

University of Hawaii at Manoa
Soc 100- Intro to Sociology Section 801
Summer 2017- Online

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Course Description- In this course we will learn the basic concepts and characteristics of sociology. Basic sociological concepts are used to develop a better understanding of (1) the individual in society, (2) the organization of society and (3) society as it changes. Topics will include culture, socialization, social interaction, inequalities of race, class and gender, political economy, and sociological theory and method.

Learning Objectives- At the end of the class each student should...

- Understand basic sociological concepts, and be able to use them in making sense of the world and our place in it.
- Develop a "sociological imagination" that links our individual selves to the larger social world.
- Use sociological concepts and characteristics to better understand and deal with problems and issues in society today.
- Use research skills to investigate the world around them.

Textbook-

- Hughes and Kroehler *Sociology: The Core*. 11th edition, McGraw Hill.
- Netflix subscription- Students must obtain a subscription to Netflix' online video service in order to view some films for the course (this is free for one month currently, and only \$7.99/month for the basic service thereafter).
- Also, supplemental readings will be provided on Laulima.

Attendance policy- Because this is an online course, there is no attendance. However, students will be graded on participation in online chat sessions and/or discussion boards, maintaining communication with the instructor and consistent completion of assignments.

Virtual classroom etiquette- Discussions may touch on a number of sensitive topics. While students are encouraged to share their views, all views must be respected. Interruptions of or insults directed at other students will not be tolerated.

Assignments-

1. Weekly Quizzes- Each week, a short multiple-choice quiz will be given. These quizzes are designed to be low-stakes assessments of student comprehension of course readings. Many of the questions on these quizzes will not test rote

memory, but require students to demonstrate their comprehension of course material by applying concepts, themes, and theories to short scenarios or vignettes. No make-up exams will be given. However, under exceptional circumstances (death in the family, serious illness, etc.) a make-up exam may be arranged.

2. Discussion Board Posts- Students will do two discussion board (DB) posts each week, other than those for which a news assignment is due. First, each student will construct an original post commenting on course material from that week. This post should be approximately 250-500 words. This will be due by Wednesday night at 11:55 pm. Later in the week, each student will construct a response post, commenting on another student's original post. This post should be approximately 200-400 words and will be due Friday night at 11:55 pm. These posts are a formal assignment, and will be rigorously evaluated. Thus, formal paper writing conventions should be followed. This means using formal language, clear writing, proper grammar, and proper citations. Furthermore, DB posts should not merely be opinion, but use course material to substantiate comments and claims. Please see writing guidelines below for more explicit instruction.
3. News assignments- Each student will complete two news assignments during the session. For these assignments, students will choose a news story that relates to class material and write a short summary of the article that explains its relevance to the course. News summaries should be about 500 words long. A copy of the story should be attached to the news assignment.
4. Final Paper- Students will complete a 5-7 page final paper researching a sociological topic of their choosing. Topics should be as specific as possible, overly broad topics (e.g. 'gender') are not acceptable. The paper should incorporate at least 10 recent scholarly sources (journal articles, books, etc.). Wikipedia doesn't count.
5. Extra Credit- Students who wish to do so will be given an opportunity to earn extra credit. Extra credit may be earned in two ways. First, students may write a persuasive letter to a public official, company executive, political candidate, etc. on a matter relevant to sociology. For example, a student might choose to write a persuasive letter to his/her Senator making an argument about criminal justice reform. Students who do not wish to earn extra credit this way will be given the opportunity to complete a similar alternative writing assignment that will be determined by the instructor at a later point. Extra credit may add up to 5% to a student's final grade.

Kokua/Students with Disabilities- Any student who requires accommodations because of a disability should contact the Kokua program (956-7511 or 956-7612) and discuss this with me. Any required arrangements will be made.

Grading Summary-

- Weekly Quizzes- 5% each X 5 = 25%
- Participation- 15%
- Discussion Board posts- 25% (Averaged for 7 weeks' grades)
- News assignments- 10% each X 2= 20%
- Final Paper- 15%

Grading Scale-

94 – 100%= A	80-83%= B-	67 – 69%= D+
90-93%= A-	76 – 79%= C+	64-66%= D
86 – 89%= B+	73-75%= C	60-63%= D-
83-85%= B	70-72%= C-	59% or lower= F

Accommodation Requests:

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability is invited to contact me privately. I would be happy to work with you and the KOKUA Program (Office for Students with Disabilities) to ensure reasonable accommodations in my course. KOKUA can be reached at 808-956-7511 or 808-956-7612 (voice/text) and is located in room 013 of the Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services.

Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Plagiarism is a serious violation of the UH-Manoa Student Conduct Code. In it, plagiarism is defined as follows: “Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or "drylabbing," which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms” (University of Hawai'i at Manoa Student Conduct Code (1992: 6).

