



SYG 2000 - Syllabus

Introduction to Sociology

Summer 2019, June 24 - July 26

Course & Faculty Information

Lecturer: TBA

E-mail: TBA

Time: Monday through Friday

Teaching hour: 45 (1.8 contact hours each day)

Office hours: 2 hours (According to the teaching schedule)

Credit: 3

Course Description

This course is an introductory survey of sociology covering its scope, methods and general principles. Topics emphasized include classical sociology, group behavior, race relations, population, social institutions, social change, and environment. Empirical researches will provide different insights of Western societies, and contemporary social and cultural issues. The purpose of the course is to assist the student in acquiring an understanding of society/ies.

Course Materials

Required Textbook:

Henslin, James M., *Essentials of sociology: a down-to-earth approach*, 12th edition. Boston: Pearson Education, [2017].

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you should:

1. Understand the main concepts, issues, theoretical perspectives, and methods used in the discipline.
2. Have a sufficiently developed understanding of the relationship between the individual and society. Be able to elaborate a critical point of view on social structure and systemic forces.
3. Deepen your understanding of Western culture and analyze other societies from the viewpoint of cultural relativism: recognizing that every culture is unique and valid rather than judging cultural variations from an ethnocentric perspective.
4. Appreciate the importance of empirical evidence to support arguments and assertions. Combine theoretical aspect, classical and contemporary sociological concepts with the real life and the personal and collective experience.
5. Be able to apply sociological insights to real-life situations, challenge common-sense explanations, and analyze and interpret facts and data that you encounter in the media, in your personal relationships, and in your career.
6. Develop a critical perspective in order to deconstruct the taking-for-granted culture and analyze the evolution of societies, focusing on crucial concepts like tradition/ modernity, industrialization, post-industrialization, and postmodernity.
7. Be able to explore and present the first steps of a sociological research: a) The subject of the Research: Select a Topic; b) The Frame: Defining the Problem.

Course Requirement:

There are THREE components that make up your final grade.

(1) Exams:

There are three (2) non-cumulative examinations and will consist of multiple-choice, true/false, and short answer questions. Each exam is worth 200 points and all together they are worth 40 percent of your final grade. Material for the exams can come from the assigned readings, class lectures/discussions, in-class activities, and any media that is used. The exams are already scheduled in the course syllabus and students are expected to take the exams during class time on those days.

Students are not permitted to take a copy of the exam out of the classroom or office nor may they write down exam questions. Failure to comply will result in an "F" since non-compliance is, in effect, cheating.

Failure to take both the exams on their scheduled dates will result in a grade of zero (0) for the exams. You are expected to arrive on time for all exams. If you arrive to class more than 15 minutes late on the day of the scheduled exam, you will not be allowed to take the exam and you will have to take a make-up exam. This is NOT an exam drop policy. I do NOT drop your lowest exam score, and you will NOT be allowed to retake an exam that you have already taken. You must take all two exams, and you can only take each exam once.

(2) Writing Assignments:

There are two (2) short writing assignments required in the course. Each must be word-processed, double-spaced and at least 700 words in length (excluding your name, title, and references). Each is worth 150 points and together they are worth 30 percent of your final grade.

Writing Assignment #1: Reforming Society

Using the concepts and critiques that have emerged during the lessons, you are invited to describe a specific aspect of your everyday life and bring to light some issues, social problems or controversies that could be subject to a sociological observation and reform. Focusing on a specific subject of your choice, the assignment aims to evaluate your ability to describe the social reality through a critical point of you. You might use and improve the same subject/topic for your second assignment.

Writing Assignment #2: Research Project

This assignment invites students to elaborate a short research proposal, using PowerPoint, that develops the first steps of a sociological research. Students can use some concepts discussed during class and highlighted in the book. Students must create a personal project of research around a specific subject and ask a "research question". The scope is to autonomously get rid of a taken-for-granted knowledge, and release a critical thinking. Particularly, you will develop two points:

The Subject of the Research: Select a Topic

The Frame: Defining the Problem

(3) Class Assignments & Participation:

This includes in-class assignments, homework, and postings throughout the term. Your grade in this component is based on your answers to questions and responses to classmate answers.

