

SOCIOLOGY 101

Bellevue College Winter 2013



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Office Hours: MTWTH 11:30-12:20pm or by appointment.

Class meeting times: MW 3:00p-5:10PM, Room C-164

Course website accessible via myBC

Course Catalog Description

Investigate the human social condition, and develop a useful way to think critically about the world around you. Themes include power dynamics, culture, the development of self in society, 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.

NOTE: When emailing, please put MW3 SOC 101 and your name in the subject line so that I can easily identify you and quickly respond.

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 stable and consistent internet access along with a working Bellevue College email account (^see notes below for access information).

Further, students in this class will be accessing a few different websites:

Grades: www.jupitergrades.com

Quizzes: www.junoed.com

Papers: www.turnitin.com

General Rules and Expectations

- Come to class. Every day. Be on time. Be present (e.g. awake).
- 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.
- **DO NOT use your cell phone/text messaging device in the classroom.**
- Proper use of laptops required. No Facebook, Twitter or Surfing
- 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 we seek.
- 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.

Readings:

Required Textbook: Witt, Jon. SOC 2013. McGraw-Hill, 2012.

Students are expected to have completed assigned readings by the start of the week listed below (see Course Schedule). Additional expectations:

- Bring reading notes and/or textbooks to each and every class meeting.
- Be prepared to relate textbook topics to songs, video presentations, etc.
- Be prepared to ask relevant questions related to that week’s topic.

Course Schedule:

Week	Topic(s)	Readings
Week 1	Welcome; <i>What is Sociology?</i> <i>The Sociological Imagination</i>	Syllabus, Handouts Witt, Chapter 1
Week 2	<i>Culture and Society</i> <i>Elements of Culture</i> <i>Sociological Research</i>	Witt, Chapters 2 & 3 "30 Days"
Week 3	<i>Socialization</i> <i>Gender and Sexuality</i>	Witt, Chapters 4 & 12 "Straightlaced" "Killing Us Softly"
Week 4	<i>Social Structure</i>	Witt, Chapters 5 "Food, Inc."
Week 5	<i>Social Deviance</i>	Witt, Chapter 6 "Death Row Kids"
Week 6	<i>Families, Education and Religion</i>	Witt, Chapters 7 & 8 "What's Cooking?"
Week 7	<i>Government and Economy</i>	Witt, Chapter 9 "Fahrenheit 911" clips
Week 8	<i>Social Class</i>	Witt, Chapter 10 "People Like Us"
Week 9	<i>Race and Ethnicity</i>	Witt, Chapter 13 "When the Levees Broke"
Week 10	<i>Health, Medicine and the Environment</i> <i>Social Change</i>	Witt, Chapter 14 "Sicko" Witt, Chapter 15

Course Requirements:

- Attendance. 40points (~2pts per class session)
On time arrival expected. Roll taken each scheduled meeting day.
- Participation. 40 points.
Active listening. Focused attention. Small and large group work.
- SOC in the News Assignment. 150 points
 - Topic Statement (30pts) DUE 1/16 submit via www.junoed.com
 - Research Notes (50pts) DUE 2/6 submit via www.turnitin.com
 - Final Paper (70pts) DUE 3/6 submit via www.turnitin.com
- Film Analysis. 150 points.
Eight (8) documentary films are featured in our class. Using *Juno* and in-class handouts, students are required to answer a series of questions after viewing the films. The goal is connecting sociology concepts and terms from the textbook \with examples and scenes from the films. Points per assignment vary. Website: www.junoed.com
- Online Exams. 120 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 three (3) midterms will feature forty (40) questions drawn from the textbook readings and corresponding classroom lectures. Students will have a 24hr window to complete the online assessment. Website: www.junoed.com

Exams will be available on the following dates:

- MIDTERM 1: Sunday, 1/27 6am thru Monday, 1/28 11:59pm**
- MIDTERM 2: Sunday, 2/24 6am thru Monday, 2/25 11:59pm**
- MIDTERM 3: Sunday, 3/10 6am thru Monday 3/11 11:59pm**

Grading:

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	

NOTE: Extra credit points are an option but are only available to students who complete all regular assignments and examinations on time. Extra credit points cannot replace late work, missed exams or missing assignments.

Bellevue College Email:

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC.

^To create your account, go to: <https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam>.

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Computing Services website](#).

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."

Withdrawal From Class

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.