SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology (Section 2 – Hybrid)
Spring 2022

Instructor: M. David Chunyu, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Sociology
Classroom: Mo We, 12:00PM – 12:50PM, Science Building (SCI) A113
My Office: Science Building (SCI) B335
Office Hours: Mo, 1:00PM – 3:00PM
                     We, 1:00PM – 2:00PM
                     or by appointment for meeting in my office/on Zoom
E-mail: dchunyu@uwsp.edu *(please put "SOC 101" in the email subject line)*

Course Overview

Sociology is the scientific study of society and human behavior. This course provides a general introduction to this discipline. It is intended to increase your understanding of social interaction, social organization, social institutions, and social change in a systematic way, i.e., through the sociological perspective. We will learn and engage the sociological perspective by exploring a number of themes. Students will be introduced to major theoretical perspectives, as well as key concepts, such as culture, socialization, social interaction, and social networks. Students will also come to understand the nature of major social institutions, such as marriage and family, politics, criminal justice, and medicine. They will also be introduced to social inequality, which has been historically explored along the dimensions of social class, gender, and race/ethnicity. Understanding sociology helps discover and explain social and behavioral patterns and see how such patterns change over time and across settings. By making vivid the social basis of everyday life, sociology also develops critical thinking by revealing the social structures and processes that shape diverse forms of human life. This course will challenge you to examine, evaluate, analyze, and appreciate the complex and diverse world we live in.

This course fulfills the requirement for "Social Sciences" and "U.S. Diversity" in the General Education Program (GEP).

Prerequisites

None.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize sociology as a social science;
2. Explain the sociological perspective;
3. Apply the major concepts used by sociologists to investigate human behaviors and social phenomena, including socialization, social interaction, social structure, stratification, etc.;
4. Examine how personal life chances and choices are influenced by the larger social context including social, cultural, and/or political institutions;
5. Recognize and appreciate the diversity and stratification of human grouping based on race/ethnicity, gender, class, national origin, religion, family status, etc.;
6. Illustrate how minority groups have responded to the experience of discrimination and inequality in American society;
7. Demonstrate understanding of and empathetic insight about diverse cultural perspectives in the U.S.;
8. Develop critical thinking skills to explain and predict various aspects of social phenomena.

Textbook

The following book is required:

James M. Henslin. 2017. *Sociology: A Down-to-Earth Approach*. 13th Edition. Pearson.

Additional Course Materials

Additional course materials (the instructor's lecture slides, additional reading, chapter-specific review exercises, assignments, exams, etc.) will be delivered online through the online course management system Canvas. You will use your UWSP account to login to the course from the Canvas Login Page. If you have not activated your UWSP account, please visit the Manage Your Account page to do so.

Course Structure

This course will be delivered in a hybrid format, i.e., partly in-person and partly online.

The in-person class meetings are mandatory and are used mainly for face-to-face (f2f) lectures and class discussions.

The online portion of this course is used mainly to deliver additional class materials and also to let students complete various assessment tasks (i.e., assignments and exams) in Canvas (refer to the "Grading" section below for details.)

Student Expectations

In this class you will be expected to do the following.
- ➢ Participate in face-to-face class meetings
- ➢ Read the assigned textbook chapters
- ➢ Download and read documents from Canvas
- ➢ View online videos
- ➢ Conduct internet searches
- ➢ Practice chapter-specific review exercises (highly relevant to preparation for exams)
- ➢ Complete assignments in Canvas
- ➢ Take exams in Canvas (exams are mostly based on chapter-specific review exercises)
- ➢ Communicate in-person and online

Additional communication expectations for students:
1. Professional and respectful tone and civility are used in communicating with fellow learners and the instructor.
2. Written communication, both formal and informal, uses Standard English rather than popular online abbreviations and regional colloquialisms.
3. Spelling and grammar are correct.

