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SOC

Introduction to Sociology

1301 02W

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2022

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Daniel Skinner

Online

Department Office Phone: 903-886-5332

Department Office Fax: 903-886-5330

University Email Address: daniel.skinner@tamuc.edu Preferred Form of Communication: email Communication

Response Time: M-Th within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required *Society in Focus: An Introduction to Sociology (8th Ed)* by William E. Thompson, Joseph V. Hickey, and Mica L. Thompson, Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2017, ISBN: 948-1-4422-5597-5. The book is available in the university bookstore and online.

Optional Texts and/or Materials None

Course Description

Overview of major concepts and principles of sociology, including socialization, social control, social order, social stratification, ethnicity, social deviance, and social change

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Student Learning Outcomes: This introductory course can be counted for University Studies credit in Social and Behavioral Sciences and is a required prerequisite for nearly all other course in sociology. After completing this course:

1. Students will demonstrate a sociological perspective based on critical thinking skills in order to better understand the social world in which they live and interact on a daily basis.
2. Students will be able to define basic sociological terms and concepts that will help them better understand their social world and to lay a solid academic foundation for future courses in sociology and/or related fields.
3. Students will demonstrate understanding of the scientific method and specific sociological research methods to illustrate how sociologists collect and analyze data to develop sociological theories on human social behavior.
4. Students will be familiar with the major theoretical perspectives and/or paradigms within sociology and to compare/contrast them to theoretical approaches in related fields such as anthropology, history, psychology, and other social and behavioral sciences.
5. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics including global issues, processes, trends, and systems

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students at a minimum will need to be able to navigate discussion board and be able to use Microsoft Word for online assignments

Instructional Methods

Every effort will be made to provide the best possible learning experience by blending PowerPoint presentations with discussions, reading assignments, and other materials

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Students that do well in this course will be the ones who post on the discussion boards regularly and are involved in the conversations during the week. Just posting once at the beginning of a discussion and the last day the discussion is open will not result in full credit

GRADING

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Final grades will be based on the five exams worth 100 pts. each (500 pts) 2 assignments worth 50 pts each and 5 online discussions worth 10pts. each (50 pts).

**5 Exams @ 100 pts. ea. = 500 pts. Discussions = 50 Paper 1 = 50
Paper 2 = 50**

Assessments

Scale: A= 90 – 100 % (585 - 650 pts.) B= 80 – 89 % (520 - 584 pts.) C= 70 – 79 % (455 - 519 pts.) D= 69 – 60 % (390 - 454 pts.) F= less than 60 % (< 390 pts.)

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser,

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Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

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- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
 - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/)
 - [Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

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ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words “[click here](#)” to submit an issue via email.



System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I will make every attempt to respond to emails in a timely manner, normally within 24 hrs on the weekdays.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

EXTRA CREDIT: Don't ask, there won't be any. Two types of students usually want to do extra credit work: those who would like to make an even “higher” A; and those who are failing the course. In either case, extra credit makes no sense. Put in the time,

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energy, and effort on the “regular” work and you will not need any “extra” credit. I will not make any exceptions so DO NOT ASK!

NOTE: We will NOT be negotiating for grades at the end of the semester. You have plenty of opportunities to earn points throughout the semester. A few “bonus” points are built into each exam. At the end of the semester, e-college will calculate your total points and they will be applied to the scale on this syllabus. That is the grade you have earned, and that is the grade you will be assigned.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx).
<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

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<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

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For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

DATE: TOPIC: READING ASSIGNMENTS:

Week 1: **1/12** Discovering Sociology Ch. 1 Discussion 1 begins at 12:01 Tuesday

Week 2: **1/17** Doing Sociology Ch. 2

Week 3: **1/24** EXAM 1 on Thursday/Friday Ch. 1,2 Discussion 1 closes at 11:59 pm on Friday

Week 4: 1/31 Culture and Society Ch. 3 Discussion 2 begins at 12:01 Mon

Week 5: **2/7** Socialization Ch. 4

Week 6: **2/14** EXAM 2 on Thursday/ Friday Ch. 3,4 Discussion 2 closes at 11:59 pm on Friday

Week 7: **2/21** Social Interaction in Everyday Life Ch. 5 Discussion 3 begins at 12:01 on Monday

Week 8: 2/28 Social Groups and Organizations Ch. 6

Week 9: **3/7** Paper 1 Due on Friday

Week 10: **3/21** EXAM 3 on Thursday/Friday, Ch. 5,6 Discussion 3 closes at 11:59 pm on Friday

Week 11: **3/28** Deviance and Conformity Ch. 7 Discussion 4 begins at 12:01 on Monday

Week 12: 4/4 Social Stratification & Social Class Ch. 8

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Week 13: **4/11** EXAM 4 on Tues/Wed, Ch. 7,8 Discussion 4 closes at 11:59 pm on Friday

Week 14: **4/18** Sex and Gender Ch.9 Discussion 5 begins at 12:01 Monday

Week 15: **4/25** Age and Elderly Ch. 11 Discussion 5 closes at 11:59 pm Friday

Week 16: Finals week

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.