

# INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

## SOC& 101

(formerly SOC 110)

SUMMER 2008

9:30 – 11:20 M-F in C164

5 credits

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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*

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### **TEXTS**

Schneider and Silverman, Global Sociology: Introducing Five Contemporary Societies 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, McGraw Hill (isbn#: 0-07-299752-4) (often referred to as “S&S”)

Howard, Classic Readings in Sociology 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Thomson (isbn#: 0-495-18739-9)

Egan, The Worst Hard Time, Mariner Books (isbn#: 978-0-618-77347-3)

### **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 may indeed be one of the most important classes you will ever take. Sociology is everywhere and applies directly to your own life, relationships and groups, to most of the courses you will ever take, is the umbrella of the social sciences, and will virtually provide you with a new set of eyes (assuming that you keep an open mind).

We will apply sociology; this approach is the most enjoyable way to learn the material. 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
- develop a working familiarity with basic sociological terms and concepts
- recognize good research
- understand and be able to apply the three theories
- understand how institutions function in a culture
- understand connections between socialization, social structure, and culture

### **GENERAL EDUCATION RATINGS**

3 in Critical Thinking and Cultural Diversity

2 in Reading, Ethics, and Historical and Intellectual Perspectives

### **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 BCC guideline for homework is two hours outside of class for each hour spent in class. Late assignments (late means any time after class starting time on the due date) other than reading role assignments will be graded down 10% per day. Late reading roles will receive a score of zero. If something prevents you from coming to class, you may email assignments to me or turn them into my mailbox, but keep in mind the time due is the same (by the start of class on the due date).

Turning in reading roles ahead of time will earn you half credit if you are not able to be in class for the discussion. If there is a true emergency (computer problems do not qualify as emergencies) and you cannot get your 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 any handouts on the MyBCC 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. That means no side talking, no interrupting, no monopolizing the conversation, and no offensive language. 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/writinglab/> 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, 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.

## WRITTEN WORK

- All written work, with the exception of work done in groups, must be typed **and** stapled with your name and the date 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/writinglab/APA.html> 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).

## GRADING

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	(subject to minor redistribution)		
<b>essays</b>	3	50	150
<b>essay rough drafts</b>	3	10	30
<b>reading roles (S&amp;S, Howard)</b>	8	50	400
<b>reading roles (WHT)</b>	5	50	250
<b>movie reviews</b>	2	25	50
<b>participation</b>	n/a	based on %	100
<b>final assessment</b>	1	50	50

**TOTAL      1030 points possible**

### **grading scale**

note: The grading scale is calculated on percentages translated into points.

If the total for the quarter changes, identical percentages will be used to compute grades.

**A:** 968 – 1030

**A-:** 927 – 967

**B+:** 896 – 926

**B:** 865 – 895

**B-:** 824 – 864

**C+:** 793 – 823

**C:** 762 – 792

**C-:** 721 – 761

**D+:** 659 – 720

**D:** 618 - 658

**F:** <618

**PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION**  
**Revised Fall 2007**

***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 Community 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 Community 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 BCC 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 Support Services (DSS) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DSS office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DSS 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 Support Services, 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 BCC 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.

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*\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue Community 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.*