



Sociology 1301- Introduction to Sociology

CRN: 74651

Northeast Campus

Distance Education: 16 weeks (48 total contact hours)

Fall 2015

Instructor Contact Information:

Name: Dr. Nichole C. Boutte-Heiniluoma (Dr. B)

Email: n.boutteheiniluoma@hccs.edu

Phone: 713-718-2412

Office Location: Northline Campus Rm 310 or Pinemont campus.

Office Hours: **Tuesdays** 5:30pm-6:45pm (Pinemont Campus), **Thursdays** 2:30pm-4:00pm (Northline Campus), **Fridays** 9:00am-10am (Pinemont Campus). Please email if these times do not work for you so that we can set up an appointment.

Please Note: The BEST way to reach me is by sending an email to n.boutteheiniluoma@hccs.edu. You MUST include your name and your course information in the subject line (ex. Nichole Boutte-Heiniluoma-Soci 1306) or your email may not get immediate attention. I do my best to respond to all emails addressed correctly within 24-48 if emailed during the week.

Required Text: Introduction to Sociology. George Ritzer. 2012. Sage Publications. AND Contemporary Readings in Sociology. Kathleen Odell Korgen. 2008.

Course Description: Soci 1301 is a survey course that focuses on the scientific study of human society, including ways in which groups, social institutions, and individuals affect each other. Causes of social stability and social change are explored through the application of various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. Analysis of social issues in their institutional context may include topics such as social stratification, gender, race/ethnicity, and deviance. (THECB)

Course Goals: By the end of this course you should be able to “appreciate our socially and culturally diverse society and world” (HCC Core Sociology Curriculum). During the tenure of the course, you should work on being able to achieve the following things:

- 1) To become aware of the sociological perspective
- 2) To become acquainted with the main sociological theories
- 3) To develop awareness of the process of socialization and how this affects social change and social structures
- 4) To develop an awareness of the impact of variables such as race, class, gender and how these (and others) affect human behavior
- 5) To develop the habit of viewing (and writing) ones reactions to the world around you from a sociological perspective

Core Curriculum Statement: Sociology 1301 is a core curriculum course. It may be used to fulfill the requirements for a core Social and Behavioral Sciences course OR a core Cross/Multi-Cultural Studies course.

Core Curriculum Objectives: Given the rapid evolution of necessary knowledge and skills and the need to take into account global, national, state, and local cultures, the core curriculum must ensure that students will develop the essential knowledge and skills they need to be successful in college, in a career, in their communities, and in life. Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

Students enrolled in this core curriculum course will complete several assignments designed to cultivate the following core objectives:

- Critical Thinking Skills - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Social Responsibility - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

These objectives will be assessed as follows:

Critical Thinking: Nearly all the work in this course will require critical thinking about the social problems that we address. Your critical thinking skills will be assessed through the written work that you submit and your understanding of the readings and videos during the required discussions.

Communication: Nearly all the work in this course will also require that you be able to communicate well in writing. Your communication skills will be assessed both in the

written work you submit as well as in your interactions with your peers in the required discussions. The weekly discussions over the readings and videos are mandatory.

Empirical and Quantitative: You will be required to answer a series of questions from the readings that assess your empirical and quantitative skills.

Social Responsibility: This entire course is largely focused on social responsibility as the curriculum is focused on understanding the world around us, being able to look at this world through the lens of the sociological imagination and to begin to think critically about some issues that impact the world in which we live.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.
2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.
3. Describe key concepts in sociology.
4. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.
5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.

Prerequisites: Must be placed into college level reading (or take GUST 0342 as a co-requisite) and be placed into college level writing (or take ENGL 0310/0349 as a co-requisite)

Course Dates: Monday, August 24, 2015- Saturday, December 5, 2015.

Meeting Days: Fully Online/DE. Each learning week starts on Monday and ends on Friday.

Course Requirements/Grading Criteria

1. Complete all required reading assignments prior to each week's start
2. Three exams (each exam is worth 100 points)
3. Reflection Discussions (100 points total)
4. Class Activities (250 points total)
5. One Korgen Reader Reaction Paper
6. Complete one major paper writing assignment (100 points)
7. Complete one presentation over final paper assignment (100 points)
8. Abstract (25 points)
9. Reference List (25 points)
10. Rough Draft (50 points)

This tallies up to a total of 1000 possible points during the 16 week course.

