# INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY SOC& 101-F, Spring 2014 12:30-1:20 Daily; A-206

Instructor: Dr. Lori Saffin Email: <u>Isaffin@bellevuecollege.edu</u> Office Phone: (425) 564-2161 Office Location: A100-E Office Hours: M,W,& F 8:30–9:20; T&TH 1:30-2:20 and by appointment

# **Course Introduction:**

Welcome to Introduction to Sociology! This course is a broad introduction to the field of Sociology where we will begin to make connections between the most private elements of our lives and the cultures, groups, organizations, and social institutions to which we belong. Throughout this class, we will become acquainted with basic sociological concepts/perspectives and examine the importance of

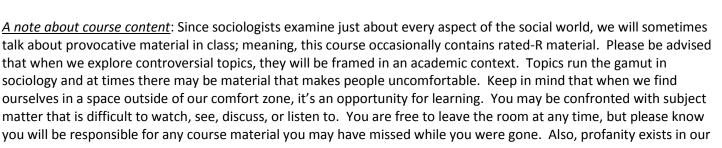
identities across racial/ethnic, class, gendered, and sexual differences. Through lecture, discussion, film, readings, and other media, we will explore the many complexities of our social world. The aim of this course is for us to begin analyzing everyday occurrences and the things that we often take for granted to better understand the relationship between individuals and society. We will question the way things work, challenge why things work the way they do, and critically think about who we are within (and how do we connect with others within) the world around us. Ultimately, this course will compel us to see the ways in which the structure of society is greater than the sum of the experiences and psychologies of the individuals within it. Welcome, strap yourself in, and enjoy the ride!

# **Required Texts:**

- David Newman. "Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life." 9<sup>th</sup> edition. Pine Forge Press: 2012.
  \*\*There are 3 copies of this text available on reserve at the front desk of the library. You can check the text out for two hour increments so no excuses for not having access to the text\*\*
- 2. Additional articles or handouts are posted on the course website (Canvas under "Files")
  - \*\*I have scanned the first five readings and put them on the course website for students who are waiting to receive books from an online seller – so no excuses for not reading\*\*

# Learning Atmosphere:

I believe that students learn best when they are *actively* involved in the teaching and learning process. Thus, this is an active and interactive course where you will often learn by doing. You are expected to observe the world, read, write, discuss, and participate. I think of our class as a collaborative learning community where we all teach and learn from each other. Every time you make a comment or ask a question, you teach something to the rest of us. I challenge you to abandon the traditional passive student role and to get involved with teaching and learning – I think you'll enjoy it and learn a lot in the process.





social world and thus will be used in some materials within this course – if this presents a problem for you, I would recommend not taking this course - so please be advised. If you have any questions or concerns about course content or climate, don't hesitate to let me know.

# Learning and Course Outcomes:

After participating, discussing, and completing this course, a successful student will demonstrate:

- 1. A general understanding of basic concepts most widely used in sociology today.
- 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 US.
- 5. Identify the ways in which culture and social institutions (such as education, economy, media, family) shape our everyday experiences
- 6. Explain social constructionism and how life experiences and opportunities differ according to race, class, gender, and sexuality
- 7. Become culturally relative and think outside of personal ethnocentrisms or other biases.

# **General Education Outcomes:**

This course's General Education ratings are: 3 in Critical Thinking, 2 in Reading, 2 in Ethics, 2 in Historical and Intellectual Perspectives, and 3 in Cultural Diversity.

