

**Kennesaw State University**  
**Senior Seminar in Sociology**  
**SOCI 4499 W01**  
**Summer I 2016**

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I will respond to emails within 24 hours Monday through Friday.

**Course Description:** This is the capstone course designed to help senior-level students integrate their learning from previous sociology courses and other courses in their concentration. Students will also participate in several activities designed to further their career goals.

**Course Prerequisite:** SOCI 2301/3305 Social Science Research Methods, and SOCI 3300 Foundations of Social Theory

**Course Goals:**

- Students will develop a professional resume.
- Students will evaluate, critique, and implement various job-seeking strategies.
- Students will assess their personality and temperament characteristics and evaluate their potential suitability for various sociological careers.
- Students will critically evaluate various sociological theories and apply them to a specific social problem.
- Students will integrate scholarly knowledge from various sources and communicate this knowledge in a written paper and powerpoint.

**Textbook:**

Pollak, Lindsey. 2012. *Getting from College to Career, Revised Edition: Your Essential Guide to Succeeding in the Real World*. NY: HarperBusiness. ISBN: 978-0062069276

**Additional Reading (posted on electronic reserve):**

Lore, Nicholas. 2011. "Chapter 15. Temperament and Personality." Pp. 183-207 in *The Pathfinder: How to Choose or Change Your Career for a Lifetime of Satisfaction and Success*. NY: Simon and Schuster.

**Class Format:**

This class is taught fully online using D2L. All assignments will be turned in online. All class assignments must be completed by 8:00 pm on the posted due date.

## Class Requirements and Grading:

Resume	20%
Book Discussion	20%
Personality Type Indicator	20%
Research Paper	35%
PowerPoint	5%

**Resume:** Students will create a professional resume and have it reviewed by a member of the KSU Career Services Center. Please familiarize yourself with the Career Services website at <https://careerctr.kennesaw.edu/>. After you create your resume you will upload it to OwlLink so that your resume can be critiqued. Please turn in a copy of your resume with documentation that it was uploaded to OwlLink. For documentation, you may forward the email receipt from OwlLink. **Your resume must be submitted via Dropbox by 8:00 pm on June 13.** **Documentation should be forwarded to me via email when received.**

**Book Discussion:** Students will be divided into two groups: those whose last names begin with A – L will be in Group 1, those whose last names begin with M – Z will be in Group 2. For each of the four assignments, students will read their assigned chapter of the book *Getting from College to Career*. For example, for the first assignment, students in Group 1 will read Chapter 1 and individually write a one page reflection paper on Chapter 1 which they will **post as an attachment** to the Discussion Board on the course website. Students in Group 2 will read Chapter 2 and individually write a one page reflection paper on Chapter 2 which they will post as an attachment to the Discussion Board on the course website. You must put your group number and the chapter number in the subject line of your post. In the reflection paper you should discuss in detail which of the author’s tips you found relevant and how you might specifically put them into action. You should also discuss which tips you would not be likely to utilize, and describe why not. You should also suggest additional tips not included in the book that you think might also be appropriate for the chapter topic. **Reflection papers** must be posted by **8:00 pm** on the following dates: **June 1, June 6, June 8, and June 14.** In addition, you must reply to two reflection papers posted by members of the other group. In your reply you should state whether you agree or disagree with your colleagues’ assessments of the author’s tips and describe why or why not. **Replies** must be posted by **8:00 pm** on the following dates: **June 2, June 7, June 9, and June 15.** The reflection paper assignments are as follows:

June 1                      Group 1 Chapter One  
                                    Group 2 Chapter Two

June 6                    Group 1 Chapter Three  
                                  Group 2 Chapter Four

June 8                    Group 1 Chapter Five  
                                  Group 2 Chapter Six

June 14                   Group 1 Chapter Eight  
                                  Group 2 Chapter Nine

Late postings will be not accepted. **Reflection papers** and **replies** must be posted by **8:00 pm** on the following dates:

Due Dates 5:00 PM		
Chapter	Reflection Papers	Reply Posts
1 and 2	June 1	June 2
3 and 4	June 6	June 7
5 and 6	June 8	June 9
8 and 9	June 14	June 15

**Personality Type Indicator:** Students will follow the instructions provided in the Lore reading to complete the personality-sorter. Once you have completed the assignment you will write a 4-5 page paper reflecting on the assignment. Your paper should address the following questions: Did you find it difficult to choose among the statements? What is your personality type, or if you had high scores for two types, what are the types? Discuss the extent to which you believe the results are an accurate reflection of your personality type. Are you interested in any of the careers that are suggested for your type? Can you think of any other careers that might be a good match for your type? Did you find this activity useful? How might you use this information in your career search? **Your paper must be submitted via Dropbox by 8:00 pm on June 16.** There is a 10-point penalty for each day (24 hour period) the paper is submitted late.