Note: Extra Credit is given at the discretion of the instructor. It is not mandatory and not doing extra credit assignments will not negatively affect your grade. It can only enhance it.

The final letter grade for the course will be calculated using the HCCS grading scale.

90-100= A, 80-89= B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D and below 60=F.

A = 100 – 90;.....4 points per semester hour

B = 89 – 80:3 points per semester hour

C = 79 – 70:2 points per semester hour

D = 69 – 60:1 point per semester hour

59 and below = F.....0 points per semester hour

IP (In Progress)0 points per semester hour

W(Withdrawn).....0 points per semester hour

I (Incomplete)..... 0 points per semester hour

AUD (Audit) 0 points per semester hour

IP (In Progress) is given only in certain developmental courses. The student must re-enroll to receive credit. COM (Completed) is given in non-credit and continuing education courses. To compute grade point average (GPA), divide the total grade points by the total number of semester hours attempted. The grades “IP,” “COM” and “I” do not affect GPA.

Instructional Method: This is a DE class. That means that we will never meet, however, everything you need for this course—except the textbooks, which must be purchased—is in **Eagle Online (EO2)**. We will be using a computerized Teaching/Learning platform called **Eagle Online** (or **EO2** for short) for our learning experience. I recommend that you check daily your **EO** e-mail so that you can keep up with any new information from me. **Your User Name is your Student ID, your “W” number; the default Password is “distance.”**

You will need continuous, reliable Internet access, Firefox®, and Adobe Acrobat Reader® in order to do well in this course. If you do not have this access consistently, please consider a face to face class. All student course material is in **EO2**.

Helpful Hints: Do not complete any assignments in the text box provided by Eagle Online. Instead, work on your assignments in a word processing program (such as Microsoft Word, Notepad, or Open Office) so that you can save them regularly as you work. Once the assignment is complete, you can save it a final time and then cut and paste it into the text box provided.

Weekly Activities/Discussions: This class will have at least two assignments each week to determine your knowledge of topic matter at hand. It is vitally important that you stay on top of the readings so that you will be able to complete each assignment. Some of these assignments will be simple quizzes while others may be a short writing over a special topic from that week. Each assignment is worth 10-20 points apiece.

Most weeks, we will have a peer discussion where I post a video and/or a question related to that week's readings. It will be your responsibility to post your initial posting as well as to meaningfully respond to at least 2 of your peers in order to receive access to the maximum points possible for each discussion.

Assignments and discussion prompts will be posted on Sunday evenings and the corresponding due dates will be noted on the assignment in Eagle Online. Please be mindful of those as assignments in the same week can (and usually will) have different due dates.

*****Please note-if you are not completing the weekly assignments you can be dropped from the course. You must complete the first week's course assignments (course contract and welcome assignment) if you want to stay enrolled in the class. You must complete the first two exams on time if you do not want to be dropped from the course. Failure to complete these assignments will result in you being dropped from the class. *****

Reaction Papers: Throughout the semester you will be reading materials in the Korgen reader. For the purpose of the reaction paper assignment, you will pick one of the readings and write a critical essay over it. Your reaction paper should be no more than 3 pages, but no less than 1.5 pages double spaced (typed). This essay should go beyond 'I liked this article' to more along the lines of a critical analysis of the material and a real reaction to what you read. As part of this reflection, you may discuss what you agreed/disagreed with as well. This assignment is worth 50 points. **You will also have the opportunity to do another reaction paper for an EC opportunity**.

Paper Assignments/Presentations (No Plagiarism, No Extensions, and No Makeups)

Each student is to write major one writing assignment. In essence, students will write a brief paper addressing a sociological topic of choice and then present the paper before the class. Examples of topics include, but are not limited to, "What does the media teach us about gender?", "How has the American family changed in the past half century?", "What do people really think about poverty and the poor?" and "How is sociology beneficial to society" to name a few.

This assignment is due on **December 4th, 2015.**

This paper should have a title page, be typed, double-spaced with normal margins and 12-point font. The paper should also have page numbers and be stapled. Papers will be graded on the following standards:

- Use of language and writing;
- Organization of paper and format of essay;
- Spelling, grammar, and punctuation;
- Consistency and use of logic;
- Use of literature;
- Originality of research.

