

Oklahoma State University
Syllabus for Honors Introduction to Sociology: SOC 1113-702; SPRING 2015
(TTh, 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm; HSCI 303)

Instructor Information:

Dr. Kristin Waldo

Office: 454 (South) Murray

Office Hours: 10:45 – 12:45 MWF; 12:00 – 1:30 pm TTh; By Appointment.

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IMPORTANT: To ensure that your e-mail is identified, include “**ATTN: SOC 1113-702**” in the subject line!

Course Materials

Required:

The following two texts are sold as a packet at the OSU Bookstore:

Conley, Dalton. 2013. *You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking Like a Sociologist (3rd Ed)*. New York, NY: WW Norton. ISBN 978-0-393-9129909

Massey, Garth. 2011. *Readings for Sociology (7th Ed)*. New York, NY: WW Norton. ISBN 978-0-393-91270-8

Additional texts, readings, etc. will be distributed in class or posted on D2L, as appropriate.

Course Description and Content

Sociology is the study of human behavior in society. More specifically, the science of sociology investigates and considers how society influences human groups and how individuals and groups influence society.

During this course, it is expected that you will gain a basic understanding of:

- The sociological perspective and the fundamentals of sociological research methods;
- The fundamental concepts of culture, social structure, and power;
- Processes of social interaction and the social construction of identities;
- Social institutions and their role in organizing social behavior; and
- Mechanisms of social change.

Attendance Policy

Barring unforeseen circumstances, I plan to be present for every class period. Your attendance is also expected.

- Once the class roster has stabilized, a sign-in sheet will be distributed at the beginning of each class period. Be sure to sign your name. Do **not** sign in for someone who is absent.
- If you are unavoidably late, it is **your responsibility** to contact me **directly after class** in order to sign in. If you fail to contact me after class, you will be counted absent.

Unexcused Absences

You will be allowed two (2) unexcused absences during the semester.

Excused Absences

Excused absences will not count against you and include the following:

- Illness or injury of self or family member(s) in your care;
- Inclement weather for commuters, including severe thunder storms;
- Required participation in university sponsored events;
- Military training;
- Death or hospitalization of a member of the immediate family;
- Court hearings and unavoidable meetings with Probation Officers (or similar CJS situations);

- Other similar (and reasonable) circumstances beyond your control for which proper verification can be provided.
 - To have an absence count as excused, please provide proof of the cause of absence (Dr.'s statement, etc.) during the first class attended after your absence.
 - **Oversleeping, vacation plans, non-university sponsored activities including church, fraternity/sorority/residence hall activities, etc. are not considered excused absences.**

IMPORTANT: Students who miss class will be responsible for the material presented in class during their absence. Arrange to obtain these materials from other classmates...I do not hand out my notes.

Expected Classroom Conduct

- I prefer **not** to see cell-phones, i-Pods, MP3-players, blackberries, and other similar electronic devices in use during class. **If you have these in your possession, turn them off or silence them before class.** Please inform me if you are expecting an emergency call.
- Laptops, SmartPhones, e-Readers, etc., are becoming increasingly problematic in the classroom. If you plan to use a laptop or similar device, please inform me of your intended use. If I find you **surfing the net for amusement, checking and writing e-mails, Facebooking, or engaging in similar activities, your privilege of using your electronic device may be temporarily or permanently revoked.**
- The classroom is a learning environment. It is expected that you will:
 - come prepared by having read the assigned material;
 - come to class with necessary materials to take notes;
 - be attentive during lectures;
 - ask questions concerning any material you do not understand;
 - contribute your insights during class discussions;
 - be courteous to the instructor, Teaching Assistant, and your fellow classmates.
- It is expected that, after class begins, you will **NOT engage in the following (or similar) behaviors:**
 - **read a newspaper or magazine;**
 - **do your homework or study for an exam;**
 - **sleep;**
 - **come to class drunk;**
 - **talk incessantly to your neighbor(s).**

If you do not 'want' to be here, do not come.
- The material in this class will require students to discuss and examine societal differences that, in some cases, may conflict with your personal views, beliefs, and experiences and/or be highly politicized. **Prejudiced, hurtful, or disrespectful remarks directed personally at any member of the class or group will not be tolerated.**

Coursework

This class will include 3 exams, 12 informal 'thinking pieces' (the lowest 2 scores will be dropped), and 2 formal film responses for a total of 600 possible points (excluding points for attendance).

