

Sociology S100: Introduction to Sociology
Spring 2011: Section 10692
M & W 1:00-2:15 Geological Sciences 143

Instructor: Kevin Doran
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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday from 3:00 – 4:00, or by appointment.
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Course Description

Sociologists take a unique perspective on the ways that humans interact with the social world around them. This perspective focuses on examining the social processes that cause people to act the way that they do. This course will introduce you to a set of theories and methods that sociologists use to understand a wide variety of social phenomena and problems. In doing so, we will discuss the way sociologists understand topics such as class, religion, gender, race, globalization, and politics, as well as how these different concepts intersect with one another. Through readings, lecture, and (perhaps most importantly) discussion, you will learn to develop and use your “sociological imagination” as a tool to critically analyze the world in which you live.

The goals for this course are to:

- 1) Introduce you to the scholarly work provided by sociologists and social theorists.
- 2) Provide you with the analytic skill set needed to identify the social forces that generate outcomes that are usually taken for granted.
- 3) Use this skill set to discuss and examine social problems that society faces today.

In combination, these three goals will provide you a more complex and nuanced understanding of the social world that will prove useful long after you’ve completed your studies at IU.

Required Text

Giddens, Anthony, Mitchell Duneier, Richard P. Appelbaum, and Deborah Carr. 2010. *Essentials of Sociology*, 3rd Edition. New York: W.W. Norton Company
 (“EOS” in the reading schedule)

*Copies of this text are available at the IU Bookstore and TIS. You can also purchase an e-version of the text at (<http://books.wwnorton.com/books/Essentials-of-Sociology/>)

All other readings will be available on Oncourse, and will be posted in the “Readings” folder under the “Resources” tab. The readings will be listed by the author’s last name. The readings to be downloaded from the Oncourse site will be denoted as “OC” in the readings list.

Course Requirements

Readings: You are required to complete the assigned reading **before** class time on the day indicated in the reading schedule. The readings will help to inform our class discussions, and the questions on exams and quizzes. Lectures **will not** simply review the readings but will build off of them. As such, it is crucial that you complete the readings before class in order to comprehend the lecture, participate in class discussion, and perform well on exams and quizzes.

Exams: You will be given three exams, two during the semester (**Monday February 14th** and **Wednesday March 23rd**) and the final exam (**Wednesday May 4th**). You must take all exams on the scheduled date, including the final exam. Makeup exams will not be given except under extraordinary, and documented, circumstances. **If something does occur that makes taking the exam at the scheduled time impossible, you need to notify me in advance via email.** Test items on makeups will reflect the fact that students had more time to prepare.

Exams 1 and 2 will be worth **250 points** (25% of your total grade) each and the final exam will be worth **300 points** (30% of your total grade). Each exam will be based on lecture, films, class discussion, and the assigned readings (even if not covered explicitly during the lecture). More details on the exam format will be provided as we get closer to the exam dates.

Quizzes: Beginning on the second week of the semester, you will periodically be given unannounced quizzes. Quizzes will be based on the readings assigned for that day and/or recent lectures and will usually take the form of two (very) short essays, but could also take the form of multiple choice, true/false, or short answer questions. They will serve to ensure not only that you are completing the readings, but also that you understand the readings. You should use your scores on these quizzes to gauge how well you comprehend the course materials and discussions, and adjust your habits accordingly before the exams. (If your scores are not as high as you would like or find yourself falling behind, please make use of my office hours.)

There will be a total of 12 quizzes, each worth **20 points** (or 2% of your total grade). You will be allowed to drop your 2 lowest quiz scores, meaning that, in total, the quizzes will be worth **200 points** (or 20% of your total grade). There will also be no makeup quizzes, as you are permitted to drop your 2 lowest scores.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend every class and to show up on time and prepared. You will be permitted to miss up to **4** classes without penalty (for any reason). I will circulate an attendance sheet each day at the beginning of class. Each absence beyond four (for any reason, even illness, family emergency, etc) will result in a reduction of your grade by **30 points** (a 3 percentage point reduction in your final grade).

