

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

SOC& 101-HYC; Fall 2018

8:30-9:20 M-TH; D-274A

Instructor: Dr. Croix Saffin

Email: croix.saffin@bellevuecollege.edu

Office Phone: (425) 564-2161

Office Location: A100-E

Office Hours: 10:30-11:20 M-TH 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:

1. David Newman. "Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life." **12th edition**. Pine Forge Press: 2019.
There are 3 copies of the 11th edition 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 three chapters 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.



A note about course content: Since sociologists examine just about every aspect of the social world, we will sometimes talk about provocative material in class; meaning, this course occasionally contains rated-R material. Please be advised that when we explore controversial topics, they will be framed in an academic context. Topics run the gamut in sociology and at times there may be material that makes people uncomfortable. Keep in mind that when we find ourselves in a space outside of our comfort zone, it's an opportunity for learning. You may be confronted with subject matter that is difficult to watch, see, discuss, or listen to. You are free to leave the room at any time, but please know you will be responsible for any course material you may have missed while you were gone. Also, profanity exists in our 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.

A note about instructor availability: I have noticed that, sometimes, students have unreasonable expectations about their Instructor's availability. Please be aware that I am not available 24-hours a day. In general, I am in my office for a couple of hours per day (before and after my classes), and I always check my email a few times a day. As a result, you will rarely be able to reach me by phone or by email in the evenings or on the weekends. I am, obviously, an active member of this course, but I do my coursework during the week, during daytime business hours. *Thus, please do not send me late-night or weekend emails expecting an immediate response.* Thank you in advance for your understanding and consideration.

A note about this classroom environment: It is important that *all* students feel welcome in this classroom. Please think about how your language (including body language) contributes to a safe/empowering or disempowering/unsafe learning environment. I want this class to be a space where everyone should feel comfortable enough to disagree with each other. Thus, this classroom needs to be safe space. Reflect on the ways you engage others with your own statements and how you react (with words, body language) to their statements. Also note that I cannot witness or hear everything that occurs in this classroom. If you overhear or witness something that would contribute to an unsafe classroom climate for yourself or fellow classmates, please let me know so that it can be dealt with immediately.

Learning and Course Outcomes:

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

- 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.

General Course Rules and Expectations:

- **Attendance:** Attend all class meetings and come to class on time. 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. As a result, more than *two unexcused absences* will significantly lower your grade and will continue to do so as you miss more classes. Tardiness or leaving class early will also be factored in to your attendance. 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 due promptly at the start of the class period. 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.
- **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, smart phones, laptops, music devices, tablets, etc. If you need a laptop to take notes, please talk to me early in the quarter. All texting devices should be placed in your bag for the duration of the class. Please note that 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:

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 or 425.564.2764. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125. 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

SOCIOLOGY DROP-IN TUTORING

Drop-in tutoring is an option for ALL students enrolled in classes at BC to seek assistance regardless of your current grade.

Maybe you have a question about a sociological concept or would like to have someone who specializes in Sociology look at your paper before you submit it.

Our Sociology tutor is available to help you!

Grading:

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

| | |
|---|------------|
| Participation/Discussion | 50 points |
| In-class activities (5 at 10 points/each) | 50 points |
| Notes on Readings (10 at 10 points/each) | 100 points |
| Quizzes (5 at 20 points/each) | 100 points |
| Doing Sociology Applications (10 at 10 points/each) | 100 points |
| Exams (2 at 100 points/each) | 200 points |

TOTAL

600 points

| <i>Grade</i> | <i>Points</i> | <i>Percentage</i> |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>A</i> | <i>555-600</i> | <i>93-100%</i> |
| <i>A-</i> | <i>537-554</i> | <i>90-92%</i> |
| <i>B+</i> | <i>525-536</i> | <i>88-89%</i> |
| <i>B</i> | <i>495-524</i> | <i>83-87%</i> |
| <i>B-</i> | <i>477-494</i> | <i>80-82</i> |

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

Description of the 6 Grading Components:

1. Participation/Discussion: (50/600 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, getting to class on time, class discussions, and group work. As mentioned under *General Course Rules and Expectations*, more than two unexcused 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. In-Class Activities and Homework Assignments: (50/600 points; 10 points each)

Over the course of the quarter, you will be asked a total of 5 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.

3. Notes on the Readings: (100/600 points; 10 points each)

For each class period, you will need to submit your notes 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 notes. Notes must be turned in at the start of class at 8:30 – late notes will not be accepted and I will not accept notes submitted at any other point in the class period. The purpose of these notes 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 notes every class period in order to keep track of your attendance, although they won't always be graded. *So if you are in class, but have not done the reading, turn in something 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 "your notes will be graded today." For those graded notes, you will receive a score of between 0 and 10. A format is described below. Note that this is a suggested format – you need to provide a minimum of 5-6 sentences about main ideas of the chapter/article and any definitions or key terms that are discussed in the reading. These notes are for you and you know how you learn best. **You can use your notes (and only your notes) on your exams** - so spending some time now defining key terms, identifying major themes, and providing examples for yourself will help you when quizzes and exams come. Your lowest note grade will be dropped. The minimum guidelines for submitting your notes are as follows:

| | |
|---|------|
| NAME | DATE |
| <p>TITLE OF READING (pg. #s) & AUTHOR</p> <p>THESIS or Main Ideas presented in the reading-</p> <p>a <u>minimum</u> of 5-6 sentences or bullet points describing the main arguments of the article</p> <p>List/Define any Key terms discussed in reading</p> | |

4. Quizzes: (100/600 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. “Doing Sociology” Applications: (100/600 points; 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 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. Due dates are noted on the syllabus.

6. Exams: (200/600 points; 100 points each)

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. Both exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. The second exam will be over material discussed during the latter half of the class, so it will not be comprehensive. 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 strongly encourage you to come talk with me early. 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!

Syllabus

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, September 17th: Introduction to the Course

Go over syllabus; class introductions; beginning definitions

Tuesday, September 18th: Getting to Know Your Peers

Go over syllabus; class introductions; beginning definitions

Wednesday, September 19th: What is Sociology?

Readings: "Chapter 1," pp. 3-11 (under Files if you do not yet have your book!)

Thursday, September 20th: Understanding the Sociological Imagination

Readings: "Chapter 1," pp. 11-18 (under Files if you do not yet have your book!)

Watch: The Sociological Imagination (6 min) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BINK6r1Wy78>



Week 2

Monday, September 24th: The Social Construction of Reality

Readings: "Chapter 3," pp. 49-56 (under Files if you do not yet have your book!)

Doing Sociology #1 due on Canvas by 8:30 am

Quiz #1 in class (over Chapter 1)

Tuesday, September 25th: Building Reality

Readings: "Chapter 3," pp. 57-67 (we are skipping the research section of this chapter)

Wednesday, September 26th: How Individuals Structure Society

Readings: "Chapter 2," pp. 20-34

Thursday, September 27th: Impacts of Authority on Individual Behavior

Watch: "Stanford Prison Experiment" (2015; 122 minutes) available on Netflix or for rent on Amazon Prime
or "A Quiet Rage: A Documentary" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hlUIBrvqyyo>



Week 3

Monday, October 1st: How Social Structures Impact Our Everyday Lives

Readings: "Chapter 2," pp. 35-44

Doing Sociology #2 due on Canvas by 8:30 am

Tuesday, October 2nd: No School

Wednesday, October 3rd: Perspectives on Social Order

Readings: "3 Major SOC Theories" on Canvas - No notes are due (you can use this handout on your quizzes/exams)

Quiz #2 in class (over material in Chapters 2 and 3)



Thursday, October 4th: Dimensions of Culture

Readings: "Chapter 4," pp. 84-100

Week 4

Monday, October 8th: Cultural Norms, Ethnocentrism and Cultural Relativism

Readings: "Chapter 4," pp. 100-111

"Body Ritual among the Nacirema," by Horace Miner on Canvas - No notes due on this reading

Doing Sociology #3 due on Canvas by 8:30 am



Tuesday, October 9th: Assimilation vs. Pluralism

No Readings!

