



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.

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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/8jZUUL>).

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.

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 (25%): 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 Exam (25%): 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)	
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: "Statistician Peter Donnelly on Tedtalks." http://goo.gl/tKh2WW
09/05	The Science of Sociology	-Allan M. Brandt, "Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study." (Website)	Watch: "The Frightening Legacy of U.S. Syphilis Experiments in Guatemala." http://goo.gl/zLQRyo
09/08	The Role of Culture in Society	-Bron B. Ingoldsby "Mate Selection and Marriage Around the World." (MySocLab)	
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
09/12	Guest Speaker	-Robert D. Putnam. "Bowling Alone." (Website) -Directors of "American Bear."	*Go watch documentary "American Bear" in Carson Auditorium at 7:00pm on Thursday, September 11 th !
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	-Lera Boroditsky. "How Language Shapes Thoughts." (Website) -Caitlin M. Fausey. "Constructing Agency: The	-Watch: "The Linguistic Genius of Babies." http://goo.gl/EmGHmN

		Role of Language.” (Website)	
09/19	Socialization in Context	-Herbert C. Kelman and V. Lee Hamilton, “The My Lai Massacre.” (Website, see Ch 5 in <i>Readings for Sociology</i> PDF)	*Watch: “Sebastian Junger: Why Veterans Miss War.” http://goo.gl/xtb1gC
09/22	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
09/24	Religion	-Mark Chaves. “Abiding Faith.” (MySocLab) -Elaine H. Ecklund. “Religion and Spirituality Among Scientists” (MySocLab)	-Watch: “Religion and Babies.” http://goo.gl/Wb4bMN
09/26	Religion	-Ellen Idler. “The Psychological and Physical Benefits of Spiritual/Religions Practices.” (Website)	*Essay Assignment 1 Due In Class!
09/29	Education	-“Education Pays 2013.” (Website, read pages 4-16)	
10/01	Education	-Jonathan Kozol. “Savage Inequalities: Children in America’s Schools.” (MySocLab) -In Class Film: <i>The Lottery</i>	*Watch: “Why We Shouldn’t Trust Markets With Our Civic Life.” http://goo.gl/9MvFmk
10/03	Education	-In Class Film: <i>The Lottery</i>	
10/06	Education	-Michael Mitchell et al. “States are still Funding Higher Education Below Pre-Recession Levels.” (Website)	
10/08	Education	-Ellen Mutari and Melaku Lakew. “Class Conflict: Tuition Hikes Leave College Students in Debt...” (MySocLab)	
10/10	Education	-In Class Film: “Default: The Student Loan Documentary.” -Midterm Review in Class	*Review for midterm exam.
10/13	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam in Class	*Study
10/15	TBA		
10/17	No Class	-Fall Break	
10/20	Deviance and Social Control	-Peter Berger, “The Meaning of Social Control.” (MySocLab) -Mark Warr. “Safe at Home.” (MySocLab)	
10/22	Deviance and Social Control	-Ronald Weitzer, “Prostitution: Facts and Fiction.” (MySocLab)	
10/24	Deviance and Social Control	-Reiman, Jeffrey. “The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison.” (MySocLab)	
10/27	Deviance and Social Control	-In Class Film: <i>The House I Live In</i>	
10/29	Deviance and Social	--In Class Film: <i>The House I Live In</i>	

	Control		
10/31	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
11/03	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)	*Essay Assignment 2 Due In Class!
11/05	Stratification	-Davis and Moore, "Some Principles of Stratification." (MySocLab) - <i>Brown vs. The Board of Education</i> . (Website)	
11/07	Stratification and Race	-William Julius Wilson, "When Work Disappears." (MySocLab) -Massey, Douglas. "The Psychology of Social Stratification." (Website).	
11/10	Stratification and Race	-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)	
11/12	Global Stratification	-Robert Perrucci and Earl Wysong, "The Global Economy and the Privileged Class." (MySocLab)	
11/14	Global Stratification	-Bruce G. Carruthers, "A Sociology of Bubbles." (MySocLab)	
11/17	The Shifts of a Global Economy in the U.S.	-Daina Eglitis, "The Uses of Global Poverty: How Economic Inequality Benefits the West." (MySocLab)	
11/19	Global Elite	-Adam Liptak, "Campaign Finance (Super PACs) (MySocLab)	-Watch: "The Unstoppable Walk to Political Reform." http://goo.gl/f72SYR
11/21	Immigration	-“Fear vs. Facts” by Becerra et al. (Website)	
11/24	Immigration	-Robert Sampson, "Rethinking Crime and Immigration." (MySocLab)	
11/26	Immigration	-In class film: <i>The Other Side of Immigration</i> .	
11/28	No Class	-Thanksgiving	-Watch: "Nature. Beauty. Gratitude." http://goo.gl/Bl6edb
12/01	Population, and Environment	-Garrett Hardin "The Tragedy of the Commons." (Website)	
12/03	Population, and Environment	-Stephen Scanlan and et al. "The Scarcity Myth." (MySocLab) -Jason Bremner. "Population and Food Security:	-Watch: "The Earth is Full." http://goo.gl/MP5wFD

		Africa's Challenge.” (MySocLab)	
12/05	Population, and Environment	-In class film: <i>Chasing Ice</i> .	-“New Thinking on the Climate Crisis.” http://goo.gl/5I0yIk
12/08	Population, and Environment	-In class film: <i>Chasing Ice</i> . -Dr. Mercola. “Environmental Toxins Causing Early Puberty in Both Boys and Girls.” (Website)	-Watch “Let’s Prepare for Our New Climate.” http://goo.gl/zESLjr
12/10	Population, and Environment	-Christopher Wanjek. “The Truth Behind Early Puberty.” (Website) -Marcia E. Herman-Giddens et al. “Secondary Sexual Characteristics in Boys.” (Website)	
12/12	Population, and Environment	-“NASA-funded study: industrial civilization headed for ‘irreversible collapse?’” (Website) -Explore: United States Environmental Protection Agency: http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/basics/ -Wrap-up	-Watch “Salvation (and profit) in Greentech.” http://goo.gl/u2bhdK
12/17	Final Exam	-1:00-2:50 in MCD 101	