# **General Course Rules and Expectations:**

- Attendance: Attend all class meetings and <u>come to class on time</u>. Your presence in class contributes significantly toward your final grade in the course as I cover a lot of material in class that cannot be found in the readings. More than <u>three unexcused</u> absences or late attendances will lower your grade, and continue to do so as you miss more classes. To have an absence or tardy considered excused, you must discuss it with me prior to the absence or tardy, unless it is an emergency. Excused absences include doctor's visits, family emergencies, and sometimes work-related issues. If you miss class, please connect with your colleagues to find out what you missed. I highly recommend that you get the names and contact information of one or two of your classmates so you can contact them for any assignments or notes you may have missed while absent.
- **Preparation:** You should come to class having done all the assigned reading and homework and you should always bring the proper supplies with you daily, including your textbook. Note that the BC guideline for homework is two hours outside of class for each hour spent in class.
- Assignments: All assignments are <u>due promptly at the start of the class period</u>. Assignments, papers, homework, or exams must be typed, printed out, stapled, and handed in at the beginning of class. Emailed assignments are not accepted. If you know you are going to be absent on the day an assignment is due, then turn it in early. All major due dates are indicated on the attached Course Calendar. <u>Please see the writing guidelines for the format of submitting all written assignments</u>.
- Late Work: I believe that one of the major lessons students take away from college is the importance of meeting deadlines. As a result, no late work will be accepted unless you have had it approved by me BEFORE the due date. Late work will receive a zero grade.
- **Contribution:** Learning about each other's experiences and perspectives is an integral part of the learning process in this course. I believe that you will learn a lot about yourself and your fellow classmates. Therefore, you are expected to be an active participant in our learning environment. An active participant can include contributing to discussions, but can also mean getting to class on time, taking notes, listening to your peers, and coming to class prepared. You should do your best to contribute to class discussions and activities.

- **Classroom Etiquette:** All electronic devices are prohibited in the classroom at all times. This includes cell phones, i-phones/i-pads, laptops, kindle/nooks, i-pods/mp3 players, etc. If you need a laptop to take notes, I will need verification. All texting devices should be placed in your bag for the duration of the class. Please note that texting, excessive talking, or other disruptive behavior is not only disrespectful to me, it is also disrespectful to the people around you. Your participation grade will be affected and lowered by these types of behaviors.
- **Respect:** I expect that your behavior in class be respectful. Learning about diverse experiences is central to this course, so it is of the utmost importance that you respect your classmates' experiences, differences, and opinions. In order for us to learn from each other, we have to allow each other to make mistakes and to offer unpopular positions for debate. This is a college classroom and as such, I expect students to behave as adults. I do not tolerate excessive talking or whispering, consistent late arrivals, or early departures. *Students who are disrespectful to their classmates or the instructor will be asked to leave class and will be marked absent until arrangements are made with the instructor to return to class and will result in your participation credit lowering.*
- Plagiarism: Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. This is a serious offense which can result in possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College and go on your permanent academic record. Do not do it! If you cheat/plagiarize, you fail. No excuses will be taken into account. Your work must be your own, except when you are asked to work with other students. Furthermore, you are required to acknowledge in your papers if you have borrowed any ideas, terms or phrases. Do not copy and paste material from Wikipedia or any other website into your assignments, as with is a severe form of cheating (that is very easy to catch, by the way). In this class your assignments should be grounded in the textbook rather than web resources, which are often wrong. If you have any hesitation or if you are in doubt about one of these issues, feel free to ask me.

# Bellevue College's Rules and Regulations:

- **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.
- 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.

# **Students with Disabilities:**

All students are responsible for all requirements of the class, but the way they meet these requirements may vary. If you need specific academic accommodations due to a disability, please speak with me and with the Disability Resource Center at (425)564-2498. You will need to obtain the appropriate documentation from the DRC in room B132. The disability accommodation documentation must be given to me before it is needed rather than afterward, so that we can make appropriate arrangements. You will need to make arrangements with the DRC in advance for test-taking or other accommodations.

## Grading:

Grades are based on six factors. (1) Participation and Discussion, (2) "Doing Sociology" Applications, (3) Daily Notecards on the Readings, (4) Quizzes, (5) In-Class Activities or homework assignments distributed in class, (6) and two Exams. Each of these elements is awarded a specific number of points:

Participation/Discussion	50 points	
"Doing Sociology" Applications (5 at 10 points/each)	50 points	
Daily Notecards on Readings (10 at 10 points/each)	100 points	
Quizzes (5 at 20 points/each)	100 points	
In-class activities (10 at 10 points/each)	100 points	
Exams (2 at 100 points/each)	200 points	
TOTAL	600 points	

Grade	Points	Percentage
Α	555-600	93–100%
<i>A</i> –	537-554	90–92%
<i>B</i> +	513-536	88-89%
В	495-512	83-87%
В-	477-494	80-82