University sanctioned absences (like observation of a religious holiday) will not be counted against your four permitted absences. However, **you must notify me before class**. If you do miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the notes from another student, and you are still responsible for all announcements made in that class (for example, a change to the class schedule).

Grading

Your grade will be based upon the above requirements in the following manner:

Exam 1	25%	(250 points)
Exam 2	25%	(250 points)
Final Exam	30%	(300 points)
<u>Quizzes</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>(200 points)</u>
Total	100%	(1000 points)

The grading scale for your final grade is as follows:

A+	97-100%	(970-1000 points)	C	73-76.9%	(730-769 points)
A	93-96.9%	(930-969 points)	C-	70-72.9%	(700-729 points)
A-	90-92.9%	(900-929 points)	D+	67-69.9%	(670-699 points)
B+	87-89.9%	(870-899 points)	D	63-66.9%	(630-669 points)
B	83-86.9%	(830-869 points)	D-	60-62.9%	(600-629 points)
B-	80-82.9%	(800-839 points)	F	0-59.9%	(0-599 points)
C+	77-79.9%	(770-799 points)			

Additional Policies

Makeup Policy: As noted above, in almost all instances, **there will be no makeup exams**. Makeup exams will only be granted under extraordinary circumstances. If you **absolutely have to** miss an exam, **you need to notify me at least one week in advance** via email, and to provide proper documentation. If an emergency occurs on the day of an exam, you must email me before the exam and provide me with documentation immediately. (In accordance with University policy, religious holiday accommodation forms must be turned in during the first week of class.) Questions on any makeup exams will reflect the fact that students had additional time to prepare.

Special Accommodations: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), IU seeks to provide “reasonable accommodation” for qualified individuals with documented disabilities. It is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor and to contact the Disability Student Service Office (855-7578; <http://www.dsa.indiana.edu/dss.html>) about any special learning/study needs relating to a documented disability within the first two weeks of the semester.

Academic Integrity: I take academic misconduct seriously and will not tolerate it in this class. This includes cheating, plagiarism, signing another student's name on the sign in sheet, etc. If misconduct is discovered, I will take the appropriate action according to University policy. Please see the *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct* (<http://www.iu.edu/~code/code/responsibilities/index.shtml>) if you have any questions as to what constitutes academic misconduct.

Incompletes: In accordance with University policy, I will not grant incompletes for this course except under highly extraordinary and documented circumstances.

Classroom Conduct: Class participation is integral to your understanding of the material and to your performance in this class. You are expected to come into class having read the assigned reading, prepared to engage in class discussion and to ask any clarifying questions that you may have had about that day's reading. Additionally, you are expected to be attentive during class. That means that you are not permitted to have cell phones, iPods, newspapers, etc. out during class time. Cell phones should be turned off before entering class (if you have circumstances that require that you keep your cell phone on, please notify me before class and turn your ringer to vibrate). You are not permitted to use laptops during the class period. They serve as a distraction not only to you, but to the other students in the class. Students with a documented disability requiring the use of laptops should talk to me immediately and provide me with the documentation.

This course will discuss topics that are potentially controversial. I expect you to respect the opinions and comments of others in the class, even if you do not agree with them. This does not mean that you cannot voice an opinion that differs, but requires that you do so in a civil manner.

If you do not abide by these rules, you will not receive credit for having attended class on that day and may be asked to leave.

Communication: The best way to contact me is through email (please include S100 in the subject line). I will check my email at least twice per day (once in the morning and once in the evening) and will respond to most emails within 24 hours. I will use email as the primary means of communication with you outside of the class room, and will do so with the assumption that you will check your email and oncourse at least once per day.

I suggest that you introduce yourself to a few classmates and exchange names and email addresses. In the event that you need to borrow notes or are looking for study partners.

Name _____	Email _____

Reading and Exam Schedule

*This schedule is tentative and may be adjusted as we progress through the semester. All changes will be announced in advanced. You are responsible for being aware of these changes (even if you are not in class the day the announcement was made).

