

Introduction to Sociology
SOC 101.5527 | Fall 2014
A206 | MTWRF 12:30-1:20pm

Instructor: Jennifer Lê
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Office Hours:
11:30-12:20pm Daily
10-10:20am Weds
and by appointment



Course Description and Goals

This course will examine the many different areas of study in sociology including race, gender, class, politics, etc. Critical thinking and discussion will be important components of the course.

To make appointments, please go to drle.youcanbook.me or scan the code above. Download a free QR Code Reader from your App Store to scan this as well as those in your textbook.

Course Outcomes

After completing this course, successful students should be able to:

- Describe the “sociological perspective”;
- Identify the ways in which culture and social institutions (such as education, the economy, the media, and the family) shape our everyday experiences;
- Explain “social constructionism”;
- Distinguish between factual statements and value judgments;
- Put aside personal ethnocentric attitudes, becoming culturally relative;
- Better understand yourself and perspectives/experiences different from your own;
- Formulate logical conclusions;
- Apply sociological knowledge to real-life situations;
- Look at your own life sociologically; and
- Describe how life experiences and opportunities differ according to race, class, and gender.

Required Text and Readings

Conley, Dalton. 2013. *You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking Like a Sociologist*. 3rd Edition. (Feel free to purchase earlier editions of the text.)

Attendance

Attendance is required. Students are allowed to miss TWO class periods without documentation. All other absences must be university excused absences; please review the Bellevue College Student Rules on excused absences. More than two undocumented absence will result in a reduction of your overall grade, taken from your participation score for the course (this includes zeros for each absent day’s participation and an additional one-third of a letter grade reduction if absences total one-third or more of the class sessions). A sign-in sheet will be distributed at the beginning of class each day to record attendance.

Classroom Policies

Please silence cell phones before the beginning of class. Students whose cell phones ring in class will be required to answer one oral pop quiz question. Any student who I see using their phones will receive one warning after which they will receive no credit for that day’s class participation (equal to one absence for each offense). Repeat offenders will be asked to leave the class for the rest of the day.

Students are permitted to use computers to take notes if they wish. However, note taking is the **only** activity allowed during class. If any students engage in other activities on their computers during class meetings they will receive a zero for that day’s class participation (equal to one absence for each offense).

As this is a college course, this classroom shall be treated as a professional environment. I expect everyone to be respectful of others. There will be zero tolerance for disrespect.

Course Requirements

Exams

There will be three exams in this course. Each exam is worth 100 points. The exams will be composed of multiple choice questions and potential short essay questions. However, there will be no scantron or bluebook needed.

Vine Project

The final project for this class will involve creating a Vine (a 6 second video) about what sociology means to you. You will need to download the free Vine app from your App Store or borrow a classmate's during our designated workday. Creativity and originality are very welcome.

Each student will do one presentation during the quarter. A sign-up sheet will be distributed during the first week of class. The presentation will consist of playing the Vine and a brief (less than 5 minutes) presentation about it.

At the start of your presentation students will submit a one to two page summary of their presentation. Make sure to be thorough. The paper should be double spaced, with correct spelling and grammar, one inch margins, 12 point Times New Roman font, and have no cover sheet. Email and late submissions will not be accepted. Makeup presentations for college excused absences on chosen presentation day must be arranged prior to the missed class unless approved by the instructor after the absence. Zeros will be given to students who miss their presentation day without notice. Late papers, not submitted immediately prior to the presentation will be deducted 10% for each day late.

This assignment will be graded according to the following:

Vine (15 points; 30%)

Presentation (25 points; 50%)

Summary Paper (10 points; 10%)

Total: 50 points

Online Discussions

(40 total points, 10 points each)

There will be a discussion on Canvas for particular days of the course, as noted on the tentative schedule. The topic will be determined by the instructor. Each student is required to address the prompt in a substantive and thought-provoking manner. Depth of thought and critical thinking should be demonstrated, especially through the use of personal narratives. Material from the readings and lecture should be cited (informal citations are permitted). Further, each student is required to post on two other students' threads. These response posts should offer comments and/or critique as well as ask meaningful questions. Initial posts should be completed the evening it is assigned (by 11:59pm) with response posts completed by each the following day (unless it falls on a Friday in which case it response posts are due Sunday night) at 11:59pm. Responses should also be made to your peers that ask questions on your original thread, without such engagement it will be impossible to receive full credit. A grading rubric will be available on Canvas.

Attendance and Participation

(43 points total, 21.5 for attendance, 10.75 for participation, 10.75 for midterm check-in meeting)

Attendance is required. A sign in sheet will go around each class period. You may miss up to 2 classes without penalty. You will be penalized if you have 3 or more unexcused absences (see BC policy regarding excused vs unexcused absences). This penalty includes an overall reduction in grade relative to the number of unexcused absences and an additional 1/3 letter grade reduction if absences total one-third or more of the class sessions.

Participation includes pop quizzes, answering questions when called upon, participating in discussions, and asking insightful and engaging questions related to course material.

- Pop quizzes will occur randomly throughout the term based on the material you are expected to have read for that class day. These quizzes will amount to one-quarter of your participation grade or 2.5% of the overall grade.