The text portion of your paper should be **between five to six pages in length**. Please remember to cite sources for statements of fact or any statement not attributable to you, wherever necessary. APA is the only accepted citation and formatting method.

While you will not actually do a presentation, you will still need to make a power point or prezi presentation that covers the content of your paper. Your presentation should be in power point or prezi format and present the arguments posed in the paper and display evidence to support them. The presentations should be at most 4 minutes in length. You are allowed to add arguments and facts not found in your paper to your presentation. Make sure you have a reference slide just like you will for your paper as well. Your presentation is due on **December 4th**.

- Reasoning, analysis, logic;
- Innovative, effective arguments;
- Organization/Refutation of opposition arguments;
- Overall persuasiveness;
- Assertions supported and documented.

Exams: You will be required to complete three exams during your tenure in this course. Each exam will cover your assigned readings/videos and discussions from that learning unit. Exams will be given in Eagle Online (EO2) and do not require you going to any campus to have the exam proctored.

Expectations

Additionally, it is your responsibility to *actively engage* in the process of learning and thinking. Learning is not a passive process whereby experts impart knowledge upon you; rather, learning is an active process that requires extensive effort and involvement from both the teacher and the student. **I expect you to focus on truly learning and understanding the material, not simply committing it to memory.** Please note that your education is not simply a means to an end (such as a better career or higher income), but is also an end in and of itself – try to slow down and enjoy the learning process!

Understand that I truly care about your performance in this class. I will always be available to speak with you about your progress in the course as well as how to move forward successfully in this class. However, you will need to be proactive and reach out to me when you believe that there is an issue/concern you would like to address. Please do not wait until the end of the course to address grade concerns etc. as usually that is too late to do anything about it.

As your instructor, it is my responsibility to:

- Facilitate an effective learning environment through discussions, assignments and activities via Eagle Online.
- Describe any special projects or assignments.
- Make adjustments and changes to the course as necessary to best serve the needs of the class.

- Keep an open line of communication.
- Provide the course outline and calendar.
- Provide a detailed grading formula explaining how student grades will be derived.
- Inform students of HCC and classroom policies.

To be successful in this course, it is *your* responsibility to:

- Login to Eagle Online and check HCC email at least once daily.
- Participate meaningfully in all activities, discussions and other assignments before the due date.
- Successfully complete all of the scheduled quizzes before the due date.
- Take responsibility for your own learning.
- Comply with all policies and expectations.
- Ask for assistance when you need it.

Academic Honesty/Integrity

All students enrolled in any HCCS class are expected to be academically honest at all times. Academic dishonesty includes, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating and colluding without permission. If there are any questions, please see the instructor on record, or the HCCS student handbook section on this subject.

Make-up Policy.

Makeups are done at the discretion of the instructor. Please email me as soon as you see an issue/concern about a deadline and we can see what (if anything) can be worked out. Good time management skills are a must in an online class. Again, if an issue arises, please notify me sooner rather than later. Each case will be evaluated on its merit. **Do not wait until the end of the semester to notify the instructor. As soon as an issue arises is best.***

Course Calendar

***Please note that the instructor reserves the right to modify the course calendar and/or syllabus at any point during the course. It is your responsibility to stay up to date on changes within the syllabus. Note: This is where reading the announcements will become essential. ***

Each weeks' assignments (with complete instructions) will be posted within Eagle Online by the Sunday before the learning week starts. If you have questions about the assignments, please email me at the beginning of the learning week-do not wait until the night before (or the day) the assignment is due. Unless specifically stated by the instructor-each week will have at least one assignment.

Week 1: Week of August 24- August 28

Getting to Know You Assignment

Course Contract Assignment

Video Assignment –Why Sociology?

Week 2: Week of August 31- September 4

Reading Assignments:

Chapter 1 (An Introduction to Sociology in the Global Age)

and Chapter 2 (Thinking Sociologically)

Homework Assignments:

The Effects of Globalization

The Social World and You-Thinking Through the Sociological Imagination

Sociological Theory-Understanding Society Through Theory

Week 3: Week of September 7- September 11

Reading Assignment:

Chapter 3 (Researching the Social World)

Homework Assignment:

Study the News Discussion

Ethics in Research

Crafting a Survey

*****Paper Topics Due by noon on September 11th*****

Week 4: Week of September 14- September 18

Reading Assignment:

Chapter 4 (Culture)

Homework Assignments

American Culture

What is Your Culture?