*All readings are to be completed before class time on the date indicated in the schedule.

EOS = Essentials of Sociology textbook

OC = Reading posted on Oncourse

Week 1 (1/10 – 1/12): Introduction (What is sociology?)

Mon: Introduction to the class, no readings.

Wed: **OC**, Mills, “The Sociological Imagination Ch 1”

EOS, Ch 1 Pgs. 4-12

Week 2 (1/17 – 1/19): Major Theories

Mon: MLK Day, No Class

Wed: **EOS**, Ch 1 Pgs. 13-22

Week 3 (1/24 – 1/26) Methods

Mon: **EOS**, Ch 1 Pgs. 21-36

Wed: **OC**, Blee, excerpt from “Inside Organized Racism”

Week 4 (1/31 – 2/2): Culture and the Development of Modern Society

Mon: **EOS**, Ch 2 Pgs. 39-56

OC, Miner, “Body Rituals among the Nacirema”

Wed: **OC**, Boswell and Spade, “Fraternities and Collegiate Rape Culture”

EOS, Ch 2 Pgs. 57-67

Week 5 (2/7 – 2/9): Socialization and Social Interactions

Mon: **EOS**, Ch 3 Pgs. 69-79

OC, Davis, “Extreme Isolation”

EOS, Ch 4 Pgs. 95-109 (Up to “How Do Time and Space Affect our Interactions”)

Wed: **OC**, Cahill “Meanwhile Backstage: Behavior in Public Bathrooms”

Week 6 (2/14 – 2/16): Social Groups, Networks, and Organizations

Mon: **Exam 1**

Wed: **EOS**, Ch 5 Pgs. 119-141

OC, Coleman et al. “The Diffusion of Innovation among Physicians”

Week 7 (2/21 – 2/23): Crime and Deviance

Mon: **EOS**, Ch 6

Wed: **OC**, Pager “The Mark of a Criminal Record”

Week 8 (2/28 – 3/2): Inequality, Class, and Poverty

Mon: **EOS**, Ch 7 Pgs. 179-199 (Up through “Social Mobility”)

OC, Rose and Marmott “Social Class and Coronary Heart Disease”

Wed: **EOS**, Ch 7 Pgs. 199-210

Week 9 (3/7 – 3/9): Globalization and Global Inequality; Gender

Mon: EOS, Ch 8

OC, Eglitis “The Uses of Global Poverty”

Wed: EOS, Ch 9

Week 10 (3/14 – 3/16): Spring Break

Week 11 (3/21 – 3/23): Gender and Sexuality

Mon: OC, Tannen “But what do you Mean? Women and men in conversation”

EOS, Ch 14 Pgs. 420-428

Wed: Exam 2

Week 12 (3/28 – 3/30): Race and Ethnicity

Mon: OC, West Introduction to “Race Matters”

EOS, Ch 10

Wed: OC, Sacks “How did Jews Become White Folks?”

OC, McIntosh “White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Backpack”

Week 13 (4/4 – 4/6): The Family; The Economy

Mon: EOS, Ch 11

OC, Gerson and Jacobs “The Work-Home Crunch”

Wed: EOS, Ch 13 Pgs 381 - 398

OC, Ehrenreich excerpt from “Nickel and Dimed”

Week 14 (4/11 – 4/13): Politics; Religion

Mon: EOS, Ch 13 Pgs. 360 – 381

Wed: EOS, Ch 12 Pgs. 356 – 369

OC, Peek “Religious Self-Identities after 9/11”

Week 15 (4/18 – 4/20): Education; Population Patterns

Mon: EOS, Ch 12 Pgs. 330 – 342

OC, Steele “Thin Ice: ‘Stereotype Threat’ and Black College Students”

Wed: EOS, Ch 15

OC, Dougherty “The End of White Flight”

Week 16 (4/25 – 4/27): Social Movements and Social Change

Mon: EOS, Ch 16

OC, Jasper and Nelkin “The Animal Rights Crusade”

Wed: No Readings Assigned

Week 17:

Final exam Wednesday, May 4th from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm