

SOCIOLOGY 115 PM
INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY
SPRING 2015
Wednesday 630pm

Instructor: Vince P. Ramunni
Office Hours: by appointment
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TEXT: Korgen, K. Odell and Jonathan M. White. The Engaged Sociologist, Fifth Edition. Washington DC: Sage Publications, 2015.

(Supplemental readings to be announced throughout the semester)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an introduction to the study of sociology where students develop their critical thinking and observation skills. 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:

- Gain an understanding of the central ideas that define the field of sociology, its methodology, and contributions from its major theorists
- Examine social trends, their evolution, and their effects and implications for social change upon institutions and individuals
- Increase knowledge and comprehension of the ever-changing compositions, culture, and structure of the world
- 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 Writing Assignments (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 Writing Assignments, 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

CREDIT HOUR REQUIREMENTS:

Class Meeting Time (14 classes)	42 hours
Mid Term Exam Preparation	10 hours
Quiz Preparation (two total)	10 hours
Writing Assignments (two total)	30 hours
Reading Assignments (12 chapters)	48 hours
Project (including community activities)	20 hours
Final Exam Preparation	<u>20 hours</u>
Total Estimated Hours	180 hours

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 7 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.

LIST OF TOPICS AND WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Week One (January 21)

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

Week Two (January 28)

- Chapter Quiz #1
- Founders and Foundations (cont)
- How Do We Know What We Think We Know? (Ch 3)
- Reading Notes Assigned

Week Three (February 4)

- Chapter Quiz #2
- How Do We Know What We Think We Know? (continued)
- Surveys and Statistics
- Writing Assignment #1 Assigned

Week Four (February 11)

- Quiz #1
- Creating Civic Engagement Versus Creating Apathy (Ch 4)
- Reading Notes Assigned

Week Five (February 18)

- Chapter Quiz #3
- Creating Civic Engagement Versus Apathy (continued)
- Writing Assignment #1 Due

Week Six (February 25)

- Chapter Quizzes #4 and #5
- Learning How to Act in Society (Ch 5)
- Reading Notes Assigned
- Project Discussion
- Review for Mid Term Exam

Week Seven (March 4)

- Mid Term Exam

Week Eight (March 11)

- Break- No Class

Week Nine (March 18)

- Chapter Quiz #6
- Deviant Behavior and Social Movements (Ch 6)
- Writing Assignment #2 Assigned
- Reading Notes Assigned

Week Ten (March 25)

- Quiz #2
- Stratification and Social Class (Ch 7)
- Reading Notes Assigned

Week Eleven (April 1)

- Chapter Quizzes #7 and #8
- Stratification (continued)
- Writing Assignment #2 Due
- Race and Ethnicity (Ch 8)
- Reading Notes Assigned

Week Twelve (April 8)

- Chapter Quiz #9
- Race and Ethnicity (continued)
- Sex, Gender, and Power (Ch 9)

Week Thirteen (April 15)

- Chapter Quiz #10
- Sex, Gender, and Power (continued)
- Social Institutions (Ch 10)

Week Fourteen (April 22)

- Projects Due
- Social Institutions (Ch 11)

Week Fifteen (April 29)

- Sociology in Action (Ch 12)
- Final Exam Review

Week Sixteen (May 6)

- Final Exam 630pm

PLEASE NOTE:

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Ms. Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Academic & Disability Support, located on the first floor of Monocacy Hall (extension 1401). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic & Disability Support office.