Exams (300 points total):

This class will have three exams, including the final. The third exam will be given during final exam week and will **NOT** be comprehensive. However, I do reserve the right to include concepts which remain problematic for the class as a whole on the final exam.

- For a take-home exam, it is expected that you will work by yourself, will not share exam answers with each other, will not discuss the exam, and will use only the materials from class.
- Violations of the above expectations for a take-home exam will be considered severe violations of academic integrity and will be treated as such.

- You will need an orange scantron and a No. 2 pencil for your exams.
- If a question arises during any exam, e-mail or call me.
- You will be tested on theoretical knowledge, as well as your ability to apply this knowledge.
- It is expected that students will take the exam when scheduled.
 - If you miss the exam due to an absence, it is **your responsibility** to contact me to arrange an examination. Make-up exams are to be completed within two (2) weeks after the scheduled exam. If appropriate arrangements are not made, the exam score will be recorded as zero “0” after two (2) weeks. The make-up exam may or may not be the same as the original exam. Notify me as soon as possible if you know that you will have an excused conflict when an exam is scheduled.

Thinking Pieces (200 points total):

- There will be 12 critical ‘thinking pieces’ (TPs) assigned in the course (the two lowest scores will be dropped). The purpose of these thinking pieces is to help stimulate your thinking about theories, issues, questions, and problems raised by your inquiry into the discipline of sociology.
- The nature of these Thinking Pieces will vary and will include open-ended free-writing tasks, semi-structured tasks, and responses to reading guides.
- Directions for each Thinking Piece will be announced in class and posted on D2L.
- Thinking Pieces are due as a hard copy, typed (unless otherwise announced), at the beginning of the class period on the due date. **Electronic/e-mail versions will not be accepted without prior arrangement with the instructor.**

Film Responses: (100 points total):

- There will be 2 guided film responses due in this class. Each film response is worth 50 points and is due at the beginning of the class period on *the date due*. **Responses must be typewritten, have a minimum of grammatical and spelling errors, and be logical and concise.** Specific guidelines will be handed out before the first in-class film. **Electronic/e-mail versions will not be accepted without prior arrangement with the instructor.**
- **You will be required to submit a digital copy into the D2L Dropbox, as well as a hard copy in class.**

Attendance and Participation (50 points total)

- Every student will begin with 50 points towards attendance. Excused absences will not count against a student’s 50 points. However, for each unexcused absence above the 2 allowed, 5 points will be deducted from your attendance grade.
- To encourage active learning, I will spontaneously assign small tasks to either be completed in class or to bring completed to the next class session. These will be counted as either ‘completed’ or ‘not completed’. Failure to complete these tasks, especially when correlated with poor class attendance, will have a negative impact on your grade.

Extra Credit: (15 points total)

- Every student will have the opportunity to earn up to 15 points extra-credit in this course. Each extra-credit opportunity will be worth a maximum of 5 points and will be announced in-class. **Unless otherwise announced, all extra-credit is due THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2015.**

Grading Scale	
650 -- 585	A
584 -- 520	B
519 -- 455	C
454 -- 390	D
389 and below	F

Points accumulated from:

- Exams: 300 maximum points possible.
- Thinking Pieces: 200 maximum points possible.
- Film Responses: 100 maximum points possible.
- Attendance & Participation: 50 points possible.