Grading

A student's final course grade is based entirely on the "TOTAL POINTS" they have earned over the semester. The "TOTAL POINTS" are simply the total crude points a student has accumulated from assignments and exams, plus optional bonus points if applicable, and **summation** is the only mathematical operation used for calculating a student's "TOTAL POINTS". Thus, no percentage, proportion, or division is used in the "TOTAL POINTS" calculation. (**_Important note:_** *The "Total" column or other automatically generated columns in the "Grades" area of Canvas will <u>NOT</u> be used, because they reflect some sort of percentage calculation, which is inconsistent with the grading system of this course. Also see the "Grading Scale" section below.*)

A student's max total points consist of the following:

- ➢ ***Assignments***   ***40 Points***
- ➢ ***Exams***   ***60 Points***
  - ❖ *1st exam*   *20 points*
  - ❖ *2nd exam*   *20 points*
  - ❖ *Final exam*   *20 points*

Max Total = 100 Points

Assignments (40 Points)

There will be weekly assignments spread over the semester. Most of these assignments take the form of short-answer or essay questions; some assignments also include a few standardized questions (true-false, multiple-choice, item matching, etc.). These assignments are usually based on the unit's lecture, reading, and/or video clips and they are often closely tied to the "key topics" for that unit (see the "Course Outline" section about the key topics). Each of these assignments is worth 3-4 points. Altogether they are worth 40 points.

All assignments are due on Sunday night within the week. For example, the assignment for the 1st week (01/24 – 01/30 Chapter 1 The Sociological Perspective) is due on Sunday (01/30), the assignment for the 2nd week (01/31 – 02/06 Chapter 2 Culture) is due on Sunday (02/06), so on and so forth. ***The last day for the instructor to accept any assignment submission, including late submission, is May 15, 2022 (Sunday).*** No late submission will be accepted beyond May 15, 2022 (Sunday).

Exams (60 Points)

There will be three (3) exams: two midterm exams and one final exam. All exams will be held in Canvas and students will choose a two-hour time slot of their preference within the exam week to take the exam (see the "Course Outline" section for the exam week schedules).

Each exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions and is worth 20 points. The exams questions will be based on lectures, reading, chapter-specific review exercises, assignments, and video clips shared in class and Canvas. The exams are **NOT** cumulative.

To help students prepare for the exams, the instructor will post review exercises for each chapter in Canvas. These review exercises are designed to help students digest and reinforce the class learning. Also importantly, these review exercises are very closely tied to the exams, so students are highly recommended to make good use of these review exercises when preparing for the exams.

Bonus Points (Optional)

There might be opportunities for students to earn extra credits/bonus points.

Grading Scale

Again, a student's final course grade is based entirely on the "TOTAL POINTS" they have accumulated over the semester. Thus, for calculating a student's "TOTAL POINTS", **summation** is the only mathematical operation used; that is, the instructor will simply add up all the points a student has earned from assignments and exams, plus optional bonus points if applicable. No percentage, proportion, or division is used in the "TOTAL POINTS" calculation. (***Important note:*** *Again, the "Total" column or other automatically generated columns in the "Grades" area of Canvas will* <u>*NOT*</u> *be used, because they*

reflect some sort of percentage calculation, which is inconsistent with the grading system of this course.)

A student's "TOTAL POINTS" will then be converted into their final course grade according to the following scale:

A ...……...93.00 – 100.00 points   C……….....73.00 – 76.99 points
A-……….…90.00 – 92.99 points   C-………...70.00 – 72.99 points
B+……...…87.00 – 89.99 points   D+…….…..67.00 – 69.99 points
B…….…...83.00 – 86.99 points   D..………..60.00 – 66.99 points
B-………...80.00 – 82.99 points   F..……….…0.00 – 59.99 points
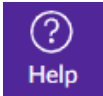C+………..77.00 – 79.99 points

Grade Posting

Students' grade points from assignments and exams, plus optional bonus points if applicable, will be posted in Canvas → "Grades" area as soon as they become available. A distinct grade item will also be created in Canvas → "Grades" area to show a student's "TOTAL POINTS" they have accumulated over the semester. (***Important note:*** *One last time, the "Total" column or other automatically generated columns in the "Grades" area of Canvas will <u>NOT</u> be used, because they reflect some sort of percentage calculation, which is inconsistent with the grading system of this course. Please also see the preceding "Grading Scale" section for explanation.)* It is a student's own responsibility to check Canvas regularly and to be kept informed of their own grade status.

