



## SOCIOLOGY 201 (003/005): 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 University  
Department of Sociology  
Fall 2013  
MWF 10:00-10:50 (Sec 005)  
MWF 1:00-1:50 (Sec 003)  
MCD, 316

**Texts and Articles:**

\*All readings are available as PDFs either on my Website or via MySocLab.

**MySocLab:**

Students MUST purchase an access code for MySocLab. To purchase the code click on the following link (or copy and paste it into the browser of your choice):

[www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/product.asp?isbn=0205159192](http://www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/product.asp?isbn=0205159192)

Choose the option "Yes I have a course ID" and enter the following code **waddell71416** for Soc 201. Once the screen loads select "MySocLab" and press "next". After you enter the necessary information you will be prompted to pay for the MySocLab access code. You can either pay with a credit card or via Paypal. After your payment goes through you will gain access to MySocLab. At this point you can begin to explore the course. Throughout the semester you will be accountable for completing assignments that accompany class lecture and readings. Thus, the earlier you get to know the contents and tools of MySocLab the better. Once you have explored MySocLab a little click on the tab labeled "Student Resources" and select "MySocLibrary." On the upper left-hand side of your screen click on "author" and then search for C. Wright Mills. Once you have located Mills click on C. Wright Mills, "The Promise." This is your first reading assignment. Also, please note that this is how you will locate additional readings in MySocLab. Once you have read "The Promise" go back to "Student Resources" and click on "Core Concept Videos" and search for "Sociologists at Work." Watch the video. Additional videos assigned for the course will be located here as well.

**Assignments/Exams**

**Quizzes (20%):** Four unannounced quizzes will be administered throughout the semester. Quizzes will address material covered in the previous two or three class periods plus the material assigned for that particular day.

**Essay Assignment Part 1 (10%) and Part 2 (20%):** Part of your grade will be determined based on your performance on a two-part essay assignment. The first part of the assignment is worth 10% of your final grade, while the second part of the assignment is worth 20%. Further details concerning these assignments are provided on the course website.

**Midterm exam (20%):** A midterm exam will be given midway through the semester. The exam consists of multiple choice and true/false questions. If you read, take the assigned quizzes and attend lecture you will be well prepared for the exam.

**Final Presentation (20%):** Toward the end of the semester students will give a group presentation in class. Presentations will be done in groups of three to four students. Additional information concerning this assignment is provided on the course website.

**Final Exam (10%):** Students will take a comprehensive final exam during finals week.

**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. 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                                                                                                                                      | Assignments                                                                                                           |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 08/19 | Introduction                                        | Syllabus (benjaminjameswaddell.com);                                                                                                         | *Read “Tips for being a successful student.”(Website)<br>* MySocLab access (class access code: <b>waddell71416</b> ). |
| 08/21 | Sociological Imagination                            | -C. Wright Mills, “The Promise.” (MySocLab)                                                                                                  | *Watch the Video: “Sociologists at Work.”                                                                             |
| 08/23 | The Science of Sociology                            | -Richard J. Gelles and Mary M. Cavanaugh, “Association is Not Causation.” (MySocLab)                                                         | *Watch the Video: “Objectivity: Fact or Fiction?”                                                                     |
| 08/26 | Sociological Research and Methodological Approaches | -William E. Thompson, "Hanging Tongues: A Social Encounter with the Assembly Line".                                                          | * Watch the Video: “Qualitative vs. Quantitative Research.”                                                           |
| 08/28 | Research Ethics                                     | -Allan M. Brandt, “Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study.” (Website, see Ch 7 in <i>Readings for Sociology 1</i> PDF) | *Watch the Video: “Medical Ethics and Morality.”                                                                      |
| 08/30 | Research Cont.                                      |                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                       |
| 09/02 | No Class!!!                                         | -Labor Day.                                                                                                                                  | *Work on Essay Assignment Part I!                                                                                     |
| 9/04  | Review Essay Assignment                             | -In-class review of essay assignment, intro to U.S. Census data and review of data management in Excel.                                      | *Watch the Video: “Challenges Facing Cities.”                                                                         |
| 09/06 | The Role of Culture in Society                      | -Gupta, Riri Raj. “Love, Arranged Marriage, and the Indian Social Structure.” (Website, see Ch 40                                            |                                                                                                                       |

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|       |                                              | in <i>Readings for Sociology 2</i> PDF)                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                |
| 09/09 | Culture cont.                                | -Elijah Anderson, "The Code of the Street." (MySocLab)<br>-Horace Miner, "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema." (MySocLab)                                                   | *Watch: "A Society of Consumers."                                                              |
| 09/11 | <b>Socialization</b>                         | - Kingsley Davis, "Final Note on an Extreme Case of Social Isolation." (MySocLab)                                                                                       | *Watch: "Gender Socialization."                                                                |
| 09/13 | Mass murder and Genocide                     | -Herbert C. Kelman and V. Lee Hamilton, "The My Lai Massacre." (Website, see Ch 5 in <i>Readings for Sociology</i> PDF)                                                 | *Watch: "Play it again 1 & 2."<br>*Watch: "Social Interaction and Social Roles."               |
| 09/16 | The Socialization of "Normal" Force          | -Hunt, Jennifer. "Police Accounts of Normal Force." (Website)                                                                                                           | <b>*Essay Assignment Part 1 Due In Class!</b>                                                  |
| 09/18 | <b>Religion</b>                              | -Mark Chaves, "Abiding Faith." (MySocLab)                                                                                                                               | *Watch: "History of Religion in America."<br>*Watch: "The Persistence of Religion in America." |
| 09/20 | Religion in history                          | -In Class Film: <i>The Story of God</i> (BBC).                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                |
| 09/23 | Religion and Science                         | -In Class Film: <i>The God Delusion</i> .<br>-Elaine Howard Ecklund, "Religion and Spirituality Among Scientists." (MySocLab)                                           |                                                                                                |
| 09/25 | <b>Deviance and Social Control</b>           | -Peter Berger, "The Meaning of Social Control." (MySocLab)                                                                                                              |                                                                                                |
| 09/27 | In class film                                | -Ronald Weitzer, "Prostitution: Facts and Fiction." (MySocLab)<br>-In Class Film: <i>The Day My God Died</i>                                                            |                                                                                                |
| 09/30 | Midterm Review                               | Midterm Review in Class                                                                                                                                                 | *Review for midterm exam.                                                                      |
| 10/02 | <b>Midterm Exam</b>                          | <b>Midterm Exam in Class</b>                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                |
| 10/04 | <b>No Class</b>                              | <b>Fall Break, no class!!!</b>                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                |
| 10/07 | <b>Economics, Politics and Illicit Trade</b> | -Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, "Manifesto of the Communist Party." (MySocLab)                                                                                         | *Return mid-terms in class.                                                                    |
| 10/09 | 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). |                                                                                                |
| 10/11 | Market Control                               | -Robert J. MacCoun and Peter Reuter, "Does Europe Do It Better? Lessons from Holland, Britain and Switzerland." (MySocLab)                                              |                                                                                                |
| 10/14 | <b>Stratification</b>                        | -Davis and Moore, "Some Principles of Stratification." (MySocLab)                                                                                                       |                                                                                                |
| 10/16 | The Spirit of Capitalism                     | -Max Weber, "Asceticism and the Spirit of Capitalism" (MySocLab).                                                                                                       | *Watch: "Diminishing Opportunity."                                                             |
| 10/18 | Racial Stratification                        | -Dalton Conley, "Forty Acres and a Mule", p. 261-                                                                                                                       | *Watch: "Economics of the                                                                      |

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|-------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|       |                                                 | 276 (Website, see <i>Inequality and Society</i> PDF)                                        | African-American Family.”                                                               |
| 10/21 | <b>Global Stratification</b>                    | -Robert Perrucci and Earl Wysong, "The Global Economy and the Privileged Class." (MySocLab) | *Watch: “Globalization.”                                                                |
| 10/23 | The Sociology of Recessions                     | -Bruce G. Carruthers, "A Sociology of Bubbles." (MySocLab)                                  |                                                                                         |
| 10/25 | The Shifts of a Global Economy in the U.S.      | -Herbert J. Gans, “Uses of the Underclass in America.” (MySocLab)                           | *Watch: “Consequences of Poverty.”                                                      |
| 10/28 | <b>Migration and Immigration</b>                | -Edward Telles, “Mexican Americans and Immigrant Incorporation.” (MySocLab)                 |                                                                                         |
| 10/30 | Crime and Immigration                           | -Robert Sampson, “Rethinking Crime and Immigration.” (MySocLab)                             |                                                                                         |
| 11/01 | Root Causes of Immigration                      | -In class film: <i>The Other Side of Immigration</i> .                                      | <b>*Essay Assignment 2 Due In Class!</b>                                                |
| 11/04 | <b>Race and Ethnicity</b>                       | -William Julius Wilson, “When Work Disappears” (MySocLab).                                  |                                                                                         |
| 11/06 | Economics and Race                              | -Massey, Douglas. "The Psychology of Social Stratification," pg. 387-396 (Website).         | Watch: “Racial Stereotypes and Discrimination.”                                         |
| 11/08 | <b>Population, Urbanization and Environment</b> | -Lester Brown, et al., "Sixteen Impacts of Population Growth." (MySocLab)                   | *Watch: “Population Growth and Decline.”                                                |
| 11/11 | Tragedy of the Commons                          | -Garrett Hardin “The Tragedy of the Commons” (Website).                                     | *Watch: “Challenges Facing Cities.”<br>*Watch: “Individual Rights vs. The Common Good.” |
| 11/13 | Environment                                     | In class video: <i>An Inconvenient Truth</i> .                                              |                                                                                         |
| 11/15 | Presentations                                   |                                                                                             |                                                                                         |
| 11/18 | Presentations                                   |                                                                                             |                                                                                         |
| 11/20 | Presentations                                   |                                                                                             |                                                                                         |
| 11/22 | Presentations                                   |                                                                                             |                                                                                         |
| 11/25 | Presentations                                   |                                                                                             |                                                                                         |
| 11/27 | <b>NO CLASS</b>                                 | <b>Thanksgiving Break</b>                                                                   |                                                                                         |
| 11/29 | <b>NO CLASS</b>                                 | <b>Thanksgiving Break</b>                                                                   |                                                                                         |
| 12/02 | Presentations                                   |                                                                                             |                                                                                         |
| 12/04 | Presentations                                   |                                                                                             |                                                                                         |
| 12/06 | Review                                          | -In-class review for Final Exam                                                             |                                                                                         |
| 12/12 | <b>Final Exam for Section 005</b>               | <b>Final Exam Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm</b>                               | <b>MWF 10:00-10:50 (Sec 005)</b>                                                        |
| 12/13 | <b>Final Exam for Section 003</b>               | <b>Final Exam Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm</b>                                 | <b>MWF 1:00-1:50 (Sec 003)</b>                                                          |