

Portia A. Tinnermon, M.A.

EDUCATION:

**Texas Southern University: M.A., Clinical Sociology
Houston, TX.**

**University of Houston: B.S., Education
Houston, TX.**

EXPERIENCE:

**Sociology Professor
Houston Community College
Present/26 years.**

Adjunct Teaching:

**Lone Star College/ 3years
Texas Southern University/5 years**

Certifications in Learning Management Systems:

Canvas

Blackboard

Desire to Learn

Professional Organizations:

America Sociological Association

Texas Community College Teachers Association

Sociology Discipline Committee, HCC

DUTIES:

I serve on college-wide, system-wide and student association committees. I participate in professional development, attend sociology conferences, develop and contribute to sociology events for the department and I mentor students in sociology. I teach sociology face-to-face, hybrid and distance education classes at Houston Community College which include the following classes:

Soci 1301 – Introduction to Sociology

Soci 2301 – Marriage & Family

Soci 1301 – Social Problems

Soci 2319 – Minority Studies

Soci- 2336 – Criminology

Soci 2340 – Drug Use & Abuse

MY EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

My educational/instructional philosophy is to tap into student's intellectual curiosity by empowering them with knowledge and skills that will provide unlimited choices and possibilities for their future and the contributions they can offer. Humans now live in a diverse, global world in which we are all interconnected to each other through such elements as mass media, travel, natural disasters, terrorism and diseases, etc. Therefore, it is imperative to educate and assist students in realizing their unique, greatest potential so they can make a positive difference in their own lives, their families and for society.

Education is the key to doors opening for power, status, independence and wealth. My role as an educator is to teach students to become "creators" of new ideas. My charge is to enlighten, challenge and

prepare students to develop their intellectual capabilities and to strive for excellence regarding their education and achievement. I teach that no task is too difficult to master and once they taste success, a love of learning will become a lifelong process. I believe that students must be guided to believe, dream and strive to accomplish the incredible, even when critics and adversaries suggest “it can’t be done. In addition, I assist and encourage students to foster sound critical thinking skills and solid values. Lastly, all students have an obligation to use their education, life experiences, knowledge and skills to make society a better place for all humanity.

A powerful quote by Martin Luther King states, “Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I need to be until you are what you need to be. You can never be what you need to be, until I am what I ought to be; that is the interrelated structure of reality”. This quote is the foundation by which all education should be taught. It is the creed by which I live my life and teach my classes.

It is my belief that the classroom of higher education is the location to begin the journey that transforms lives for all who enter.