Academic Integrity Policy

Cheating and plagiarism are dishonest, disrespectful, and will not be tolerated in this class. Please refer to the **Oklahoma State University Syllabus Attachment** included with this syllabus for a review of OSU's academic integrity policy. For more information, visit <http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu/>

Accommodations

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, each student with a disability is responsible for notifying the University and requesting accommodations. I cannot make special accommodations without a notification from the Office of Disabled Student Services, located at 326 Student Union. If you require special accommodations, it is very important that you notify this office as soon as possible. For more information, view the **Syllabus Attachment** and/or visit <http://sds.okstate.edu/>

Counseling

Life as a student is challenging and can sometimes feel overwhelming. University Counseling Services exists in order to assist students during difficult times. The Main Office is located at 316 Student Union and the phone number is 405-44-5458. If you find yourself in crisis, an on-call counselor is available. After 5:00pm and on weekends, counseling staff may be reached through the OSU Police at 405-744-6523.

TENTATIVE Course Schedule

NOTE: This schedule is subject to modification. Test dates, assigned readings, and assignments are approximations and may be changed at the discretion of the instructor. To be aware of these changes, make it a habit to attend class and to consistently check your OSU e-mail and the course D2L page.

DATE	Topic	Text	Reader	Due Dates
Week 1 Jan 12-16	Introduction History of US Sociology	Chapter 1 & pp. 726 – 729.	<i>What Makes Sociology Different?</i> (Durkheim) <i>The Sociological Imagination</i> (C. Wright Mills) <i>Sociology as Individual Pastime</i> (Berger)	<i>Assign Thinking Piece 1</i>
Week 2 Jan 19-23	Research Methods	pp. 660 – 673 & Chapter 2	<i>Telling the Truth about Damned Lies & Statistics</i> (Best) <i>Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study</i> (Brandt)	Thinking Piece 1 Due Jan. 20 (Assign) Thinking Piece 2
Week 3 Jan 26-30	Culture and Media	Chapter 3	Reading on D2L: <i>Body Ritual Among the Nacirema</i> (Miner)	TP 2 due (Assign) TP 3
Week 4 Feb 2-6	Socialization and the Construction of Reality	Chapter 4	<i>Civility and Order: Adult Social Control of Children in Public Places</i> (Horne, McIlwaine & Taylor) <i>Concerted Cultivation and the Accomplishment of Natural Growth</i> (Lareau)	TP 3 due (Assign) TP 4
Week 5 Feb 9-13	Groups & Networks; Authority & Bureaucracy	Chapter 5 & pp. 576 - 580	<i>On Face-Work</i> (Goffman) <i>Police Accounts of Normal Force</i> (Hunt)	TP 4 due (Assign) TP 5
Week 6 Feb 16-20	<i>In-Class Film</i>	To be announced	Exam I handed out on Feb. 19.	TP 5 due Assign Film Response
Week 7 Feb 23-27	Social Control and Deviance	Chapter 6	<i>From the Panopticon to Disney World</i> (Shearing & Stenning) Reading on D2L: <i>The Saints and the Roughnecks</i> (Chambliss)	Exam I due Feb. 24 (Assign) TP 6
Week 8 March 2-6	Stratification	Chapter 7	<i>Love, Arranged Marriage, and the Indian Social Structure</i> (Gupta) Reading on D2L: <i>What Social Classes Owe to each Other</i> (Sumner) <i>Manifesto of the Communist Party</i> (Marx and Engels)	Film Response Due March 3 TP 6 Due (Assign) TP 7
Week 9 March 9-13	Gender	Chapter 8	<i>Boyhood, Organized Sports, and the Construction of Masculinities</i> (Messner) <i>Domestic Networks</i> (Stack) <i>Shared Paternity</i> (McDonald)	TP 7 due (Assign) TP 8
Week 10 March 16-20	SPRING BREAK: No Classes			
Week 11 March 23-27	<i>In-Class Film</i>	To be announced	To be announced Exam II handed out on March 26	TP 8 due Assign Film Response
Week 12 March 30- April 3	Race	Chapter 9	<i>My Secret Life as a Black Man</i> (Walton) <i>Optional Ethnicities: For Whites Only?</i> (Waters)	Exam II due April 1 (Assign) TP 9
Week 13 April 6-10	Poverty	Chapter 10	<i>When Work Disappears: The World of the New Urban Poor</i> (Wilson) <i>Nickel and Dime: On (Not) Getting By in America</i> (Ehrenreich)	Film Response Due April 9 TP 9 due (Assign) TP 10
Week 14 April 13-17	Capitalism and the Economy	Chapter 14	<i>The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism</i> (Weber) <i>Uses of the Underclass in America</i> (Gans)	TP 10 due (Assign) TP 11
Week 15 April 20-24	Authority and the State	Chapter 15	<i>The My-Lai Massacre</i> (Kelman & Hamilton)	TP 11 due (Assign) TP 12
Week 16 April 27- May 1	Pre-Finals Week Class Choice	To be announced	To be announced	TP 12 due All Extra Credit Due
Week 17 May 4-8	Finals Week		Final Exam: Thurs., May 7, 2:00-3:50 Regular Classroom	

