SOCI 1301
Introduction to Sociology

Credit: 3
Contact Hours: 45
Class Days: Monday to Friday, July 1st, 2019 to August 2nd, 2019
Instructor: TBA
Email: TBA
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description
Fundamental concepts of sociology and introduction to analysis of social problems in collective and individual aspects.

Course Objectives
The students in this course will:
1. Understand how sociological theory and research add to our knowledge of human societies and social issues such as suicide
2. Understand that part culture plays in shaping people and the social relations in which they participate
3. Enhance awareness of what happens when children do not have an environment that supports positive socialization
4. Explain how social problems, for example, homelessness, is related to the social structure of a society
5. To understand and explain why it is important for groups and organizations to enhance communication among participants and aid the flow of information while protecting the privacy of individuals
6. To explain what studies of peer cliques and youth gangs tell us about deviance
7. To understand how the American Dream is influenced by social stratification
8. To explain the unique experiences of racial and ethnic groups in the United States
9. To explain how a society’s resources and economic structure influence gender stratification
10. To be able to explain how many family-related concerns—such as child care—viewed primarily as personal problems rather than as social concerns requiring macro level solutions
11. To be able to explain why and how education and religion are powerful and influential forces in contemporary society
12. To understand the effect that the intertwining of politics, the economy, and the media have on the United States and other nations
13. To explain why health, health care, and disability are significant concerns not only for individuals but also for entire societies
14. To understand what effect that migration has on cities and on shifts in the global population
15. To explain if collective behavior and social movement can make people aware of important social research issues such as environmental pollution

Sociology Program Learning Outcomes
Learning Outcome One: Learning of the social structure of society which consists of social institutions (the
family, educational system, the political and legal system, the economic system, and religion) and the interaction that takes place within those institutions by identifying synthesizing, evaluating, and applying the patterns of interaction that exist within and between the institutions and the social structure.

Learning Outcome Two: The ability to discover the interaction that takes place in small groups through exploring the micro level perspective of sociology by integrating problem solving processes, feedback, and group roles into group interaction and participation and by evaluating micro theories in a variety of micro contexts.

Learning Outcome Three: The knowledge of relationships between majority groups and minority groups in society, the effects of social stratification, the presence of deviant behavior within a society and how definitions of deviance change over time, and the phenomena of crime, juvenile delinquency, criminals and delinquency within society by recognizing sociological concepts and generalizing research findings in each of these areas of sociology.

Learning Outcome Four: The ability to apply the principles of demography and the tools of demographic research in changes within society by comparing population, economic, or political change utilizing the demographic variables of gender, racial/ethnic identification, geography, social mobility and age.

Learning Outcome Five: Students demonstrate an understanding of professional and civic responsibilities by synthesizing the sociological perspectives learned in the classroom through effective service learning projects and class assignments.

Course Materials


Grading Scale

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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90% - 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80% - 89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70% - 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60% - 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59% - 0%</td>
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Course Grading Policies
Your final grade of this course will be a weighted average on the scale listed above. The Weighted Average will be calculated as follows:
Course Assignment, Examination, and or Project Policies

1. **Chapter exams (40%)**
   The Chapter exams consist of multiple-choice and true/false questions. Exams will include whatever is in the Macionis text, in addition to what is covered in class (guest speakers, films, video clips, etc.). There are 4 chapter exams. Chapter exams are worth 40% of the final grades.

   The exams should be your own work. Working in groups, obtaining the answers from another source, or providing the answers to someone else is against the Academic Integrity policy for the university and this class. Just do your own work and you will have no worries.

   If you miss one of the exams (except for the last exam) you can write an paper to make up the exam. This will be discussed more under the section of the syllabus labeled missed exam.

2. **Final Exam (15%)**
   The final exam consists of a hand’s on application scenario. This means that you will be given a situation and you need to answer it based on what you have personally learned during the semester. Your answer will be in essay format.

3. **Workbook activities (30%)**
   There are workbook activities which come from the workbook (Kunz and Stuart book). Late workbook activities will automatically by reduced points if late. No activities will be accepted after the due date. Please plan accordingly—no exceptions. Workbook activities are worth 30% of total grades.

