

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Behavioral and Social Sciences Division

Sociology K101

Fall 2010 (8/26 to 12/20)

Prof. Babar

Have a question for the Professor?

>>>>>[CLICK HERE](#)<<<<<

NOTE: Classes are held online. Lectures and discussion questions will be posted by Monday of each week. You are required to read the lectures and post your responses at least twice a week (Four POSTS in Total>>>>as outlined below.) Discussion Board is a very big part of this course, as engaging with other students is equally, if not more, important than the mere reading of the Text. You will note each Discussion Board is calculated weekly and factored in your OVERALL FINAL GRADE. See *GUIDELINES to observe for Discussion Board* below for details.

TEXT:

Schaefer, Richard T. (2009). Sociology: A Brief Introduction. (8th Ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Co.

DESCRIPTION:

This is an introductory course of the major principles and methods of sociology emphasizing methods, basic concepts, terminology, and perspectives used by sociologists in analysis of social relationships. Sociological analysis will focus on the concept of culture; the individual as a social product; social groups, and basic social institutions such as the American government, family, education, religion, and the economy.

Introductory Sociology provides perspectives and information useful in understanding all societies. The major theories (functionalism, conflict, and symbolic interactionism) and concepts provide the foundation upon which the remaining material rests. Learning how sociologists do research provides the tools for understanding the production of knowledge and for

evaluating the validity of sociological assertions. Familiarity with systematic theorizing and conceptual development, along with some comprehension of the nature of the scientific method as it is applied in sociology, enhances critical reasoning. To promote a more complete understanding of human social life, both in its inherent constraints and in the opportunities it provides, the nature and reality of culture and social structure are explored. The study of socialization provides perspectives on how one becomes a member of society. Exploring social interaction adds insight into the formation of the social self and the salience of group identities and norms. Ending this first section with a discussion of social control highlights the forces of stability and change in society. The course then progresses to considerations of social stratification and inequality. The nature of privilege and oppression are discussed and considered in the specific contexts of race, ethnicity, gender, and age. The focus then shifts to social institutions. The essential work of society is accomplished via its major institutions: family, education, health care, economy and work, religion, and politics. Applying theoretical perspectives to the form and function of these institutions enhances an understanding of how different social structures provide varying constraints and opportunities to their inhabitants. Finally, considering large-scale forces for change provides a platform to comprehend where human societies have been, are now, and might be headed.

By the Term's End, this course will have provided students with multiple perspectives on issues related to human behavior and understand human behavior within the context of social and cultural factors. The students will be introduced to conceptual framework as a way to understand how these factors of human behavior work in a social environment.

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

- To introduce students to the sociological perspective which would enable them to develop an awareness of how social forces external to individuals can shape human behavior;

- To communicate a deeper, broader understanding of the social world and the place of individuals in it;
- To acquaint you with the basic concepts and terminologies used in sociology;
- To introduce you to important elements of sociological research and how sociologists arrive at conclusions;
- To offer you a more thorough and informed perspective of the social world and to help you interpret local, national and global events in more comprehensive manners;
- To help you see, understand and appreciate your own personal lives and the lives of others in new, enriched and refreshing ways.

LEARNING/INSTRUCTIONAL OUTCOMES:

After you successfully complete this course, you should be able to:

- Explain the main concerns and the significance of the field of sociology;
- Distinguish between sociology and other social sciences;
- Identify classical theorists and founders of sociology
- Identify major theoretical orientations within the field of sociology
- Identify at least three prominent contemporary sociologists
- Know and identify major steps in scientific social research and analysis
- Explain major concepts and terminology used in sociological analysis and research
- Explain at least some aspects of your own life sociologically.

GRADE	QUALITY POINT VALUE	APPROXIMATE NUMERICAL EQUIVALENT
A	4.0	95 - 100
A-	3.7	90 - 94
B+	3.3	87 - 89
B	3.0	83 - 86
B-	2.7	80 - 82
C+	2.3	77 - 79
C	2.0	73 - 76
C-	1.7	70 - 72
D+	1.3	67 - 69
D	1.0	63 - 66
D-	0.7	60 - 62

F	0.0	Below 60
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ASSESSMENT:

Group discussions

Quizzes and tests

Written essays

Research paper(s) and/or research project(s)

COMMON STRATEGIES: Lots of reading, talking, and writing.

EVALUATION: NOTE: GIVEN THE PROGRESS OF THE COURSE, THIS MAY CHANGE.

