SOCIOLOGY 201: 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.

Instructor: Benjamin James Waddell, Ph.D.
Office: 386
Office hours: M 11:00-2:00; T 11:00-1:00
Phone: 587-7394
E-mail:bwaddell@adams.edu;
benjaminjameswaddell@gmail.com
Website: benjaminjameswaddell.com

Adams State University
Department of Sociology
Fall 2014
MWF 10:00-10:50 (Sec 005)
MCD, 101

Texts and Articles:
*All readings are available as PDFs either on my Website (benjaminjameswaddell.com) or via MySocLab (http://goo.gl/8jZUlL).

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): http://goo.gl/ANUpes

Choose the option "Yes I have a course ID" and enter the following code **waddell26074** 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
08/25	Introduction to Course	-Syllabus (benjaminjameswaddell.com)	*Read "Tips for being a successful student." (Website.) *MySocLab access (class access code: **waddell26074**).
08/27	What is Sociology?	-C. Wright Mills, "The Promise." (MySocLab)	*Watch the Video: "Sociologists at Work."
08/29	What is Sociology?	-Richard J. Gelles and Mary M. Cavanaugh, "Association is Not Causation." (MySocLab)	
09/01	**No Class**	**-Labor Day**	
09/03	The Science of Sociology	-William E. Thompson, "Hanging Tongues: A Social Encounter with the Assembly Line." -Duane Alwin, "Generations X, Y, and Z: Are They Changing America?" (MySocLab)	*Watch the Video: Objectivity: Fact or Fiction?
09/05	The Science of Sociology	-Allan M. Brandt, "Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study." (Website)	
09/08	The Role of Culture in Society	-Bron B. Ingoldsby "Mate Selection and Marriage Around the World." (MySocLab)	*Watch: "A Society of Consumers."
09/10	The Role of Culture in Society	-Elijah Anderson, "The Code of the Street." (MySocLab) -Horace Miner, "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema." (MySocLab)	*Watch: "The Freakonomics of Crack Dealing." http://goo.gl/VYhM81 ***In class quiz #1**.
09/12	Guest Speaker	-Directors of "American Bear."	*Go watch documentary "American Bear" in Carson Auditorium at 7:00pm on Thursday, September 11th!
09/15	Socialization in Context	-Mead, Margaret. "Sex and Temperament in Three Tribes." (MySocLab) -Kingsley Davis, "Final Note on an Extreme Case	

		of Social Isolation." (MySocLab)	
09/17	Socialization in Context	-Herbert C. Kelman and V. Lee Hamilton, "The My Lai Massacre." (Website, see Ch 5 in *Readings for Sociology* PDF)	*Watch: "Sebastian Junger: Why Veterans Miss War." http://goo.gl/xtb1gC
09/19	Socialization in Context	-Hunt, Jennifer. "Police Accounts of Normal Force." (Website) -The Economist. "Paramilitary Police: Cops or Soldiers?" (Website or http://goo.gl/4rl8Ib)	*Watch: "Questionable Police Tactics." http://goo.gl/yCouMk
09/22	Education	-Jonathan Kozol. "Savage Inequalities: Children in America's Schools." (MySocLab) -In Class Film: *The Lottery*	*Watch: "Why We Shouldn't Trust Markets With Our Civic Life." http://goo.gl/9MvFmk
09/24	Education	-In Class Film: *The Lottery*	
09/26	Education	-In Class Film: "Default: The Student Loan Documentary." -Ellen Mutari and Melaku Lakew. "Class Conflict: Tuition Hikes Leave College Students in Debt…" (MySocLab)	***Essay Assignment 1 Due In Class!**
09/29	Deviance and Social Control	-Ronald Weitzer, "Prostitution: Facts and Fiction." (MySocLab)	
10/01	Deviance and Social Control	-Reiman, Jeffrey. "The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison." (MySocLab) -In Class Film: *The House I Live In*	***In class quiz #2.**
10/03	Deviance and Social Control	-Finish *The House I Live In* -Midterm Review in Class	*Review for midterm exam.
10/06	**Midterm Exam**	**Midterm Exam in Class**	***Study**
10/08	Economics, Politics and Illicit Trade	-Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, "Manifesto of the Communist Party." (MySocLab)	-Watch: "Beware, fellow plutocrats, the pitchforks are coming." http://goo.gl/DlvnkB
10/10	Economics, Politics and Illicit Trade	-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)	
10/13	Stratification	-Davis and Moore, "Some Principles of Stratification." (MySocLab) -*Brown vs. The Board of Education.* (Website)	
10/15	Stratification and Race	-William Julius Wilson, "When Work Disappears." (MySocLab) -Massey, Douglas. "The Psychology of Social Stratification." (Website).	*Watch: "Economics of the African-American Family."
10/17	**No Class**	-Fall Break	*Study Ahead!
10/20	Stratification and Race	-Bertrand and Mullainathan "Are Emily and Greg More Employable Than Lakisha and Jamal?	*Watch: "Racial Stereotypes and Discrimination."

		(Website.) -Massey and Lundy. "Use of Black English and Racial Discrimination in Urban Housing Markets." (MySocLab)	
10/22	Global Stratification	-Robert Perrucci and Earl Wysong, "The Global Economy and the Privileged Class." (MySocLab)	*Watch: "Globalization." ***In class quiz #3.**
10/24	Global Stratification	-Bruce G. Carruthers, "A Sociology of Bubbles." (MySocLab)	*Listen: "Experts Fear Financial Crisis Will Hurt World's Poor."
10/27	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."
10/29	Immigration	-Robert Sampson, "Rethinking Crime and Immigration." (MySocLab)	
10/31	Immigration	-"Fear vs. Facts" by Becerra et al. (Website)	
11/03	Immigration	**-**In class film: *The Other Side of Immigration.*	***Essay Assignment 2 Due In Class!**
11/05	Population, Urbanization and Environment	-Garrett Hardin "The Tragedy of the Commons." (Website)	*Watch: "Challenges Facing Cities."
11/07	Population, Urbanization and Environment	-Stephen Scanlan and et al. "The Scarcity Myth." (MySocLab) -Jason Bremner. "Population and Food Security: Africa's Challenge." (MySocLab)	
11/10	Population, Urbanization and Environment	**-**In class film: *Chasing Ice.*	*Listen: "Sources of Global Warming."
11/12	Population, Urbanization and Environment	-Explore: United States Environmental Protection Agency: http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/basics/	***In class quiz #4.**
11/14	The Art of Presenting	-Discussion of final presentations	
11/17	Presentations		
11/19	Presentations		
11/21	Presentations		
11/24	Presentations		
11/26	Presentations		
11/28	**No Class**	**-Thanksgiving**	
12/01	Presentations		
12/03	Presentations		
12/05	Presentations		
12/08	Presentations		
12/10	Presentations		
12/12	**Wrap-up**	**-Discuss final exam.**	
12/17	**Final Exam**	**-1:00-2:50 in MCD 101**	