*****Exam One*** Opens on September 14th and due on September 18th**

Week 5: Week of September 21- September 25

Reading Assignment:

Chapter 5 (Socialization and Interaction)

From the Reader: Authentic Identities AND When Friends Become Friends

Homework Assignments

One Agent of Socialization Assignment

How Media Affects Society Assignment

Week 6: Week of September 28- October 2

Reading Assignment:

Chapter 6 (Organizations, Societies and the Global Domain)

from the Reader: Glocommodification: How the Global Consumes the Local-McDonalds In Israel

Homework Assignments

The Global vs. The Local Assignment

Outsourcing-The Wave of the Future Discussion

****Paper Abstract Due by noon on October 2nd****

Week 7: Week of October 5- October 9

Reading Assignment:

Chapter 7 (Deviance and Crime)

from the Reader: Sociology of Terrorism

Homework Assignments

Crime and Punishment in America Assignment

Death Row Video Discussion

Week 8: Week of October 12- October 16

Reading Assignments

Chapter 8 (Social Stratification)

from the Reader: Mass Imprisonment and the Life Course

Homework Assignments

Inequality In America Discussion

*****Exam II open on October 12th and due on October 16th*****

Week 9: Week of October 19- October 23

Chapter 9 (Race and Ethnicity)

from the Reader: A Distorted Nation

AND Race as Class

Homework Assignments

Race in the 21st Century Assignment

The More Things Change Video Assignment

*****Annotated Bibliography Due by noon on October 23*****

Week 10: Week of October 26- October 30

Chapter 10 (Gender and Sexuality)

from the Reader: Multiple Masculinities

Homework Assignment

How Society Shapes Gender Relations

Sex Sells? (The Good, The Bad and the Ugly)

****Reaction Paper One is Due on October 30 by 6pm****

Week 11: Week of November 2- November 6

Reading Assignment:

Chapter 11 (The Family)

AND Chapter 12 (Education)

Homework Assignments

Nature V. Nurture Assignment

How Social Institutions Shape Society Assignment

Education In America Today Discussion

Week 12: Week of November 9- November 13

Reading Assignment:

Chapter 13 (Religion)

from the reader: Social Capital, Too Much of a Good Thing?

Homework Assignments:

Is Religion a Good Thing? Discussion

Outside of Christianity (Religion Through the Sociological Lens)

****Rough Draft Due by noon on November 13th****

Week 13: Week of November 16- November 20

Reading Assignment:

Chapter 14 (Politics and the Economy)

Homework Assignments

Politics in America Discussion

Political Survey Assignment

Week 14: Week of November 23- November 27

Reading Assignment:

Chapter 17 (Social Change)

Homework Assignments

Social Movements and You

*****Exam Three Opened on November 22nd and Due on November 27th*****

Week 15: Week of November 30- December 4

****Final Paper Due by December 4th****

****Final Presentations Due by December 4th****

Week 16: Week of December 7- December 11

FINAL EXAM WEEK

EGLS3: The EGLS3 (Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System) is available for most courses near the end of the term before finals start. (Not all courses are available for this survey.) This brief survey will give invaluable information to your faculty about their teaching. Results are anonymous and will be available to faculty and division chairs a month after the end of the term. Website: <http://www.hccs.edu/district/students/egls3/>

Departmental Contact Information:

Jennifer Graves
Chair, Department of Sociology
jennifer.graves@hccs.edu
713-718-2087

HCCS POLICIES & PROCEDURES

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

The Houston Community College is an open admission, public institution of higher education offering associate degrees, certificates, academic preparation, workforce training, and lifelong learning opportunities that prepare individuals in our diverse communities for life and work in an increasingly international and technological society.

HCC ADA Policy

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. For more information, go to the HCC ADA Website or call Dr. Becky Hauri at (713) 718-7910.

Students who are requesting special testing accommodations must first contact the appropriate (most convenient) DSS office for assistance:

Disability Support Services Offices:

Northeast: 713.718.8420

After student accommodation letters have been approved by the DSS office and submitted to DE Counseling for processing, students will receive an email confirmation informing them of the Instructional Support Specialist assigned to their professor.

HCC Distance Education Policy Statement

All students are responsible for reading and understanding the DE Student Handbook, which contains policies, information about conduct, and other important information. For the DE Student Handbook click on the link below or go to the DE page on the HCC website.