Class participation is essential! You are expected to attend all (attendance will be taken every class period), complete all the required readings before class meetings, watch all the videos that are shown in the class, and to participate actively in class discussions and activities on the basis of thoughtful engagement with lectures, readings and videos. Individual point values will vary, but all together class assignments and participation will be worth 30 percent of your final grade.

Participation is defined as a sincere effort to be involved in class discussion/activities and to progress toward accomplishment of the course objectives. Polite, respectful classroom behavior is expected. Disruptive students will be asked to leave the classroom. Please note the class start time. As a matter of courtesy to both the instructor and to fellow students you are asked to arrive promptly, and not to make a habit of entering the classroom after class is under way. If you must arrive to class late or leave early, please try to enter and exit as quietly as possible. For each third late arrival and/or early departure, your participation could be adjusted to reflect non-participation for an entire class session.

Submitting Assignment

Work must be submitted via email (...). Submit documents in Microsoft Word or Rich Text Format ONLY. Late assignments will only be accepted with PRIOR approval of the instructor.

Grading Scale:

100 – 90% = A

89 – 80 = B

79 – 70 = C

69 – 60 = D

59 or below = F

Grading Distribution: (1000 points)

Two exams - all together are worth	40% of your final grade
Two Writing Assignments	30% of your final grade
Class assignments & participation – all together are worth	30% of your final grade

Additional Information:

Attendance Policy: You are expected to attend every class, arrive on time, and remain in class for the entire class period. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class meeting. If you arrive after I have taken attendance, you must speak to me at the end of class to be marked tardy. Three tardies will result in an absence. Three absences will result in a letter grade deduction. If you leave class early without having notified me prior to the start of the class period, this will be counted as an absence.

If you miss a class, you are responsible for the announcements made in class and acquiring the notes from another student. A student who has to be absent needs to contact me in advance of the absence in order to make a plan for making up missed work.

Academic Integrity

As members of the Seminole State College of Florida community, students are expected to be honest in all their academic coursework. Academic dishonesty, such as cheating of any kind on examinations, course assignments or projects, plagiarism, misrepresentation and the unauthorized possession of examinations or other course-related materials, is prohibited.

Plagiarism is unacceptable to the college community. Academic work that is submitted by students is assumed to be the result of their own thought, research or self-expression. When students borrow ideas, wording or organization from another source, they are expected to acknowledge that fact in an appropriate manner. Plagiarism is the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without identifying the source and trying to pass-off such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give full credit for ideas or materials taken from another has plagiarized.

Students who share their work for cheating on class assignments or tests are subject to the same penalties as the student who commits the act of cheating.

When cheating or plagiarism has occurred, academic action that range from denial of credit for the assignment or a grade of "F" on a specific assignment, examination or project, to the assignment of a grade of "F" for the course. Students may also be subject to further sanctions such as disciplinary probation, suspension or dismissal from the College.

Additional Course Rules:

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones, laptops, I-Pads, Kindles, and other electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class. Anyone who is observed text messaging or using an electronic device during class will be asked to stop or leave/drop the course.
- You are expected to maintain a respectful attitude toward your fellow students and me. This means that both verbal and non-verbal behaviors must communicate respect and interest in what others are communicating.
- Always keep an extra copy of any written material that is turned in. You will be responsible for supplying an additional copy upon request.
- I reserve the right to change this syllabus at any time.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Date	Topics, Reading Assignments & Work to be Completed
June 24-25-26	Introduction to the course/The sociological perspective READ: Chapter 1
June 27-28	How sociologists do research READ: Chapter 1
July 1-3	Culture READ: Chapter 2
July 4-5	Socialization READ: Chapter 3
July 8-9	Social structure & interaction READ Chapter 4
July 10-11	Social groups, Bureaucracy and Authority READ: Chapter 5
July 12	EXAM 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
July 14	WRITING ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE BY 11:59PM
July 15	Global Stratification READ: Chapter 7
July 16-17	Race & Ethnicity READ: Chapter 9
July 18	Gender READ: Chapter 10

July 19-22	Social Change, Migration and the Environment READ: Chapter 14-15
July 23-24	Social Class in USA READ: Chapter 8
July 25	Assignment 2: The research Project: In-class presentation with PowerPoint
July 26	EXAM 2 (Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15)