UWSP Technology Support

- Visit with a <u>Student Technology Tutor</u>
- Seek assistance from the <u>IT Service Desk</u> (Formerly HELP Desk)
    - o IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
    - o IT Service Desk Email: <u>techhelp@uwsp.edu</u>

Canvas Support

Click on the [Help] button in the global (left) navigation menu and note the options that appear:

Support Options	Explanations
Ask Your Instructor a Question Submit a question to your instructor	Use **Ask Your Instructor a Question** sparingly; technical questions are best reserved for Canvas personnel and help as detailed below.

Chat with Canvas Support (Student) Live Chat with Canvas Support 24x7!	**Chat**ting **with Canvas Support (Student)** will initiate a *text chat* with Canvas support. Response can be qualified with severity level.
Contact Canvas Support via email Canvas support will email a response	**Contact**ing **Canvas Support via email** will allow you to explain in detail or even upload a screenshot to show your particular difficulty.
Contact Canvas Support via phone Find the phone number for your institution	Calling the Canvas number will let Canvas know that you're from UWSP; phone option is available 24/7.
Search the Canvas Guides Find answers to common questions	**Search**ing **the Canvas guides** connects you to documents that are searchable by issue. You may also opt for **Canvas video guides.**
Submit a Feature Idea Have an idea to improve Canvas?	If you have an idea for Canvas that might make instructions or navigation easier, feel free to offer your thoughts through this **Submit a Feature Idea** avenue.

All options are available 24/7; however, if you opt to email your instructor, your instructor may not be available immediately.

- Self-train on Canvas through the Self-enrolling/paced Canvas training course

Protecting your Data and Privacy

UW-System approved tools meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. For a list of approved tools, visit this website. https://www.wisconsin.edu/dle/external-application-integration-requests

Tools not listed on the website linked above may not meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. If you have questions about tools, contact the UWSP IT Service Desk at 715-346-4357.

Here are steps you can take to protect your data and privacy.
- Use different usernames and passwords for each service you use
- Do not use your UWSP username and password for any other services
- Use secure versions of websites whenever possible (HTTPS instead of HTTP)
- Have updated antivirus software installed on your devices

Expected Instructor Response Times

The instructor will attempt to respond to student emails within 24 hours. If you have not received a reply from me within 24 hours please re-send your email.

> _Note_: If you have a general course question (not confidential or personal in nature),
> please post it to the Course Q & A Discussion Forum found on the course homepage. I
> will post answers to all general questions there so that all students can view them.
> Students are encouraged to answer each other's questions too.

The instructor will attempt to grade written work within 72 hours, however longer written assignments may take me longer to read and assess.

Classroom Etiquette

The classroom, both in-person and online, is a learning environment and an academic community. All members of this community, students and instructor alike, have a special obligation to preserve an atmosphere conductive to the freedom to teach and to learn. What is essential to preserve such freedom is a culture of respect that honors the rights, safety, dignity, and worth of every individual. For that reason, all members of this community are expected to show courtesy, civility, and respect for one another.

Part of that obligation to maintain a positive learning environment is to ensure that the behavior of any individual does not disrupt the process of teaching and learning. Accordingly, students shall do their best to minimize disruptions that can distract from their own learning and that of their peers. Students are expected to come to class on time and not to leave early except in the case of emergency situations. Please plan your bathroom breaks, food/beverage needs, cell phone calls/texts, work schedules, and other socialization activities around class times to minimize classroom distractions and disruptions. The rule of thumb is that at any moment there should be only one center of attention in the classroom, should it be the instructor, a student, an object, an artifact, a device, or an activity. _**Students with repeated disruptive behavior/causing repeated distractions will receive point deduction to their "TOTAL POINTS" and therefore will get a lower final course grade**_.