Grade Distribution

A ≈ 390-433 points
B ≈ 347-389 points
C ≈ 303-346 points
D ≈ 260-302 points
F ≈ 0-259 points

1st Exam – 100 points ≈ 23%
2nd Exam – 100 points ≈ 23%
3rd Exam – 100 points ≈ 23%
Vine Project – 50 points ≈ 12%
Online Discussions – 40 points ≈ 9%
Attendance and Participation – 43 points = 10%

To excel in this course, a student should stay on top of course readings. All students are expected to have read the assigned material before each class meeting. Attendance is always helpful (and required) to get a better understanding of the material. If you have any questions at all, please utilize my office hours. I want you to do your very best in this course, and I will help all students as much as I can. Note: There will be no curve in this class, including individual assignments. Your grade is what you earn.

Extra Credit

There will be one extra credit opportunity per quarter. Video links will be made available to you about midway through the quarter. A sociological paper must be written in response to the videos.

Papers should be at least 3 pages, double spaced, with correct spelling and grammar, one inch margins, 12 point Times New Roman font. The papers will be due **one week** after you watched the video. All papers **must** be submitted through our Canvas course. The last day to turn in extra credit assignments will be December 5, 2014.

Papers will be graded according to the following:

Brief summary (10%); Reaction and Critique (5%); Application to sociology of race and ethnicity (85%)

*Application should be the bulk of the paper

These papers will be worth up to 15 points. You are only allowed one attempt. These points are added onto a student's total points for the course. No late work will be accepted without a pre-approved reason.

Late Policy

All missed assignments and exams must be pre-approved by the instructor **PRIOR** to the due date. Make-up exams will be given at the discretion of the instructor and must occur **before** the due date. Any missed assignments or exams not pre-approved by the instructor must accompany a BC-approved excuse in order for a make-up or extended due date to be given. Unapproved absences that result in missed assignments or zeros **cannot** be made up.

Tentative Schedule

HOW TO READ THE SCHEDULE BELOW:

Day of the Week

 Topic

 Reading Due

 Assignment Due

Week One – September 22-26

M	T	W	R	F
Intro to the class	Sociological Imagination	Basics of Sociology	Theories	Theories
	3-11	12-13, 38-39	15-21	21-32

Week Two – September 29-October 3

M	T	W – Online	R – Online	F – Online
Sociology	Culture	Culture	Social Construction of Reality	Social Construction of Reality
38-41	75-83	84-93	117-123	124-135
		Discussion DUE	Responses DUE	Discussion DUE (Responses Due SUNDAY)

Week Three – October 6-10

M – Online	T – Online	W	R	F
Social Construction of Reality	Groups and Networks	Groups and Networks	Groups and Networks	Deviance
136-149	153-165	165-179	180-185	187-204
Discussion DUE	Responses DUE			

Week Four – October 13-17

M	T	W	R	F
Deviance	Deviance	Deviance	Exam Review	Exam 1
205-213	214-222	223-235	No reading	No reading

Week Five – October 20-24

M	T	W	R	F
Stratification	Stratification	Gender	Gender/Sex	Gender
239-249	250-277	279-290	291-308	309-323

Week Six – October 27-31

M	T	W	R	F – Online
Race	Race	Race	Race	Poverty
325-340	341-349	350-360 and McIntosh	361-373	375-392
				Discussion DUE (Responses Due SUNDAY)

Week Seven – November 3-7

M	T	W	R	F
Poverty	Family	Family	Family	Economy
393-407	451-463	464-479	480-493	537-548

Week Eight – November 10-14

M	T	W	R	F
Economy	NO CLASS	Economy	Politics	Politics
549-559	No reading	560-571	573-590	591-609

Week Nine – November 17-21

M	T	W	R	F
Exam 2	Vine Work Day	Film – Shawshank Redemption	Film – Shawshank Redemption	Film – Shawshank Redemption
No reading	No Reading	No reading	No reading	No reading
		Film Worksheet	Film Worksheet	Film Worksheet DUE

Week Ten – November 24-28

M	T	W	R	F
Presentations	Presentations	Presentations	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
No reading	No reading	No reading		

Week Eleven – December 1-5

M	T	W	R	F
Presentations	Presentations	Presentations	Presentations	Presentations
No reading	No reading	No reading	No reading	No reading
				Last day to submit extra credit

Week Twelve – December 8-10 – Final Exam Week

M – 1:30-3:20pm	T	W	R	F
Final Exam	NO CLASS	NO CLASS	NO CLASS	NO CLASS

Disability Resource Center

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc

Affirmation of Inclusion

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination.

We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Cheating, stealing, and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to, talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Success for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct at

http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp

Copyright Notice

All documents disseminated by your instructor are under copyright by said instructor. Any re-use or distribution of these materials outside of our classroom without permission is copyright infringement and is considered a crime.

Final Comments

It is my goal to make this course worth your time and effort. Therefore, I will do all that is reasonable and within my power to ensure that you learn and succeed. If you are concerned with any aspect of this course please feel free to contact me.