

Introduction to Sociology 1300: Tues/ Thurs 11:30-1:00 AH 108
Professor: Jarron Saint Onge, Ph.D.
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Office: PGH 489
Office Hours: T, Th 10-11 or by appointment
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Required Text:

Giddens, Duneier, Appelbaum, and Carr. *Essentials of Sociology: Second Edition*.
Massey, Garth. *Readings for Sociology*

Optional Text (You Must Choose One):

Lewis, Michael. *Blind Side*.
Luker, Kristin. *When Sex Goes to School*
Anderson, Elijah. *Code of the Street*

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course offers an introduction to the discipline of Sociology. My goal is to introduce you to the theories, methods, and topics in sociology. This class will teach you to take a broad sociological perspective to examine the structure, patterns, and power of society. We will discuss several substantive topics including race/ethnicity, health, poverty, and education. We will apply sociological theory to understand the relationship between individuals and the social structure. The end goal of this class is to learn to view and critique the world through a sociological perspective.

Objectives:

- to introduce students to the ways that sociologists study society.
- develop a working knowledge of the theories and methods of the field of sociology
- critically think, discuss, and write about the topics of this course, providing well-informed opinions based on sociological information
- understand the power of culture and social structure to influence individuals in society
- to examine the existence and perpetuation of social inequalities and to critique categories such as race, class, gender, and sexuality.
- understand how social systems work and realize potential to bring about change in these systems

Grades:

Grading for this class is very straight forward. Final grades are based on

students' total point score as determined by performance on exams, papers, and quizzes. Exams cover both lecture material and assigned readings. They will include multiple choice, short-answer, and essay questions. Grades are based on a percentage of ~550 points: ~5 quizzes (10 points each); 2 papers (50points; 75 points); 2 mid-term exams (100 points each); and the final exam (175 points) I do not offer extra credit assignments. There will be no make-up exams. Missed exams will result in a zero. I do not accept late papers.

Percent	Grade
100-95	A
94-90	A-
89-87	B+
86-83	B
82-80	B-
79-77	C+
76-73	C
72-70	C-
69-60	D
59-0	F

Schedule:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Giddens</u>	<u>Massey</u>
1	Jan 15/17	Sociological Theory and Method	1	2
2	Jan22/24	Culture and Society	2	17, 45
3	Jan 29/31	Socialization and Life Cycle	3	10, 50
4	Feb 5/7	Groups and Networks	5	23,41
5	Feb 12/14	Social Interaction / EXAM1	4	11,12
6	Feb 19/21	Deviance and Crime	6	33, 30
7	Feb 16/28	Class Stratification/ Paper1	7	21,24
8	Mar 4/6	Global Inequality	8	34,46,
9	Mar 11/13	Gender/ EXAM2	9	27,31
10	Mar 18/20	Spring Break		
11	Mar 25/27	Race/ethnicity	10	13, 14
12	Apr 1/3	Families	11	36, 38
13	Apr 8/10	Education and Religion	12	21,44
14	Apr 15/17	Sociology of the Body	14	WebCT
15	Apr 22/24	Urbanization, Population, Environment Paper2	15	29, 26

*Students are responsible for checking WebCT for additional readings and changes to the syllabus.

Exam and Paper Dates

Exam1: Thursday Feb 14

Exam2: Thursday March 11

Paper1: Thursday Feb 28

Paper2: April 24

Tuesday, May 6, FINAL EXAM 11:00-2:00 PM

Communication: Email is an official form of communication. You are responsible for checking your University of Houston official email address on a regular basis. To send me an email, please use SOCY1300 as the subject of your email. This can be followed by whatever subject you'd like (e.g. SOCY1300: exam1) but the message must start with SOCY3400.

Policies for Students with Special Needs: Whenever possible, and in accordance with 504/ADA guidelines, we will attempt to provide reasonable academic accommodations to students who request and require them. Please call 713-743-5400 for more assistance.

Religious Holidays: Please contact the instructor regarding any conflicts between religious observance dates and course examinations or assignments.

Classroom Behavior: Students and faculty have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. I will not tolerate disruptive behavior in course and reserve the right to exclude any student for disruptive behavior. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor requests to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me early in the semester so that I may make changes to my records.

The following behavioral expectations also apply:

- Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and are grounds for failure in this course.
- Because sociologists often study “sensitive” subjects, it is extremely important to be respectful of each other when discussing these matters. Diverse opinions, even controversial ones, are welcome; incivility toward each other will not be tolerated.
- Cellular phones must be turned off during class time, this includes texting.
- Side Conversations WILL NOT be tolerated. I will ask you to leave class.
- Students MAY NOT pack up early. Class will be dismissed at the scheduled time, unless otherwise instructed.