

**Introduction to Sociology**  
SOC 101.5509 | Winter 2017  
C164 | MW 12:30-2:40pm

Instructor: Jennifer Lê  
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Office Hours:  
10:30-11:45am Mon-Thurs  
and by appointment



### Course Description and Goals

This course will examine the many different areas of study in sociology including race, gender, class, politics, etc. Critical thinking and discussion will be important components of the course.

To make appointments, please go to [drle.youcanbook.me](http://drle.youcanbook.me) or scan the code above. Download a free QR Code Reader from your App Store to scan this as well as those in your textbook.

### Course Outcomes

After completing this course, successful students should be able to:

- Critically examine the social landscape in which you live and how life experiences differ according to race, class, gender and sexuality.
- Identify the ways in which cultural and social institutions shape the everyday experiences of individuals, groups and communities.
- Describe fundamental sociological concepts, theories, and theorists, and apply them to real-life situations.

### Required Text and Readings

Ritzer, George. 2014. *Essentials of Sociology*. 1<sup>st</sup> Edition. ISBN-13: 9781483340173

(Feel free to purchase or rent the e-book version of the text or go to Amazon.com for a cheaper rental price.)

Additional readings for the course will be available through our Canvas course in the Files tab (in the Readings folder).

### Attendance

Attendance is **required**. Students are allowed to miss ONE class period without documentation. All other absences must be excused absences; please review the Bellevue College Student Rules on excused absences. More than one undocumented absences will result in a reduction of your overall grade, taken from your overall participation score for the course in direct proportion to the number of classes missed. If you miss zero to one class, you will not be penalized. If you miss more than one classes, you will lose points for each day absent which can account for up to a full letter grade reduction. If you miss over  $\frac{1}{3}$  of classes, a further  $\frac{1}{3}$  letter grade deduction will be taken out of your grade. Notecards and/or a roll sheet will be used to keep track of attendance (see course requirements).

### Classroom Policies

Please silence cell phones before the beginning of class. Students whose cell phones ring in class or who I see using their mobile devices will receive no points for that day's class participation. Students are permitted to use computers to take notes if they wish. However, note taking is the **only** activity allowed during class. If any students engage in other activities on their computers during class meetings they will receive a zero for that day's class participation after one warning.

As this is a college course, this classroom shall be treated as a professional environment. I expect everyone to be respectful of others. There will be zero tolerance for disrespect including but not limited to racism, sexism, ageism, ableism, and heterosexism.

## Course Requirements

### *Notecards*

(80 points total, 10 points each)

For each reading, you will be required to submit a notecard with a summary of the main points and important concepts from the reading due for that day (a template will be available on Canvas and discussed in class). If there are multiple readings, you must write on all readings assigned on a given day and each reading must have its own separate card. Both sides may be used and you may submit multiple notecards (fastened together) for a single reading. This notecard (3x5 or 4x6 size) is due at the beginning of class each day. Late notecards (not turned in at the start of class and missing due to unapproved absences) will not be accepted.

While you are required to turn in a card everyday, only 9 of them will be randomly graded. Your lowest scored notecard will be dropped. You will be notified at the beginning of class that your notecards will be graded that day. **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. The assignment sheet for these notecards is available on Canvas.

### *Online Discussions*

(200 points total, 20 points each)

A new topic of discussion will be available each week. Initial posts—your own response to the discussion topic—are due each week on Friday by 11:59pm PST. Response posts—responses made on your classmates' threads (not including replies made on your own thread)—are due each week on Sunday by 11:59pm PST. You are required to make a minimum of THREE posts each week (one initial and two response posts) but are encouraged to post more to demonstrate your engagement with your peers and the topic. Each post should use critical thinking, be thoughtful, concise, and include related research from the textbook or news sources. The lowest discussion grade will be dropped.

TIP: thoughtful *response* posts should include critical reflection, meaningful questions, and/or related content or research from the textbook or news sources. Simple agreement or disagreement will not count toward your minimum number of posts.

### *Exams*

(300 points total, 100 points each)

There will be three exams in this course. Each exam is worth 100 points. The exams will be composed of multiple choice questions and potential short essay questions. However, there will be no scantron or bluebook needed.

### *Sociological Imagination Papers*

(250 points total)

Throughout the quarter, you will be writing two short (600 words max) and one longer paper (1500 words max) relating sociology to your life. The larger paper will be made up of sections of the two papers before it along with additional content. Assignment guidelines will be available on Canvas.

Paper 1 – Family (75 points)

Paper 2 – Education (75 points)

Paper 3 – Sociological Portrait (100 points)

Each paper should follow proper citation guidelines using either MLA or APA style. This website contains helpful guidelines: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>. The format for all papers should be double spaced, Times New Roman 12 point font, with 1 inch margins on all sides, and no title page or running header. Guidelines and a grading rubric will be available for students to review. Papers are to be uploaded on Canvas on or before the due date.

### *Notecard and Film Worksheets*

(30 points total)

A worksheet will be provided to you twice during the quarter. Follow the directions for the worksheet and submit by the due date.

### *Sociological Portrait*

(40 points total)

On the last regular class session of the quarter, each student will be required to bring something that they created that represents their sociological self, of their identity as it is situated in a sociological context. Ask yourself, how does your newfound sociological knowledge impact how you understand/see yourself? Your project is more open-ended in format, but it could be any of the following creative projects: spoken word, poetry, collage, drawing, painting, song, Vine, PowerPoint presentation, etc. For videos/songs and presentations, a time limit of 4 minutes will be in place. For alternative ideas from this list, please check with Dr. Lê. These portraits will be presented in a gallery format.

### *Attendance and Participation*

(100 points total, 50 for attendance, 50 for participation)

Attendance is required. Notecard assignments and/or a roll sheet will be used for attendance. You may miss up to 1 class without penalty. You will be penalized if you have 2 or more unexcused absences (see BC policy regarding excused vs unexcused absences). This penalty includes an overall reduction in grade relative to the number of unexcused absences and an additional  $\frac{1}{3}$  letter grade reduction if absences total one-third or more of the class sessions.

Participation includes answering questions when called upon, participating in discussions, and asking insightful and engaging questions related to course material.

### **Grade Distribution**

TOTAL: 1000 points

A = 930 - 1000+

A- = 900 - 929

B+ = 870 - 899

B = 830 - 869

B- = 800 - 829

C+ = 770 - 799

C = 730 - 769

C- = 700 - 729

D+ = 670 - 699

D = 630 - 669

D- = 600 - 629

F = 0 - 599

1<sup>st</sup> Exam – 100 points = 10%

2<sup>nd</sup> Exam – 100 points = 10%

3<sup>rd</sup> Exam – 100 points = 10%

Online Discussions – 200 points (20 points each)  
= 20%

Paper 1 – 75 points = 7.5%

Paper 2 – 75 points = 7.5%

Paper 3 – 100 points = 10%

Notecard Worksheet – 10 points = 1%

Sociological Portrait – 40 points = 4%

Film Worksheet – 20 points = 2%

Notecards – 80 points (10 points each) = 8%

Attendance/Participation – 100 points = 10%

Note: There will be no curve in this class, including for single assignments. Your grade is what you earn.

To excel in this course, a student should stay on top of course readings. All students are expected to have read the assigned material **before** each class meeting. Attendance is always helpful (and required) to get a better understanding of the material. If you have any questions at all, please utilize my office hours. I want you to do your very best in this course, and I will help all students as much as I can.

## Extra Credit

There may be opportunities for extra credit throughout the quarter. These opportunities are generally events on campus which involve a lecture, documentary showing, debate, or a cultural event with an educational component. The requirements for the reflection paper are on Canvas. The papers will be due by 11:59pm one week after the event. Additionally, video links will be posted in the Canvas assignment link. These videos may be watched and analyzed similar to the events. Video link extra credit papers will be due by 11:59pm on the last regular course day. Students may complete TWO of these extra credit opportunities for a possible 15 points each or 30 points total. These extra points are added onto a student's total points for the course. No late work will be accepted without a pre-approved reason.

## Late Policy

### Exams

All missed exams must be pre-approved by the instructor PRIOR to the due date. Make-up exams will be given at the discretion of the instructor and must occur **before** the due date. Missed exams without prior approval can only be made up if the absence accompanies an approved excuse and if immediate notice is given to the instructor via email or phone.

### Assignments

Any missed assignments not pre-approved by the instructor must accompany an approved excuse in order for an extended due date to be given. Unapproved absences will result in zeros on assignments and exams and **cannot** be made up. Approved absences include school-sponsored event participation, hospitalization, childbirth, major accident or injury, or bereavement. It is the student's responsibility to provide the instructor appropriate documentation within a reasonable timeframe. The only exceptions to this policy are late papers, which will receive a 10% deduction per day late.

