

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

SOC& 101-OAS; Summer 2019

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Course Introduction:

Welcome to Introduction to Sociology! I look forward to working with you this quarter and sharing with you my passion for this field. My hope is that this class encourages you to think about human behavior in a different way and that you are able to find this class useful to you, no matter what your career or academic objectives.

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, and gendered 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. So, 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.**

****I have scanned the first three chapters and put them on Canvas for students who are waiting to receive books from an online seller – so no excuses for not reading****

Structure and Online Learning:

Unfortunately (or fortunately, depending upon your perspective!), online classes are not for everyone. In general, they demand far more independent initiative and personal discipline than do classes that meet on campus. Additionally, online classes demand stronger reading and writing skills. If you are a student who likes having someone to keep you on your toes, such as reminding you regularly to keep up with your work, then online classes are probably not a good choice for you. That's okay (it's not a failure on your part!) ... some students simply thrive more when working on a "strict" daily routine, the kind of routine that on-campus classes provide. Thus, the students who succeed most at online learning tend to be those students who:

- are disciplined enough to check the course website and engage in the course (assignments, discussion boards, readings, etc.) between five-to-seven days per week;
- have enough personal initiative that they will contact their instructor (me!) if they don't understand something;
- have good to excellent written communication skills;
- are good readers (i.e. they can sit down and focus on a reading, highlighting key concepts/ideas, and then study it well);
- are independent; AND
- have a basic understanding of computer culture and technology (navigating a website, uploading/downloading, discussion etiquette)

Recommendations for Success Online:

In Summer quarter, 12 weeks of information is crammed into 7 weeks. There is A LOT due throughout the week and waiting until the end of the week is not enough time to complete everything.

- ✓ You should plan to spend around 1.5-2 hours PER DAY to work on your assignments and be engaged in the class.
- ✓ Look at your weekly class schedule and modules often and at the very beginning of the week. Plan ahead so you can budget your time accordingly.
- ✓ Make sure you go through the modules IN ORDER – they are placed in a specific sequence for a reason.
- ✓ Log in and work on assignments a minimum of 5 days per week.

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 Expectations:

The following outlines what you may expect of me as your instructor:

A sincere desire to help you learn. Since my ultimate goal is to help you learn, I have invested a significant amount of time into the design of this course site, with the hopes that the materials and assignments will enhance your learning. I think this course is understandable, interesting, and engaging. However, if at any time you are unclear or unsure about any aspects of the course - including reading material - feel free to contact me for assistance/clarification.

Fairness. Your grade will be based upon what I detect that you have learned and how I assess your performance. It is your job to clearly communicate to me (in your writing) that you understand the material. I don't negotiate final grades.

Respect and inclusion. This class is a "Safe Space" for all students. All are welcome!

The following outlines what I expect of you throughout the quarter:

A sincere effort to learn the course material. When participating in any component of this course, your comments should indicate to me that you have read and understand the course material. Some students wrongly assume that they can simply "wing it" in this class and still receive a high grade. This class is not based on opinion – it is based on sociological research, data, concepts, theories, and analyses.

Preparation. You should keep up with the readings and assignments during each week. DO NOT think that you can get everything completed in 1-2 days!

Promptness. You should comply with all due dates, as **I do not accept late work. All assignments are due at noted times on the listed due date...NO EXCEPTIONS (that includes computer problems).** You will learn that I am quite a stickler on due dates, so please learn to comply with all deadlines. I highly recommend that you plan to turn in your work early.

I accept assignments ONLY in the following formats: pdf and Word. Do NOT send to me attachments in other formats. Submitting your work to me in other formats will result in a **ZERO** grade.

You can submit your work to me in the following ways:

(1) by uploading your work to Canvas (on the Assignments pages), or

(2) IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY ONLY (such as you cannot access Canvas), you can email your work to me at my Bellevue College address. croix.saffin@bellevuecollege.edu

It is your job to get your work in on time.

Every student should have a “back up plan” for what you will do if you have computer problems. **Please note that you are responsible for getting your work in on time REGARDLESS of the state of your computer/browser or your Internet Service Provider (ISP).** All late work will receive a zero grade. Due dates are indicated on the “Calendar” link at the top of the course website, so it is extremely important for you to stay on top of the Calendar.

Respect. Disrespectful attitudes toward me or others will not be tolerated.

Honesty. This means no cheating and no plagiarism. If you cheat/plagiarize, 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 if you have borrowed any ideas, terms, or phrases, even if you have borrowed from a classmate OR from the Newman book. Please do not copy and paste material from google, wikipedia or any other website into your assignments, as this is a severe form of cheating (that is very easy to catch, by the way). If you have any hesitation, or if you are in doubt about one of these issues, feel free to ask me.