SPRING 2015 SEMESTER FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Day of Exam	Time of the Examination						
	8:00 - 9:50	10:00 - 11:50	12:00 - 1:50	2:00 - 3:50	4:00 - 5:50	6:00 - 7:50	8:00 - 9:50
Monday May 4	(Block 1) MWF 8:30	(Block 2) MWF 11:30	Common Finals ACCT 2203: ANSI 124; CLBN 101, 102; MSCS 101; MUR 035; NRC 106 BIOL 1114: ANSI 123; CLB 313; EN 108; ES 317; LSW 103	(Block 3) MWF 2:30 MW 2:30	Common Finals ACCT 2103: AGH 101, 107, 108; CLB 313 PHYS 1214 PS 101, 110, 141	(Block 16) Monday Early Evening Classes and MWF 4:30 MW 4:00	Monday Night Classes
Tuesday May 5	(Block 4) TR 7:30	(Block 5) TR 10:30	Common Finals ENSC 2113: ARCH 170; ES 317; EN 108 PHYS 1114: PS 101, 110, 141, 153	(Block 6) TR 3:30	Common Finals MATH 1613: CLB 112, 203, 207, 212, 214; PS 101, 110 MATH 2144: AGH 002, 275, 320; CLB 101, 103, 301, 303; CLBN 101, 102; MSCS 101	Tuesday Early Evening Classes	Tuesday Night Classes
Wednesday May 6	(Block 7) MWF 9:30	(Block 8) MWF 12:30	Common Finals MATH 1513: ANSI 123; CLBN 101, 102; EN 108; MSCS 101 PHYS 2014: PS 101, 110, 141, 153	(Block 9) MWF 3:30	Common Finals CHEM 1414: EN 108; PS 101, 141 NSCI 2114: CLB 313; NRC 106	Wednesday Early Evening Classes	Wednesday Night Classes
Thursday May 7	(Block 10) TR 9:00	(Block 11) TR 12:30	Common Finals CHEM 1314: EN 108; ES 317; PS 101, 110, 141 MSIS 3223: AGH 101; ANSI 123; CLB 313; MUR 035; NRC 106	(Block 12) TR 2:00	Common Finals FIN 3113: ANSI 123, 124; CLB 313; ES 317; NRC 106 PHYS 2114: PS 101, 110, 141	Thursday Early Evening Classes	Thursday Night Classes
Friday May 8	(Block 13) MWF 7:30 MW 8:00	(Block 14) MWF 10:30	Common Finals CHEM 1215: AGH 101, 107, 108; CLB 313 CHEM 1515: ANSI 123, 124; NRC 106; PS 101, 110, 141	(Block 15) MWF 1:30	Make-up Exams	Friday Early Evening Classes	Friday Night Classes