

SOCIOLOGY 300: Principles of Sociological Inquiry

Summer Session I, 2009 (May 26th –July 2nd)
Lecture: MTWRF 12:00-1:15 **Location:** BUSAD D201
Lab: TR 10:45-11:45 **Location:** Saunders 342
CRN#: 96691, **Section#:** 601, **# of Credits:** 4

Instructor: Hiroki Igarashi

Office: Saunders Hall 220

Office hours: By appointments

Email: hirokii@hawaii.edu (Email back to you within 24 hours)

I. Course Overview

Welcome to SOC 300! This course will provide a general introduction to the process of social research. Students will learn how to design and execute scientific social research. A number of basic issues that are central to most social research methods are covered first. Then, students will learn the basics of qualitative and quantitative research methods and engage in actual small research projects to actualize their own research plans.

II. Readings Assignments

Required Text

The Following book is available at UH Bookstore:

Babbie, Earl. 2008. The Practice of Social Research. 12th edition. Wadsworth Publication

III. Course Requirements

Method of Evaluation

1. Assignments	20 pts
2. Short Quizzes	30 pts
3. Research Paper	15 pts
4. Attendance	5 pts
5. Midterm Exam	15 pts
6. Final Exam	15 pts
Total (1-6):	100 points

Below are the details of the course requirements:

Assignments:

Throughout the session, students will be required to complete four assignments in total. The instructions will be given in the lab sessions. The assignments are designed to help students understand concepts and research methods (20% of final grade).

Short Quizzes:

Short quizzes will be administered at the beginning of each class to test if students have completed assigned readings. Questions are made in the form of multiple choice and/or true or false questions. Students are expected to understand at least the core concepts introduced in the assigned readings before the class (30% of final grade).

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory and will be formally tracked. Only illnesses documented and excused by a nurse or physician will be excused. Being late twice or leaving early twice or both is equivalent to one absent. If you miss class more than five times, you will automatically receive F. Should you plan to be absent or late, please let me know beforehand or after class with necessary documentation (5 % of final grade).

Research Paper

All students will be required to write an 8-10 page research paper on a topic of their own choice. For the paper, students will select a topic, review the research literature in the area, set hypotheses based on the extant literature, and test those hypotheses using General Social Survey data (GSS). Guidelines for the research paper will be distributed at the last half of the session (15% of final grade).

Midterm Exam

The midterm exam will cover the first half of the materials presented in the readings, lectures, and labs. A review session will be held before the exam (15% of final grade).

Final Exam

The final exam will cover the last half of the materials presented in the readings, lectures, and labs. A review session will be held before the exam (15% of final grade).

iv. Rules

The use of following items is not allowed in class in order to enhance the quality of your learning: 1) cell phone, 2) laptop computer, 3) other electric devices, such as iPod. Exception might given by the instructor, based on students' personal circumstances. The

use of those devices without the instructor's permission will affect students' attendance status on that day.

VI. Final Grades

Criteria

100..... A+	80<..... B-	63<..... D
95 <.....A	77<..... C+	60<..... D-
90<..... A-	73<..... C	60> F
87<..... B+	70<..... C-	
83<..... B	67<..... D+	

VII. Class Calendar and Assignments				
	Class	Lab	Assignment	Due
Week 1	An Introduction to Inquiry			
May 26	Introduction to course	No Class		
May 27	Human Inquiry (Chapter 1)		Read Chap 1	
May 28	Theory & Causation I (Chapter 2)	1. Causality	Read Chap 2	
May 29	Theory & Causation II (Chapter 2)			
Week 2	The Structuring of Inquiry: Quantitative and Qualitative			
June 1	Ethics in Social Research (Chapter 3)		Read Chap 3	Assignment 1
June 2	Research Designs (Chapter 4)	2. Getting started	Read Chap 4	
June 3	Measurement Basics (Chapter 5)		Read Chap 5	
June 4	Indexes & Scales (Chapter 6)	3. Operationalization	Read Chap 6	
June 5	Sampling I (Chapter 7)		Read Chap 7	
Week 3	Qualitative Research			
June 8	Survey Research I (Chapter 9)		Read Chap 9	Assignment 2
June 9	Survey Research II (Chapter 9)	4. Survey Research		
June 10	Qualitative Field Research I (Chapter 10)		Read Chap 10	
June 11	Qualitative Data Analysis (Chapter 13)	5. Intro to Statistics	Read Chap 13	
June 12	Midterm Review			

Week 4	Quantitative Research: Statistical Approach			
June 15	Midterm			
June 16	Quantitative Data Analysis (Chapter 14)	6. Statistics	Read Chap 14	Assignment 3
June 17	Statistical Analysis (Chapter 16)		Read Chap 16	
June 18	Statistical Analysis (Chapter 16)	7. Statistics		
June 19	Reading and Writing Social Research (Chapter 17)		Read Chap 17	
Week 5	Modes of Observation: Quantitative and Qualitative			
June 22	Experiments (Chapter 8)		Read Chap 8	Assignment 4
June 23	Unobtrusive Research (Chapter 11)	8. Statistics	Read Chap 11	
June 24	Unobtrusive Research (Chapter 11)			
June 25	Evaluation Research (Chapter 12)	9. Statistics	Read Chap 12	
June 26	TBA			
Week 6	Wrapping Up			
June 29	Presentation			Research Paper
June 30	Presentation	10. Statistics		
July 1	Review			
July 2	Final Exam			

KOKUA Material

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

Plagiarism Material

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 Hawai'i at Manoa Student Conduct Code (1992), p. 6

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.

Notice regarding syllabus on Web

Students: Please be advised that this syllabus is provided for informational purposes only. YOU SHOULD NOT PURCHASE ANY BOOKS OR MATERIALS ON THE BASIS OF THIS SYLLABUS AS IT MAY CHANGE PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS. Please wait until the first day of instruction at which time you will be given the final version of the syllabus.