

Sociology 101 (8), Fall Semester 2017
Introduction to Sociology
Monday and Wednesday, 6:30-7:45, CCC 303

Dr. Sue Bailey
CCC 464

Office Hours: Monday 3-4:30, Thursday 12-1:30
and by appointment

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Course Overview

This is an introductory course of Sociology. Sociology is the study of societies and the social worlds (e.g., family, school, fraternities and sororities, etc.) that individuals inhabit within them. It is a broad field of study that focuses on a wide array of social interactions and institutions. There is a Sociology of Religion, Sociology of Medicine, Sociology of Culture, Sociology of Race and Ethnicity, and even a Sociology of Sports or Rap Music. Anything that impacts the social life of people is appropriate for the sociological imagination. The Sociological Imagination “enables us to grasp history and biography and the relations between the two within society.” (C. Wright Mills, 1959). More simply, sociology focuses on the intersection of society and the individual, and the sociological imagination allows us to view what we think are personal issues in the wider context of social issues. As sociologists, we use scientific inquiry to understand social issues in a way that we don’t normally do as individuals. We consider the “collective” in understanding the “single” or individual. You will be challenged to use your sociological imagination in this class.

Course Objectives

- Introduce you to the core concepts of sociology as a field of study.
- Illustrate the advantages of using your sociological imagination for really understanding your and other’s individual lives.
- Provide you with basic research tools for examining our social world scientifically.
- Give a taste of the broad areas of sociological study such as inequality, cultural influences, social institutions, urban compared to rural life, social movements, demography, and crime and deviance.

Text

The required textbook is available at the campus bookstore.

Manza, Jeff; Arum, Richard; Haney, Lynne. *The Sociology Project: Introducing the Sociological Imagination 1st Edition*.

Investigation Level Course

This course is designated as an investigation level course for the General Education Program (GEP). Assignments and activities will focus on the following learning outcomes for the social sciences.

- Define the major concepts and methods used by social scientists to investigate, to analyze, or to predict human or group behavior.
- Explain the major principles, models, and issues under investigation by the social sciences.
- Examine how the individual or groups of individuals are influenced by social, cultural, or political institutions both in their own culture and in other cultures.

Class Attendance

You are required to attend class. We will have ten (10) in-class group exercises and quizzes that will be collected and be part of your final grade. **If you miss class, you will NOT get credit for that exercise or quiz.**

I will also give you some unique information in class that will be on the exam. I will indicate to you at the time that this will be on the exam. It will only be available to you in class.

If you miss class, DO NOT CONTACT ME about what you missed. Ask a classmate.

In-Class Group Exercises and Quizzes

We will have 10 in-class exercises and quizzes. These will be completed in groups. You will get 2 points for each completed exercise/quiz for a total of **20%** of your final grade.

Exams

There are three (3) exams in this class. None of these, including the final, will be cumulative. They will be multiple choice exams with approximately 50 questions each and will cover material from your text, from lectures, and from in- and out-class exercises. Each exam is worth **20%** of your final grade.

Please look carefully at the course schedule for the dates of each exam.

There will be no make-up exams without documentation of legitimate emergency reasons for missing exam dates.

Assignments

There will be about 5 homework assignments for which you will USE the material we cover in class. Collectively, the assignments are worth **20%** of your final grade. I ask that you submit your assignments in the appropriate drop boxes in D2L. I will give you feedback on your assignments early in the semester. Later in the semester, I will grade your assignments giving little if any feedback. A portfolio of homework worth the **full 20%** is complete (all assignments are included), thorough (each assignment is completed in its entirety), and thoughtful (you have given more than minimal effort).

There will be absolutely no make-ups of missed assignments after the drop box is closed.

Grading Scale

93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-79	D+
60-66	D
0-59	F

You will likely be successful in this course if you come to class prepared, participate in discussions, follow the rules for academic integrity (see below), and put thought and effort into your assignments and exams.

Important University and Course Policies and Procedures

Students with Special Need: Students with special needs as documented by the Office of Disability Services should identify themselves at the beginning of the term. The Department of Sociology and Social Work is dedicated to providing these students with the necessary academic adjustments and auxiliary aids to facilitate their participation and performance in the classroom.

Classroom Etiquette: I ask that you arrive on time to class and turn off your cell phones (not silenced but OFF please). I reserve the right to ask anyone texting to LEAVE the classroom. I would prefer that you do not use laptops or tablets in the classroom unless it is a necessary learning tool. If you are talking while I'm talking and it is distracting to me or to your fellow students, I will stop talking until you are done talking. If you have a question, **ask me**.

We will be discussing several controversial topics in this class. **I respect your opinions and will be respectful to you as a participant. I expect the same from you to me and to YOUR CLASSMATES.** I will call out anyone who is being disrespectful to me or to a classmate. This includes talking while your classmates are making a point or asking a question. **My classroom will be safe and civil.**

Contacting Me: Please contact me using the following methods in this order of preference: 1) email; 2) cell phone. I will make every effort to respond to questions that are NOT time-sensitive (e.g., about the course schedule, material, assignments, and similar) within 24 hours. Please only use my cell phone for time-sensitive issues such as last minute emergencies that interfere with your class attendance. **DO NOT CONTACT ME about material covered in a class that you missed.**

Academic Misconduct: Academic integrity is central to the mission of this institution. UWS 14 defines academic misconduct as any "action which a student:

1. seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;
2. uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
3. forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
4. intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;

5. engages in conduct aimed at making false representations of a student's academic performance;
and
6. assists other students in any of these acts."

USW 14 allows for disciplinary sanctions that range from an oral reprimand to suspension or expulsion from the University. You can obtain a copy of the full academic misconduct policy through the Student Services office.

The rules regarding academic misconduct can sometimes be confusing for students, so I encourage you to come talk to me about questionable issues regarding assignments and exams. If you have questions about a particular assignment, you should come talk to me before the assignment is due. Ignorance or misunderstanding of the UW System policy for academic misconduct is not an acceptable excuse for academic misconduct.

If I observe or suspect academic misconduct, I will request a meeting with the responsible student or students, and I will follow the procedures set out in the UWS 14 document.

Course Schedule
Sociology 101 (8) Fall 2017

Date	Topic/Activity	Assigned Readings
9/6-13	Sociological Imagination	Chapter 1
9/18-20	Methods of Sociological Research	Chapter 2
9/25-27	Our Social Self	Chapter 3
10/2-4	Social Structure	Chapter 4
10/9-11	Culture and Media	Chapter 5
10/16	Exam 1 (CH. 1-5)	
	Social Inequality	Chapter 9
10/18	Social Inequality (cont.)	Chapter 9
10/23-25	Power and Politics	Chapter 6
10/30-11/1	Social Control	Chapter 16
11/6-8	Race and Ethnicity	Chapter 10
11/13	Exam 2 (CH. 6, 9, 10, 16)	
	Gender	Chapter 11
11/15	Gender (cont.)	Chapter 11
11/20-22	No Class	
11/27-29	Family	Chapter 13
12/4-6	Education	Chapter 15
12/11-13	Demography and Health	Chapter 19
12/18	Exam 3 (Final) (CH. 11, 13, 15, 19)	
	7:15-9:15, CCC 303	

I reserve the right to change the syllabus due to unforeseen scheduling issues and the pedagogical needs of the class.