

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

SOC& 101 K (5530)

5 credits

WINTER 2015

M-F 1:30-2:20 in D103

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“By the fact of living [each person] contributes, however minutely, to the shaping of this society and to the course of its history, even as [each person] is made by society and by its historical push and shove.” ~C. Wright Mills

TEXTS

Schneider, L. & Silverman, A. (2013) *Global Sociology: Introducing Five Contemporary Societies* (6th ed.) New York, NY: McGraw Hill.
(isbn#: 978-0-07-802670-6) (often referred to as “GS”)

There are also links to introductory sociology text books in the Canvas modules.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Sociology is the scientific study of human interactions and groups. The aim of this class is for you to learn the basics of the science of sociology - for you to gain a working familiarity with the basic concepts and principles of sociology and to have a good understanding of how sociologists do research. You will achieve this through the application of sociology to various aspects of life and through interactions with your classmates and the instructor.

Sociology is like learning a new language, although you are probably familiar with some of the concepts and issues that are central to the discipline. Because your familiarity may be based on your own subjective experience, this course offers you a special challenge which requires that you learn to analyze the same concepts and issues objectively and scientifically, sometimes abandoning long-standing beliefs about social life that are not based on logic, critical thought and evidence.

Sociology is everywhere. It applies directly to your own life and relationships and it will provide you with a new perspective on many aspects of life and culture (assuming that you keep an open mind).

Class exercises and applications—an interactive class, with your questions, comments and participation—are not only fun, they are productive. Active learning challenges you to get involved in the learning process, to enjoy learning for its own sake, to abandon the traditional passive student role, and to help teach each other. Your input, questions and comments will improve all of our learning. Get involved!!

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course you should:

- develop a sociological imagination, including assessing one's place in society
- cultivate a working familiarity with basic sociological terms and concepts
- recognize good research and comprehend its relevance
- understand how theories operate and how theoretical perspectives influence the thought process
- appreciate the significance of culture
- perceive connections between socialization, social structure and institutions, and culture
- begin to objectively evaluate the positive and negative aspects of society

GENERAL EDUCATION RATINGS

3 in Critical Thinking and Cultural Diversity

2 in Reading, Ethics, and Historical and Intellectual Perspective

EXPECTATIONS

OF ME:

- *A sincere effort to help you learn the course material.* Since my ultimate goal is to help you succeed, I intend to spend enough time and effort on class preparation to make the material as understandable and as interesting as I possibly can.
- *Accessibility.* I am available to you outside of class should you desire help. I encourage you to contact me, via email, on the phone, or by stopping by my office, whenever you have a question or concern. I am more than happy to help.
- *Learning.* You can expect me to be a learner with you. While I know sociology and it is my job and my goal to teach you the subject matter, you bring things to the class (perspective and experience) that I don't which contribute to the learning for us all.

OF YOU:

- *Preparation:* You should come to class having done the assigned readings and homework, and you should always bring the proper supplies with you. That includes the readings (textbooks) and supplies for note taking. Note that the BC guideline for homework is two hours outside of class for each hour spent in class. ***Late assignments will not be accepted.*** The lowest reading role score will be dropped at the end of the quarter. Many assignments will be turned in online (through Canvas). For those requiring a hard copy to be turned in, if you know you cannot make it to class on the due date, you may email assignments to me or turn them in to my mailbox in D110. Emailed assignments must be in my inbox before the start of class and you must bring a hard copy with you upon your return to class. Turning in a reading role ahead of time (before class begins) will earn



75% credit since you will not be in class to contribute to the discussion. If there is a true emergency (computer problems do not qualify as emergencies) and you cannot get an assignment in, call or email to let me know the situation as soon as possible. Doing this, along with providing relevant documentation, will allow me to work out a reasonable accommodation with you.