The Distance Education Student Handbook contains policies and procedures unique to the DE student. Students should have reviewed the handbook as part of the mandatory orientation. It is

the student's responsibility to be familiar with the handbook's contents. The handbook contains valuable information, answers, and resources, such as DE contacts, policies and procedures (how to drop, attendance requirements, etc.), student services (ADA, financial aid, degree planning, etc.), course information, testing procedures, technical support, and academic calendars. Refer to the DE Student Handbook by visiting this link: <http://de.hccs.edu/de/de-student-handbook>.

HCC Policy Statement: Meningitis Immunization

Texas Senate Bill 1107 passed in May 2011, requires that new HCC students and former HCC students returning after an absence of at least one fall or spring semester who are under the age of 30 are required to present a physician-signed certificate showing they have been vaccinated against bacterial meningitis. Students must satisfy this requirement prior to enrollment. For more information and a list of exemptions please go to <http://www.hccs.edu/hccs/admissions-registration-center/new-student-general-admissions-steps/submit-meningitis-documentation>.

HCC Policy Statement: Attendance

Students are expected to login to Eagle Online regularly. Students who do not login to Eagle Online by the day of record will be dropped from the course. Instructors also have the authority to drop a student for not logging in regularly and participating.

HCC Policy Statement: Repeating Courses

The State of Texas encourages students to complete college without having to repeat failed classes. To increase student success, students who repeat the same course more than twice, are required to pay extra tuition. The purpose of this extra tuition fee is to encourage students to pass their courses and to graduate. Effective fall 2006, HCC will charge a higher tuition rate to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. If you are considering course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with your instructor/counselor as early as possible about your study habits, reading and writing homework, test taking skills, attendance, course participation, and opportunities for tutoring or other assistance that might be available.

HCC Policy Statement: Withdrawal

If you feel that you cannot complete this course, you will need to withdraw from the course prior to the final date of withdrawal. Before, you withdraw from your course; please take the time to meet with the instructor to discuss why you feel it is necessary to do so. The instructor may be able to provide you with suggestions that would enable you to complete the course. Your success is very important. Beginning in Fall 2007, the Texas Legislature passed a law limiting first time entering freshmen to no more than SIX total course withdrawals throughout their educational career in obtaining a certificate and/or degree. If you plan on withdrawing from your class, you MUST contact a HCC counselor or your professor prior to withdrawing (dropping) the class for approval and this must be done PRIOR to the withdrawal deadline to receive a "W" on your transcript. Final withdrawal deadlines vary each semester and/or depending on class length, please visit the online registration calendars, HCC schedule of classes and catalog, any HCC Registration Office, or any HCC counselor to determine class withdrawal deadlines. Remember to allow a 24-hour response time when communicating via email and/or telephone

with a professor and/or counselor. Do not submit a request to discuss withdrawal options less than a day before the deadline. If you do not withdraw before the deadline, you will receive the grade that you are making in the class as your final grade.

Fall 2015 Final Withdrawal deadlines:

- **October 30th, 2015**

Classes of other duration (mini-term, flex-entry, 8-weeks, etc.) may have different final withdrawal deadlines. Please contact the HCC Registrar's Office at 713.718.8500 to determine mini-term class withdrawal deadlines.

Student Course Reinstatement Policy:

Students have a responsibility to arrange payment for their classes when they register, either through cash, credit card, financial aid, or the installment plan. Faculty members have a responsibility to check their class rolls regularly, especially during the early weeks of a term, and reconcile the official class roll to ensure that no one is attending class whose name does not appear on it. Students who are dropped from their courses for nonpayment of tuition and fees who request reinstatement after the official date of record payment of tuition and fees who request reinstatement after the official date of record (OE Date) can be reinstated by making payment in full and paying an additional \$75 per course reinstatement fee. A student requesting reinstatement should present the registrar with a completed Enrollment Authorization Form with the signature of the instructor, department chair, or dean who should verify that the student has been regularly attending class. Students who are reinstated are responsible for all course policies and procedures, including attendance requirements. A dean may waive the reinstatement fee upon determination that the student was dropped because of a college error. The dean should note the nature of the error in a memo to the registrar with appropriate documentation.

****Instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus during the semester.****

Good luck in the coming weeks!!!