Grade	Points	Percentage
<i>C</i> +	465-476	78-79%
С	435-464	73-77%
С-	417-434	70-72%
D+	405–416	68–69%
D	357–404	60–67%
F	356 & Below	59% & Below

\*\*Please also note that your grades will be available 24/7 on Canvas. Make sure you log on and check in frequently, so you know exactly where you stand throughout the quarter. Be pro-active!\*\*

# **Description of the 6 Grading Components:**

## 1. Participation/Discussion: (50/700 points)

Participation is essential to the format of this class and will therefore contribute significantly toward your grade. In short, your success in this class depends on your active participation. Participation includes attendance, <u>getting to class</u> on time, class discussions, and group work. As mentioned under *General Course Rules and Expectations*, more than <u>three</u> <u>unexcused</u> absences or late attendances will lower your grade, and continue to do so as you miss more classes. To have an absence or tardy considered excused, you must discuss it with me prior to the absence or tardy, unless it is an emergency. Excused absences include doctor's visits, family emergencies, and sometimes work-related issues. Furthermore, disruptive behavior, excessive talking, texting while in class, or other interruptions will lower this portion of your grade. See the *General Course Rules and Expectations* for details about what is considered disruptive behavior. Do not take this portion of your grade lightly!

#### 2. "Doing Sociology" Applications: (50/700; 10 points each)

For these assignments, students will be asked to go out of the classroom, conduct their own sociological observations, and complete a short 1 page **typed** write-up of their findings. The purpose of these assignments is for students to apply a sociological lens to everyday encounters. Students might be asked to go to a fast-food restaurant and observe interactions between customers and workers or violate a social norm and reflect on that violation. These assignments will be discussed and assigned **RANDOMLY** in class and due the following class period, so they **cannot be made up**. Be there to get the scoop!

#### 3. Daily Notecards on the Readings: (100/700 points; 10 points each)

For each day that a reading is assigned, you will need to submit a notecard about the readings for that day. If there are multiple readings, you must write on all readings assigned on a given day. At the beginning of each class period, I will collect your **3x5 or 4x6 notecard**. Notecards must be turned in <u>at the start of class at 12:30</u> – <u>late notecards will not be</u> <u>accepted</u> and <u>I will not accept notecards submitted at the end of the class period</u>. The purpose of these cards is to help you keep up with the readings as well as help facilitate a more informed discussion for that day's class period. I will collect the cards every day in order to keep track of your <u>attendance</u>, although they won't always be graded. *So if you are in class, but have not done the reading, turn in a notecard with your name on it so I can mark you as present for that day.* Eleven times during the quarter, however, I will announce at the beginning of class that "<u>your notecards will be graded today</u>." For those graded notecards, you will receive a score of between 0 and 10. Notecards must follow a particular format, as described below, and must include your name, date, title of the article and author, a minimum of 5-6 sentences/bullet points providing the thesis (or main ideas) of the article, and any definitions or key terms that is discussed in the reading. **You can use your notecards (and only your notecards) on your exams** - so spending some time now defining key terms, identifying major themes, and providing examples for yourself will help you when the exam comes. Your lowest notecard grade will be dropped. The guidelines for submitting your notecards are as follows:

NAME		DATE
ТІТ	LE OF READING (pg. #s) & AUTHOR	
ТІ	HESIS or Main Ideas presented in the reading-	
	minimum of 5-6 sentences or bullet points escribing the main arguments of the article	
Lis	st/Define any Key terms discussed in reading	

#### 4. Quizzes: (100/700 points; 20 points each)

Over the course of the quarter, you will be given 5 short quizzes on the reading materials. Quizzes will be held at the beginning of class, so if you come in late, you will miss the quiz and receive a zero grade. Unless you have discussed being absent on a quiz day with me in advance, quizzes cannot be made up. Quizzes will typically be a mix of short answer and multiple choice questions. The purpose of these quizzes is to ensure that you have done the readings and understand them on a basic level. These quizzes will also help you in learning material for your exams and give you a "feel" for how I ask test questions.