**The instructor reserves the right to restrict a student's participation in class activities, both in-person and online, should the student behave in a way that interferes with the academic or administrative functions of the class.**

Diversity and Inclusion

UWSP supports an inclusive learning environment where diversity and individual differences are understood, respected, and appreciated. These differences include race/ethnicity, gender, class, political view, religion, color, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital or family status, as well as personality, learning styles, and life experiences. It is these very differences among us that enrich our

learning environment and make us strong. We expect that students, faculty, administrators, and staff will respect differences and demonstrate diligence in understanding how other peoples' perspectives, behaviors, experiences, and worldviews may be different from their own.

Disabilities/Special Needs

UWSP is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities and/or special needs. If you have disabilities/special needs affecting your participation in the course and wish to have special accommodations, please contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center (DATC) on the 6th floor of Albertson Hall (library) as soon as possible. DATC will then coordinate with me in helping you receive the proper accommodations and auxiliary aids. DATC can be reached at 715-346-3365 or datctr@uwsp.edu. You can also find more information here: http://www.uwsp.edu/datc.

Academic Support

If a student finds it difficult to keep up with the class progress at any point during the semester, they are recommended to seek help immediately from the instructor.

In addition, students can also use help from the Tutoring-Learning Center (TLC). Students can drop in room 018 Albertson Hall (library) to discuss the specific needs. TLC can also be reached at 715-346-3568 or tlctutor@uwsp.edu. You can find more information on TLC here: http://www.uwsp.edu/tlc.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is central to the mission of this institution. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated and will receive disciplinary sanctions per the UWSP policies. The UWSP policies regarding student academic standards and disciplinary procedures can be found here: https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx. If I observe academic misconduct, or if suspicions of academic dishonesty are reported to me, I will request that the identified parties to discuss the situation, and then the procedures set out in UWS/UWSP Chapter 14 will be followed.

Emergency Preparedness

It is important you familiarize yourself with the UWSP emergency plan and procedures prior to the occurrence of an emergency. Please go to www.uwsp.edu/rmgt for details on all emergency responses at UWSP.

UWSP COVID-19 Policy

Students shall adhere to the university's COVID-related policies which are published on the UWSP COVID-19 information website: https://www.uwsp.edu/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx

Chancellor's Mask Mandate
At the time of this writing, there is a university-wide mask mandate – all students, employees and visitors to any UWSP campus or facility are required to wear face coverings when inside campus buildings and enclosed spaces with others outside of your household.

Please note that unless everyone is wearing a face covering, in-person classes cannot take place. This is university policy and not up to the discretion of individual instructors. Failure to adhere to this requirement could result in formal withdrawal from the class.

Testing and Quarantine Protocol
Student shall also follow the UWSP COVID-19 testing and quarantine protocol as published on the UWSP COVID-19 information website. Please monitor your own health status as well as your contact with other people each day to determine whether you should get tested and/or quarantine.

While the UWSP testing and quarantine protocol is in place, we will need to use assigned seating and a seating chart for our f2f class in order to help with contact tracing; therefore, students will be asked to be sitting in their assigned seats in the classroom.

If students need to be absent from class due to COVID-related reasons, students should communicate their need with the instructor in a timely manner and complete the course requirements virtually in Canvas as instructed.

Students should also be prepared for the possibility of the class shifting to online learning if the instructor needs to be absent or too many students need to be absent at the same time. In any case, students will be notified about class modality change in advance and are still expected to complete the course requirements virtually in Canvas as instructed.

(Continue to next page)

COURSE OUTLINE

DATES	TOPICS/ACTIVITIES	READING

Part I. The Sociological Perspective

01/24 – 01/30   *The Sociological Perspective*   Henslin Ch. 1.

Key Topics:

1. What is the sociological perspective?
2. Sociology, social sciences, and science
3. Origins of sociology
4. Three major theoretical perspectives in sociology
   a. Functional analysis (structural functionalism)
   b. Conflict theory
   c. Symbolic interactionism

01/31 – 02/06   *Culture*   Henslin Ch. 2.

Key Topics:

1. What is culture?
2. Nonmaterial (symbolic) culture
3. Subcultures and countercultures
4. Values in U.S. society
5. Cultural universals

02/07 – 02/13   *Socialization*   Henslin Ch. 3.