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 the DRC 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

Grading:

Final grades are based on **six factors**. (1) Notes on the Readings, (2) “Doing Sociology” Assignments, (3) Video Responses, (4) “Your Take” Reflections, (5) Quizzes, and (6) Exams. Each of these elements is awarded a specific number of points:

Notes on Readings (12 at 15 points/each)	180 points
Doing Sociology Assignments (10 at 10 points/each)	100 points
Videos (11 at variable points/each)	65 points
Your Take Reflections (8 at 10 points/each)	80 points
Quizzes (5 at 20 points/each)	100 points
Exams (2 at 100 points/each)	200 points

TOTAL

725 points

The following are the letter-grade equivalents to the course points:

Course Grade	Point Total	Course Grade	Point Total
A (92.5-100%)	= 671 - 725 points	C+ (77.5-79.4%)	= 562 - 576 points
A- (89.5-92.4%)	= 649 - 670 points	C (72.5-77.4%)	= 526 - 561 points
B+ (87.5-89.4%)	= 635 - 648 points	C- (69.5-72.4%)	= 504 - 525 points
B (82.5-87.4%)	= 599 - 634 points	D+ (67.5-69.4%)	= 490 - 503 points
B- (79.5-82.4%)	= 577 - 598 points	D (59.5-67.4%)	= 432 - 489 points
		F (0-59.4%)	= 0 - 431 points

Description of the 6 Grading Components:

1. Notes on the Readings: (180/725 points; 15 points each – 25% of final grade)

For most assigned readings, you will need to submit notes about that reading. Doing notes on the readings are crucial for success in this class (and in college in general). The purpose of these notes is to:

- help you keep up with the readings (reinforcing good study habits/skills)
- help you to learn how to identify key points and themes from readings and put them in your own words
- help you to synthesize and process the information you are taking in to better learn the material
- help us to have a more informed discussion in class

You will submit your notes on Canvas either in a Word document or if you prefer to hand write them, you can take a photo and upload (make sure your images are viewable). **You can use your notes on your quizzes and exams**, so it is in your best interest to do an outstanding job defining key terms, identifying major themes, and providing examples for yourself.

These notes are for you, to help you. Writing down the information you are reading helps you retain it. Notes can be as thorough as *you want*. You know how you learn best (better than I do), so if you are a student who needs to write more details, please take the time on these and do so. On quizzes and exams, I am going to be assessing big picture ideas. I am never going to ask you statistics, the name of sociologists, dates, what happened to Andre in Chapter 1, etc. This textbook uses A LOT of examples. Instead of writing down the examples, think about what is behind the examples, what is the point of the examples, what are the examples trying to tell you... that will get to the main point!

There is a minimum requirement but there is no maximum. The **minimum guidelines** are as follows and notes might follow this format:

YOUR NAME	TITLE OF ARTICLE/CHAPTER	DATE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A minimum of 5 main ideas or important points that are discussed <u>throughout</u> the chapter (not just the beginning!) Think of these 5 main ideas as the “big picture” themes of the chapter – if you were going to tell someone what the chapter was about, what would you say? These must be IN YOUR OWN WORDS (copying and pasting is not acceptable). Do not just write down the Chapter Highlights for your main ideas... Show me that you have read the whole chapter!• Then, list and define any key terms. I highly recommend putting these in your own words so you can understand what is being said and also coming up with an example!		

2. “Doing Sociology” Applications: (100/725 points; 10 points each – 14% of final grade)

The purpose of these assignments is for you to apply a sociological lens to everyday encounters and connect key concepts from the chapter to the “real world.” Each assignment will have its own instructions. Some of these may ask you to make observations or conduct interviews, so plan ahead!

3. Videos: (65/725 points; variable points – 9% of final grade)

You will be asked to watch a video or videos that coincide with the course content we will be discussing and you will have to submit a short reflection or answer questions associated with the videos.

4. Your Take Reflections: (80/725 points; 10 points each – 11% of final grade)

You will be asked to write your thoughts, opinions, and feelings about particular questions offered throughout the course. I want to hear your honest thoughts (not what you think I want to hear!) This is an opportunity for you to really sit and consider where you stand on some particular social issues.

5. Quizzes: (100/725 points; 20 points each – 14% of final grade)

Over the course of the quarter, you will be given 5 short quizzes on the reading materials. 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. I generally post quizzes about a week before they are due; that will allow you to work on them when it is most convenient for you. However, once you begin working on a quiz, there will be a time limit to finish it. Please note that **I do not give make-up quizzes**, so if you miss one, you will receive a zero grade. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO COMPLETE YOUR QUIZZES IN THIS CLASS.

6. Exams: (200/725 points; 100 points each – 27% of final grade)

There will be two exams (essentially a midterm and a final exam - note the final exam is NOT comprehensive). Exams are designed to make sure you understand important course concepts and themes. Exams will include multiple choice and short answer questions. You will have two hours to complete these exams. Due dates are noted on the calendar.

My Recommendations for Studying for Exams:

- You will be provided with a review sheet of key/core concepts. Go through that review sheet, writing out the definitions for key terms in your own words and come up with several examples for each key term. Questions will be application-based (meaning, “the answer” is not going to be found in your textbook). Your exams are not testing your memorization skills; they are assessing how well you understand the information and can apply that understanding to different contexts.
- **DO NOT** rely on Google or Wikipedia or other outside sources. These are not sociological and often incorrect. Not to mention, this is plagiarism.
- **Organize your notes.** You should be taking notes while you read and listen to the lectures. When you are taking the exams, you will need to find information quickly. Perhaps create a note sheet of just key definitions that you are having trouble remembering. Perhaps organize sections in themes. Anything that you do to write and rewrite information is studying and will help you retain the information.

