

**LOS ANGELES MISSION COLLEGE**  
**SOC 1: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY**  
**FALL 2012**

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Instructor: Melanie Klein  
Class: F 9AM-12:10PM, INST 2001  
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Office: Cubicle 41  
Office Hours: F 8:20AM – 8:55AM  
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**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Thompson and Hickey. "Society in Focus."

**Course Description:**

This course presents an orientation to sociology, including core sociological theories in the areas of socialization; the impact of social institutions such as the family, culture, religion, education, government; concepts of conformity and deviance; and the study of social inequalities in U.S. society due to race/ethnicity, sex, gender and age.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Assess and describe the three sociological theories and how they impact sociological research.
2. Distinguish between various research designs and the advantages/disadvantages of using those methods in social research.
3. Compare and contrast between social inequality due to gender, race/ethnicity, social class and its impact on specific social problems.

**Course Presentation:**

A combination of lecture, discussion, video/film and in-class group work will be used throughout the semester. Test questions will come from the lecture notes, class discussion and videos as well as the assigned reading material. In addition, there will be outside projects assigned pertaining to the material at hand.

**Course Requirements:**

1. Grading Policy: Final grades will be based upon **530** accumulated points.  
100-90% A      89-80% B  
79-70% C      69-60% D  
59% < F

2. Exams: Three scantron (form 882 or 882 ES) exams. 100 points/each=300 points. No make-up exams unless there is a documented emergency.
3. In-class assignments: Short assignments will be assigned throughout the course in order to review and apply the concepts and material earned in class. 5 @ 10 points each = 50 points.
4. Quizzes: 8 @ 10 points each= 80 points.
5. One short essay. 3-4 pages in length. Typed (12-point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced) and collated/stapled with no cover or title page. See the end of the syllabus for instructions. 50 points.
6. **NO LATE WORK! NO EMAILED ASSIGNMENTS!** Exceptions will be made with proper documentation, such as court dates, hospitalization etc.
7. No eating in the classroom. You will be provided with a break every class meeting.
8. Attendance: **Attendance is encouraged and expected.** This means that you arrive on time and attend class for the full class period. If you don't attend class regularly and fail to communicate with me I will drop you from the course. Please notify me if you anticipate being late or you need to leave early. 15 points will be deducted with two absences, 20 points with three absences and no points will be given after three absences. Attendance is worth 25 points.
9. Participation: Students are encouraged to participate in classroom discussion and this comprises a portion of the final grade in the course. Disruptive and/or inappropriate behaviors will not be tolerated. Participation is worth 25 points.
10. Communication: Email is the best way to contact me. If you choose email, please put Sociology 1: Mission College in the subject line or it may be deleted. Be sure to SIGN your email with your full name. All communication with me should reflect a professional attitude.
11. Cheating: unauthorized material used during an examination (including electronic devices), changing answers after work has been graded, taking an exam for another student, forging or altering attendance sheets or other documents in the course, looking at another student's paper/scantron/essay/computer or exam with or without their approval is considered cheating. Any student caught cheating will receive a zero for the assignment/exam and referred to the Department chair and/or Student Services for further disciplinary action.
12. Plagiarism- defined as the act of using ideas, words, or work of another person or persons as if they were one's own, without giving proper credit to the original sources. This includes definitions found online on Wikipedia, materials from blogs, twitter, or other similar electronic resources. The following examples are intended to be representative, but not all inclusive:
  - failing to give credit by proper citations for others ideas and concepts, data and information, statements and phrases, and/or interpretations and conclusions.
  - failing to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another, **whether it be a paragraph, a sentence, or a part thereof**
  - Paraphrasing the expressions or thought by others without appropriate quotation marks or attribution

- Representing another's artistic/scholarly works such as essays, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawings, sculptures or similar works as one's own.

**First offense, you will receive a zero for the assignment in question. Any further offenses may result in expulsion from the class, as determined by the disciplinary action from the Office of Student Services.**

13. Recording devices- in the classroom- Section 78907 of the California Education Code prohibits the use of any electronic audio or video recording devices, without prior consent of the instructor. (Including cell phones, laptops, MP3 players, and more)

14. If you are a student with a disability and require accommodations, please send me a private email. The sooner I am aware of your eligibility for accommodations, the quicker I will be able to assist the DSP&S Office in providing them. For students requiring accommodations, the DSP&S Office at Mission College provides special assistance in areas like: registering for courses, specialized tutoring, note-taking, mobility assistance, special instruction, testing assistance, special equipment, special materials, instructor liaisons, community referrals and job placement. If you have not done so already, you may also wish to contact the DSP&S Office in Instructional Building 1018 (phone 818/364-7732 TTD 818/364-7861) and bring a letter stating the accommodations that are needed.

15. Campus Sheriff: (818) 364-7843

16. If you attend class regularly and make an effort you should do well in the course. If you're experiencing problems and/or difficulties, please don't hesitate to contact me. Don't drop off the face of the planet. We can probably work things out.

17. Syllabus Modification: The following dates and deadlines are the GOAL and subject to change. You are responsible for any missed announcements or notes.

Week 1:            August 31

Introduction; class syllabus; HANDOUT: "The Promise" by C. Wright Mills, group work: 10 points  
Class discussion on The Promise

Week 2:            September 7

Chapter 1: Discovering Sociology  
Chapter 2: Doing Sociology

Week 3:            September 14

Chapter 3: Culture and Society  
HANDOUT: Study guide #1: Ch. 1-4  
Quiz # 1

Week 4:            September 21

Chapter 4: Socialization  
IC Assignment: Reflection Hypothesis: 10 points  
Quiz # 2

- Week 5:        September 28  
EXAM REVIEW  
**EXAM #1: Ch. 1-4**  
FILM: Killing Us Softly 3  
HANDOUT: Ad HW (10 points)
- Week 6:        October 5  
Ch. 5: Social Interaction in Everyday Life  
Ch. 6: Social Groups and Organizations  
Quiz # 3  
DUE: Ad HW
- Week 7:        October 12  
Ch, 6, cont'd  
Ch. 8: Social Stratification and the U.S. Class System  
Quiz # 4  
DUE: Breaking the Norm  
HANDOUT: Study guide #2; Ch. 5-6, 8-10
- Week 8:        October 19  
Ch. 9: Global Stratification  
Quiz # 5  
FILM: The Story of Stuff
- Week 9:        October 26  
Ch. 10: Race and Ethnicity  
Quiz # 6
- Week 10:       November 2  
EXAM REVIEW  
**EXAM #2: Ch. 5-6, 8-10**  
FILM: No Logo
- Week 11:       November 9  
Ch. 15: Religion  
IC Assignment: 10 points
- Week 12:       November 16  
Ch. 15, cont'd  
FILM: JESUS CAMP  
Quiz # 7
- Week 13:       November 23  
NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
- Week 14:       November 30  
Ch. 11: Sex and Gender  
IC Assignment: Sex and Gender: 10 points  
Quiz # 8

Week 15:      December 7

EXAM REVIEW

FILM: Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes

**FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE: DECEMBER 14, 2012 10AM- NOON**

SHORT PAPER PROMPT:

**Breaking the Norm:** This project is designed to introduce the student to the norms of our everyday world and what it is like to disrupt these “expected ways of behavior”. The student is required to go out into the social world and break what is known as a folkway or a norm that is not strictly enforced. The student is then expected to write about their personal experience and the reactions they received from those around him/her. This project should include an introduction that defines and discusses the importance of norms and values in society; what norm the student broke and, if possible, what values this behavior challenges; how people responded; how you felt violating this norm; conclusion.

DUE: October 12, 2012