- *Currency:* It is your responsibility to keep current in class. This means attending class sessions and taking notes. If you have to miss class for any reason you must find out what was done and get notes from a classmate. You can find the calendar, assignments, and handouts on the Canvas site.
- *Respect:* We will have many discussions in which you are expected to participate by asking questions, answering questions, and making relevant comments and observations. During a discussion (planned or spontaneous) it is important that we all respect each other's right to participate and use manners and language appropriate for a college classroom. That means no side talking, no interrupting, no monopolizing the conversation, and no offensive language (swearing, crude language, racial/ethnic/gender slurs). Disagreement is fine, healthy, and makes life more interesting, but be sure that when you disagree you are disagreeing with the ideas and not the other person. People who are disrespectful, either to fellow students or to the instructor, will be asked to leave the class. Serious violations will be reported to the Dean of Student Services. Note that timeliness (being on time to class) is also needed to demonstrate respect towards your classmates.
- *Honesty:* If you cheat, you fail. No excuses will be taken into account. Your work must be your own, except when asked to work with other students. Furthermore, you are required to acknowledge in your papers if you have borrowed any ideas, terms, or phrases, even if you have borrowed from a classmate. Working together is fine and even encouraged. Just be sure to turn in work that is clearly original. Be careful to cite your sources properly as plagiarism will result in a score of zero for the assignment, and possibly an F for the class depending on the severity of the offense. If you would like information on how to avoid plagiarism, the writing lab (<http://bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing/links/> or D-204D) is an excellent resource online and in person.
- *Communication:* If an issue arises that will impact your class work, let me know as soon as possible so that we can work out a solution together. After assignments have been missed may be too late. If you don't understand a concept or the expectations of an assignment, please ask. I want you to succeed in this class. If you need course adaptations or special accommodations because of a disability, or if you have medical information that needs to be shared with me in the event that the building needs to be evacuated, please contact me during the first week of the quarter. If you require accommodations due to a diagnosed disability, please contact the Disability Resource Center in B132. Phone: 425-564-2498 (Voice) TTY: 425-564-4110.
- *Willingness to listen:* Essential to a liberal arts education is an open-minded acceptance of ideas and modes of expression which might conflict with one's personal ideas and/or values. By being exposed to such ideas and expressions,

Contact
information
is on the
first page.

Writing
Lab! D204

you are not expected to endorse or adopt them but rather understand that they are part of the free flow of information upon which higher education depends.

Computers and printers are available in N250 open lab

WRITTEN WORK

- All written work, with the exception of work done in class, **must be typed and stapled** with your name, the date, and the assignment title at the top.
- Reading roles also need the role next to the name and date.
- All sources must be cited in APA format. Any information gathered from outside sources, and this includes the text books, must be cited and referenced. For information on citations and references see the writing lab online at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing/essays-guides/default.asp> or in person in D-204D.
- Since this is a social science class, written work should consist of analysis rather than opinion. This means connection the information, whether it is from a movie, a text or a speaker, to sociological concepts and themes presented in class. This does not mean you cannot connect things to your own life and experiences, but it does mean the sociological context needs to be there as well and that your ideas are backed up by the appropriate source(s).
- Since this is a college class, do not use slang or profanity in your writing, and do not use Wikipedia as a primary source.
- Keep all work returned to you until after final grades for the quarter are posted. You will be using some of the assignments in the portfolio at the end of the quarter and this will also provide you with documentation should there be a discrepancy in the grade received and the grade recorded for a particular assignment.
- Any grade appeals (beyond a recording mistake) must be submitted in writing.

You can find a stapler in the library or buy a portable one in the book store.

KEYS TO SUCCESS (it is virtually impossible to fail if you do these three things)

1. Turn in all assignments on time.
2. Attend class regularly
3. Communicate with the instructor when needed.

GRADING

Grades are calculated on percentages. If assignments are shifted around, the percentage base will remain the same. You can keep track of your grade in Canvas.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
plagiarism assignment	1	10	10
reading quizzes	12	20	240
reading roles	8	50	350 (lowest dropped)
movie/speaker connections	2	25	50
research article assignment	1	25	25
norm research assignment	1	100	100
photo essay	1	200	200
final exam	1	50	50
assignment assessments	3	25	75
final assessment	1	50	50
attendance/participation	n/a	based on %	100

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION
Spring 2012

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

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 Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*