

SOCIOLOGY 115B
INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY
FALL 2013

Instructor: Vince P. Ramunni
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TEXT: Korgen, K. Odell and Jonathan M. White. The Engaged Sociologist, Fourth Edition. Los Angeles: Pine Forge Press, 2013.

(Supplemental readings to be announced throughout the semester)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the study of sociology where students are encouraged to develop skills such as observing, questioning, thinking, and debating. During the semester students are introduced to theoretical principles, the historical development of the sociological perspective, and social life. Topics include but are not limited to social order, culture, socialization, stratification, and social institutions. Emphasis is placed on the application of sociological insights into the world where we live.

GOALS:

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

GRADING:

Scoring- Your final grade will be based on a total of 700 points, with this breakdown:

Class Participation/Reading Notes	100 points
Chapter Quizzes	100 points
Two Quizzes (50 points each)	100 points
Mid Term	100 points
Two Literary Reviews (50 points each)	100 points
Project	100 points
Final Exam	<u>100 points</u>
	700 points total

Tests and quizzes will be based on information gathered from required reading, lecture notes, and class discussions. Due dates for Literary Reviews, Reading Notes, and 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 the course. Please consult the **Student Handbook** for a 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 could prevent a student from attending class (illness, family emergency), **regular attendance is fully expected**. If a class is missed, 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 grade. Because regular attendance is expected, students may find it difficult to make up class activities that take place during classes for which they are absent. Missed work will result in lost points toward your Class Participation grade.

Each unexcused absence will result in a 5 point deduction from the final Class Participation grade. Students using cell phones or any other unnecessary electronic devices during class shall be considered absent from that class and will incur a 5 point deduction as they would for an unexcused absence.

Class participation, for the purpose of this semester, will be measured by student attendance, attentiveness, and contribution to discussion.

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 10 day notice.

Hard copies of all papers and written assignments must be submitted in person at the beginning of class on the given due date. **In short, do not email your papers!** Any paper or assignment not submitted in this fashion will be considered late. Late papers will be accepted with a penalty (10% deduction) for each day 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 list of topics on the following page. This list of topics and the syllabus in general are 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. Multiple choice quizzes will also be given during the semester to ensure that reading assignments are completed.

Each student should expect to work at least 5 to 10 hours per week outside of class in order to complete all reading and writing assignments and to adequately prepare for tests and quizzes.

PLEASE NOTE: Students requesting accommodations in this class due to a disability should contact the Academic and Disability Support Office, 1307 Main Street, Bethlehem, by calling (610) 861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the office of Learning Services. Those interested are encouraged to take action as soon as possible to enhance the likelihood that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

LIST OF TOPICS AND WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Week One (Aug 27-29)

- The Syllabus and Other Formalities
- Reading Notes Assigned (1 and 2)
- The Sociological Perspective
- Founders and Foundations

Week Two (Sept 3- 5)

- No Class September 3
- Founders and Foundations (cont)
- Reading Notes Assigned (3 and 4)
- Chapter Quiz #1

Week Three (Sept 10-12)

- How Do We Know What We Think We Know?
- Surveys and Statistics
- Literary Review #1 Assigned
- Chapter Quiz #2

Week Four (Sept 17-19)

- Quiz #1
- Reading Notes Assigned (5)
- Creating Civic Engagement Versus Creating Apathy
- Chapter Quiz #3

Week Five (Sept 24-26)

- Creating Civic Engagement Versus Apathy (continued)
- Literary Review #1 Due/Discussion
- Chapter Quiz #4

Week Six (Oct 1-3)

- Learning How to Act in Society
- Reading Notes Assigned (6)
- Chapter Quiz #5

Week Seven (Oct 8-10)

- Learning How to Act in Society (cont)
- Review for Mid Term Exam
- Mid Term Exam

Week Eight (Oct 15-17)

- No Class October 15
- Project Discussion
- Literary Review #2 Assigned
- Reading Notes Assigned (7)

Week Nine (Oct 22-24)

- Deviant Behavior and Social Movements
- Reading Notes Assigned (8)
- Chapter Quiz #6

Week Ten (Oct 29-31)

- Stratification and Social Class
- Literary Review #2 Due/Discussion
- Quiz #2
- Chapter Quiz #7
- Reading Notes Assigned (9)

Week Eleven (Nov 5-7)

- Stratification (continued)
- Racial and Ethnicity
- Chapter Quiz #8
- Reading Notes Assigned (10)

Week Twelve (Nov 12-14)

- Racial and Ethnicity (cont)
- Sex, Gender, and Power
- Chapter Quiz #9

Week Thirteen (Nov 19-21)

- Sex, Gender, and Power (cont)
- Social Institutions
- Chapter Quiz #10
- Projects Due

Week Fourteen (Nov 26-28)

NO CLASSES- Thanksgiving Break

Week Fifteen (Dec 3-5)

- Social Institutions (cont)
- Final Exam Review

Final Exam Friday, December 13, 2013 at 130pm