## Tentative Schedule

### HOW TO READ THE SCHEDULE BELOW:

Day of the Week

Topic

Reading Due **Before** Class

Assignment Due

Week One – January 2-6				
M	T	W	R	F
		Intro to the class		Read: Vogt Isaksen (on Canvas) Discussion 1 DUE Responses DUE SUNDAY
		No reading		
Week Two – January 9-13				
M	T	W	R	F
Foundations		Culture AND Socialization and Interaction		Discussion 2 DUE Responses DUE SUNDAY
Ch 1 AND pg. 30- 47 of Ch 2		Ch 3, pg. Xx-xx Ch 4, AND Davis (on Canvas)		
Reading Worksheet DUE				

*Week Three – January 16-20*

M	T	W	R	F
NO CLASS		Socialization and Interaction		Discussion 3 DUE
(college-wide)		Ch 4		Responses DUE SUNDAY

*Week Four – January 23-27*

M	T	W	R	F
Social Stratification		The Family		Discussion 4 DUE
Ch 7 AND Picchi (on Canvas)		Ch 10, Coontz (on Canvas), AND Hochschild (on Canvas)		Responses DUE SUNDAY Paper 1 DUE SUNDAY

*Week Five – January 30 - February 3*

M	T	W	R	F
Exam 1		Race and Ethnicity		Discussion 5 DUE
No reading		Pg. 220-238 (Ch 8) AND McIntosh (on Canvas)		Responses DUE SUNDAY

*Week Six – February 6-10*

M	T	W	R	F
Race/Ethnicity AND Gender/Sexuality		Gender and Sexuality	NO CLASS	Discussion 6 DUE
Pg. 239-249 (Ch 8) AND Pg. 259-268 (Ch 9)		Pg. 268-277, Pg. 250-160 (Ch 9), AND Kimmel (on Canvas)	(college-wide)	Responses DUE SUNDAY

*Week Seven – February 13-17*

M	T	W	R	F
Education		Film		Discussion 7 DUE
Pg. 325-343 (Ch 11) AND Manza (on Canvas)		No reading		Responses DUE SUNDAY Paper 2 DUE SUNDAY

*Week Eight – February 20-24*

M	T	W	R	F
NO CLASS		Politics		Discussion 8 DUE
(college-wide)		Pg. 346-356 (Ch 12), pg. 129-130 (types of authority) and 144 (The Global Domain) of Ch 5		Responses DUE SUNDAY

*Week Nine – February 27 – March 3*

M	T	W	R	F
The Economy		Deviance		Discussion 9 DUE
Pgs. 357-375 of Ch 12		Ch 6 AND Reiman (on Canvas)		Responses DUE SUNDAY

*Week Ten – March 6-10*

M	T	W	R	F
Exam 2	NO CLASS	Film		Discussion 10 DUE
No reading	(college-wide)	No reading		Responses DUE SUNDAY
		Film Worksheet DUE IN CLASS		Paper 3 DUE SUNDAY

*Week Eleven – March 13-17*

M	T	W	R	F
Final Exam Prep		Final Exam Prep		Discussion 11 DUE
No reading		No reading		Responses DUE SUNDAY

*Week Twelve – March 20-24 – Final Exam Week*

M	T	W – 11:30a-1:20p	R	F
Final Exam Prep and Sociological Gallery		Final Exam		
No reading				
Last day to submit extra credit Sociological Portrait DUE				

### **Disability Resource Center**

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact [asn@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:asn@bellevuecollege.edu) or 425.564.2764. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125. [www.bellevuecollege.edu/autismspectrumnavigators/](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/autismspectrumnavigators/)

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc)

**Affirmation of Inclusion**

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

**Academic Honesty and Integrity**

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 Success for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct at

[http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050\\_Student\\_Code.asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp)

**Copyright Notice**

All documents disseminated by your instructor are under copyright by said instructor. Any re-use or distribution of these materials outside of our classroom without permission is copyright infringement and is considered a crime.

**Final Comments**

It is my goal to make this course worth your time and effort. Therefore, I will do all that is reasonable and within my power to ensure that you learn and succeed. If you are concerned with any aspect of this course please feel free to contact me.