SOCIOLOGY 1: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
Fall 2012, Section #0439, INST. 1003
Tuesdays/Thursdays 12:25 – 1:50

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Drop In Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays 10AM-12:30PM, Tuesdays 6:25PM-6:55PM
Office Location: INST- Faculty Office 30

Required Textbook: Society in Focus- Introduction to Sociology- William E. Thompson and Joseph V. Hickey- 7th Ed. Version with PIN code. ISBN 1-2566-7907-0
Purchase ONLY from LAMC bookstore.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

1. Student will be able to assess and describe the three sociological theories and how they impact sociological research.
2. Student will be able to distinguish between various research designs and the advantages/disadvantages of using those methods in social research.
3. Student will be able to compare and contrast between social inequality due to gender, race/ethnicity, and social class, and its impact on specific social problems.

Course Requirements:

1) Participation and Attendance: (45 points)
Since Sociology is the study of people and their behavior, your participation is not only welcomed, but required. Attendance is mandatory in this class and points can be earned for students with 2 absences or less. I will allow two absences for the semester, then will deduct 15 points from your total points in the class every time you are absent for a total of 45 points. Students with excessive absences (3 or more) will not earn attendance points and can be excluded from the class. You are responsible for dropping the class through the Admissions Office Online. Please be disciplined about your education and attend consistently. Enrolled students who are absent on the first day of class are subject to being dropped by the instructor.

2) Scholarly Articles Assignment (25 points) DUE 9/20
This assignment will require online (or in person) library research. You will begin by watching a short online tutorial about scholarly articles, then answer seven questions, then find five scholarly abstracts on a sociological topic of your choice and write a bibliography in ASA format. Instructions are attached.

3) Observation Project: (35 points) Due 11/13
You will be assigned an observation project that you will present to the class. Don't worry, it's fun and pain free. Instructions are attached.

4) Social Issue Paper: (40 points) Due 12/6
You will write a 2 – 3 paper on a social issue such as homelessness, discrimination (age, gender, racial), drugs, crime, immigration, or socialization in your family. Instructions are attached.

5) Midterm and Final: (140 points total)

Both the midterm and the final will be two hour, in class exams which will focus on the general issues covered in class and the reading. Please note that not all material covered in the reading will be covered in class and vice versa. Thus, you are responsible for both reading and in-class material. The exams will consist of multiple choice questions. The midterm covers Chapters 1-5 and 7-8 and is worth 70 points. The final exam covers Chapters 10-14, 18 and 20 and is worth 70 points.

All papers must be typed, using fonts no bigger than 12 with margins no larger than one inch. Please use spell check.

Topics and Assignments:
Note: Reading assignments should be done prior to coming to class.

Week 1:	8/28 Syllabus, Introductions, Chapter 1 (Discovering Sociology)
	8/30 Chapter 1, continued
Week 2:	9/4 Chapter 2 (Doing Sociology/Methods)
	9/6 Chapter 2, continued
Week 3:	9/11 Chapter 3 (Culture)
	9/13 Chapter 3, continued
Week 4:	9/18 Chapter 4 (Socialization)
	9/20 Chapter 4, continued (Scholarly Articles Due)
Week 5:	9/25 Chapter 5 (Social Interaction)
	9/27 Chapter 5, continued
Week 6:	10/2 Chapter 7 (Deviance)
	10/4 Chapter 7, continued
Week 7:	10/9 Chapter 8 (Social Stratification)
	10/11 Chapter 8, continued
Week 8:	10/16 REVIEW
	10/18 MIDTERM (covering Chapters 1-5, 7-8)
Week 9:	10/23 Chapter 10 (Race)
	10/25 Chapter 10, continued
Week 10:	10/30 Chapter 11 (Sex and Gender)
	11/1 Chapter 11, continued
Week 11:	11/6 Chapter 12 (Aging)
	11/8 Chapter 12, continued
Week 12:	11/13 Chapter 13 (Family) and Observation Project Presentations
	11/15 Observation Project Presentations, continued
Week 13:	11/20 Chapter 13, continued and Chapter 14 (Education)
	11/22 THANKSGIVING (NO CLASS)
Week 14:	11/27 Chapter 14 continued
	11/29 Chapter 18 (Health)
Week 15:	12/4 Chapter 20 (Social Change)
	12/6 Chapter 20, continued and Final Review (Social Issue Paper Due)
Week 16:	12/11, 12:30PM – 2:30PM FINAL EXAM (covering Chapters 10-14, 18, 20)

General Policies:

<u>Cheating</u>- 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.

