



SOCIOLOGY 201 (003): Sociological Imagination

Course Description and Objectives: The social world is often taken for granted or reduced to explanations that stem from conventional wisdom and personal experience. This course is designed to encourage students to develop analytical, social-scientific frameworks for analyzing the social world in a context that transcends conventional wisdom and personal experience. The major question driving this course is "What are the social forces operating in the world, often beyond the control of individuals, that shape individual behaviors and societal changes?" Topics include culture, socialization, social and economic inequalities, social structure, organizational behavior, social groups, deviance, and social institutions (family, religion, education, and economy, etc).

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to define basic social scientific concepts pertaining to life in society
2. Students will be able to analyze the social world from different social scientific perspectives (functionalist, conflict, and interactionist)
3. Students will be able to identify the various social forces impacting society and social life
4. Students shall be able to interpret social scientific data regarding human interactions, group processes, and societal trends
5. Students will be able to describe the ways in which inequities by gender, race, and class impact our social world
6. Student will develop effective writing skills.

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Adams State College
Department of Sociology
Fall 2011
MWF 1:00-1:50pm
Community Partnerships, 142

Texts and Articles:

Sociology: The Basics, by John J. Macionis. 10th edition, 2009
and

Readings for Sociology, edited by Garth Massey. Sixth edition, 2009.

*Additional articles available on Website.

Assignments/Exams

Participation (10%): To do well in this class you must participate in class discussions. Quality class participation is contingent on reading *prior* to attending class. All readings for a given day should be done *prior to the class period* in question.

How to use the library (5%): A detailed description of this assignment is available on the course webpage. This assignment is due the 7th of September.

Take-home Essays (40%): Two short take-home assignments will be given throughout the semester. Each assignment consists of a short essay (3-4 pages) in which you must evaluate a current sociological event or situation in relation to material covered in class. Further details are provided below. An example essay is provided on Website.

Midterm exam (25%): A midterm exam will be given during the first class period of Week 11. The exam consists of multiple choice and short answer essay questions. If you read and attend lecture you will be well prepared for the exam.

Final Exam (20%): Students will take a comprehensive final exam during finals week. Time and place TBA.

Written work: All written work must be typed, double-spaced, 12-point font (Garamond or Times New Roman preferred), with 1" margins on all sides. Papers *may not* be turned in via e-mail unless I request a digital copy. Late papers will be penalized with a 10 point deduction for each day after the deadline.

Extra Credit: For each essay, if you utilize the writing lab I will increase your final grade, for that particular assignment, by 5 percent (you will need to provide edited drafts with your final essay).

Persons with Disabilities: If you have any sort of disability or personal problem which prevents the fullest expression of your abilities, please let me know as soon as possible during the semester - before it interferes with your work - so that I can make a reasonable accommodation to your needs.

Academic Misconduct: Taking the easy way out will have real consequences in this class (check out turnitin.com). Plagiarism, cheating, or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any student engaging in academic dishonesty will be dropped from the course and formal charges will be brought before the Department Chair.

Date	Topic	Reading
08/22	Introduction	Syllabus (benjaminjameswaddell.com)
08/24	Sociological Imagination	-C. Wright Mills, "The Sociological Imagination." Ch. 2 -Peter L. Berger, "Sociology as an Individual Pastime (from <i>Invitation to Sociology</i>)," Ch. 1
08/26	The Science of Sociology	Macionis, Ch. 1 (p. 1-19)

