

Syllabus

Introduction to Sociology

Sociology 1301

Spring 2015

Distance Education

Northeast College

Instructor: Dr. Nichole C. Boutte-Heiniluoma

Email: Please use email within the course or if absolutely necessary nikkybh@gmail.com

Office Location: I do not have a physical office, please contact me via email with any issues you are experiencing in the course.

CRN: 41885

Required Text: Introduction to Sociology. George Ritzer. 2012.

Contemporary Readings in Sociology. Kathleen Odell Korgen. 2008.

Course Description: Sociology is the study of human in society. This class is an attempt to introduce students to the different sociological theories as well as to begin developing awareness about the impact of socialization and social change on societies. This class will introduce how variables such as race, sex, gender, religion and geographic region affect human behavior and society. This course is included in the core curriculum of HCCS.

Course Dates: Monday, January 19, 2015- Sunday, May 3, 2015

Meeting Days: Fully Online/DE

Course Goals:

- 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
- 6) To further develop competencies such as
 - a. Comprehending college level texts
 - b. Writing in ways that effectively and persuasively explain one's viewpoints
 - c. Critical thinking

- d. Learning to hear and respect the views and opinions of others
- e. Computer literacy

Departmental Student Learning Objectives

- Identify the principles of social science research
- Evaluate the various aspects of stratification as they effect the world around us
- Evaluate the various aspects of the main social institutions as they effect the world around us
- Apply the major theoretical perspectives in the discipline of sociology

Course Requirements

1. Complete all required reading assignments prior to each class
2. Four exams (each exam is worth 100 points)
3. Class Activities (200)
4. Complete one major paper writing assignment (100 points)
5. Complete one presentation over final paper assignment (100 points)
6. Abstract (25 points)
7. Reference List (25 points)
8. Rough Draft (50 points)
9. Complete two reaction assignments (50 points apiece)

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.

Grading

Class Activities	200 points
Exams	400 points
Two Reaction Papers	100 points
Abstract	25 points
Reference List	25 points
Rough Draft	50 points
<u>Paper/Presentation</u>	<u>200 points</u>
Total	1000 points

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.

Weekly Activities: 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. Each assignment is worth 10-20 points apiece.

Reaction Papers: Throughout the semester you will be reading materials in the Korgen reader. For the purpose of these assignments, you will pick two of the readings and write a critical essay over each. These reaction papers should be no more than 3 pages but no less than 1.5 page double spaced (typed). These essays are to 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. Each of these papers is worth 50 points apiece.

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 **April 17, 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 six to eight 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 presentation that covers the content of your paper. Your presentation should be in power point 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.

- Reasoning, analysis, logic;
- Innovative, effective arguments;

-Organization/Refutation of opposition arguments;

-Overall persuasiveness;

-Assertions supported and documented.

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!

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.

Course Calendar

Week 1:

Getting to Know You

Video Assignment

Week 2:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 1 and Chapter 2

Week 3:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 3 (Researching the Social World)

Week 4:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 4 (Culture) and

*****Exam One*****

Week 5:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 5 (Socialization and Interaction)

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Authentic Identities AND When Friends Become Friends

***Paper Topics Due by noon on ***

Week 6:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 6 (Organizations, Societies and the Global Domain)

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

Week 7:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 7 (Deviance and Crime)

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Bullies Move Beyond the Schoolyard-A Preliminary Look Cyberbullying

Abstract Due

Reaction Paper One is Due on.

Week 8:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 8 (Social Stratification)

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Mass Imprisonment and the Life Course

*****Exam II*****

Week 10:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 9 (Race and Ethnicity)

Reading Assignment from the Reader: A Distorted Nation AND Race as Class

Week 11:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 10 (Gender and Sexuality)

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Multiple Masculinities

Week 12:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 11 (The Family) AND Chapter 12 (Education)

Reaction Paper Two is Due on

Week 13:

*****Exam III*****

Week 14:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 13 (Religion)

Week 15:

Reading Assignment: Chapter 14 (Politics and the Economy) AND Chapter 17 (Social Change)

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Sociology of Terrorism AND Culture Jamming: A Sociological Perspective

Final Exam (TBD)

MAKE UP POLICY

The policy regarding makeup work is quite strict. Generally, there are no make up assignments or late submissions. Good time management skills are a must in an online class. 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 would be best.**

HCC Course Withdrawal Policy

The State of Texas imposes penalties on students who drop courses excessively. Students are limited to no more than SIX total course withdrawals throughout their educational career at a Texas public college or university.

After the withdrawal deadline has passed, you will receive the grade that you would have earned. Zeros averaged in for required coursework not submitted will lower your semester average significantly, most likely resulting in a failing grade of an "F". It is the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the class; however, your professor reserves the right to withdraw you without your request due to excessive absences. If you do not feel comfortable contacting your professor to withdraw, you may contact the department to withdraw.

Spring 2015 Final Withdrawal deadlines:

- **March 24th, 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 Services

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the appropriate HCC Disability Support Service (DSS) Counselor at the beginning of each semester. Faculty is authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office.

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.

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