Two Exams (Midterm and Final Exam): 40%

Discussion Board: 30%

Two Essays (2 pages): 30%

Total: 100%

PLAGIARISM: Plagiarism is the intentional copying of another's words and/or ideas without giving appropriate credit to the original source. Plagiarism is absolutely unacceptable. Any student caught turning in a plagiarized paper will receive an F for the course. I am absolutely serious about this; I will not tolerate plagiarism.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Students with physical disabilities who may require accommodations are encouraged to contact the College Health Office. Students with learning disabilities are encouraged to contact the Office for Students with Learning Disabilities. After disclosing, students are urged to discuss the needs with individual instructors. This should be done at the beginning of each semester. Instructors, in conjunction with the appropriate college officials, will provide assistance and/or accommodations only to those

students who have completed this process.

ATTENDANCE: It is crucial that you attend class. Much of what we will be doing in this class simply cannot be made up. You must be here (online). College policy allows any instructor to issue, for academic reasons, an N grade (no credit) if a student had more absences per semester than the number of time the class meets per week. I reserve the right to issue an N to students who miss more than four classes. I will do this for students who stop attending at the beginning of the semester, from whom I have seen no work (i.e., papers and/or exams), but do not officially withdraw. Students who cease to attend class, but do not formally withdraw, will get an F, this includes not posting to the Discussion Board for online courses. For absences due to extenuating circumstances, it is your responsibility to contact me. Car troubles, colds and such, and work schedules are not extenuating circumstances.

MAKE-UP POLICY: I will mark late papers down one letter grade for each class period late (i.e. weekly—an A becomes a B, and so on) unless you and I come to a different agreement prior to the due date (i.e., extension). Response papers (Weekly Assignments) may not be made up.

INCOMPLETE: I will grant an incomplete only when a student has already completed the majority of the class work and is unable to finish the course during the regular semester because of some unusual and extraordinary event or other personal circumstance. I will also grant an incomplete if a student misses the

final exam, but is passing the course otherwise.

Tentative Course Outline:

What follows is a tentative schedule for the semester. I have included dates of when I expect papers will be due. This may change, given our progress in class.

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Part I.

WEEK 1>>>Thurs., Aug.

26>>>INTRODUCTIONS>>>>Chapter 1

Understanding Sociology + Chapter 2 Sociological Research

WEEK 2>>>Sunday, Sept. 5>>>Chapter 2

Sociological Research, Chapter 3 Culture (College Closed for Labor Day, Sept. 6th)

WEEK 3>>>Sunday, Sept. 12>>>Chapter 4

Socialization and the Life Course

WEEK 4>>>Sunday, Sept. 19>>>Chapter 6 *The*

Mass Media (Essay 1 DUE Sunday, Sept. 19th)

WEEK 5>>>Sunday, Sept. 26>>>Chapter 5 *Social*

Interaction, Groups and Social Structure

Part II.

WEEK 6>>>Sunday, Oct. 3>>>Chapter 7 *Deviance*

and Social Control

WEEK 7>>> Sunday, Oct. 10>>> Chapter 8

Stratification and Social Mobility in the United States)

MIDTERM

WEEK 8>>> Sunday, Oct. 17>>>Chapter 9 *Global*

Inequality & Chapter 10 *Racial and Ethnic Inequality*

(Exam 1 DUE Sunday, Oct. 17th)

WEEK 9>>>Sunday, Oct. 24>>>Chapter 11

Stratification by Gender

Part III.

WEEK 10>>>Sunday, Oct. 31>>>Chapter 12 *The*

Family and Intimate Relationships

WEEK 11>>>Sunday, Nov. 7>>>>Chapter 13

Education and Religion

WEEK 12>>>Sunday, Nov. 14>>> Chapter 14

Government and the Economy (Essay 2 DUE Sunday,

Nov. 14th)

WEEK 13>>>Sunday, Nov. 21>>> **WINTER**

BREAK>>>>>>Nov. 25th -28th <<<<<<<<<

NOTE: WINTER BREAK—Discussion Board will

remain OPEN

WEEK 14>>>Sunday, Nov. 28>>>Chapter 15

Health, Medicine and the Environment

WEEK 15>>>Sunday, Dec. 5>>>Chapter 16 *Social*

Change in the Global Community

WEEK 16>>>Sunday, Dec. 12>>>FINALS

WEEK>>>>>> Dec 12th >>>FINAL

DUE<<<<<<<<