Plagiarism- Plagiarism is 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. Whether the material be a paragraph, a sentence, or a part thereof, you will receive a zero for the first offence for the assignment or test in question. Any further offenses may result in expulsion from the class, or more as determined by the disciplinary action of Student Services.

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).

Classroom Etiquette: Studying Sociology involves discussing topics that may be uncomfortable pertaining to religion, race, gender, age, pornography, sexual orientation and other topics will be discussed. Every student will be expected to show the proper respect for fellow students, the instructor and the facilities in which the class is held. All college policies and regulations relating to student conduct will be observed. In general, disruptive behavior of any kind will not be tolerated. This includes repeated tardiness, inappropriate language, surfing the web, texting, sleeping in class, arriving late, leaving early or walking in and out of classroom for calls, food, etc. Disruptive students can be suspended for up to 2 class sessions at the professor's discretion. We meet for 1 hr. and 25 minutes. Please take care of all personal business before or after class.

NO WALKING IN AND OUT OF CLASSROOM.

As a courtesy to all, please turn off cell phones or place on vibrations. If you are late please minimize disruption to the class. Lap tops can be used to type notes, but not for using the internet. If you have a special situation, please don't hesitate to talk to me about it.

ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED during EXAMS.

Update Email and emergency contact information:
To update your email address and home phone number, please login to the District Student Information System at this link: https://eweb3.laccd.edu/WebStudent/signon.asp. To update or add your cell phone number to the BBC system, please login to LAMC Student Portal at this link: https://mymission.lamission.edu/studentlogin.aspx. This number will be used only for emergency.

Reasonable Accommodation- 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.

Medical Conditions-If you have any conditions that I need to know about, please notify me immediately by email and provide me with an emergency phone number.

Instructions to login to our class website for MYLABSPLUS/ECOLLEGE:
Step 1:
Purchase book from LA Mission Bookstore, comes with MYLABSPLUS access code
Step 2:
Go to www.lamc.mylabsplus.com (also known as ECOLLEGE Login page)

1. Your log in name is your school id 88--------- (no spaces or dashes)
2. Then your password is "PASSWORD" all CAPITALS
3. The you will see our class "Soc 1, Prof. Biondo, MW 12:25, #0439." You will then be asked to enter your enter PIN code which comes with your textbook.
4. Click on "access course." You will only need to do this once.
5. For security reasons its best if you CHANGE the password as soon as possible by clicking on "my account."
6. After in-putting you PIN code, you will only need your 88# and your password to login.

If you have any questions, please email me at jillb9191@yahoo.com.
For IT assistance, please email helpdesk@lamc.mylabsplus.com or call (888) 883-1299.

Keep up with your grades on class website under "GRADEBOOK"

This syllabus is a guide to use throughout this course and is subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Please do not hesitate to ask for assistance, it is my goal that you succeed in this class.

PLEASE PROGRAM CAMPUS SHERIFF NUMBER IN YOUR CELL PHONE (818) 364-7843

Obtain at least one student's information in case you're ever absent:

NAME _____Email_____

Phone_____

SCHOLARLY ARTICLE ASSIGNMENT
(25 points)

For the first part of this assignment, please view the video at http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/peabody/tutorials/scholarlyfree/. It is a great website tutorial on the difference between scholarly and popular periodicals. Then, answer the following questions.

Questions:

1) What is a scholarly article?

2) Why are scholarly articles important?

3) What is a difference between scholarly journals and popular journals?

4) Are newspapers scholarly or popular?

5) What are four things you should look for in an on-line scholarly article?

6) What are two traits of scholarly articles?

7) What are trade/professional publications?

After answering the questions, you will:

1) Choose a topic covered in your book to research (for instance, violence against women).
2) Go to the library and find three scholarly articles that relate to your chosen topic, or perform your research online with the provided library access code (see below). Pretend you are researching a term paper and need to find RELATED articles on the topic.

This is what you should turn in to me:
1) Answers to the seven questions from the streaming video.
2) Your topic. A brief paragraph describing the topic you chose. Remember, all articles must relate to that topic.
3) A bibliography in ASA format of the three articles.
4) Abstracts of the three articles (cut and pasted into your paper).

Make sure you find articles in at least two different scholarly journals. This is not a term paper, but is simply a treasure hunt. Identify your topic, find three articles related to it, cut and paste the abstracts (labeling them for easy reference) and then write a bibliography of said articles in the proper format.