#### 5. In-Class Activities and Homework Assignments: (100/700 points; 10 points each)

Over the course of the quarter, you will be asked a total of 11 times to submit work that you have completed during the class session. These in-class activities most often occur in groups. **They will be randomly delivered and** *cannot be made up.* Usually, they will consist of a short piece of writing/reflection or response to something we have read or an application of terms/material covered in readings. Your lowest activity grade will be dropped.

#### 6. Exams: (200/700 points)

Over the course of the quarter, you will take two exams that integrate the course's in-class activities (lectures, films, etc.) and readings. Exams are designed to make sure you understand important course concepts and themes. Exams will include multiple choice and short answer questions. Please note that you cannot make up missed exams. The <u>first exam will be split between two days during our class period</u>. The first section will include multiple-choice on Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> and the second day will be comprised of short answer on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. The second exam will be over material discussed during the latter half of the class, so it will not be comprehensive. <u>The second exam will be during our scheduled exam time which is Thursday</u>, June 19<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1:20. Please note that I do not give make-up exams or allow students to take exams early or late.

## **Instructor Notes:**

If at any point throughout the quarter you are confused or unclear about the expectations of the course, course material, a grade you received, or any other matters, I <u>strongly encourage you to come talk with me early</u>. It is my goal that all students succeed in this course; but, I can only help you if you meet me half way. Furthermore, if you are having personal problems or other issues going on outside of school, please let me know. I recognize that we all have lives outside of school, and am very willing to work with students, but I can only do so if I know there is a problem!



# <u>Syllabus</u>

You should be looking at your syllabus **on a daily basis** so you know what is expected of you in class. Also, you are expected to have read the readings assigned for the current day by the time you arrive in class, meaning that what is listed on a given day should be done **prior to you coming to class** because that is what we will be talking about that day.

\*\*Though I will try to remain as faithful as possible to this syllabus, I reserve the right to make changes. These will be announced in advance in class. \*\*

## Week 1

Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>: Introduction to the Course Go over syllabus; class introductions; beginning definitions

Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>: Course Introductions: Getting to Know Your Peers Continue going over syllabus and introductions

## Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>: What is Sociology?

Readings: "Taking a New Look at a Familiar World," pp. 3-12

Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>: Understanding the Sociological Imagination Readings: "Emile Durkheim: A Sociological View of Suicide," pp. 12-17

## Friday, April 11th: Employing the Sociological Imagination

Readings: "Becoming a Certain Body," by Hesse-Biber on course website

# NALLA .

## Week 2

## Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>: The Social Construction of Reality

Readings: "Building Reality: The Social Construction of Knowledge," pp. 55-63 Quiz #1 (over material covered from April 8<sup>th</sup> – April 11<sup>th</sup>)

- Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>: Self-Fulfilling Prophecies & Understanding Conflict and Power Readings: "Building Reality," pp. 63-80
- Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>: How Individuals Structure Society

Readings: "Seeing and Thinking Sociologically," pp. 19-26

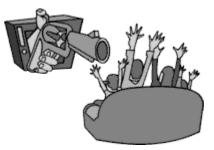
Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>: Societal Influences and How Social Structures Impact Our Everyday Lives Readings: "Seeing and Thinking Sociologically," pp. 26-34

#### Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>: Cultural and Subcultural Influences Readings: "Seeing and Thinking Sociologically," pp. 34-37

## Week 3

- Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>: Understanding Social Order Readings: "Seeing and Thinking Sociologically," pp. 46-49
- Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>: Individuals Shaping Society; Social Structures Shaping Individuals Readings: "The My Lai Massacre: A Military Crime of Obedience," by Kelman and Hamilton on course website





## Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>: Catch-Up Day

#### Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>: Culture and History

Readings: "Building Order," pp. 98-110 Quiz #2 (over material covered from April 14<sup>th</sup> – April 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>: Cultural Norms and Social Institutions Readings: "Building Order," pp. 110-131

