

Course Syllabus
Sociology 1
Introductory Sociology
Spring 2017

Instructor: Pat Reilly

Time and Location: Monday and Wednesday 12:00PM-1:50PM; Location Haines 39

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 2:00PM-3:00PM; Haines 218

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The course is an introduction to the foundational concepts and approaches of sociology. To arrive at a basic understanding of the scientific study of the social world, we will engage with both classic and contemporary works within this discipline. Through the lectures, readings, and course discussions, we will develop a toolkit of concepts and theories, which we will apply to discern the causes and effects of various social phenomena (e.g. inequality, social construction, categorization). The main objective of this course is the cultivation of an effective foundation for further studies in sociology or to apply in the mastery of other academic fields or career fields.

GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS:

For this course, there will be four parts of your grade:

Section Attendance and Performance (15%): This portion of your grade comprises your regular attendance and participation in your discussion sections. While the specifics of this component are up to your teaching assistant's standard, I expect that you consistently attend your discussion section and satisfactorily illustrate to your teaching assistant that you are doing the readings. Beyond its effect on your final grade, regularly attending your discussion section and being an active participant will enrich your knowledge and improve your performance on the examinations and the final paper.

Lecture Attendance (10%): During six unannounced lectures throughout the quarter, I will take attendance. This component of your grade will be based upon your attendance. You will receive full credit for being present on five of these sessions. Therefore, you have one free, non-penalized absence. Please use this free absence judiciously. If you must miss class due to an extended emergency or an official college event (e.g. an away game), please contact me.

Midterm Examination (20%): The midterm examination will occur on May 3. It will comprise of a multiple-choice section and long essay questions that cover the readings and lectures. The length of the examination will allow you enough time to complete it within the span of the course period.

Final Examination (25%): The final examination will occur on June 7. It will comprise of a multiple-choice section and long essay questions that cover the readings and lectures. The length of the examination will allow you enough time to complete it within the span of the course period.

Final Paper (30%): The final paper requires you to engage with a particularly sociologically relevant topic or puzzle of your choice to engage with the concepts covered in the readings and lectures. The

purpose of this assignment is show your mastery of the course content. You must engage at least **five** or more of the course readings in the paper in a thoughtful way, and the degree of your understanding and engagement will be a crucial component your grade for the paper. You have some leeway with your topic. However, your topic must be approved by your teaching assistant by Week 7. Following this requirement will be part of your discussion section grade.

GRADING POLICIES:

The letter grade breakdown is as follows:

A: ≥ 92.0

A: 91.9-90.0

B+: 89.9-88.0

B: 87.9-82.0

B-: 81.9-80.0

C+: 79.9-78.0

C: 77.9-72.0

C- 71.9-70.0

D: 69.9-60.0

F: 59.9 and below

Regarding grading questions or disputes, you must consult your teaching assistant before you consult me. Any regrading will involve consideration and re-evaluation of the entire assignment. Though you may have an issue with a certain part of an assignment, it might be cancelled out by overly generous grading of another part. Therefore, you may end up with a lower grade.

COURSE MATERIALS:

The assigned course readings or materials will be available at the course website. The course website is <https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/17S-SOCIOL1-1>. You will find scans of the readings with the corresponding class session. Please read them prior to the session, print them, and bring them to class.

E-MAIL PROTOCOL:

The best way of getting into contact with me is through e-mail. If you have any questions about the course material or readings, do not hesitate to e-mail me. Also, if you plan on missing a session, please contact me, so we may find a way that you can catch up. I tend to respond to e mails quickly, usually within a few hours; the only exceptions are on weekends, nights, or when I do not have access to a computer.

In the subject line of your e-mails, please put "SOC1." Doing this will make sure that you get past my email filter and to prevent my e-mail client from mistakenly thinking that your e-mail about the class is a sales pitch for discount pharmaceuticals, a cache of fake Rolexes, or a fantastic financial opportunity involving a foreign prince or sketchy real estate investments.

CELL PHONES AND COMPUTERS:

Following the practice of many professors in this department, there will be no laptops or tablets in class. While this minimizes distractions, it also encourages you to take better notes. Research shows that students actually perform better in courses, retain information better, and engage more when there are no laptops in class. Because recordings of each class session are available as podcasts, do not worry if you miss anything, or you can ask me to repeat any points. You do not need to transcribe every word of the lecture. Exceptions can be made in certain circumstances, especially if there are issues that prevent you from handwriting. Please let me know ahead of time, and I recommend contacting the Office for Students with Disabilities regarding any issues. Furthermore, please refrain from texting in class. If you need to take a call or make a text, please wait to make them after class is over.

OFFICE HOURS:

My office hours will occur on Monday and Wednesday from 2:00PM-3:00PM in Haines 218. Please contact me if you have a scheduling conflict to make an appointment to meet for office hours.

DISABILITIES ISSUES:

In the interest of fairness, please tell me about any disabilities or medical issues that may require any special accommodations and provide to me documentation to us from the Office for Students with Disabilities, so we can make proper arrangements.

PODCASTING:

Course sessions will be podcasted, which will aid in your studying and will help you to keep pace with any classes that you miss. This should not be a substitute for attending class, since excessive absences will adversely affect your grade and will prevent you from participating and maximizing what you get out of the class.

RESPECT:

For this course, we will be covering particular topics that may touch upon issues that might be controversial or align with individual's beliefs, experiences, or passions. Because this course benefits from your discussion, responses, and sharing, I encourage you to be respectful of your fellow course members. Furthermore, I am committed to treating each member of the class with the utmost respect. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any issues with any part of the course and its presentation.