**Theoretical Research Paper:** Students will choose a contemporary social problem and frame it as a question: for example, what sociological theories explain the current rates of recidivism in the U.S? You must then select three sociological theories from which to examine your question. You must thoroughly engage the theories through your question. You must use at least **twelve scholarly** resources. You must do a significant amount of research on the theorists you will be drawing on and the substantive question you are examining. You must have your question approved by me via e-mail by **June 7**. The paper needs to be at least 12 pages long **not including references or title page**, double spaced, using **ASA** style. **You may only have one**

**direct quotation in your paper.** An example paper and a grading rubric will be provided in the D2L Dropbox folder under “Theoretical Research Paper.” **Your paper must be submitted via Dropbox by 8:00 pm on June 23. No late papers will be accepted.**

NOTE: D2L includes a plagiarism detection application, similar to turnitin.com which will be utilized in grading this assignment.

**IF ANY PART OF THE PAPER IS PLAGIARIZED YOU WILL RECEIVE A ZERO FOR THE PAPER, AN “F” FOR THE COURSE, AND APPROPRIATE ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION WILL BE TAKEN.**

**Powerpoint Presentation:** Students will prepare a PowerPoint presentation of their theoretical paper, as if they were making a live presentation. You should have at least 10 slides. **Your slide presentation must be submitted via Dropbox by 8:00 pm on June 23. No late PowerPoint presentations will be accepted.**

**Grading Scale:** 100-90 = A; 89-80 = B; 79-70 = C; 69-60 = D; 59 and below = F

**Earning Grades:** Grades are “earned” and are not arbitrarily “granted” in this class. Thus, unless I make an error in calculation, I will not change your grade at the end of the semester for HOPE eligibility, graduation requirements, or any other reason.

**Academic Integrity:** 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 Code of Conduct addresses the University’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions of 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 University 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.

**Disruption of Campus Life:** It is the purpose of the institution to provide a campus environment, which encourages academic accomplishment, personal growth, and a spirit of understanding and cooperation. An important part of maintaining such an environment is the commitment to protect the health and safety of every member of the campus community. Belligerent, abusive, profane, threatening and /or inappropriate behavior on the part of students is a violation of the Kennesaw State University Code of Conduct Regulations. Students who are found guilty of such conduct may be subject to immediate dismissal from the institution. In addition, these violations of state law may also be subject to criminal action beyond the University disciplinary process.

**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 make the appropriate arrangements with Disabled Student Support Services located in Suite 267 of the Carmichael Student Center, 770-423-6443, [http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu\\_dev/dsss/dsss.html](http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/dsss.html)

**Student Success Services (SSS):** The SSS center provides year-round counseling, advising, and testing services. For incoming students, First Year, Transfer and Parent Orientation services are also available. They have recently added a program devoted to Alcohol and Drug Education & Prevention and a Collegiate Recovery Center. They are located in Room 2401 of Kennesaw Hall, 770-423-6600, <http://www.kennesaw.edu/studentssuccess/>

**Student Development Center:** The Student Development Center provides information of particular interest to adult learners, minority, multicultural, international, and disabled students, and provides links to opportunities for student community service and a peer mentor program. The center is located in Suite 267 of the Carmichael Student Center, 770-423-6443, [http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu\\_dev/home/home.html](http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/home/home.html)

## SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

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|---------|--|
| June 1  | Read Chapters 1(Group 1) or 2 (Group 2) in Pollak<br>Reflection papers due on D2L by 8:00 pm   |
| June 2  | Reflection paper replies due on D2L by 8:00 pm   |
| June 6  | Read Chapters 3 (Group 1) or 4 (Group 2) in Pollak<br>Reflection papers due on D2L by 8:00 pm  |
| June 7  | Reflection paper replies due on D2L by 8:00 pm<br>Deadline for instructor approval request for theoretical paper topic                         |
| June 8  | Read Chapters 5 (Group 1) or 6 (Group 2) in Pollak<br>Reflection papers due on D2L by 8:00 pm  |
| June 9  | Reflection paper replies due on D2L by 8:00 pm   |
| June 13 | Submit resume via Dropbox by 8:00 pm.<br>Documentation should follow soon after received from OwlLink.   |
| June 14 | Read Chapters 8 (Group 1) or 9 (Group 2) in Pollak<br>Reflection papers due on D2L by 8:00 pm<br>Last day to withdraw without academic penalty |

- June 15 Reflection paper replies due on D2L by 8:00pm
- June 16 Read Lore Chapter 15 and complete Personality Sorter.  
Submit reflection paper via Dropbox by 8:00 pm.
- June 20 No assignments due.
- June 21 No assignments due.
- June 22 No assignments due.
- June 23 Submit theoretical research paper and powerpoint presentation via  
Dropbox by 8:00 pm.

**\*\*I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MODIFY THE SYLLABUS AS THE COURSE PROCEEDS\*\***