Introduction to Sociology K101 Spring 2016 Room D109 Tuesday/Thursday 1:00pm-2:15pm Instructor Joseph Strazzo jstrazzo@trcc.commnet.edu Telephone 860-772-7872 Office hours: as needed

Welcome to Sociology K101! Please keep this syllabus and use it throughout the semester.

This comprehensive course provides an up-to-date presentation of the essentials of sociological study. Students will learn a wide range of classical and contemporary perspectives which will encourage links between theories and current research. With the addition of numerous net links, thoughtful exercises and examples, and review quizzes--this course will help students develop a sociological imagination. This is an ideal environment in which to examine ourselves, study our own society, as well as study our neighbors.

Topics covered will examine the sociological perspectives, sociological research, cultural debates, the process of socialization, groups and organizations, crime and deviance, stratification, inequality and discrimination that effects ageism and gender, race and ethnicity, issues involving the economy, different forms of government, marriage, religion, health and environment safety, urbanization, and social movements. This course is an excellent resource for any age student pursuing aspects of this study or the non-academic hobbyists and life-long learners.

The objective of the course is somewhat simple! It is my intention and goal to help you become a trained observer and apply key sociological components in your everyday life. The material, lectures, and discusses are intended to better yourself, think critically, and to separate fact from fiction.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS.

Textbook: The Essentials of Sociology 8th Edition. Margaret Andersen, Howard Taylor, and Kim Logio

LECTURES: Lectures are <u>not</u> simply summaries of text materials, but are comprised of selected topics discussed in detail, including materials not in the text. If the Professor does not cover a particular concept from the text in class, students may ask for such discussions, but this will be the responsibility of students. The text should be a point of departure for class lectures, discussions, as well as a background resource.

TRCC EMAIL: A student TRCC email account is required. I will only use students' TRCC email addresses for communications between me and individual students or the class. Students are responsible for receiving and knowing all individual and class communications through their TRCC student email accounts.

BLACKBOARD: The syllabus, documents, study guides, power point files, and students' scores are posted to Blackboard. All scores are tentative and subject to final revisions when final grade determinations are made at the end of the semester.

Attendance: This course is based on teaching, learning and communicating. If you miss more than **<u>6 hours</u>** of classes, regardless of the nature of the absences, you risk failure. If you miss class, you are responsible for obtaining from a classmate information on the lecture. Please let me know if you have any problems which cause an extended absence. By the end of the week, consider introducing yourself to two classmates, ask for their names, e-mail addresses, or telephone numbers. At the beginning of each class there is a sign-in sheet, If your name is not one the sign-in sheet, you will be marked as absent. Punctuality is imperative. Important information is often discussed at the beginning of class and shows respect for fellow learners.

Grading

Attendance and Class Participation 25% Quizzes 25% Writing Assignments 25% Research Project 25%

Classroom Civility

We are here to learn from one another. Sociology is not just a social concept; it can be very personal. As we explore sociology throughout this course, please be mindful of your peers' different and intersecting race, gender, background and experiences in relation to your own.

If you disagree with another student/instructor there is a way to do it and a way not to! First: listen carefully. Second: think critically. Thirdly: respond respectfully.

Cell phone conversations and text messaging during class will result in an initial brief private and respectful discussion. Should it continue, I will simply not allow you to return to class unless you speak to the department chairperson first. I understand that we have lives outside of class and emergencies do happen. Should this be the case please step quietly into the hallway or into empty classroom.

Learning Needs

If you have difficulty with the course material, please see me during office hours or call me for an appointment. I am happy to clarify any questions you may have. *Utilize office hours!* If you have special needs (such as a learning disability, physical condition, etc.) and require accommodations to enhance your participation in the class, please contact the Learning Specialist or Student Development Office. In order to provide accommodations, I must receive documentation pertaining to your needs.

Withdrawal

If you choose to withdraw from the course, please notify the instructor via e-mail or telephone. Make sure you contact the Registration Office to complete the official procedures.

Resources

The Writing Center provides several services, including individual conferences to work on a course paper that you are writing. Writing instructors are all experienced writing instructors and students. They can help you develop ideas for the paper and organize them effectively. They can also direct you to resources that help you with mechanical problems.

Scheduled of Assigned Readings and Discussions Topics.

Please note that this is an approximate schedule as class discusses and depth of material may require addition time.

Week 1: Introduction to Sociology

Week 2: Developing a Sociological Perspective

Week 3: Culture and Media

Week 4 Sociological Research

Week 5: Socialization and the Life Cycle

Week 6: Social Interaction

Week 7 Groups and Organizations

Week 8: Deviance and Crime

Week 9: Global Stratification

Week 10: Race and Ethnicity

Week 11: Gender

Week 12:Sexuality

Week 13: Families and Religion

Week 14: Education and Healthcare

Week 15: Economy and Politics: Mass Media and Education

Week 16: Environment, Population and Social Change.

Note:

No Classes on February $12^{th} \mbox{ and February } 15^{th}$

Spring Break March 19th thur March 27th