You might be asking, "Just HOW do I do find these articles?"
Okay, it's easy. And even fun! Simply follow the directions and you can begin your own search. Remember, I only need the abstracts so if the complete articles aren't available, don't worry. Just cut and paste the abstracts.

1. Point your browser to the Library Home Page at www.lamission.edu/library
2. Click on Library Resources
3. Select EBSCOhost as your database
4. Enter User ID (mission) and Password (la) if using a computer off campus
5. select "EBSCOhostWeb

Input your information, but make sure you CLICK on "PEER REVIEWED" so that you only get information from scholarly journals. Good luck!

Some examples of sociological scholarly journals are (but are not limited to):
Sociology and Social Research
Gender Issues
Sociology of Education
Sociology of Religion
Social Justice
Social Problems
Social Research

Social Sciences
Social Science Research

OBSERVATION PROJECT
(35 points)

You'll be presenting a brief (no more than 5 minutes) overview of your project to the class: where you went, why you chose it, what you saw/heard/etc., your findings and what you might do differently. Be prepared to present to the class on 11/17.

One of the ways to learn more about the world we live in is to step into different parts of it. Therefore, I invite you to choose a religious place that you would normally not visit. For example, if you are Catholic then you want to choose any other denomination such Jewish, Muslim, Protestant, Lutheran, Jehovah Witness, Buddhist, etc. The point of this project is to observe from a sociological perspective not just as an individual. Therefore, you will need to follow these procedures for maximum results.

1. Look through your Yellow Pages and decide which service you will attend. Please contact the place you have chosen and ask if visitors are allowed. If asked why, state that you are looking for a new place to worship in the area. Some places of worship are so large, you will blend right in but others you will not. It's also a good idea to ask family or friends for referrals.
2. Prepare for your visit by looking at the TIP SHEET attached and decide how you will take notes.
3. As soon as completed, go back and start writing this paper so that you may remember as many details as possible.

Your 3 page ESSAY should have the following sections:

1. Place: Explain where you went, the type of religion practiced, date and time of day and how you selected this particular place.
2. Methodology: this portion is a very detailed description of how you observed, what you used to record the observations.
3. Observations: Discuss everything about the surroundings from the people were being observed (i.e. temple, church, mosque, standing, sitting, in chairs, benches) to the plants, the murals, the walls, the odors, the type of people (age, race/ethnicity, social class, languages). Discuss any interruptions, problems, dilemmas, interferences such as not being able to hear comments being made and/or other people around you talking. Even list the length of time you observed the group/individual. This has to be precise enough, so that if someone would duplicate your observations, they would follow the same exact procedure. Even the weather needs to be discussed if you are outside observing people.
4. Findings: what did you find out? Explain in an essay format your conclusions about what you observed. This is the part of the project where you can make some generalizations about the people you observed and your findings.
5. Evaluation of method: In this last portion, you evaluate your entire project. What would you do differently? What would you improve, change, duplicate if you had to do this research again? You can also discuss ideas of other topics that could be studied or came to mind as you were observing the individuals or groups.

Remember, you'll need to make a brief presentation to the class about your paper.

FORMAT:

- minimum of 3 pages, typed, double spaced
- check your spelling and your grammar
- include a copy of your field notes (this will not be part of your three pages)

(Suggestion: a popular church is the First African Methodist Episcopal Church located at 2270 S. Harvard LA, 90018- www.famechurch.org)

SOCIAL ISSUE PAPER

(40 points)

You will receive up to 35 points for writing a 2-3 page, typed, double spaced, social issue paper about something that YOU have experienced that we covered in class and/or is mentioned in our textbook such as homelessness, discrimination, crime, drugs, alcoholism, abortion, divorce, suicide, or any other topic that also affects a lot of people in our society.

1) Discuss how it has affected your life.
2) What have you done to overcome or deal with the problem?
3) What you think is the best way to reduce, remove, or teach others about your topic?

Format for your paper (2-3 pages, typed, double-spaced)

1) The first part of your paper should be an introduction to the topic or issue that you will be discussing.

2) The main portions or the body of the paper should focus on explaining those main points and on answering the questions on which I have asked you to elaborate.

3) The last part of your paper should be the conclusion. This is the time to wrap up your ideas, thoughts or ways of preventing/dealing with an issue. Go back and read your paper and make sure any point you might have brought up has been resolved, discussed and dealt with in a clear manner.

Don't forget to use SPELLCHECK and check your GRAMMAR.