   The workbook activities should be your own work. Working in groups, obtaining the answers from another source, or providing the answers to someone else is against the Academic Integrity policy for the university and this class. Just do your own work and you will have no worries.

4. **Deviant assignment written paper (15%)**
   This will entail a short 2 ½ - 3 typed-double-spaced paper. The purpose of this assignment is to “wet your feet” in the area of being deviant and doing observational research. In completing the assignment, make sure you are being research oriented and using your sociological imagination.

   Think about five things or ideas you have learned about sociology this semester and integrate them into your 2 ½ - 3 page typed double-spaced paper. Use Times New Roman 12 cpi font. This means that you should have a total written of 2 ½ - 3 pages of actually written complete paged, not counting the cover sheet or title section of your paper, the abstract, or the reference page. Underline or highlight the five concepts in your paper.
Project description. Your project needs to be something you do between the first day of the semester and when the assignment is due. Engage in any (legal) kind of behavior and observe the reactions of people around you. For example, face the wall in an elevator, stand directly next to someone in the elevator, talk to yourself while walking through a crowd, walk backwards down the street, stand up while everyone is sitting, laugh at a sad story, intentionally miscommunicate with someone, dye your hair to resemble the American flag, follow someone in the store. Use your social research creativity. Do not do anything illegal or to cause physical or mental harm to anyone.

**Tentative Course Schedule**
This is a tentative course schedule, the instructor reserves the right to make changes on it to make it better for the student’s development. Notice will be given should any changes take place.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Required Readings</th>
<th>Assignment Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>Chapter 1 Sociology: Perspective, Theory, and Method</td>
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<td>July 3 - 4</td>
<td>Chapter 2 Culture</td>
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<td>July 5</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Work book activities Due</td>
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<td>July 8</td>
<td>Chapter 3 Socialization: From Infancy to Old Age</td>
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<td>July 9</td>
<td>Chapter 4 Social Interaction in Everyday Life</td>
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<td>July 10 - 11</td>
<td>Chapter 5 Groups and Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>Work book activities Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>Chapter 6 Sexuality and Society</td>
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<td>July 16 - 17</td>
<td>Chapter 7 Deviance</td>
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<td>July 18</td>
<td>Chapter 8 Social Stratification</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>Work book activities Due Deviant assignment written paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 22 - 23</td>
<td>Chapter 11 Race and Ethnicity</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 24 - 25</td>
<td>Chapter 10 Gender Stratification</td>
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<td>July 26</td>
<td>Exam 4</td>
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<td>July 29</td>
<td>Chapter 14 Education, Health, and Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 30 - 31</td>
<td>Chapter 13 Family and Religion</td>
<td>Extra credit for Deviant Assignment due.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Work book activities Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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**Course Requirements**
1. It is important for you to read the textbook and not just rely on the materials provided, such as PowerPoint slides, before you take the chapter tests. If you do not come to class or read the text, you will not perform well on the chapter exams.
2. Students should attend lectures and actively discuss the issues in each chapter.

3. Attendance policy. You should attend each class period. Students are required to swipe in their Buff Gold Card at the beginning of each class period (located by inside the door of the classroom nearest the front of the classroom). Attendance will begin to count on September 4th. Students who do not miss any classes will automatically have their final grade increased by 3 percentage points.

Academic Integrity
All work must be completed individually unless otherwise stated. Commission of any of the following acts shall constitute scholastic dishonesty: acquiring or providing information for any assigned work or examination from any unauthorized source; informing any person or persons of the contents of any examination prior to the time the exam is given in any subsequent sections of the course or as a makeup; plagiarism; submission of a paper or project that is substantially the same for two courses unless expressly authorized by the instructor to do so. For more information, see the Code of Student Life.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (Code of Student Life). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. Inappropriate behavior may result in disciplinary action or referral to the University’s Behavioral Intervention Team. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Attendance Policy
For the purposes of learning assessment and strategic planning, all students enrolled in Core Curriculum or developmental courses at West Texas A&M University must swipe their Buff Gold cards through the card reader installed in the classroom/lab for each class/lab meeting. Any students with more than three unexcused absences will automatically fail the course.

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