Furthermore, it is ultimately each student's responsibility to learn about plagiarism and how to avoid it. Ignorance of the rules, saying "I forgot about that" or "I made a mistake," are not considered valid excuses when it comes to plagiarism.

A brief summary of the American Sociological Association's Style Guide, which explains the rules clearly, can be found at: www.buffalostate.edu/library/docs/asa.pdf.

Any other forms of academic dishonesty, such as cheating on exams will not be tolerated. Any student caught engaging in academic dishonesty will be referred to Office of Judicial Affairs.

Course Schedule

Week/Meeting Dates	Reading	Topics/Assignments
Week 1	Chapter 1- Course Intro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sociological perspective • History of sociology • Basic theoretical perspectives • Basics of research • Original DB posts due Wednesday, reaction posts due Friday
Week 2	Chapter 2-Culture and Social Structure Online Reading #1 “Punk Rock Gets Eaten by the Mainstream” (on Laulima	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norms and values • Symbols and language • Ethnocentrism • Cultural relativism • Status, roles and groups • Original DB posts due Wednesday, reaction posts due Friday
Week 3	Chapter 3-Socialization Additional Readings on Laulima	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theories of socialization • The self • Socialization across the life course • Original DB posts due Wednesday, reaction posts due Friday
Week 4	Chapter 4- Social Groups and Formal Organizations Chapter 6-Social Stratification Film excerpt-Full Metal Jacket “Who Rules America? Wealth Income, and Power” by G. William Domhoff Ph.D. (on Laulima)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groupthink and conformity • Bureaucracies • Total institutions • Dimensions of stratification • Class in America • Poverty in the U.S. • Conflict vs. functionalist theories of stratification • Original DB posts due Wednesday, reaction posts due Friday • Pick topics for final project (topics may be changed later during the session).
Week 5	Chapter 7-Inequalities of Race and Ethnicity Film-South Park Episode ‘Goobacks’	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race as a social construction • Prejudice and discrimination • Assimilation and pluralism

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sociological Perspectives on race and ethnicity • Original DB posts due Wednesday, reaction posts due Friday
Week 6	<p>Chapter 8- Gender Inequality</p> <p>Film- Tough Guise</p> <p>“The New Sexism” by Laura Fitzpatrick (on Laulima)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patriarchy • Division of family labor • The “glass ceiling” and disparities in pay • Violence against women • The feminist perspective • News Assignment #1 due Friday
Week 7	<p>Chapter 10- The Family</p> <p>Chapter 11-Religion, Education, and Medicine</p> <p>Film “Frontline: Sick Around America” (in class)</p>	<p>Families, Education, and Medicine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marriage and courtship • Non-traditional families • Child and sexual abuse • Inequality and education • Higher education • The U.S. health care system and alternatives. • Original DB posts due Wednesday, reaction posts due Friday
Week 8	<p>Chapter 9-Political and Economic Power</p> <p>Film- Mickey Mouse Monopoly</p> <p>Additional Readings on Laulima</p>	<p>Political and Economic Power</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of governments • Media and society • Market and mixed economies • Multinational corporations and globalization • The anti-globalization movement • Social movements • Original DB posts due Wednesday, reaction posts due Friday
Week 9	<p>Chapter 5-Deviance and Crime</p> <p>Film-TBD</p> <p>Additional Readings on Laulima</p>	<p>Crime, Deviance, and Social Control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of deviance • Criminological theories • Drugs and crime • White-collar crime • Mass incarceration • Race and the criminal justice system

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime and media • News assignment #2 due Monday
Week 10	Course wrap-up and review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final paper due Friday

General Writing Guidelines-

-All writing will be graded on content, overall writing quality, grammar, and proper format.

-Content-

- Content should be relevant to the paper topic.
- The paper must demonstrate adequate comprehension of subject matter.
- Any arguments should be supported with evidence, not opinion.
- The paper should not merely regurgitate class materials but expand upon them.

-Writing Quality-

- Writing should be simple, clear, and concise.
- Use vocabulary properly.
- Paper must be clearly organized.
- Ideas in the paper should follow a logical progression.

-Grammar and Spelling-

- All words, especially proper nouns, should be spelled correctly.
- All sentences should make sense.
- Proper punctuation must be used throughout the paper.
- Papers must demonstrate proper verb usage, especially in terms of subject/verb agreement.

-Format-

- Papers should be double-spaced, using 12-point, Times New Roman font.
- Papers should be in ASA format. I have provided a link to an accessible online ASA format guide on Lualaba.
- Sources should be properly cited.
- Papers must have a references page.
- All quotes should be attributed properly.
- Be extremely careful not to plagiarize. Self-monitoring for plagiarism is not a passive activity; you must be vigilant, actively examining your writing to make sure you haven't plagiarized.

* I strongly encourage any students who have trouble with or are unsure of their writing to utilize the **writing center**. More information is available on their website at <http://www.english.hawaii.edu/writingcenter/>