HONOR CODE:

You MUST adhere to the UCLA Honor Code with your response papers and final exam. All cases of plagiarism or cheating will be reported to the Dean's Office, where they will adjudicate a warranted punishment.

Thanks for signing up! It is my privilege to have you as a student. It is my honor to be your instructor.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

April 3: Introduction

April 5: Sociological Imagination

Abigail Saguy. 2013. "Introduction." In *What's Wrong With Fat?*

David Foster Wallace. 2005. "This is Water." Commencement Address at Kenyon College.

Audio: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8CrOL-ydFMI>

Transcript: <https://web.ics.purdue.edu/~drkelly/DFWKenyonAddress2005.pdf>

April 10: Interactions and the Self

Erving Goffman. 1959. *Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*. Excerpts.

Harold Garfinkel. 1967. "Studies of the Routine Grounds of Everyday Activities." In *Studies in Ethnomethodology*.

April 12: Deviance and Stigma

Howard Becker. 1953. "Becoming a Marihuana User." *American Journal of Sociology* 59:235-242.

W.E.B. Dubois. 1903. "Of Our Spiritual Strivings." In *The Souls of Black Folk*.

Erving Goffman. 1963. "Stigma and Social Identity." In *Stigma: Note on the Management of Spoiled Identity*.

April 17: Social Structure I

Richard Emerson. 1962. "Power-Dependence Relations." *American Sociological Review* 27:31-41.

Lee Drutman and Steven Teles. 2015. "Why Congress Relies on Lobbyists Instead of Thinking for Itself." *The Atlantic*: March 10. <http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2015/03/when-congress-cant-think-for-itself-it-turns-to-lobbyists/387295/>

April 19: Social Structure II

Karl Marx and Frederick Engels. 1848. *The Communist Manifesto*.

April 24: Social Influence

Wendy Espeland and Michael Sauder. 2007. "Ranking and Reactivity: How Public Measures Recreate Social Worlds." *American Sociological Review* 113:1-40.

Beth McMurtie. 2014. "Why Haven't Colleges Stopped Binge Drinking." *Chronicle of Higher Education*. December 2. http://www.chronicle.com/interactives/alcohol_binge

April 26: Culture I

Martín Sánchez-Jankowski. 1991. "In the Organization." In *Islands in the Street: Gangs and American Urban Society*.

Ann Swidler. 2001. *Talk of Love: How Culture Matters*. Excerpts.

May 1: Culture II

David Grazian. 2004. "The Production of Popular Music as a Confidence Game: The Case of the Chicago Blues." *Qualitative Sociology* 27:137-158.

Radiolab Podcast. 2014. "Straight Out of Chevy Chase." <http://www.radiolab.org/story/straight-outta-chevy-chase/>

May 3: MIDTERM EXAMINATION

May 8: Social Categories I

Howard Becker. 1980. "Conventions" in *Art Worlds*.

Ezra Zuckerman, Tai-Young Kim, Kalinka Ukanwa, and James von Rittman. 2003. "Robust Identities or Nonentities? Typcasting in the Feature-Film Labor Market." *American Journal of Sociology* 108: 1018-1073.

May 10: Social Categories II

Cristina Mora. 2014. "Broadcasting Panethnicity: Univision and the Rise of Hispanic Television." *Making Hispanics: How Activists, Bureaucrats, and Media Constructed a New American*.

Michael Omi and Howard Winant. 2014. Chapter 4. In *Racial Formation in the United States from the 1960s to the 1990s*.

Punk Attitude. 2005. Directed by Don Letts.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pAmKsmQ3mgM>. (This is a low quality version with Indonesia subtitles. You can purchase a copy of the streaming version on Amazon for \$14.99, which I recommend.)

May 15: Social Categories III

Robb Willer, Christabel Rogalin, Bridget Conlon, and Michael Wojnowicz. 2013. "Overdoing Gender: A Test of the Masculine Overcompensation Thesis." *American Journal of Sociology* 118:980-1022.

David R. Harris and Jerimiah Joseph Sim. 2002. "Who is Multiracial? Assessing the Complexity of Lived Race." *American Sociological Review* 67:614-627.

May 17: Inequality

Christopher Jencks. 2002. "Does Inequality Matter?" *Daedalus* 131:49-65.

Peter Blau and Otis Dudley Duncan. 1967. *The American Occupational Structure*. Excerpt.

May 22: Inequality and Culture I

Paul Willis. 1977. "Elements of a Culture." In *Learning to Labor: How Working Class Kids Get Working Class Jobs*.

Heavy Metal Britannia. 2010. BBC Four. Directed by Chris Rodley.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmceqLZqvPY>

May 24: Inequality and Culture II

Shamus Khan. 2011. "Learning *Beowulf* and *Jams*." In *Privilege: The Making of an Adolescent Elite at St. Paul's School*.

Lauren Rivera. 2012. "Hiring as Cultural Matching: The Case of Elite Professional Service Firms." *American Sociological Review* 77:99-122.

May 31: Inequality and Employment

Michelle Budig and Paula England. "The Wage Penalty for Motherhood." *American Sociological Review* 66:204-225.

Devah Pager. 2003. "The Mark of a Criminal Record." *American Journal of Sociology* 108:937-975.

June 5: Inequality and Space

Mary Pattillo. 2007. "Introduction." In *Black on the Block: The Politics of Race and Class in the City*.

Forrest Stuart. 2016. "Training for Survival." In *Down, Out, and Under Arrest: Policing and Everyday Life in Skid Row*.

June 7: FINAL EXAMINATION