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SOC 1301 01W: GLB/Intro to Sociology

COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer 1 2023

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Nicole Farris, Associate Professor

Office Location: BA Room 102

Office Hours: Wednesday 11am to 1pm online; and by appointment

Office Phone: 903-886-5169

Office Fax: 903-886-5330

University Email Address: Nicole.Farris@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: 24-48 Hours, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: HENSLIN, JAMES. SOCIOLOGY: A DOWN TO EARTH APPROACH (14TH EDITION). (e-book or Hard Copy)

ISBN-13:

9780134740065

Software Required: Access to course website- you need to have an active email username and password. I will post your grades to the course website, as well as your powerpoints, assignments, and supplemental articles that I see fit to include in lecture.

Optional Texts and/or Materials: None

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Course Description

SOC 1301 – GLB/Intro to Soc

Hours: 3

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, social stratification, ethnicity, social deviance, and social change. This course emphasizes global dynamics (issues, trends, processes, and systems) from a sociological perspective, and helps students view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.

Sociology is the systematic study of society and the humans that interact within that society. This course is designed as an introduction to the discipline of sociology and “thinking sociologically.” Sociology is fundamentally about rethinking our “common sense” views of society. At times sociological research confirms our perceptions about society and other times it challenges commonly held views. This course will expose you to how sociologists study society. We will cover fundamental concepts and theories in sociology and examine a number of examples of sociological research and practice. Our ongoing goal will be to assess the ways in which society structures our lives—through human and social groupings, social institutions, and ideologies.

In addition to required readings and class discussions, students will become familiar with sociology through short written assignments and other in and out of class activities.

Student Learning Outcomes (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

The purpose of the course will be to gain a basic understanding of sociology in a global world. By the end of this course students should be able to demonstrate knowledge in:

1. Sociological Knowledge: Students should be able to demonstrate a sociological perspective based on critical thinking in order to better understand the social world in which they live and interact on a daily basis.
2. Social Responsibility: Students will demonstrate an understanding of societal and/or civic issues.
3. Empirical/Quantitative Reasoning: Students will be able to interpret, test and demonstrate principles revealed in empirical data and/or observable facts.
4. Sociological Application: Define and give examples of 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.
5. Global Awareness: Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics including global issues, processes, trends, and systems.

Course Objectives: By the end of this course you should be able to:

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- Identify and interpret several of the major theoretical perspectives used in sociology
- Identify and interpret the influence of culture, socialization and group membership on individuals
- Identify and interpret the major dimensions of social inequality in society
- Apply sociological concepts and theories to your personal experiences, your observations of others and your thinking on larger social issues to produce sociological explanations for human behavior

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using the Learning Management System, Powerpoint, Microsoft Word, and Internet.

Instructional Methods

This course will be conducted entirely via the web. All components of this class are online. We will not meet any time as a class. This course is primarily administered through D2L. If you need help using D2L, please see the technology services staff for help.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

1. It will be very important that you all read regularly the syllabus and ALL Announcements posted at the home page of this course very carefully and follow all instructions about course objectives, grading procedures, etc. Ignorance about details given in the course syllabus and various announcements posted on the D2L web site cannot be accepted as excuse in any manner. I urge that you FULLY understand course requirements and grading procedures. That will be the key to doing well in the course. Also, please feel free to ask me questions about the course requirements through e-mails as needed.
 2. This is an online course. Read instructions given under each week carefully.
 3. All of your exams will be based on your text book.
 4. You can e-mail me whenever you have challenges or questions, particularly those that you don't want to share with your class mates. Please specify the following in your e-mail: your full name and the course # you are enrolled in so that I check your record before responding to your need or question. You can also get an appointment to see me before and after each class or through an e-mail to me.
- Read all announcements posted at the Home Page of the course and read all e-mails

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sent by me at your My Leo account in the D2L. If you have problem with your email system, please contact the Instructional Technology office. Do follow university deadlines in schedules given at the university's website and in the undergraduate catalog.

GRADING

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

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

900-1000 =A

800-899=B

700-799=C

600-699=D

500-0=F

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There is always a chance that papers or grades get lost in transit. Please keep a record of your grades in case something unexpected should happen. Any student who is dissatisfied with his/her grades during this course is urged to discuss this with the instructor.

Assessments:

Assignment	Points
Weekly Discussions	2000
Article Reviews	400
Mini Assignments	400
TOTAL	1000

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections 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

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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.

