

Introduction to Sociology, SOC 204
Spring 2018
MWF 9-9:50 (NSH- 209)
TR 8:30:9:50 (NSH 106)
TR 1-2:20 (T 215)

Instructor: Arfa Aflatooni, PhD
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My LBCC Web page:

http://cf.linnbenton.edu/artcom/social_science/aflatoa/web.cfm?pgID=86

Course Description and Objectives

This course introduces you to the discipline of sociology. Sociology is the systematic and scientific study of patterns and processes of social life, focusing on all of its major dimensions - economic, political, religious to mention a few. Sociology studies both individual actors as well as formal and informal organizations that shape our modern social landscape. The main objective of this class is for you to develop a "sociological imagination" or understanding of how our individual lives are connected to larger historical events and trends. I have designed the course to give you practice in developing and sharpening your scholarly abilities.

Course Outcomes

1. Develop a sociological understanding of historical and cultural contexts of social events.
2. Learn core sociological theories and processes.
3. Understand how the scientific method is used to examine our social world.
4. Find applications for sociological theories and concepts in their own lives.
5. Develop a critical perspective of social conditions.

Required Textbook

Essentials of Sociology (6th Edition), by Anthony Giddens, Mitchell Duneier, Richard Appelbaum and Deborah Carr, published by WW Norton. We use this book for both Soc 204 and 205 at LBCC. The first eight chapters are covered in Soc 204 and the remaining chapters in Soc 205.

Tests

There will be three in-class examinations. Your exams **are not cumulative (including your final)**. The three exams count for 50% (roughly 17% for each) of your final grade..There will be 25 multiple choice and five essay questions on each examination (each multiple choice question will be worth two points and each essay answer will be worth ten points), and your tests will cover materials presented in lecture and the textbook. My powerpoint slides are, for the most part, summaries from the chapters in your book.

Assignments

You will also have to do **FIVE** assignments in this class. Assignments are attached to your syllabus. You can also view them on my LBCC web page under Introduction to Sociology, Soc 204. **You have to print out and turn in each assignment on the due date indicated on the syllabus. I do not accept emailed assignments.**

Extra Credit

I allow students who want to raise their test scores to do extra credit work on per weekly (one per week) basis. Go to www.everydaysociologyblog.com and read one of the daily blogs posted. Then, reflect on what you have read and write a page (double spaced and typed) and turn it in every week. If you turn in one extra credit work per week before each exam (three before each test) I will add **TEN** points to your test score. **I do not accept emailed extra credit work.**

Attendance and Participation

You are required to attend the class and participate in class discussions and activities. You will receive 10% for attendance and participation.

Breakdown of Your Final Grade

Exams = 50 % Assignments = 40% Participation and Attendance: 10%

Grading Scale

A= 90-100 %

B= 80-89 %

C= 70-79 %

D= 60-69%

F=below 59 %

Classroom Environment and Policies

- (1) Come to class prepared to discuss, having finished all reading assignments.
- (2) Keep notes of your reactions to works as you read. Be prepared to share these reactions when called upon.
- (3) Pick a passage from the reading assignment you find particularly significant and be prepared to share it with the class.
- (4) Come armed with questions. We learn by thinking critically, questioning, and getting involved.
- (5) You have a responsibility to yourself, to me, and to your colleagues to be active learners. This class is not just about individual participation. It is a shared experience of inquiry. You are learning how to learn and how to be an active thinker.
- (6) **Be cordial towards and respectful of your fellow students and their opinions. Do not talk or giggle when class is in session. Do not bring food and beverages to class and be on time. Please turn off your**

cellular phones while in you are in class. Please turn off all electronics before class unless they are being used for educational purposes (taking down notes, etc.).

(7) Missed exams and assignments will be counted as zeros. If you are going to miss a test you have to have a good reason and arrangements will have to be made with me prior to the test. Acceptable reasons for missing an exam would include health problems, a death in the family, etc. **I do accept late assignments. HOWEVER, late assignments will receive only 1/2 credit. Your last day to turn in your late assignments is March 16. I WILL NOT accept late work during the finals week.**

(8) In a class of this nature, interaction and participation are very important. If you do not follow through with your end of the bargain (i.e., attending class, participating in discussions, keeping up with the reading) it is unlikely our experience together will be completely successful.

(9) Class policy on plagiarism: Students who use someone else's work as their own or copy information or ideas from outside sources without proper citations will receive an "F" for their work. Do Your Own Work!

(10) **Have a pen and pencil and notepad along with your textbook in class at all times. These are the tools of your trade as a student. Do not expect me to provide you with them!**

(11) **One more point of emphasis:** the syllabus for the course should be understood as a contract between us and I reserve the right to dismiss students from the class who do not uphold the provisions of it.

Course Outline

Weeks 1 and 2

Sociology: Theory and Method

Reading: Chapter 1

Week 3

Culture and Society

Readings: Chapter 2

Test # 1: MWF class April 23, TR classes April 24

Week 4

Socialization, the life course, and aging

Week 5

Social Interaction and Everyday Life in the Age of Internet

Reading: Chapter 4

Week 6

Groups, Networks and Organizations

Reading: Chapter 5

Test # 2: MWF class May 14 and TR classes May 15

Week 7

Conformity, Deviance and Crime

Reading: Chapter 6

Week 8

Stratification, Class and Inequality

Reading Chapter 7

Week 9

Global Inequality

Reading: Chapter 8

Final Test: MWF 9-9:50 class: Wednesday June 13 at 10 am

TR 8:30-9:50 class: Tuesday June 12 7:30 am

TR 1-2:20 class: Tuesday June 2:30pm

Course Outline	Homework	Due Date
Sociology: Theory and Method	<u>Assignment 1</u>	4/11-12/18
Reading: Chapter 1		
Culture and Society	<u>Assignment 2</u>	4/24-25//18
Readings: Chapter 2		
Socialization and the Life Course		
Reading: Chapter 3		
Social Interaction and Everyday Life	<u>Assignment 3</u>	5/8-9/18
Reading: Chapter 4		
Groups, Networks, and Organizations		
Reading: Chapter 5		

Conformity, Deviance and Crime		<u>Assignment 4</u>	5/22-23/2018	
Reading: Chapter 6				
Stratification, Class and inequality				
Reading Chapter 7		<u>Assignment 5</u>	5/29-30/2018	
Global Inequality				
Reading: Chapter 8				