates of the exams.

**SPEAKER REVIEW PAPERS (10% of course grade)**

We will have guest speakers in our class throughout the semester. The dates of their presentations are noted on the “weekly schedule” on the syllabus. For each speaker you will write a review. These papers must include all the items below:

Speaker name  
 Organization Association  
 Reason/ Purpose for organization Internal  
 Organizational Culture  
 Which Sociological Perspective which describes the organization

**TERM PAPER: Case Study of an Organization**

This paper will be broken into three parts. Each part will have a separate grade and a specific due date (see weekly schedule)

**Part 1: INTRODUCTION (10% of course grade)**

This section must include :( 3 pages)  
 Formation of the Organization  
 People involved in both creation and current organization  
 State purpose of existence  
 Location, People, Type, Size of Organization

**PART 2: METHODOLOGY (10% of course grade)**

Detail out your method of finding your information. (3 pages)  
 Some examples could include (published literature, webinars, meetings/ conversations with present or former employees, onsite observations  
 Please keep notes and include them as part of this section

**Part 3: FINDINGS & CONCLUSION (20% of final grade)**

This section will describe your review of the organization. (6 pages)  
 What did you learn about the organization?  
 Key ideas to address:  
 What is the best description of the organization?  
 From you findings, do the actual actions of the organization match its stated purpose  
 What theory(s) best describes this organization?  
 Finally what is your general opinion of this organization.

**PRESENTATION (10% of final grade)**

Students will present their papers to the class. Presentations provide you with the opportunity to talk about your case study before a supportive audience and to receive feedback on your work. Presentations will be given in class. Each student will have 5-7 minutes. We will reserve presentation time for the last few days of the course. You are responsible for attending other students' presentations.

**FINAL COURSE GRADE:**

Grades will be based upon your percentage of the total number of points on exams, written work, and attendance. A= 90-100%; B= 89.99-80%; C= 79.99-70%; D= 69.99-60%; F= Below 60%.

Evaluation	Weight
Attendance & Participation	10%
Paper: Part 1 (intro)	10%
Paper: Part 2 1 (method LR)	10%
Paper: Part 3(Findings & Conclusions)	20%
Paper Presentations	10%
Speaker Reviews	10%
Exam 1	10%
Exam 2	10%
Exam 3	10%
TOTAL	100%

**March 1 is the last day to withdraw without academic penalty.**

**ENROLLMENT STATUS:**

**Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal. Please refer to the official KSU policy for potential reimbursement if you withdraw from classes.**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:**

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs, Section II 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 misuse 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. **The full policy is published at the following link:** (<https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct>)

**DISABILITIES:**

Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments is requested to notify the instructor as early in the semester as possible. Verification from KSU Student Disability Services is required. All discussions will remain confidential.

**CONDUCT:**

Several rules of classroom conduct should be followed.

- PLEASE DO NOT USE CELL PHONES OR LAPTOP COMPUTERS during class.
- Arrive on time and do not leave early.
- If an instructor (including me) or any of your peers says or does anything that you consider racial or sexual harassment, notify the instructor immediately. If this happens in class, you may write me an anonymous note or contact me in person.
- Belligerent, abusive, profane, threatening and or inappropriate behavior is a violation of the KSU student council regulations. I value and respect your contributions. Please do the same for others in the class.

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

I plan to follow the course outline listed below as closely as possible. If changes are necessary during the semester, I will announce them in advance. Please read the specified material in the text prior to the dates on which they will be discussed. I expect that you will come to class prepared to discuss assigned course material. You will be responsible for all assigned readings, whether they are explicitly covered in class or not. Please ask questions about any information presented in texts or lectures.

**SCHEDULE OF TOPICS**

Chapter 1: The Subject is Organizations; The Verb is Organizing  
 Chapter 2: Organizations as Rational Systems  
 Chapter 3: Organizations as Natural Systems  
 Chapter 4: Organizations as Open Systems  
 Chapter 5: Combining Perspectives, Expanding Levels  
 Chapter 6: Technology and Structure  
 Chapter 7: Labor and Structure  
 Chapter 8: Goals, Power, and Control  
 Chapter 9: The Dyadic Environment of the Organization  
 Chapter 10: Organization of the Environment  
 Chapter 11: Networks In and Around Organizations  
 Chapter 12: Strategy, Structure, & Performance: The Sociology of Organizational Strategy  
 Chapter 13: The Rise and Transformation of the Corporate Form  
 Chapter 14: Changing Contours of Organizations and Organization Theory

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

Week 1(1/10) No assignments due Review of Class/syllabus &Instruction)

Week 2 (1/17) Watch Theory pdf under content on d2l. Be prepared for class discussion

Week 3 (1/24) Review Theory pdf Be prepared for class discussion

Week 4 (1/31) **Test 1 (1/31 - Theories)**

Read Chapter 1: The Subject is Organizations; Be prepared for class discussion

Week 5 (2/7) **Paper: Parts 1 & 2 (Intro & Method) Due 2/7**

Speaker (2/7) Wes Cantrell Georgia State Representative

Read Chapters 2&3 Be prepared to discuss in class (2/9)

Week 6 (2/14)

Speaker (2/16) Luke Boggs Speech writer for CEO Coke Cola Corp (2/18)

Week 7 (2/21) Read chapters 4&5 Be prepared to discuss in class

Week 8 (2/28) Read Chapter 6 Be prepared to discuss in class (2/30)

Speaker (2/28) Alan Sisk Director of Technology Norfolk Southern Railroad

Week 9 (3/7) Read Chapters 7&8 Be prepared to discuss in class (3/9)

Speaker Jimmy Wolfe DEFAC

Week 10 (3/14) Read Chapters 9&10 Be prepared to discuss in class

Week 11 (3/21) **Test 2 Chapters 1-5**

Week 12 (3/28) Read Chapters 11&12 Be prepared to discuss in class  
Speaker Review Papers Due (3/28)

Week 13 (4/4) Spring Break

Week 14 (4/11) **Students Paper Presentations**

**Paper Part 3 Due (4/11)**

Week 15 (4/18) Organizational Movie – The True Cost Students to take notes and discuss on (4/20)

Week 16 (4/25) **Test 3 Chapters 6-12**

### **University Policies:**

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

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>