Doing Sociology #4 due on Canvas by 8:30 am

Wednesday, October 10th: Becoming Who We Are

Readings: "Chapter 5," pp. 114-125

Thursday, October 11th: Socialization

Readings: "Chapter 5," pp. 123-140



Week 5

Monday, October 15th: Impression Management

Readings: "Chapter 6," pp. 145-156

Quiz #3 in class (over material in Chapter 4 and 5)

Tuesday, October 16th: Dramaturgy

Readings: "Chapter 6," pp. 156-173

Doing Sociology #5 due on Canvas by 8:30 am



Wednesday, October 17th: Optional Review Day for Exam #1

Thursday, October 18th: No Class – Work on your exam

Exam #1 is due by 11:59 pm on Canvas



Week 6

Monday, October 22nd: Stratification and Social Class

Readings: "Chapter 10," pp. 285-295

Tuesday, October 23rd: Understanding the Poverty Line

Readings: "Chapter 10," pp. 295-305

Wednesday, October 24th: Class Inequality in the US

Readings: "Chapter 10," pp. 305-314

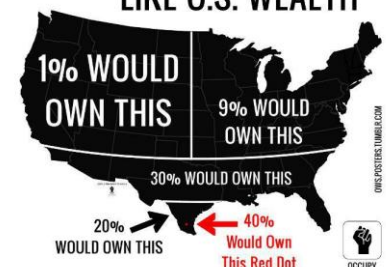
Doing Sociology #6 due on Canvas by 8:30 am

Thursday, October 25th: Consequences of Poverty

Readings: "Chapter 10," pp. 315-326

Doing Sociology #7 due on Canvas by 8:30 am

IF U.S. LAND WERE DIVIDED
LIKE U.S. WEALTH



Week 7

Monday, October 29th: White Privilege

Readings: "White Privilege," by Peggy MacIntosh on Canvas
Quiz #4 in class (over material in Chapter 10)

Tuesday, October 30th: Race and Ethnicity

Readings: "Chapter 11," pp. 329-337

Wednesday, October 31st: Prejudice, Discrimination, and Racism

Readings: "Chapter 11," pp. 344-352
Doing Sociology #8 due on Canvas by 8:30 am

Thursday, November 1st: Histories of Oppression

Readings: "Willie Lynch's Letters," on Canvas



Week 8

Monday, November 5th: Histories of Oppression

Readings: "Chapter 11," pp. 338-344

Tuesday, November 6th: Institutionalized Racism

Readings: "Chapter 11," pp. 352-368

Wednesday, November 7th: Remedies for Institutional Racism

Readings: "Chapter 11," pp. 368-373

Thursday, November 8th: Wrap up Chapter 11

Quiz # 5 in class (over material in Chapter 11)



Week 9

Monday, November 12th: No School

Tuesday, November 13th: Stratification by Sex and Gender

Readings: "Chapter 12," pp. 376-384
Doing Sociology #9 due on Canvas by 8:30 am

Wednesday, November 14th: Violence Against Women

Readings: "Chapter 12," pp. 384-390

Thursday, November 15th: Institutions and Gender Inequality

Readings: "Chapter 12," pp. 390-401



Week 10

Monday, November 20th: Institutions and Gender Inequality

Readings: "Chapter 12," pp. 401-412

Tuesday, November 21st: Wrap up Chapter 12

No Readings!



Wednesday, November 22nd: No Class

Thursday, November 23rd: No Class

Week 11

Monday, November 26th: **Reconstructing Society and Social Change**

Readings: "Chapter 14," pp. 441-453

Tuesday, November 27th: **Social Movements**

Readings: "Chapter 14," pp. 453-465

Wednesday, November 28th: **Sociological Imagination Revisited**

Readings: "Chapter 14," pp. 465-468

Doing Sociology #10 due on Canvas by 8:30 am

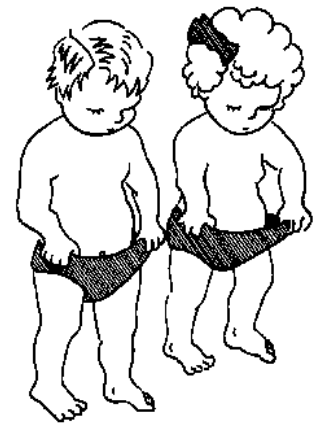
Thursday, November 29th: **Wrap up and Review for Final Exam**

****Your final exam will be taken on Canvas. It will open after class on November 28th and must be completed by 11:59 pm on Monday, December 3rd****

Week 12

Monday, December 3rd: No Classes - Student Success Day

Final Exam Due on Canvas by 11:59 pm Today



**"OH, THAT EXPLAINS THE
DIFFERENCE IN OUR PAY"**

