

## **Syllabus**

Introduction to Sociology

Sociology 1301

Spring 2014

Pinemont Campus Rm 168

Dr. Nichole C. Boutte-Heiniluoma

**Email:** Please use email within the course or if absolutely necessary [nikkybh@gmail.com](mailto: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:** 76461

### **Required Text:**

You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking Like A Sociologist. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Dalton Conley. 2011.

Readings for Sociology. 2005. 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Garth Massey.

**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.

This course is a full internet course, which means that all assignments and exams will be completed via the Eagle Online system.

**Course Dates:** Monday, January 13, 2013- Sunday, May 4, 2013

**Meeting Days:** Tuesday/Thursday 9:30am-11:00am

### **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. Three exams (each exam is worth 100 points)
3. Weekly Quizzes ( worth 10 points apiece)
4. Complete one major paper writing assignment (100 points)
5. Abstract (25 points)
6. Reference List (25 points)
7. Rough Draft (50 points)
8. Complete two reaction assignments (25 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**

Attendance	100 points
In class Activities	150 points
Exams	300 points
Weekly Quizzes	100 points
Two Reaction Papers	50 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 quizzes:** These quizzes are to determine your knowledge of the weekly reading materials in the Conley text. You will have twelve quizzes to complete (two weeks of quizzes can be used as extra credit points as only 10 quizzes are required). The quizzes are to help you prepare for the exam. The points from the quizzes are counted toward your final grade. You will have one hour to complete the quiz each week. You are allowed only one attempt. Please make sure that you have read the required chapters before you complete the quizzes. Each quiz is worth 10 points.

**Reaction Papers:** Throughout the semester you will be reading materials in the edited Massey book (readings from sociology). For the purpose of these assignments, you will pick four 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 25 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 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014**.

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.

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.

### **Course Calendar**

#### **Week 1: January 13-18th**

Getting to Know You

In Class Reading Assignment

#### **Week 2: January 19<sup>th</sup>-25th**

Reading Assignment: Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 (Methods)

Reading Assignment from the Reader: *Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study*

#### **Week 3: January 26<sup>th</sup>-February 1<sup>st</sup>**

Reading Assignment: Culture and Media-Chapter 3

Reading Assignment from the Reader: The Code of the Street

**Week 4: February 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>**

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Boyhood, Organized Sports, and the Construction of Masculinities

Movie Assignment

\*\*\*Paper Topics Due by noon on February 4<sup>th</sup> \*\*\*

**Week 5: February 9<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>**

Reading Assignment: Socialization and the Construction of Reality-Chapter 4

AND Social Control and Deviance-Chapter 6

\*\*Exam One\*\*

**Week 6: February 16<sup>th</sup>-February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Reading Assignment: Stratification-Chapter 7

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America

\*\*Abstract Due\*\*

**Week 7: February 23<sup>rd</sup>-March 1<sup>st</sup>**

Reading Assignment: Gender-Chapter 8

Reading Assignment from the Reader: The Saints and Roughnecks

**Week 8: March 2<sup>nd</sup> - March 8<sup>th</sup>**

Reading Assignment: Race-Chapter 9

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Optional Ethnicities: For Whites only?

AND Love and Race Caught in the Public Eye

\*\*\*Reaction Paper One is Due on March 8<sup>th</sup> by 10pm.\*\*\*

**Week 9: March 9<sup>th</sup>-March 15<sup>th</sup>**

SPRING BREAK: HAVE FUN!!!

**Week 10: March 16<sup>th</sup>-March 22**

In Class Movie and Discussion

**and \*\*\*Exam II\*\*\***

**Week 11: March 23<sup>rd</sup>-March 29<sup>th</sup>**

Reading Assignment: Poverty- Chapter 10

Reading Assignment from the Reader: When Work Disappears

**Week 12: March 30<sup>th</sup>-April 5<sup>th</sup>**

Reading Assignment: Family-Chapter 12

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Domestic Networks

**\*\*Rough Draft Due\*\***

**Week 13: April 6<sup>th</sup>-April 12<sup>th</sup>**

Reading Assignment: Education-Chapter 13

In Class Movie

**Week 14: April 13<sup>th</sup>-April 19<sup>th</sup>**

Reading Assignment: Religion-Chapter 16

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Amish Society

AND Religious Community and American Individualism

**Week 15: April 20<sup>th</sup>-April 26<sup>th</sup>**

Reading Assignment: Collective Action-Chapter 18

Reading Assignment from the Reader: Greenpeace and Political Globalism

**\*\*\*Final Paper Due by April 26<sup>th</sup>\*\*\***

## **Week 16: April 27<sup>th</sup> -May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Reaction Paper Two is due by 10pm on April 30<sup>th</sup>

Presentation Week

## **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.

#### **Fall 2012 Final Withdrawal deadlines:**

- **March 31st, 2014 by 4:30pm.**

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.\*\***