

SOC 100

Introduction to Sociology

Fall 2018

Tuesday/Thursday, 12:00-1:15pm
Crawford 105

Instructor: Prof. Le Lin
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Course Description

This is an introductory course to sociology. We will develop a sociological understanding of the social world through learning the basic concepts and analytical tool-kits of sociology. Learning in this experiential course entails students' exploring and discovering patterns of the social world. We start with sociological imagination and relationship between individuals and society, then we explore a variety of topics, including socialization, inequality, race, class, gender, social movements, economy and organization etc. Students are expected to unpack these topics by reading cases and applying basic sociological research methods (e.g., interviews, observation, comparison etc.)

Student Learning Objectives

In this course, students will: 1) develop familiarity with and deeper interest in concepts and analytical tool-kits of sociology; 2) apply diverse sociological perspectives to understand our social world and complex social issues; 3) develop capacity in challenging prevailing and stereotypical characterization of social issues; 4) reflect on one's role in and relations with the larger society.

Texts:

Newman, David M., *Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life, Brief Edition (Fourth Edition)*. Los Angeles: Pine Forge Press, 2014. [NOTE: this textbook is available in the bookstore; used copies are also available online with a low price.]

Additional REQUIRED reading assignments will be posted on Laulima. Students are expected to read chapter texts and additional readings BEFORE coming to the class.

Course Requirements and Grading

There are five components of course requirements: 1) group activities and class participation; 2) quizzes; 3) individual assignments; 4) media assignments; 5) final paper.

1) Group activities and class participation: the class will be divided into groups of ten persons or less. The instructor will prepare a list of the groups and indicate where each group will meet. During group activities, students are expected to participate and report their participation on reporting forms. Participation during lectures and speed discussions are also encouraged.

2) Quizzes: students are expected to complete several in-class quizzes. Students who are called need to submit the quiz in hard copy to the TA by the end of the class. These quizzes are designed to assess students' comprehension of the basic concepts and examples in the readings.

3) Individual assignments: there will be a few take-home assignments that are related to our group activities. These assignments will ask students to apply sociological perspectives to analyzing social issues around us.

4) Media assignments: there will be three media mini-assignments that require finding and discussing news articles relevant to course materials.

5) Take-home final exam (3-5 pages, double-spaced): the final exam asks students to summarize two or three sociological themes we discussed in class, and then apply them to analyzing life experience of yourself, or your family, or your friends/classmates. Empirical data such as interview with a few family members and/or fellow students is encouraged but not required.

Grading Summary

Course grades will be based on the accumulation of points for specific assignments, group activities, and final written exams. Students will know how many points are possible for each assignment or activity. The final grade will be determined by setting standard cutting points for each letter grade and assigning that grade to *all* students who achieved the requisite number of points.

Group activities: 10 points per one activity

Quizzes: 10 points per one quiz (students will be given equal chances to submit quizzes)

Individual assignments: 20 points per one assignment

Media assignments: 20 points per one assignment

Final paper: 30 points

Course Schedule

Week 1

The Sociological Imagination

Aug 21

❖ Introduction

Aug 23

❖ Reading

1) Newman, Chapter 1

2) Mills, C. Wright, "The Promise" from *The Sociological Imagination*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1959. (Laulima)

Week 2

The Sociological Imagination (Continued)

Aug 28

❖ Reading

1) Klinenberg, Eric. 2003. *Heat Wave: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in Chicago* (Laulima)

2) New York Times. 2009. "Are Your Friends Making You Fat?" (Laulima)

❖ Assignments & Activities

1) Individual Assignment # 1 (distributed, due in one week)

2) Film "When the Levee Broke"

Aug 30

❖ Reading

1) Newman, Chapter 2

❖ Assignments & Activities

1) Group Activity: Discussing "When the Levee Broke"

Week 3

Social Construction of Reality

Sep 4

❖ Reading

1) Newman, Chapter 3 (pp. 25-34)

❖ Assignments & Activities

1) Individual Assignment # 1 (due)

2) Group Activity: Discussing Individual Assignment # 1

Sep 6

❖ Reading

1) Newman, Chapter 3 (pp. 35-46)

2) Best, Joel. 2001. "Damned Lies and Statistics" (Laulima)

❖ Assignments & Activities

1) Media Assignment #1 (distributed, due in one week)

Week 4

Culture and Norms

Sep 11

❖ Reading

1) Newman, Chapter 4

❖ Assignments & Activities

1) Group Activity: Social Distance

Sep 13

❖ Reading

1) Weber, Max. "Protestant Ethics and the Spirit of Capitalism" (Laulima)