Key Topics:

1. Society makes us human
2. Socialization into the self and mind
3. Socialization into gender
4. Agents of socialization
5. Re-socialization
6. Socialization through the life course

02/14 – 02/20   *Social Structure and Social Interaction*   Henslin Ch. 4.

          Key Topics:

                    1. Levels of sociological analysis
                    2. The macrosociological perspective: social structure
                    3. Social institutions
                    4. The microsociological perspective: social interaction in everyday life
                    5. The need for both macrosociology and microsociology

02/21 – 02/27   *** 1st Midterm Exam *** (A two-hour time slot of student's choice in Canvas)

Part II. Social Groups and Social Control

02/28 – 03/06   *Societies to Social Networks*   Henslin Ch. 6.

          Key Topics:

                    1. Societies and their transformation
                              a. Hunting and gathering societies
                              b. Pastoral and horticultural societies
                              c. Agricultural societies
                              d. Industrial societies
                              e. Postindustrial societies
                              f. New type of society emerging
                    2. Groups within society
                              a. Primary groups and secondary groups
                              b. In-groups and out-groups
                              c. Reference groups
                              d. Social networks
                    3. Group dynamics

03/07 – 03/13   Bureaucracy and Formal Organization   Henslin Ch. 7.

          Key Topics:

                    1. The rationalization of society
                    2. Formal organizations and bureaucracies
                    3. Voluntary associations
                    4. Working for the corporation

     5. Technology and the Maximum-Security Society

03/14 – 03/20   *Deviance and Social Control*   Henslin Ch. 8.

     Key Topics:

1. What is deviance?
2. The symbolic interactionist perspective
3. The functionalist perspective
4. The conflict perspective
5. Reactions to deviance

* 03/21 – 03/27   NO CLASS! HAPPY SPRING BREAK!

Part III. Social Inequality and Institutions

03/28 – 04/03   *Global Stratification*   Henslin Ch. 9.

     Key Topics:

1. Systems of social stratification
2. What determines social class?
3. Why is social stratification universal?
4. How do elites maintain stratification?
5. Global stratification: Three worlds
6. How did the world's nations become stratified?
7. Maintaining global stratification

04/04 – 04/10   ***** 2nd Midterm Exam *** (A two-hour time slot of student's choice in Canvas)**

04/11 – 04/17   *Social Class in the United States (Part 1)*   Henslin Ch. 10.

     Key Topics:

1. What is social class?
2. Updated models of social class
3. Consequences of social class
4. Social mobility

Social Class in the United States (Part 2 – Poverty)   Henslin Ch. 10.

Key Topics:

1. What is poverty?
2. Who are the poor?
3. Dynamics of poverty
4. Why are there poor people?

04/18 – 04/24   *Sex and Gender*   Henslin Ch. 11.

Key Topics:

1. Sex vs. gender
2. Gender inequality in global perspective
3. Gender inequality in the U.S.
4. Gender inequality in the workplace
5. Gender and violence
6. The changing face of politics

04/25 – 05/01   *Marriage and Family*   Henslin Ch. 16.

Key Topics:

1. Marriage and family in global perspective
2. Marriage and family in theoretical perspective
3. The family life cycle
4. Diversity in U.S. families
5. Trends in U.S. families
6. Divorce and remarriage
7. Two sides of family life

05/02 – 05/10   *Race and Ethnicity*   Henslin Ch. 12.

Key Topics:

1. Race vs. ethnicity
2. Prejudice and discrimination
3. Theories of prejudice
4. Spectrum of intergroup relations
5. Racial and ethnic groups in the U.S.

05/11 – 05/15   *Population*   Henslin Ch. 20.

<u>Key Topics:</u>

1. Population in global perspective
2. A planet with no space for enjoying life?
   a. The Malthus theorem and the new Malthusians
   b. The anti-Malthusian perspective
   c. Why are (some) people starving?
3. Population growth
   a. Why do poor nations have so many children?
   b. Population pyramids
   c. The three demographic variables
   d. Forecasting population growth

05/16 – 05/22   *** Final Exam *** (A two-hour time slot of student's choice in Canvas)

Unforeseen circumstances may necessitate changes in the course requirements and/or schedules.
Any changes will be announced in advance.