

## PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY (SOC 101)

SPRING 2007

MONDAYS 12:30-3:15pm

Instructor: Chantal Krcmar

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**Course Overview:** Introduction to the perspective, concepts and methods of the sociologist as they apply to the understanding of various social institutions, processes and problems.

**Course Objective:** Students will be able to define, describe, and apply fundamental sociological concepts and investigatory methods.

### EVALUATION AND GRADING:

1. **Class participation= 33.3%.** This grade depends on your presence in class, occasional pop quizzes and in-class assignments that you complete. You learn best if you take an active part in your education! This is an interactive class. I do not merely stand up in front of class and lecture. You will be required to participate in discussions, games and exercises. **If you miss an in-class assignment, you may not make it up unless you have an excused absence.** Please take note that **the in-class assignments are not all announced beforehand**, nor are they all on the syllabus.

2. **Paper= 33.3%** You will have one paper due that is approximately five pages long. This paper will require research and sociological analysis. Guidelines will be given to you.

3. **Exams= 33.3%.** There will be two in-class exams this semester. These exams will consist of multiple choice questions and/or short answers based on lectures, discussions, films and articles. The exams are not cumulative!

**NOTE:** You have the option of doing a service learning project in lieu of taking exam #2. This project includes performing 6 hours of community service and writing a paper about the experience. Details to follow!

### IMPORTANT MISCELLANEOUS:

1. This syllabus is to act as a rough guide for the semester; it is not set in stone. The dates may shift a bit, or I may change some of the articles we read or the assignments we do. Each group of students moves at a different pace and gets fascinated by certain topics. I want to honor this particular group's dynamic. **If you are the type of student that gets frustrated by syllabus changes, please do not take this class.** Having fun with this class requires flexibility!

2. **If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting class notes, articles, and any assignments I give during class from a fellow student.** I will not re-teach a class to you!

3. **Excused absences:** Only a signed doctor's note (for you, your child or an elderly or disabled person for whom you are responsible) or proof of family emergency or religious commitment will be acceptable. **Those are the only reasons you may reschedule an exam or turn in an assignment late. Otherwise, I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE WORK. It is unfair to other students who have worked hard to complete assignments on time. If you have a valid reason to turn in an assignment late or take an exam at a different time, you MUST TALK TO ME BEFORE THE DUE DATE.**

4. If you require certain accommodations for test-taking, please see me before the exam.

5. There will be extra credit opportunities during the course of the semester.

### Attendance

In addition to knowing your attendance practices from in-class assignments that you complete, I will also take attendance every class period. As you know from the syllabus, attendance figures prominently in your final class grade.

## Course Evaluation

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Equivalent</u>		<u>Quality Points</u>
A	94-	100	4.0
A-	90-	93	3.7
B+	87-	89	3.3
B	83-	86	3.0
B-	80-	82	2.7
C+	77-	79	2.3
C	73-	76	2.0
C-	70-	72	1.7
D+	67-	69	1.3
D	63-	66	1.0
D-	60-62		0.7
F			0.0

### Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is essential to a useful education. Failure to act with academic integrity severely limits a person's ability to succeed in the classroom and beyond. Furthermore, academic dishonesty erodes the legitimacy of every degree awarded by the College. In this class and in the course of your academic career, present only your own best work; **clearly document the sources of the material you use from others**; and act at all times with honor. **If you ever present someone else's work as your own** (This comes in the form of cheating on assignments or exams and/or plagiarizing when writing essays and papers.), you will **automatically fail** that particular assignment.

### College Withdrawal Policy

Students may withdraw, in writing at the Registrar's Office, for any reason until the end of the 10th week of classes. From the 11th week through the end of the 13th week, a student may withdraw with the signature of the instructor or advisor.

### Disabilities Statement

In addition to contacting me, if you have a disability which may affect your work in this course, please contact Chris Scarborough (892-5751) if you have a learning disability or ADD. Please contact Judy Hilburger (892-5744) or Matt Liscum (383-5240) if you have a physical, visual, hearing, or psychiatric disability.

### Cellular Phones and Beepers

Students are notified that cellular phones and beepers are allowed in class or in the Learning Resource Center **only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode**. Vibrating mode is not allowed, as it can sometimes be heard! **Under no circumstances are you to answer your phone or text message in class. If I see you answering your phone or text messaging, I will take your phone til the end of class.**

When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

**REQUIRED TEXT:** Ferguson, Mapping the Social Landscape; (I will give you all additional readings that you need for class.)

### **CLASS SCHEDULE**

**1/22: UNDERSTANDING SOCIOLOGY/THE SOCIOLOGICAL IMAGINATION:** Class introduction; reading due: Ferguson 1-3; in-class essay on abortion

**1/29: SOME OF THE MAJOR PLAYERS/THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES:** Marx, Durkheim, Weber/ Functionalism, Conflict, Symbolic Interaction, Feminist; Ferguson 41 & 44

**2/5: SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH:** readings due: *Counting the Casualties, Tea Room Trade*; Ferguson 4-6; in-class research project

**2/12: CULTURE:** readings due: Ferguson 7-9; **SOCIALIZATION:** Cooley, Mead, Goffman; readings due: *Baby X*; Ferguson 11, 13, 14

**2/19: NO CLASSES**

**2/26: SOCIAL INTERACTION AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE:** readings due: Ferguson 15-17; cousins game; essays on role strain or role conflict; **GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS:** readings due: Ferguson 18; bureaucracy game

**3/5: STRATIFICATION:** readings due: Ferguson 23, 24, 26; *Ever Higher Society, Ever Harder to Ascend*; TANF, budget game, unequal resources game

**3/12: Exam #1**

**3/19: NO CLASSES (SPRING BREAK)**

**3/26: RACE AND ETHNICITY:** readings due: Ferguson, 25, 31, 32; *Invisible White Privilege*; film: *The Angry Eye*

**4/2: GENDER:** readings due: Ferguson, 12, 27, 30; discussions on gender and education, and on eating disorders; in-class exercise: intersections of race, class, gender, sexual orientation; **Paper due**

**4/9: DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL:** readings due: Ferguson, 19, 20, 22; assignment due: Report to class on deviant experiment and submit write-up on what you did; film: *Hotel Rwanda*

**4/16: Paper conferences**

**4/23: FAMILY:** readings due: Ferguson: 54, 55; discussions on same-sex marriage and domestic violence; **Paper revisions due**

**4/30: MEDIA:** readings due: Ferguson, 40; *Does Media Have a Liberal Bias?*; film: *Outfoxed*

**5/7: Exam #2 or Service Learning paper due!**