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**SOC 1301**  
**Introduction to Sociology**  
**Summer 2022**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Dr. Zachary Palmer  
**Office Location:** Ferguson 232  
**Office Hours:** Online M-F 1-2pm  
**Office Phone:** 903-468-3276  
**University Email Address:** [Zachary.palmer@tamuc.edu](mailto:Zachary.palmer@tamuc.edu)  
**Preferred Form of Communication:** Email  
**Communication Response Time:** Within 24 hours

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Required Text**

*You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking Like a Sociologist* (core 7<sup>th</sup> edition)

InQuizitive will be utilized in this course, so make sure you have the Ebook with Learning Tools

**Course Description**

This course is designed to help students better understand the social world in which they live as well as provide a foundation for other courses in sociology. It provides an overview of major concepts and principles of sociology, including globalization, diversity, socialization, social control, social order, deviance, and social change. This course emphasizes global dynamics from a sociological perspective and helps students view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.

## Student Learning Outcomes

This introductory course is part of the QEP Global curriculum and can be counted for University Studies credit in Social and Behavioral Sciences and is a required prerequisite for nearly all other courses in sociology. After completing this course, you should be able to...

1. Demonstrate a sociological perspective based on critical thinking skills in order to better understand the social world in which we live and interact on a daily basis
2. Define and give examples of basic sociological terms and concepts that will help you better understand your social world and lay a solid academic foundation for future courses in sociology and/or related fields
3. Explain 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. Demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics, including global issues, processes, trends, and systems

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

You must be able to access a computer with Microsoft Word and use D2L.

## GRADING

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

### Assessments

- InQuizitive Online Interactive Reading Quizzes- Each chapter has an associated interactive reading quiz, which will be taken through InQuizitive. Each are worth 10 points for a total of 90 points.
- Discussion Posts- There will be two discussion prompts per week. You must post your response to the prompt AND a response to one other student's posts in order to receive full credit. Each discussion post is worth 10 points for a total of 90 points.
- Final Exam- The final exam will be a mix of multiple choice and short answer questions, worth a total of 100 points.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All courses offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements:

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## 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](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

Note: Personal computer and Internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all coursework 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

### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulties with any part of D2L, please contact Brightspace (D2L) Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found at

<http://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>.

### Interaction with Instructor Statement

I am available through email during business hours. Please feel free to reach out to me to set up a Zoom meeting if you want to have a more in-depth conversation. If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact me!

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Policies

- This is a 5-week intensive course, which means that it is very easy for you to fall behind. Because of this, it is particularly important to turn work in on time. As such, **I will not accept late work in this course unless there are extenuating circumstances such as illness, family emergency, etc.**
- I take plagiarism and academic dishonesty very seriously. The first instance of academic dishonesty will result in a 0 on the particular quiz/assignment/discussion post, the second instance will result in an F in the class.
- If you experience a death in the family, serious illness, or other life trauma, please speak to me and I will work with you to do my best to help you keep up with the course.
- We will be discussing sensitive topics in this course. All students must behave respectfully toward everyone in this class and avoid offensive language and personal insults. I will not tolerate any kind of harassment in this class, and offensive posts or comments will be removed from the discussion board.

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for me 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/student\\_guidebook/Student\\_Guidebook.pdf?\\_ga=2.174666466.139137986.1597081037-785048279.1537547496](http://www.tamuc.edu/student_guidebook/Student_Guidebook.pdf?_ga=2.174666466.139137986.1597081037-785048279.1537547496)

#### **TAMUC Attendance**

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

#### **Academic Integrity**

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

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

#### **Students with Disabilities- ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protections 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](mailto: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, and 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 34.06.02R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus](#) document.

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.

### **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

## COURSE CALENDAR

### Week 1

Guiding Questions- What is sociology? How do sociologists think? How do sociologists ask and answer questions?

- Module 1 (The Sociological Imagination)
  - Read: Chapter 1
  - Due Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm: InQuizitive Chapter 1 Quiz, Discussion #1
- Module 2 (Methods)
  - Read: Chapter 2
  - Due Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm: InQuizitive Chapter 2 Quiz, Discussion #2

### Week 2

Guiding Questions- How does culture shape who we are and how we experience the world? To what extent are things that we take for granted as 'natural' actually products of society?

- Module 3 (Culture and Media)
  - Read: Chapter 3
  - Due Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm: InQuizitive Chapter 3 Quiz, Discussion #3
- Module 4 (Socialization and the Construction of Reality)
  - Read: Chapter 4
  - Due Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm: InQuizitive Chapter 4 Quiz, Discussion #4

### Week 3

Guiding Questions- Is getting ahead really all about who you know? How are we influenced by other people?

- Module 5 (Groups and Networks)
  - Read: Chapter 5
  - Due Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59pm: InQuizitive Chapter 5 Quiz, Discussion #5
- Module 6 (Deviance and Social Control)
  - Read: Chapter 6
  - Due Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm: InQuizitive Chapter 6 Quiz, Discussion #6

### Week 4

Guiding Questions- Why does inequality exist in society? How do class and gender shape life chances?

- Module 7 (Stratification)
  - Read: Chapter 7
  - Due Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm: InQuizitive Chapter 7 Quiz, Discussion #7
  
- Module 8 (Gender)
  - Read: Chapter 8
  - Due Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:59pm: InQuizitive Chapter 8 Quiz, Discussion #8

### **Week 5**

Guiding Questions- Is race real? How does race (and racism) continue to shape people's lives today?

- Module 9 (Race)
  - Read: Chapter 9
  - Due Wednesday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm: InQuizitive Chapter 9 Quiz, Discussion #9
  
- Final Exam due Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm