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

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2024 Meets 8/26/2024 through 12/13/2024

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dr. Nicole Farris, Professor

Office Location: Ferguson Room 218

Office Hours: M/W 9:00 to 10:00 on campus; T/Th 10:00 to 11:30 online; and by appointment

Main Office Phone: 903-886-5332

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: NONE**

**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**

### **Course Description**

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

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 and engage in critical thinking.

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 and critical thinking: Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics including global issues, processes, trends, and systems.

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**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 and engage in critical thinking.

## **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 of 300 total points:

A = 270-300 points

B = 240-269 points

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C = 210-239 points  
D = 180-209 points  
F = 179 or less points

Your final grade will be based on the following:

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>
Sociological Scrapbook	50
Norm Breaking Experiment	50
Gender Experiment	50
Classroom Contributions (5 @ 10 pts)	50
Discussions (10 @ 10 points)	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>300</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.

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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.

**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.**

**DISCUSSIONS:** Your active participation in the discussions is essential to your overall success this term. Discussion questions will help you make meaningful connections between the course content and the larger concepts of the course. These discussions give you a chance to express your own thoughts, ask questions, and gain insight from your peers and instructor. We will use our discussions to prompt in class conversations that relate to relevant topics in the course. More instructions will be provided in the course webpage. These will be worth 100 points total.

**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.

**ASSIGNMENTS/SCRAPBOOK:** 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 sociological scrapbook 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**.

**LATE WORK:** Students who need extra time may submit assignments (excluding discussion board postings) up to one week after the assignment due date. Discussion board submissions will not be accepted for credit after the deadline.

A penalty of 10 percent of the total value of the assignment will be applied to the grade achieved on the late assignment regardless of the day of the week on which the work is submitted.

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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)**

All notes are available as full PPTs on D2L. We will not hold in person class on most Fridays; those that we do will be indicated by an underline and italic, however, we may meet via Zoom during Friday class time (as indicated on the calendar).

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

8/26- First day of class. Introductions/Syllabus/Scrapbook/Etc.

8/28- The Sociological Perspective (Print Notes from OL if you wish)

8/30- Online Class: Discussion 1 Due by 11:59pm

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

9/2- Labor Day, No Class

9/4- SP Continued/Culture

9/6- Culture

#### **Week 3 Socialization**

9/9- Culture/Socialization  
(Hand out Norm Breaking Assignment)

9/11- Socialization Continued

9/13- Online Activity: Discussion 2 Due by 11:59pm

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**Week 4 Social Structure and Social Interaction**

9/16- Socialization Continued/Social Structure and Social Interaction

9/18 - SS and SI Continued

9/20- Online Activity: Discussion 3 Due 11:59pm

**Week 5**

9/23- SS and SI continued Wrap Up/Review and In Class Work on Norm Breaking Assignment (Mandatory)

9/25- In Class Work on Norm Breaking Assignment (Due at End of Class)

9/27- Online Activity: Discussion 4 Due 11:59pm

**Week 6 Sex and Gender**

9/30 - Sex and Gender  
(Hand out Gender Assignment)

10/2- Sex and Gender Continued

10/4- Online Activity: Discussion 5 Due 11:59pm

**Week 7 Sex and Gender**

10/7- And The Band Played On

10/9- ATBPO Continued

10/11- Finish ATBPO/Discussion/CC Due In Class

**Week 8 Marriage and Family**

10/14- Marriage and Family (Read Second Shift Excerpt)

10/16 –Marriage Continued

10/18- Zoom During Class time “The Second Shift” and In Class Discussion (CC)

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

10/21- How Sociologists Do Research/In Class Gender Assignment Writeup  
(Mandatory)

10/23 - In Class Gender Assignment Writeup (Mandatory) GENDER ASSIGNMENT  
DUE

10/25- Online Discussion 6 Due 11:59pm

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

10/28- Research Ethics

10/30- Film

11/1: Online Discussion 7 Due 11:59pm

**Week 11: Race/Ethnicity**

11/4- Race/Ethnicity

Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack

11/6- R/E Continued

11/8- Online Discussion 8 Due 11:59pm

**Week 12 Race/Ethnicity**

11/11- The Trials of Darryl Hunt

11/13- The Trials of Darryl Hunt Con't

11/15- Finish Film/Discussion/In Class CC Due

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

11/18- Deviance and Social Control

11/20- Deviance/Social Class

11/22- Social Class

Online Discussion 9 Due 11:59pm

**11/25 to 12/1: Thanksgiving Break, No Class**

**Week 14: Social Class**

12/2- Social Class In Class Exercise and discussion

12/4- Social Class Continued/People Like Us

12/6- Last Day of Class

CC Due In Class

Sociological Scrapbooks Due In Class or 11:59pm Online

Discussion 10 Due 11:59pm

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