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## **SOC 1301 0HB: GLB/Intro to Sociology (Honors)**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2023

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dr. Nicole Farris, Professor

Office Location: BA Room 102

Office Hours: M/W: 8:00am to 9:00am; 11am to Noon on campus; Tuesday 10-11 am 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 (14<sup>TH</sup> 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.**

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **Optional Texts and/or Materials: None**

### **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.

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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:

- 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 class will meet twice a week, unless otherwise noted, during our regular class time.

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

Do the reading ahead of time: Reading about a definition or issue and then hearing about it in class will help to cement your knowledge of the definition or issue. This will be very beneficial when it comes time to study for your exam.

Take Notes: I will use a power-point style presentation for this class, however this power-point presentation is not all inclusive. I will be making many important points during lecture, and these will not be included on the power-point. The power-point is to be used as an outline to help you while you take notes; not to be the only notes you take.

Face Your Fears: Ask questions in class. I do realize that this can be hard, especially in a large class. However, asking questions is the only way to find out information you want to know, and it is likely that your classmates may have the same question.

Make Yourself Known: Showing an interest and letting me know you have an interest will help you understand the material, and help me understand you. Talk to the instructor!

## **GRADING**

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

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- A- 450-500 points
- B- 400-449 points
- C- 350-399 points
- D- 300-349 points
- F- 299 points or below

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:

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Points</b>
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Thought Journal	50
Norm Breaking Experiment	50
Gender Experiment	50
Classroom Contributions (5 @ 10 pts)	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>500</b>

## **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](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>

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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](mailto: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.

### 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.

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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.
- 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.

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## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

You are expected to attend all class meetings. It is in your best interest to attend class regularly and engage in active learning. If you are absent, YOU are responsible for obtaining any information that was discussed in class. I will not give out my notes if you are absent. Please make every effort to arrive to class on time, as a late arrival disturbs your classmates and myself. **If you miss an exam, you must contact me prior to missing the exam. If you arrive late to the exam, you will have the time from your arrival to the end of the class period to finish the exam.**

Make up exams will be given on a specific date to be determined at a later point in the semester. In but rare cases, there is no extra credit for the course. **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 semester.**

**EXAMS:** There will be three (3) exams given over the course of the semester. The final will NOT be comprehensive, but it will cover more material than the midterm exam. The exams will be worth 100 points each. All exams will be multiple choice. Each exam will cover material from class/lectures/discussions and readings from your text. You are responsible for all material in the text regardless of whether it is covered in class. You will need to bring a scantron and a #2 pencil to each exam. Make up exams will be given in emergency cases and you will have to discuss this with me. If you have an emergency and are late to the exam or miss the exam, you will need to discuss a make up time with me.

**CLASSROOM CONTRIBUTIONS:** You will have five (5) in class assignments/classroom contributions. You will only be able to make up the assignments if your absence is excused. These will be worth 50 points total.

**PAPER ASSIGNMENTS/THOUGHT JOURNAL:** There will be various paper assignments designed to help develop your analytical abilities in “thinking like a sociologist.” You will be responsible for breaking a norm, keeping a thought journal and a gender/marriage/family assignment. You will receive further instructions on each of these assignments. These will be worth **50 POINTS EACH** for a total of **150 points**. **YOUR ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE DUE THROUGH D2L.**

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## 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>

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>

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## **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:

### **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](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, 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>

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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](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)**

## **Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content**

### **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

**(This is tentative and subject to change)**

#### **Week 1 The Sociological Perspective**

8/28- First day of class. Introductions/Syllabus/Etc.

8/30- The Sociological Perspective (Print Notes from OL if you wish)

9/1- Online Activity

#### **Week 2 The Sociological Perspective/Culture**

9/4- Labor Day, No Class

9/6- SP Continued/Culture

9/8- Culture

#### **Week 3 Socialization**

9/11- Culture/Socialization

(Hand out Norm Breaking Assignment)

9/13- Socialization Continued

9/15- Online Activity

#### **Week 4 Social Structure and Social Interaction**

9/18- Socialization Continued/Social Structure and Social Interaction

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

9/20 - SS and SI Continued

9/22- Online Activity

**Week 5**

9/25- SS and SI continued Wrap Up/Review

9/27- EXAM #1 (100 pts)

9/29- Norm Breaking Assignment Due by 10am CST Online (Assn #1- 50 pts)

**Week 6 Sex and Gender**

10/2 - Sex and Gender  
(Hand out Gender Assignment)

10/4- Sex and Gender Continued

10/6- Online Activity

**Week 7 Sex and Gender**

10/9- And The Band Played On

10/11- ATBPO In Class Discussion

10/13- ATBPO CC Due by 10am CST Online

**Week 8 Marriage and Family**

10/16- Marriage and Family (Read Second Shift Excerpt)

10/18 –Marriage Continued  
“The Second Shift” and In Class Discussion

10/20- CC 3 Due by 10am CST Online

**Week 9 How Sociologists Do Research Part I**

10/23- How Sociologists Do Research

10/25 - How Sociologists Do Research

10/27- GENDER ASSIGNMENT DUE BY 10am CST Online (Assn #2 – 50 pts)

**Week 10: Research Part II (Ethics)**

10/30- Exam #2 (100 Pts)

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11/1- TBA

11/3: Online Activity

**Week 11: Ethics Continued/Race/Ethnicity**

11/6- Ethics Continued/Henslin, Chapter 12  
Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack

11/8- R/E Continued and TBA

11/10- Online Activity

**Week 12 Race/Ethnicity**

11/13- The Trials of Darryl Hunt

11/15- The Trials of Darryl Hunt Con't/Discussion

11/17- (CC #4) Due Online by 10am CST

**11/20 to 11/24: Thanksgiving Break, No Class**

**Week 13: Deviance/Social Control/Social Class**

11/27- Deviance and Social Control

11/29- Social Class

12/1- Online Activity

**Week 14: Social Class**

12/4- Social Class In Class Exercise and discussion

12/6- Social Class Continued/People Like Us

12/8- Last Day of Class

CC #5 Due by 10am CST Online

Thought Journals Due by 10am CST Online

Final Exam: Online, Due 12/13 by 10am CST

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