08/29	Sociological Research and Methodological Approaches	-Michael Burawoy, "Public Sociologies: Contradictions, Dilemmas, and Possibilities." Ch. 4
08/31	Damned Lies and Statistics	-Joel Best, "Telling the Truth about Damned Lies and Statistics." Ch. 6 -Emile Durkheim, "What Makes Sociology Different?." Ch. 3
09/02	Research Ethics	-Allan M. Brandt, "Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study." Ch. 7
09/05	Labor Day	No Class
09/07	The Role of Culture in Society *Assignment Due	-Macionis, Ch. 2 (p. 38-69) -Gupta, Riri Raj. "Love, Arranged Marriage, and the Indian Social Structure", Ch. 40 *How to use the library assignment due.
09/09	Culture cont.	-Elijah Anderson, "The Code of the Street." Ch 11
09/12	Socialization	-Macionis, Ch. 3 (p. 72-73 and 79-91) -Watson, James L. "McDonald's in Hong Kong", Ch. 9
09/14	Mass murder and Genocide	-Herbert C. Kelman and V. Lee Hamilton, "The My Lai Massacre." Ch. 5
09/16	The Socialization of "Normal" Force *Paper Due	-Hunt, Jennifer. "Police Accounts of Normal Force", Ch. 34 *First Short Paper Due in Class
09/19	Social Interaction	-Macionis, Ch. 4 (p. 98-115)
09/21	Constructing Social Class	-Julie Bettie, "Women Without Class: <i>Chicas, Cholas</i> , Trash, and the Presence/Absence of Class Identity." Ch. 17
09/23	Constructing Masculinity	-Messner, Michael A. "Boyhood, Organized Sports, and the Construction of Masculinities", Ch. 16
09/26	Deviance and Social Control	Macionis, Ch 7 (p. 176-201)
09/28	Prison Population in the U.S.	Rhodes, Lorna A. "From <i>Total Confinement: Madness and Reason in the Maximum Security Prison</i> ", Ch. 33
09/30	Deviance in Everyday Life	-Beth Montemurro, "Deviance and Liminality", Ch. 12
10/03	In class film	-In Class Film: <i>Very Young Girls</i> . 81 min.
10/05	In class film	-Finish up <i>Very Young Girls</i>
10/07	Fall Break	No Class
10/10	Midterm Review	Midterm Review in Class
10/12	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam in Class
10/14	Economics, Politics and Illicit Trade	-Macionis, Ch. 12 (p. 334-371)
10/17	Social Inequality at the Dawn of the Industrial Revolution	-Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. "Manifesto of the Communist Party", Ch. 23
10/19	McDonaldization	-George Ritzer. "The McDonald's System (from <i>The</i>

		<i>McDonaldisation of Society</i>)”, Ch. 45
10/21	The Political Economy Supply and Demand in the Cocaine Market	-Peceny, Mark and Michael Durnan. (2003). “The FARC’s Best Friend: United States Anti-Drug Policies and the Resurgence of Colombia’s Civil War in the 1990s,” (Website). -THE PLANS: Plan Caribe, Plan los Andes, Plan Colombia and Plan Mérida (To be discussed in class).
10/24	Stratification	-Play with <i>Gapminder</i> before coming to class: http://www.gapminder.org/ -Macionis, Chp 8 (p.206-245)
10/26	The Spirit of Capitalism	-Max Weber. “From <i>The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism</i> ”. Ch. 39
10/28	Racial Stratification	-Conley, Dalton. "Forty Acres and a Mule", pg. 261-276 (Website).
10/31	Global Stratification	-Macionis, Ch. 9 (p. 246-273)
11/02	The Shifts of a Global Economy in the U.S.	-William Julius Wilson, “The World of the New Urban Poor.” Ch. 30
11/04	Third World Poverty in the Age of Globalization	-John Isbister. “The Foundations of Third World Poverty”. Ch. 38
11/07	The Shifts of a Global Economy in Central America	-Presentation on La Carpio
11/09	Migration and Immigration	-Douglas Massey, <i>Smoke and Mirrors</i> p. 1-51 (Website).
11/11	The Culture of Migration *Second Short Paper Due	-Richard Rodriguez, “Go North, Young Man.” Ch. 20 *Second Short Paper Due in Class
11/14	Remittances and Development	-In-class presentation on migrant remittances and development
11/16	Race and Ethnicity	-Macionis, Ch. 11 (p. 302-333)
11/18	Race in everyday life	-Mary C. Waters, “Optional Ethnicities: For Whites Only?” Ch. 21 -Herbert J. Gans, “Uses of the Underclass in America.” Ch. 31
11/21	Education	-Macionis Ch. 14 (p. 412-429)
11/23	Thanksgiving	No Class
11/25	Thanksgiving	No Class
11/28	Forms of capital	-Pierre Bourdieu, “The Forms of Capital,” p. 15-29 (Website).
11/30	Population,	-Gapminder to begin class.

	Urbanization and Environment	-Macdonis Ch. 15 (p. 450-481)
12/02	In Class Film	-In class film: <i>An Inconvenient Truth</i>
12/05	In Class Film	-In class film: <i>An Inconvenient Truth</i>
12/07	The Future	-McKibbin, Bill. "The Cuban Diet", Ch. 51
12/09	Review for Exam	-In-class review for Final Exam
12/12	Final Exam	Final Exam (Time and Place TBA)