

SOCIOLOGY 115B
INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY
FALL 2009
M/W 6b

Instructor Vince P. Ramunni
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TEXT: Korgen, K. Odell and Jonathan M. White. The Engaged Sociologist, Second Edition. Los Angeles: Pine Forge Press, 2009.

(Supplemental readings to be announced throughout the semester)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the study of sociology. Students will be encouraged to develop skills such as observing, questioning, thinking, and debating. Students will also be introduced to theoretical principles, historical development of the sociological perspective, and social life. Topics will include but are not limited to social order, culture, socialization, stratification, and social institutions. Emphasis will be placed on application of sociological insights to the world in which we live.

COURSE GOALS:

- gain an understanding of the central ideas that define the field of sociology, its methodology, its major theorists and their contributions
- examine social trends, their evolution, their effects and implications for social change upon institutions as well as upon individuals
- increase your knowledge and comprehension of the changing compositions, culture and structure of the United States and the world
- gain empathy for those different than ourselves

GRADING:

Grading will be based on a total of 500 points, with this breakdown:

- Class Participation/Reading Notes- 50 points
- Quizzes (two)- 25 points each (50 points total)
- Mid Term- 100 points
- Journal Reviews (two)- 50 points each (100 points total)
- Writing Assignment/Project- 100 points
- Final Exam- 100 points

Tests and quizzes will be based on information gathered from required reading, lecture notes, and class videos. Due dates for Journal Reviews, Reading Notes, and Writing Assignments/Projects will be assigned as the semester progresses.

Course grades follow the letter-grade system. Of course, it is within the instructor's control and authority to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for an assignment or for a course. Please consult the **Student Handbook** for description of the requirements for attaining each grade. The numerical ranges used in assigning each letter grade in this course are as follows:

A	93-100%	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C -	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	0-59

COURSE POLICIES:

ATTENDANCE:

While it is understood that there are circumstances that would prevent a student from attending class (illness, family emergency), **regular attendance is fully expected**. The student, in such a case, is expected to **notify the instructor** as soon as possible of the situation. Students should also check with the instructor regarding missed work or assignments. This is your responsibility!

Attendance will be reflected in your Class Participation/Reading Notes grade. Therefore, students may not make up class work that takes place during classes for which they are absent. Missed class work will result in lost points toward your Class Participation/Reading Notes grade.

MISSED TESTS, QUIZZES, AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

Every possible effort should be made to take exams and quizzes on the scheduled dates. Test and quiz dates will be announced with at least a ten day notice. Late papers will be accepted with a penalty (10% deduction) for each day that they are late (including weekends and holidays).

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Students should acquaint themselves with the college's policy on Academic Honesty in the current **Student Handbook**, specifically both sections entitled "Plagiarism" and "Cheating." Any student found to have not upheld the college's policy shall be dismissed from the course, and assigned a grade of F. Students are urged to see the instructor if they have any questions regarding this matter.

COURSE OUTLINE AND LECTURE TOPICS:

The instructor, with cooperation from the class, will make every effort to cover the topics listed below. The list, however, is subject to modification to best fit the needs of the class. Students will be given weekly reading assignments and should be ready at all times to discuss text chapters during class. Each student should expect to work at least five hours per week outside of class, not including study time for tests and quizzes.

LIST OF TOPICS:

- Course Introduction
- The Sociological Perspective
- Founders and Theory
- Sociological Methods
- Civic Engagement and Apathy
- Socialization
- Deviance
- Stratification
- Race and Ethnicity
- Sex, Gender, and Power
- Institutions- Family and Economy
- Institutions- Education, Government, and Religion
- Sociology in Action

PLEASE NOTE:

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the office of Learning Services.