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

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. Other support options can be found here:

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

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I prefer communication via email. I rarely answer my office phone and am much more likely to respond to email. I will respond to email within 24 to 48 hours, between normal business hours of 8am to 5pm. Please be sure that when you email me, you use a proper greeting (Dr. Farris, Professor Farris, Instructor Farris), an email body, and an appropriate closing. You should never send an email with just an attachment and no email body. Be sure you have an appropriate and informative subject line and include the name and section of the course you are enrolled in. If you have read this far, please send me via email, a term or phrase that is popular that I may not know of, and explain what it means. Alternatively, send me your favorite TikTok video. The people to do this within the first two weeks of class will get 5 extra credit points. See the following for some email expectations that would serve you well in all future communication with any professors or potential employers.

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Email Expectations

E-mail has generally been used as an informal means of communication. However, as it becomes increasingly popular in the communication with professors, job application process, etc., students need to take time to think through the content of their e-mail and address the message that they might be sending.

The following rules should be used for E-mail when writing or responding to: professors, college staff or personnel, potential employers, etc. You will be taken seriously and will often be given more credibility. Common mistakes are:

- using emoticons :-);
- being too informal;
- misspellings, poor grammar, and incomplete sentences; and
- not using capitalization, and

Because texting and Facebook has become a mainstream form of communication, students may not easily switch from casual conversation to professional E-mail. I cautioned a student about practicing the use of professional writing after reading an E-mail they sent and it was full of emoticons and misspellings. For example, they used "ur" for "you are" or "your;" "i" for "I", and "u" for you.

Rules of the road

Professional E-mail is very different from casual e-mail, texting, or chatting or posting on a social network such as Facebook. Here are some rules that must be adhered to when writing an E-mail:

- Just like a written letter, be sure to open your email with a greeting (e.g., Hello or Hi Dr. Jones). Do not open your E-mail by saying, "Hey, Dr. Jones."
- Write clear, short paragraphs, and be direct and to the point. Professionals and academics alike see their E-mail accounts as business. Do not write an unnecessarily long E-mail.
- Be sure to include a meaningful subject on the subject line because this helps clarify what your message is about and may also help the recipient prioritize reading your email (e.g., Scheduled Meeting).
- If you are responding to an E-mail, include the original message in the reply, so the receiver can put your E-mail into the correct context. Also, respond within two to three business days.
- Always spell words correctly! Do not just use spell check. Spell check will not always catch words that are spelled correctly, but are misused within the context of the sentence. In other words, always proofread.
- Use standard punctuation and capitalization. THERE'S NOTHING WORSE THAN AN E-MAIL SCREAMING A MESSAGE IN ALL CAPS. Therefore, avoid.
- Think about the message your E-mail address sends. Keep your address simple, and avoid unprofessional sounding names like "partyguy" or "partygirl." For your professors, you should always use the email address given to you by the school.
- Read your message carefully before you click the send button. The tone of an E-mail can often be misinterpreted, which is why it is not always the best means of communication.

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- Have someone else proofread your message before you send it. It also might be easier to find errors if you print and review your E-mail.
- Make sure your E-mail account is not full, so that you can receive emails.
- When using D2L to send an E-mail to your professor, the rules above still apply.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Students are expected to hand in assignments on time. If, due to some emergency or illness, this proves impossible, students are required to contact me by way of explanation before assignments are due, and, if necessary, provide evidence of illness.

Weekly Discussions: A handout with the requirements for the weekly discussions and the grading rubric will be uploaded on D2L.

Mini Assignments: You will have four mini assignments throughout the course of the term. More information on each of these assignments will be provided. The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Exams: You will have three exams this term. They will be open book, open notes. Points are accumulated in this course instead of averaged. You will have a grade report on D2L keeping track of your points as this semester progresses. Your grade is not negotiable. It is your responsibility to keep up with your grades and your progress in the class. I will not change grades at the end of the semester, so please do not email me asking if you can do anything for a better grade. Keep up with your work during the term.

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](#).

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

<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:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

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](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

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

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

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:

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Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 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/)

<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.

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.

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

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Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

(This is tentative and subject to change)

6/5/2023 to 7/6/2023

Please Note: Everything will be due Sunday at 11:59pm with the exception of the last week, which will be shorter. Please plan accordingly.

Week 1 Read Chapter 1 and 2
Complete Discussion Question 1 and 2
Complete Article Review 1
Complete Assignment 1 (Due 6/11)

Week 2 Read Chapter 3 and 4
Complete Discussion 3 and 4
Complete Article Review 2
Complete Assignment 2 (Due 6/18)

Week 3 Read Chapter 11 and 16
Complete Discussion 5 and 6
Complete Article Review 3
Complete Assignment 3 (Due 6/25)

Week 4 Read Chapter 5 and 8
Complete Discussion 7 and 8
Complete Article Review 4 (Due 7/2)

Week 5 Read Chapter 10 and 12
Complete Discussion 9 and 10
Complete Assignment 4 (Due 7/5)

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