Course Description

This course is designed to be an introduction to the discipline that will acquaint the student with sociological concepts, terminology, and methodology. Emphasis will be placed on understanding society and its component parts in a sociological manner. Readings and discussion will examine how social institutions affect everyday life. Traditional sociological thought as well as more contemporary sociological thinking will be included. Important issues which must be addressed include the relationship between economy and social institutions, social stratification, and gender divisions. Current sociological literature will be used to both introduce concepts and help students interpret scholarly writing. Emphasis will be placed on understanding social inequality and the link between the individual and social structure.

Required Texts


Course Requirements

*Attendance is REQUIRED, except in cases of illness, emergency or religious reasons. Students are responsible for all material, regardless of absence. Attendance will be taken daily! Students may miss 6 classes before a grade deduction penalty will be assessed.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Socialization paper (due by March 11 IN CLASS)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam (March 25 IN CLASS)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inequality paper (due by May 4 IN CLASS)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (May 15)</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extra Credit Assignments will be made available throughout the semester

ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE HANDED IN ON THE DATE THEY ARE DUE. A ONE DAY GRACE PERIOD WILL BE GRANTED AFTER THE DUE DATE. AFTER THAT, ALL LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE PENALIZED ONE LETTER GRADE EACH DAY THEY ARE LATE.

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus during the semester.
Socialization paper: You will be required to choose some status that you have been socialized into (i.e. college student, athlete, musician, worker, etc...). Using information from your texts and class discussions, talk about the socialization process, the role requirements of the status, your feelings and experiences concerning the roles and any role strain or conflict you may have experienced. The paper must be word processed, double spaced and approximately 4-5 pages in length.

Mid-term Exam: This exam will cover all material up to the date of the exam. The exam will be given in class and will be closed book, closed notes. The format of the exam will be short essay.

Inequality Paper: This paper requires you to find current empirical data on inequality and discuss these data using the concepts and theories from your readings, class discussions and at least two (2) scholarly sources. The paper must be word-processed, double spaced and approximately 4-5 pages in length.

Final Exam: This exam will cover all material from after the mid-term exam through the last class period. This exam will be given during the examination period. The exam is closed notes, closed book with a short essay format.

COURSE OUTLINE

(R=Reserve reading)

2.10 Introduction

2.12 What is Sociology?

Ferguson:

1. Mills: The Promise
2. Gains: Teenage Wasteland EXCERPT
3. Romero: Intersections of Biography and History
4. Babbie: An Idea Whose Time Has Come
5. Haney, Banks and Zimbardo: Interpersonal Dynamics in a Simulated Prison
6. Kaplan: Not Our Kind of Girl

Culture

1.16-1.19 Ferguson:

8. Anderson: Code of the Street
9. Gibson: Warrior Dreams
10. Trask: Lovely Hula Hands

1.23-1.26 Socialization

Ferguson:
11. Lorber: Night to His Day
12. Messner: Boyhood, Organized Sports, and the Construction of Masculinities
13. Granfield: Making it By Faking It
14. Dyer: Anybody’s Son Will Do

3.4-3.9  
**Groups and Social Structure**

Ferguson:

15. Adler and Adler: Peer Power
16. Sanchez Jankowski: Gang Business
17. Blee: Women of the Klan
18. Schwalbe: The Search for *Communitas* in the Men’s Movement

3.11-3.18  
**Gaines: Teenage Wasteland -- entire text**

3.23  
**Deviance and Social Control**

Ferguson:

19. Rosenhan: On Being Sane in Insane Places
20. McLorg: and Taub: Anorexia Nervosa and Bulimia
21. Bourgois: In Search of Respect
22. Martin and Hummer: Fraternities and Rape on Campus

2.25  
**MIDTERM EXAM IN CLASS**

4.6-4.8  
**Social Inequalities (Class, Gender, Sexuality, Race and Ethnicity)**

Ferguson:

23. Domhoff: Who Rules America?
24. Oliver and Shapiro: Black Wealth/White Wealth
25. Gans: Positive Functions of the Undeserving Poor
26. Edin and Lein: Making Ends Meet
44. Navarro: Why the U.S. Health Care System Does not Respond to People’s Needs
4.13-4.15

Ferguson:

27. Risman: Gender as Structure
28. Williams: The Glass Escalator
30. McIntosh: White Privilege as Male Privilege

31. Du Bois: The Problem of the Twentieth Century is the Problem of Race
32. Rubin: “Is this a White country or What?”
33. Abelmann and Lie: Blue Dreams
34. Feagin and Sikes: Navigating Public Places

Power and Economy

4.20

Ferguson:

35. Mills: The Power Elite
36. Clawson, Neustadtl and Weller: Dollars and Votes
37. Marger: The Mass Media as a Power Institution

4.22-4.27

Ferguson:

41. Weber: The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism
38. Marx and Engels: Manifesto of the Communist Party
39. Wilson: When Work Disappears
40. Leidner: Over the Counter

4.29-5.6  MacLeod, Ain’t No Makin’ It: Aspirations and Attainment in a Low-Income Neighborhood--entire text

*** INEQUALITY PAPER DUE IN CLASS 5.4 ***

5.11

Education

47. Crow Dog and Erdoes: Civilize Them With a Stick
48. Cookson and Persell: Preparing for Power
49. Sadker and Sadker: Failing at Fairness

5.13

Family
Ferguson:

50. Stacey: Gay and Lesbian Families are Here
51. Collins: The Meaning of Motherhood in Black Culture
52. Hochschild: The Time Bind

5.19 FINAL EXAM (2:00-4:00 pm) Location TBA