

# SOCIOLOGY 101

Bellevue College FALL 2013



**Instructor: Eric C. Davis**

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Office Hours: TTH 11:50a-12:20p or by appt. **Office: A100F**

**Class meeting times: \_\_\_\_\_, Room: C-164**

Course website accessible via **CANVAS**

## **Course Catalog Description**

What makes you, you? Are you free to choose your own destiny, or does society determine your path? Explore how our different identities impact our everyday lived experiences and develop useful ways to think about the world around you. Themes include power dynamics, culture, identities, deviance, stereotyping, and/or the social construction of knowledge.

## **Course Content**

Sociologists study a broad range of topics--some of which includes provocative content and adult themes. While every attempt will be made to keep things PG-13, please know that there will be times where R-rated content (language, images, etc.) is necessary to examine course topics within an academic context. Students will not be penalized for excusing themselves from content they find objectionable or difficult to watch, see, discuss or listen to. That being said, students who excuse themselves are responsible for any course material they miss as a result of choosing not to participate. If you have any questions or concerns about course content or classroom climate, feel free to speak with me about it at any time. I am not punitive. I am here to support you. Come talk to me during office hours or email me.

## **Classroom Theme/Pedagogical Approach**

Video selections and music will be prominently featured in this class and will be used to illustrate course topics and themes. All multimedia selections are chosen for their ability to make you think and therefore, inspire engaging classroom conversations. No one will be put on the spot, but please be prepared to participate in class discussions. Critical thinking is the goal. This course is paperless and uses many different online, internet based tools to support classroom management and enhance student learning. Students in this section of SOC 101 will need to have internet access in order to access online elements via **CANVAS**.

**General Rules and Expectations:**

- Come to class. Every day. Be on time. Be present.
- Complete the readings no later than the *start* of the week assigned.
- Be prepared to contribute to the in-class conversations.
- Take notes on the readings, videos, and songs.
- Properly manage your laptop, netbook, cell phone and/or PDA
- Consistently demonstrate respect and proper classroom behavior.
- Disrespectful behavior will result in you being asked to leave.
- Critical thinking is expected. Informed opinion is the standard...
- Questions are welcome and encouraged.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help.

**Learning Outcomes:**

*Upon completion of this course, the fully engaged, actively participating student will be able to demonstrate:*

1. A general understanding of basic concepts most widely used in sociology today. You will review some of the “classics” in sociology as well as exploring the recent move toward cultural studies.
2. A critical idea of society and community, including where in your social landscape you live, and how you observe those around you.
3. A general knowledge and comprehension of how social, political, and cultural forms of power are played out, and how some folks perceive those experiences.
4. A general understanding of the representation and identity construction of various groups in historical and contemporary analyses of culture in the United States. In addition, we will explore the way in which these representations are subverted and contrasted in cultural texts.
5. An introductory ability to see the impact of social forces on your private life (e.g. find your Sociological Imagination)
6. An ability to think critically and express informed thoughts and opinions on topics related to social stratification and inequality.

**Textbooks:**

1. Jon Witt. **SOC 2013**. McGraw Hill.
2. **"The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian"**  
by Sherman Alexie.

**Course Schedule:**

<b><u>Week</u></b>	<b><u>Topic(s)</u></b>	<b><u>Readings/Films</u></b>
<b>Week 1</b>	The Sociological Imagination Perspectives on Social Order	Syllabus, Handouts, Witt, Chapter 1 <b><i>"30 Days: Indian Reservation"</i></b>
<b>Week 2</b>	Sociology Theory Culture	Witt, Chapters 2 & 3 <b><i>"Smoke Signals"</i></b>
<b>Week 3</b>	Culture (cont.) Race and Ethnicity	Witt, Chapter 3 Witt, Chapter 13 <b><i>"The Office"</i></b>
<b>Week 4</b>	Socialization Gender Roles	Witt, Chapters 4 & 12 <b><i>"Killing Us Softly"</i></b> <b><i>"Straightlaced"</i></b>
<b>Week 5</b>	Families, Religion and Education	Witt, Chapters 7 & 8 <b><i>"Changing Educational Paradigms"</i></b>
<b>Week 6</b>	Social Structure	Witt, Chapter 5 <b><i>"Food, Inc."</i></b>
<b>Week 7</b>	Deviance	Witt, Chapter 6 <b><i>"Incident at Oglala"</i></b>
<b>Week 8</b>	Government and Economy	Witt, Chapter 9 <b><i>"30 Days: Minimum Wage"</i></b>
<b>Week 9</b>	Social Class in the U.S.	Witt, Chapter 10 <b><i>"People Like Us"</i></b>
<b>Week 10</b>	Social Change	Witt, Chapter 15 <b><i>"Sicko"</i></b>

Course Requirements:

- Annotations/Participation. 60 points.
- Film Analysis. 140 points.

We will be watching several films in this course. After select viewing sessions, students are required to complete either an online assessment via CANVAS or handout in class. Due → Weekly

- Term Paper. 150 points.

Students are required to write a term paper based on our supplementary book, ***"The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian"***. (See assignment handout for details.)

20pts. Completion of the book (In class Quiz)	→ 10/14
30pts. Outline of paper due...	→ 10/28
100pts. Final Paper due...	→ 11/27

(NOTE: Specific Dates will be posted in CANVAS)

- Reading Concepts/Terms Quizzes. 150 points.
- Online quizzes will be used to assess your comprehension of readings and acclimation to terms and definitions referenced in the textbook. Each of the five (5) online exams will be worth 30 points. Questions will be drawn from the textbook readings and corresponding classroom lectures.

**Quizzes will be administered online via CANVAS on the following dates:**

QUIZ 1:	Friday 10/11
QUIZ 2:	Friday, 10/25
QUIZ 3:	Friday, 11/8
QUIZ 4:	Friday, 11/22
QUIZ 5:	Friday, 12/6

There are 500 points available in this class. Here is the grading scale:

475+pts = (4.0) A	360+pts = (2.3) C+	>280pts= (0.0) Fail
450+pts = (3.7) A-	345+pts = (2.0) C	
425+pts = (3.3) B+	325+pts = (1.7) C-	
400+pts = (3.0) B	300+pts = (1.3) D+	
375+pts = (2.7) B-	280+pts = (1.0) D	

**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.

\*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.

**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**

There is no Final Exam scheduled for Sociology 101.

**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.

**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.

**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 Center, and review those needs with the instructor as well.