

SOCIOLOGY 301
Survey of Urban Sociology

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Course Description & Objective

Studying the sociological features and aspects of metropolis living is especially important because according to a 2007 UN Report, over half of the world's population lives in cities.

The sheer number of people who live in urban dwellings, alone, may justify the need to study how and why people congregate to cities. But our sociological imagination must ask, "why would so many people want to live in these what some conceive of as small spaces?"; "What is the draw to urban living and the institutions that serve urban communities?"; "Is it simply about the job opportunities, commuting convenience, or are there deeper sociological explanations regarding community, creativity, and important social institutions that draw huge numbers of people to urban?"

This course will explore these questions, and help students to define and understand what important sociological concepts help to explain urban dwellings and dense communities - along with the engaging aspect of helping student's figure out "Who's your city?" (sic).

REQUIREMENTS

Florida, Richard. 2010. *The Great Reset: How New Ways of Living and Working Drive Post-Crash Prosperity*. ISBN-10: 0061937193 Publisher: Harper

Florida, Richard. 2009. *Who's Your City?: How the Creative Economy Is Making Where to Live the Most Important Decision of Your Life*. ISBN-10: 0465018092. Publisher: Basic Books

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

SOC 301

The Sociology Department has established three Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) that support the Institutional Learning Objectives. This course meets the following Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

- SLO 1: Students will be able to evaluate sociological theories and use them to analyze and understand aspects of the social world.

In this course we will examine basic theoretical models regarding conflict theory (young people choosing creative careers over lucrative ones), functionalist theory (strollerville, suburbia, etc), and symbolic interaction (urban lofts, hipsters)

- SLO 3: Students will have clear and effective verbal and written communication skills.

In this course you are required to submit weekly written assignments as well as participate in weekly written discussions with your classmates and this will build your communication skills.

STUDENT EVALUATION

Your grade will consist of the following:

10 Discussion Postings	15 points
10 Assignments	30 points
Mid-term	25 points
Final exam	30 points
Total	100
points	

Exams are online, multiple choice/true false, and open-book

Students should regularly check their Hawaii email account for messages.

Course Calendar will be updated two weeks before the start of the term with the full term calendar.

SOME IMPORTANT ITEMS:

- **NO EXTRA CREDIT IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS COURSE UPON REQUEST**
- **NO GRADE NEGOTIATING**

Doing well in this class: In order to do well in this class, it is important that you a) view all the lectures, stay up with the discussion board, and (b) do all required readings

It is critical that you do the readings. Doing the readings will help you to better understand the material focus your discussion postings topics to the relevant areas that we have been covering.