



SOC 1301
Introduction to Sociology
Summer I 2024

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Zachary Palmer
Office Location: Ferguson 232
Office Hours: MWF 2-3pm Online
University Email Address: Zachary.palmer@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: Within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking Like a Sociologist (core 7th edition with e-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.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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

Instructional Methods

In-person with some online components

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

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

- **Discussion Posts-** There will be one discussion post per module, worth 5 points each. In order to receive full credit, you must (1) fully address the prompt and (2) post a substantive reply to another student's post.

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- **InQuizitive Quizzes-** Each chapter has an associated interactive reading quiz, which will be taken through InQuizitive (links provided on D2L). You can answer as many questions as it takes to get 100%. Worth 10 points each.
- **Sociological Autobiography-** For your final assignment, you will write a 2-3 page autobiography applying the sociological imagination and what you learned in this class to your own life. Details are posted on D2L. Worth 10 points.

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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

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.

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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 am available through email during business hours. You can also drop into my Zoom office hours or, if you are local, my in-person office hours.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Respect

We will be covering sensitive topics this semester related to race and racism. Please be respectful of your fellow students. Use of racial slurs and personal attacks toward other students will not be tolerated in this class and you will be asked to leave and I will contact the Dean of Students.

Use of Generative AI

Use of generative AI, including chatgpt, is prohibited in this class and its use will be considered an instance of academic dishonesty. Your discussion posts and assignments should all be your own work and reflect your thoughts and understanding of the material.

Late Work

Due to the short summer session, it is not possible for me to accept any late work in this class. If you experience extenuating circumstances (death in the family, hospitalization, major illness, etc.) during the summer session, please reach out to me and we can discuss your options.

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.

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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 [Procedures 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

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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

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>

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

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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

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDER

Week	Topic	Required Readings	Due
1	The Sociological Imagination	Ch 1	Discussion #1, InQuizitive Quiz 1
	Methods	Ch 2	Discussion #2, InQuizitive Quiz 2
2	Culture and Media	Ch 3	Discussion #3, InQuizitive Quiz 3
	Socialization and the Construction of Reality	Ch 4	Discussion #4, InQuizitive Quiz 4
3	Groups and Networks	Ch 5	Discussion #5, InQuizitive Quiz 5
	Social Control and Deviance	Ch 6	Discussion #6, InQuizitive Quiz 6
4	Stratification	Ch 7	Discussion #7, InQuizitive Quiz 7
	Gender	Ch 8	Discussion #8, InQuizitive Quiz 8
5	Race	Ch 9	Discussion #9, InQuizitive Quiz 9

Sociological autobiographies are due Thursday, July 4th at 11:59pm

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