



SOCIOLOGY 201 (002/003): 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 University

Department of Sociology

Spring 2014

TR 1:00-2:15 (Sec 002)

TR 9:30-10:45 (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 (\$55.00). 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

Choose the option "Yes I have a course ID" and enter the following code **waddell13731** 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
01/14	Introduction	-Syllabus (benjaminjameswaddell.com)	*Read “Tips for being a successful student.” (Website.) *MySocLab access (class access code: waddell13731).
01/16	Sociological Imagination	-C. Wright Mills, “The Promise.” (MySocLab) -Richard J. Gelles and Mary M. Cavanaugh, “Association is Not Causation.” (MySocLab)	*Watch the Video: “Sociologists at Work.”
01/21	The Science of Sociology	-William E. Thompson, "Hanging Tongues: A Social Encounter with the Assembly Line.”	*Watch the Video: Objectivity: Fact or Fiction?
01/23	Research, Methodology and Ethics	-Allan M. Brandt, “Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study.” (Website)	
01/28	The Role of Culture in Society	-Bron B. Ingoldsby “Mate Selection and Marriage Around the World.” (MySocLab) -Elijah Anderson, “The Code of the Street.” (MySocLab)	*Watch: “A Society of Consumers.”
01/30	Culture cont.	-Horace Miner, “Body Ritual Among the Nacirema.” (MySocLab) -Mead, Margaret. “Sex and Temperament in Three Tribes.” (MySocLab)	
02/04	Socialization	-Kingsley Davis, "Final Note on an Extreme Case of Social Isolation." (MySocLab) -Herbert C. Kelman and V. Lee Hamilton, “The	

		My Lai Massacre.” (Website, see Ch 5 in <i>Readings for Sociology</i> PDF)	
02/06	Mass murder and Genocide The Socialization of “Normal” Force	-Hunt, Jennifer. “Police Accounts of Normal Force.” (Website)	*Watch: “Play it again 1 & 2.”
02/11	Education	-Kozol, Jonathan. “Savage Inequalities: Children in America’s Schools.” - In Class Film: <i>The Lottery</i>	
02/13	Education cont.	- In Class Film: <i>The Lottery</i>	*Essay Assignment 1 Due In Class!
02/18	Deviance and Social Control	-Ronald Weitzer, “Prostitution: Facts and Fiction.” (MySocLab) -Reiman, Jeffrey. “The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison.” (MySocLab)	
02/20	In class film	-In Class Film: <i>The House I Live In</i>	*Review for midterm exam.
02/25	Review	-In Class Film: <i>The House I Live In</i> -Midterm review	
02/27	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam	
03/04	Economics, Politics and Illicit Trade	-Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, “Manifesto of the Communist Party.” (MySocLab) -Chalmers Johnson, “Blowback: U.S. Actions Abroad Have Repeatedly Led to Unintended, Indefensible Consequences.” (MySocLab)	
03/06	Supply and Demand in Black Markets	-The Independent. “Colombia faces \$17bn laundry bill.” (Website) -Robert J. MacCoun and Peter Reuter, “Does Europe Do It Better? Lessons from Holland, Britain and Switzerland.” (MySocLab)	
03/11	Stratification	-Davis and Moore, “Some Principles of Stratification.” (MySocLab) - <i>Brown vs. The Board of Education</i> : http://www.uscourts.gov/educational-resources/get-involved/federal-court-activities/brown-board-education-re-enactment/history.aspx	
03/13	Race and Ethnicity	-William Julius Wilson, “When Work Disappears.” (MySocLab) -Massey, Douglas. “The Psychology of Social Stratification.” (Website).	*Watch: “Economics of the African-American Family.”
03/18	The Psychology of Racial Divisions	-Bertrand and Mullainathan “Are Emily and Greg More Employable Than Lakisha and Jamal?” (Website.) -Massey and Lundy. “Use of Black English and Racial Discrimination in Urban Housing Markets.” (MySocLab)	*Watch: “Racial Stereotypes and Discrimination.”

03/20	Global Stratification The Sociology of Recessions	-Robert Perrucci and Earl Wyson, "The Global Economy and the Privileged Class." (MySocLab) -Bruce G. Carruthers, "A Sociology of Bubbles." (MySocLab)	*Watch: "Globalization." *Listen: "Experts Fear Financial Crisis Will Hurt World's Poor."
03/25	The Shifts of a Global Economy in the U.S.	-Daina Eglitis, "The Uses of Global Poverty: How Economic Inequality Benefits the West." (MySocLab)	*Watch: "Consequences of Poverty."
03/27	No Class	Spring Break	*Study!
04/01	No Class	Spring Break	*Study!
04/03	Migration: Fear vs. Facts	-Robert Sampson, "Rethinking Crime and Immigration." (MySocLab) -"Fear vs. Facts" by Becerra et al. (Website.)	
04/08	Root Causes of Immigration	-In class film: <i>The Other Side of Immigration</i> .	*Essay Assignment 2 Due In Class!
04/10	Population, Urbanization and Environment	-Garrett Hardin "The Tragedy of the Commons." (Website) -Stephen Scanlan and et al. "The Scarcity Myth." (MySocLab)	Watch: "Challenges Facing Cities." Listen: "Sources of Global Warming."
04/15	Wrap-up	-Wrap-up, discuss presentations and final exam.	
04/17	Presentations		
04/22	Presentations		
04/24	Presentations		
04/29	Presentations		
05/01	Presentations		
Finals Week	Final Exam	TBA	TBA