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 email me. 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!

Calendar

Week One: Monday, July 1st – Sunday, July 7th

Readings and Notes to-do this week:

- Chapter 1 (Newman) – Take notes and submit
- Chapter 2 (Newman) – Take notes and submit

Assignments to work on this week:

- Watch Sociological Imagination video and answer questions
- Doing Sociology assignment #1
- Your Take assignment #1
- Watch Stanford Prison Experiment and answer questions
- Doing Sociology assignment #2
- **Quiz** on Chapters 1 and 2 (4 multiple choice; 3 short answer – 35 minutes)



Week Two: Monday, July 8th – Sunday, July 14th

Readings and Notes to-do this week:

- Chapter 3 (Newman) – Take notes and submit
Note: Only read pp. 49-67 of Chapter 3 (skipping 67-81)
- Chapter 4 (Newman) – Take notes and submit

Assignments to work on this week:

- Doing Sociology assignment #3
- Your Take assignment #2
- Watch Is it a Boy or Girl and answer questions
- Watch Danger of a Single Story and answer questions
- Doing Sociology assignment #4
- Your Take assignment #3
- **Quiz** on Chapters 3 and 4 (4 multiple choice; 3 short answer – 35 minutes)



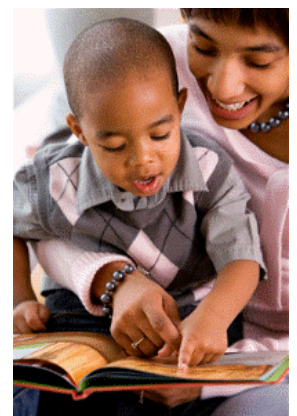
Week Three: Monday, July 15th – Sunday, July 21st

Readings and Notes to-do this week:

- Chapter 5 (Newman) – Take notes and submit

Assignments to work on this week:

- Watch Genie Wiley video and answer questions
- Doing Sociology assignment #5
- Your Take assignment #4
- **Exam #1** over Chapters 1-5 (40 multiple choice; 4 short answer – 2 hours)



Week Four: Monday, July 22nd – Sunday, July 28th

Readings and Notes to-do this week:

- Chapter 10 (Newman) – Take notes and submit
- Watch online lecture and take notes

Assignments to work on this week:

- Your Take assignment #5
- Watch videos of People Like Us and answer questions
- Doing Sociology assignment #6
- Watch videos of Tammy's Story and answer questions
- Doing Sociology assignment #7
- **Quiz** on Chapter 10 (4 multiple choice; 3 short answer – 35 minutes)



Week Five: Monday, July 29th – Sunday, August 4th

Readings and Notes to-do this week:

- Chapter 11 (Newman) – Take notes and submit
- Watch online lecture (History 101) and take notes

Assignments to work on this week:

- Your Take assignment #6
- Watch racial stereotype videos and answer questions
- Watch everyday conversations videos and answer questions
- Doing Sociology assignment #8
- **Quiz** on Chapter 11 (4 multiple choice; 3 short answer- 35 minutes)



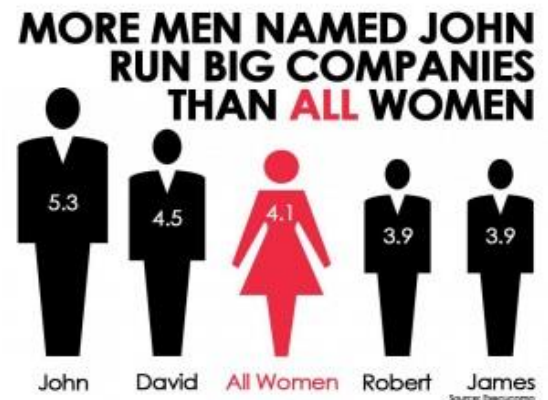
Week Six: Monday, August 5th – Sunday, August 11th

Readings and Notes to-do this week:

- Chapter 12 (Newman) – Take notes and submit
- Watch online lecture and take notes

Assignments to work on this week:

- Watch gender stratification videos and answer questions
- Your Take assignment #7
- Watch street harassment videos and answer questions
- Doing Sociology assignment #9
- **Quiz** on Chapter 12 (4 multiple choice; 3 short answer- 35 minutes)



WEEK Seven: Monday, August 12th – Thursday, August 15th

****Please note the quarter ends on Thursday of this week****

Readings and Notes to-do this week:

- Chapter 14 (Newman) – Take notes and submit

Assignments to work on this week:

- Doing Sociology assignment #10
- Your Take assignment #8
- **Exam #2** over Chapters 10-12; 14 (40 multiple choice; 4 short answer – 2 hours)

