Sociology 1: Introduction to Sociology

Instructional Team
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Office Hours: Tuesday 4-5 or by appointment

Class location and times
DBH 1600
Tuesday and Thursday
1:00pm – 3:50pm

Course Description:
This course is designed to give students a broad introduction to the discipline of Sociology. Sociology encompasses a wide range of theoretical and methodological approaches and examines issues ranging from urban poverty to global warming. The course will encourage students to adopt a sociological orientation to the world they inhabit and will introduce students to key debates and areas of inquiry in the discipline. A sociological orientation includes understanding how people’s experiences, perspectives, and outcomes are influenced by a variety of factors including, but not limited to, race, gender, and geographies. A sociological orientation explores the role of institutions such as education, media, and healthcare in shaping social life. Sociologists document the trends and patterns observed in everyday life and attempt to make sense of how these trends and patterns shape the world and our understanding of the world.

Course Objectives:
Through lectures, discussion, course assignments and activities, students will be able to:
- identify key sociological theories and concepts;
- identify key areas of interest in sociological research;
- understand the types of questions sociologists ask;
- and gain familiarity with the research methods sociologists use.

Course Requirements & Grading
Students are expected to attend class lectures, come to class having read or listened to the materials assigned for the day, complete assignments and participate in class discussion and group work. Student grades will be based on weekly homework assignments, in-class participation, a project, and a final exam.

Participation 15%
The instructional team will gauge participation through various in-class activities.

Weekly Homework 40%
Homework will consist of multiple-choice questions based on information from the textbook and lectures. These will be based largely on the reading as a mechanism to hold students accountable.
for keeping up with regular reading assignments. Homework will be posted on Thursday after class and is due the following Tuesday before the start of the next class (to be submitted online with a deadline of 1 hour before class starts).

**Final Project: Lesson Plan 20%**
Students will choose one of the topics from the textbook **not** covered in class and create a lesson plan. In the lesson plan the student should identify what is important to know about this topic, how this topic relates to the other ideas and theories we have discussed on class, a lecture outline, and an activity or discussion questions. A more detailed prompt and template will be provided for the students to use.

**Final Exam 25%**
The final exam will be multiple choice and cover all readings, podcasts, lectures and films showed in class. Students will be allowed to bring one single-sided sheet of notes for the exam.

**Texts and Readings:**

Required text:

The majority of readings will be from the text above. Any additional materials (articles, videos, podcasts) will be provided on Canvas.

*This syllabus may be changed at the instructor’s discretion at any time. Information regarding any changes made will be provided to students via email and in-class discussion.*

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

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<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/6</td>
<td>Chapter 1: The Sociological Imagination</td>
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<td>8/8</td>
<td>Chapter 3: Culture and Media</td>
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<td><strong>Homework 1 due Tuesday 8/13 by noon</strong></td>
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<th>Week 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>8/13</td>
<td>Chapter 4: Socialization and the Construction of Reality</td>
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<td>8/15</td>
<td>Chapter 7: Stratification</td>
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<td><strong>Homework 2 due Tuesday 8/20 by noon</strong></td>
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<th>Week 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/20</td>
<td>Chapter 8: Gender</td>
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<td>8/22</td>
<td>Chapter 9: Race</td>
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<td><strong>Homework 3 due Tuesday 8/27 by noon</strong></td>
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### Week 4

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/27</td>
<td>Chapter 10: Poverty</td>
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<td>8/29</td>
<td>Chapter 13: Education</td>
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Homework 4 due Tuesday 9/3 by noon

### Week 5

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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<tr>
<td>9/3</td>
<td>Chapter 14: Capitalism and the Economy</td>
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<td>Lesson Plan Peer Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/5</td>
<td>Chapter 17: Science, the Environment, and Society</td>
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<td>Final Review</td>
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Lesson Plans due Friday 9/6 by 5pm

Final exam Tuesday, 9/10 1pm – 3:50pm

### Class Policies

**Attendance:**

Attendance at lecture is required. Absences as well as excessive lateness will affect your grade. To receive credit for attendance, you will be expected to participate with appropriate comments, responses, questions, and attentiveness.

**Participation:**

As noted above, simply sitting in class is not considered attendance. To attend involves being both “present” and “giving care and attention to” an event/activity. To participate fully, you must be fully present in class (both physically and intellectually) and ready to give your attention and energy to our readings and discussions. In order to do this, **you must come to class prepared, have read and engaged with the course texts and with your materials in hand.** In practical terms, this means that every student will be expected to contribute thoughtful and engaged comments to every class discussion. This also means that distracting and disrespectful conduct, such as sending text messages or sleeping, will negatively affect your participation grade.

**Assignments:**

No late assignments or papers will be accepted. Exceptions will be made for extenuating circumstances such as a medical issue or emergency. However, proper documentation is needed before exceptions will be made. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor or TA to discuss any conflicts before the assignment is due.

**Computers and Cell Phones in Class:**

Research has shown that students retain course material better when taking handwritten notes. Use of laptops and tablets tends to be major distractions for both the user and their surrounding peers. Use of electronics (laptops, tablets, cellphones, etc) is prohibited during class time unless 1) a student has a documented accommodation from the Disabilities Services Center, and/or 2) a
classroom activity requires use of such technologies. There will be a couple short breaks during the class where you can check your email, social media, and get caught up on the latest celebrity gossip.

**Academic Dishonesty:**
Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at the University of California, Irvine. Cheating, forgery, dishonest conduct, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the University's educational, research, and social roles. They devalue the learning experience and its legitimacy not only for the perpetrators but for the entire community. It is essential that all members of the academic community subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and accept individual responsibility for their work. Please familiarize yourself with the UCI Policy on Academic Honesty speak to your DL if you have questions – there are no acceptable excuses for academic dishonesty. Ignorance is not an excuse. [https://aisc.uci.edu/students/academic-integrity/index.php](https://aisc.uci.edu/students/academic-integrity/index.php)

**Disability Accommodation:**
Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Disability Services Center at 949/824-7494 as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. If you feel you may need an accommodation, please also contact me privately to discuss your specific needs.

**Inclusivity of All Students Regardless of Citizenship**
Janet Napolitano, the UC president, publicly supports all students regardless of immigration status. She has also made a commitment to support and protect students and their families. Thus, this course will work to make sure that all students feel included, respected, and safe in order to best heighten each student's academic experience. If you feel that you need any kind of assistance as you are affected by either your immigration status or a loved one (family member, parents, friends, partner) feel free to contact the UCI DREAM Center at [dream@uci.edu](mailto:dream@uci.edu).