#### Week 4

- Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>: Ethnocentrism and Cultural Relativism Readings: "Body Ritual among the Nacirema," by Horace Miner on course website
- **Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>: Assimilation versus Acculturation** Readings: "The Melting Pot," by Anne Fadiman on course website
- Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>: Identity, Socialization, and Social Structures Readings: "Building Identity," pp. 134-145
- Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>: Stratification and Inequality Readings: "Building Identity," pp. 145-152
- Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Race, Class, and Socialization Readings: "Life as a Maid's Daughter," by Mary Romero on course website

## Week 5

Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>: Institutions and Socialization Readings: "Building Identity," pp. 152-154; 161-166

Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>: Self-Presentation and Impression Management Readings: "Supporting Identity," pp. 168-176 <u>Quiz #3</u> (over material covered from April 23<sup>rd</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>: Dramaturgy and the Social Stage Readings: "Supporting Identity," pp. 176-194

Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>: Collective Management Readings: "The Girl Hunt," by David Grazian on course website

Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>: Review for Exam #1 (Optional Day)







## Week 6

Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>: Exam #1 – Part 1

Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>: Exam #1 – Part 2

Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>: Exercise in Stratification

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>: Stratification and Social Class Readings: "The Architecture of Stratification," pp. 317-327

Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>: Class Inequality in the U.S. Readings: "The Architecture of Stratification," pp. 327-342

#### Week 7

Monday, May 19th: In Class Activity on the Poverty Line

Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>: The Uses of Poverty Readings: "The Architecture of Stratification," pp. 342-355

#### Wednesday, May 21st: Class as Culture and Discussion of Welfare "Reform"

Readings: "Avenue to Adulthood: Teenage Pregnancy and the Meaning of Motherhood in Poor Communities," by Gabrielle Raley on course website

Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>: White Privilege and Racial Oppression Readings: "White Privilege," by Peggy MacIntosh on course website Quiz #4 (over material covered from May 14<sup>th</sup> – May 21<sup>st</sup>)

Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>: Racial Prejudice, Discrimination, and Racism Readings: "The Architecture of Inequality," pp. 376-389

Week 8 Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup>: No School

Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>: Racial and Ethnic Inequality: Historical Considerations Readings: "Willie Lynch's Letters," on course website

Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>: Historical Considerations Continued Readings: "The Architecture of Inequality," pp. 364-376

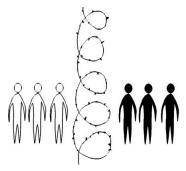
Thursday, May 29th: Tracing White Supremacy: Historical Considerations

Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>: Institutionalized Racism Readings: "The Architecture of Inequality," pp. 389-404









## Week 9

#### Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Race as a Social Construction

Readings: "The Architecture of Inequality," pp. 358-364 "Optional Ethnicities: For Whites Only," by Mary Waters on course website

#### Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>: Inequality in Sex and Gender

Readings: "The Architecture of Inequality," pp. 406-412 <u>Quiz # 5</u> (over material covered from May 22<sup>nd</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>: Connecting Gendered Oppression to Homophobia Readings: "The Architecture of Inequality," pp. 412-419

Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>: Institutions of Gender Inequality Readings: "The Architecture of Inequality," pp. 419-429

#### Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>: Gendered Jobs and Economics

Readings: "The Architecture of Inequality," pp. 429-436 "Still a Man's World," by Christine Williams on course website

#### <u>Week 10</u>

#### Monday, June 9th: Creating Social Change

Readings: "Architects of Change," pp. 473-485

#### Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>: Social Movements

Readings: "Architects of Change," pp. 485-503

#### Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>: Collective Action – Examples

Readings: "Muslim American Immigrants after 9/11," by Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo on course website "Challenging Power," by Celene Krauss on course website

#### Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>: Collective Action- Examples

Readings: "Aquí estamos y no nos vamos!: Global Capital and Immigrant Rights," by William Robinson on course website

#### Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>: Revisiting the Sociological Imagination Readings: "Architects of Change," pp. 504-507

#### Week 11

Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>: Review for Exam 2 – Optional Day

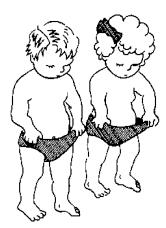
Thursday, June 19th: Final Exam 11:30-1:20

KEEEP YOUR COINIS COINIS CHANGE



10





"OH! THAT EXPLAINS THE DIFFERENCE IN OUR PAY"