

SOCIOLOGY 115 A
INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY
SPRING 2016
T/TH 1145am-1255pm

Instructor:
Office Hours:
Email:
Cell:

Vince P. Ramunni
by appointment
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484.274.4797

TEXT: Korgen, K. Odell and Jonathan M. White. The Engaged Sociologist, Fifth Edition. Washington DC: Sage Publications, 2015.
ISBN: 9781483359199

(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 600 points, with this breakdown:

Chapter Quizzes/Reading Notes	100 points
Two Quizzes (50 points each)	100 points
Mid Term	100 points
Two Writing Assignments (50 points each)	100 points
Project	50 points
Final Exam	100 points
Class Participation	<u>50 points</u>
	600 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 (28 classes)	33 hours
Mid Term Exam Preparation	10 hours
Quiz Preparation (2 total)	10 hours
Chapter Quiz Preparation (5 total)	10 hours
Writing Assignments (2 total)	30 hours
Reading Assignments (12 chapters)	48 hours
Reading Notes (6 chapters)	12 hours
Project (including community activities)	20 hours
Final Exam Preparation	<u>10 hours</u>
Total Estimated Hours	183 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.

Students using laptop computers or other devices to take notes during class should be prepared to submit those notes upon request.

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.

PLEASE NOTE:

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact the Academic Support Center, located in the lower level of Monocacy Hall, by calling 610-861-1401. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

TOPICS AND WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Week One (Jan 19-21)

- The Syllabus and Other Formalities
- The Sociological Perspective
- Founders and Foundations

Week Two (Jan 26-28)

- Founders and Foundations
- Chapter Quiz/Reading Notes #1

Week Three (Feb 2-4)

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

Week Four (Feb 9-11)

- Quiz #1
- Creating Civic Engagement Versus Creating Apathy
- Chapter Quiz/Reading Notes #3

Week Five (Feb 16-18)

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

Week Six (Feb 23-25)

- Learning How to Act in Society
- Chapter Quiz/Reading Notes #5
- Project Discussion

Week Seven (March 1-3)

- Learning How to Act in Society (cont)
- Review for Mid Term Exam
- Literary Review #2 Assigned
- Mid Term Exam (March 3)

Week Eight (March 8-10)

- Break- No Classes

Week Nine (March 15-17)

- Deviant Behavior and Social Movements
- Project Discussion
- Chapter Quiz/Reading Notes #6

Week Ten (March 22-24)

- Stratification and Social Class
- Literary Review #2 Due/Discussion
- Chapter Quiz/Reading Notes #7
- Project Discussion

Week Eleven (March 29-31)

- Stratification (continued)
- Race and Ethnicity
- Quiz #2

Week Twelve (April 5-7)

- Race and Ethnicity (cont)
- Sex, Gender, and Power
- Chapter Quiz/Reading Notes #8

Week Thirteen (April 12-14)

- Sex, Gender, and Power (cont)
- Social Institutions
- Chapter Quiz/Reading Notes #9

Week Fourteen (April 19-21)

- Social Institutions (cont)
- Chapter Quiz/Reading Notes #10
- Projects Due

Week Fifteen (April 26-28)

- Social Institutions (cont)
- Final Exam Review

Final Exam- Friday, May 6, 2016, at 11:30am