Instructor: Emal Gerami
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Term: Fall 2013
Fr 8:50am – 12pm

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Sociology 1

Course Description:

This course is an introductory exploration of the basic sociological concepts and principles such as social stratification, socialization, family, race and ethnicity, social control, education, sex and gender, social change, etc. The aim of this course is to provide students a general familiarity with sociological perspectives and inquiries. We will broadly examine the interrelationships of sociological phenomena and the social dynamics of institutions and cultural systems.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to understand and identify the following elements of social reality from the vantage point of sociology.

1. Posses the basic vocabulary of the discipline.
2. Apply major sociological theoretical perspective on social problems.
3. Explain the impact of gender, race, and social class on the socialization of the individual.
4. Compare and contrast between conformity and deviance in daily social living.
5. Develop and utilize the sociological imagination.

Required Textbook:

- *Society in Focus*, 7th edition, by William E. Thompson and Joseph V. Hickey
- Additional online readings in sociology

Evaluation:

There will be 3 Exams and consisting of true/false and multiple-choice items. The exams will be drawn from class lectures, possible videos/films, and assigned readings (textbook and online). Completion of 2 In-Class Assignments is required. Students also have the option of completing Extra-Credit Essay. (*Details for In-Class Assignments and Extra-Credit will be provided in class).* Evaluations will be based on letter grades: A, B, C, D, F

Make-Ups and Late Assignments:

Make-ups for exams and late assignments will NOT be considered. As such, it is very important that you attend exam and assignment dates.

Attendance/Drop Policy:

Regular attendance is expected of all students. Excessive absences (*3 or more classes*) will result in lowering of grade. Since the exam questions will also be drawn from class lectures and videos/films, your presence is highly encouraged. If a student is *consecutively* absent for 2 or more class sessions, he or she will be dropped from the

class. However, it is primarily your responsibility to drop the class should you decide not to attend the class.

Academic Dishonesty:

Students are always encouraged to ask questions about concepts and/or theories they don't understand. They are also expected to express their knowledge in their own words when completing essays and/or assignments. Therefore, plagiarism and/or cheating will not be tolerated. The minimum penalty is a grade of "F" on the work in question. Further cheating and/or plagiarism will result in an "F" in the course, and possible college disciplinary action.

Class Participation and Conduct:

Class discussion is greatly encouraged and appreciated. The classroom environment is enhanced and enriched by your contributions. The exchange of ideas, opinions, agreements, and *respectful disagreements* are valuable elements of your educational experience. Each of you will get out of the course what you put into it. Interruptions in the form of cell phones, talking while others are talking are considered as disruptive behavior. If you do not follow the classroom policy of mutual respect, you will be kindly asked to leave.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

This schedule is subject to modification as deemed necessary by the instructor. It is your responsibility to be aware of any announced schedule changes.

Week	Readings/Exams/Assignments
1) Aug 30	Introduction Chapter 1: Discovering Sociology *The Sociological Imagination* by C. Wright Mills (www.lclark.edu/~goldman/socimagination.html)
2) Sept 6	Chapter 3: Culture *Body Ritual among the Nacirema* by Horace Miner (http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~thompsoc/Body.html)
3) Sept 13	Chapter 3: Culture (cont.) *Body Ritual among the Nacirema* by Horace Miner (http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~thompsoc/Body.html)
4) Sept 20	Chapter 4: Socialization

EXAM #1 (Friday, September 27)

6) Oct 4	Chapter 8: Social Class in USA
7) Oct 11	Video – *The Corporation*
8) Oct 18	Chapter 10: Race and Ethnicity In-Class Group ASSIGNMENT #1 (October 18)
9) Oct 25	Chapter 11: Sex and Gender
10) Nov 1	Chapter 7: Deviance and Conformity

EXAM #2 (Friday, November 8)

12) Nov 15	Chapter 15: Religion *Sociology of Religion* by Emile Durkheim http://media.pfeiffer.edu/lridener/DSS/Durkheim/DURKW3.HTML
13) Nov 22	In-Class Group ASSIGNMENT #2 (November 22) Chapter 14: Education
14) Nov 29	Thanksgiving!
15) Dec 6	Chapter 13: Family

Extra-Credit ESSAY and Final EXAM (Friday, December 13: 10am-12pm)