❖ Assignments & Activities

1) Media Assignment #1 (due)

Week 5

Socialization

Sep 18

❖ Reading

1) Newman, Chapter 5

Sep 20

❖ Reading

Additional readings on Laulima

❖ Assignments & Activities

1) Individual Assignment #2 (distributed, due in one week)

Week 6

The Presentation of Self

Sep 25

❖ Reading

1) Newman, Chapter 6

❖ Assignments & Activities

1) Group Activity: Impression Management

Sep 27

❖ Reading

1) Anderson, Elijah. "The Code of the Street" (Laulima)

❖ Assignments & Activities

1) Individual Assignment #2 (due)

2) Group Activity: Socialization and Culture

Week 7

Intimacy and Families

Oct 2

- ❖ Reading
 - 1) Newman, Chapter 7
- ❖ Assignments & Activities
 - 1) Individual Assignment # 3 (distributed, due this Thursday)

Oct 4

- ❖ Reading
 - Additional readings on Laulima
- ❖ Assignments & Activities
 - 1) Individual Assignment # 3 (due)
 - 2) Group Activity: Discussing Individual Assignment # 3

Week 8 Social Deviance

Oct 9

- ❖ Reading
 - 1) Newman, Chapter 8
- ❖ Assignments & Activities
 - 1) Deviance Survey

Oct 11

- ❖ Reading
 - Additional readings on Laulima
- ❖ Assignments & Activities
 - 1) Group Activity: Deviance Survey

Week 9 Organizations and Occupations

Oct 16

- ❖ Reading
 - 1) Newman, Chapter 9 (pp. 133-144)
- ❖ Assignments & Activities
 - 1) Social Network Class Discussion
 - 2) Group Activity: "Technology and Jobs" (Part I)

Oct 18

- ❖ Reading
 - Additional readings on Laulima
- ❖ Assignments & Activities
 - 2) Group Activity: "Technology and Jobs" (Part II, Presentation)
 - 3) Media Assignment #2 (distributed, due in one week)

Week 10 Inequality and Stratification

Oct 23

- ❖ Reading
 - 1) Newman, Chapter 10
- ❖ Assignments & Activities
 - 1) Film: "Inequality For All" and Class Discussion

Oct 25

- ❖ Reading
 - 1) Stewart (The Atlantic), "The Birth of New American Aristocracy" (Laulima)

❖ Assignments & Activities

- 1) Media Assignment #2 (due) and Class Discussion
- 2) Occupational Prestige Class Discussion

Week 11
Race and Ethnicity

Oct 30

❖ Reading

- 1) Newman, Chapter 11

❖ Assignments & Activities

- 1) Group Activity: Race and Ethnicity

Nov 1

❖ Reading

Additional readings on Laulima

❖ Assignments & Activities

- 1) Individual Assignment # 4 (distributed, due in one week)

Week 12
Sex and Gender

Nov 6

❖ Reading

- 1) Newman, Chapter 12

❖ Assignments & Activities

- 1) Group Activity: Faculty Gender

Nov 8

❖ Assignments & Activities

- 1) Individual Assignment # 4 (due)
- 2) Group Activity: Discussing Individual Assignment # 4

Week 13
Population and Demographic Dynamics

Nov 13

❖ Reading

- 1) Newman, Chapter 13

❖ Assignments & Activities

- 1) Demographic Transition Class Discussion

Nov 15

❖ Reading

- 1) New York Times, “And Baby Makes How Many?”

❖ Assignments & Activities

- 1) Film: “Overpopulated” and Class Discussion

Week 14
Social Change and Social Movement

Nov 20

Reading

- 1) Newman, Chapter 14

Assignments & Activities

- 1) Media Assignment #3 (distributed, due in one week)

Nov 22 Thanksgiving, No Class

Week 15
Globalization

Nov 27

❖ Reading

- 1) Newman, Chapter 14 (pp. 240-250)
- 2) Steger, Manfred. 2003. *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press. Read Ch. 1 “Globalization: A Contested Concept.”

❖ Assignments & Activities

- 1) Class Debate: Globalization vs. Anti-Globalization

Nov 29

❖ Reading

- 1) The Atlantic. 2016. “Globalization Doesn’t Make Much Sense as It Used To.”

❖ Assignments & Activities

- 1) Media Assignment #3 (due) and Class Discussion

Week 16
Class Wrap-Up

Kokua Statement

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 (voicetext) in room 013 of the Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services.

Plagiarism

The following definition of plagiarism comes from the UH-Manoa Student Conduct Code: *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 Hawaii at Manoa Student Conduct Code (1992), p. 6