

SOCIOLOGY 110 - INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE - FALL SEMESTER 2009

Professor: Rudolph Harris
Office: Bldg. 2, Rm. 5-K
Phone: 964-6521
Office Hours: 7:30-8:00 a.m. (M-F)
1:15-2:00 p.m. (M-F)
And by Appointment
E-mail: rcharris@dmacc.edu

Home Page: <http://www.dmacc.edu/instructors/rcharris>

I. TEXT:

Sociology by John Macionis, 12th Edition. Prentice Hall, 2008

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A scientific approach to the analysis of culture, socialization, social organization, the development of society, study of social processes, human groups, social institutions, and the effects of group relations on human behavior.

III. COURSE GOALS:

Sociology is the scientific study of human interaction and the body of knowledge which has been accumulated through that study. This course is a survey of concepts, theories, research, and ideas which comprise the core of body knowledge. In addition to learning the core of the discipline it is desired that students come to appreciate and perhaps acquire certain values and ways of thinking about human interaction which is often called "the sociological perspective."

Through this perspective it's hoped that the student will derive the intellectual enjoyment from life through an enriched understanding of the social world.

Scientifically, the purpose of this course is to describe what sociology is and what sociologists do.

Second, by studying sociology, you will learn a way of analyzing world events and human behavior through sociological methods and techniques.

Third, to present a clear overview of the sociological perspective in a way practical to the everyday experiences of students.

Fourth, to understand that individuals are products of their social environments. Who they are, what they believe, what they strive for, and how they feel about themselves are all dependent on others and the society in which we live.

Last, to make occasional references to other cultures (cross-cultural) by highlighting, through comparison, distinctive aspects of American society that might otherwise be taken for granted.

It is also desired that through this course, students develop, reinforce, and value such basic learning skills as:

1. Self-discipline, as applied to study habits, meeting deadlines, and completing assignments. The minimum standard guideline is at least 2 hours of reading and study time for each hour of class time, or 6 hours a week to successfully complete the course.
2. Reading, writing, studying and comprehending the English language.
3. Independent and critical thinking.

It is also hoped that students will acquire the conceptual foundations in this course which will allow them to successfully complete additional courses in sociology (such as Minority Group Relations, Social Problems, Marriage and Family, and Criminology) and related disciplines (such as Anthropology, Psychology, Political Science and Economics).

IV. COURSE COMPETENCIES AND OBJECTIVES: <http://www.dmacc.edu/competencies>

At completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate critical thinking skills and improve writing for better expression of our analyses of social life.
2. Identify sociological concepts and understand research methods in analyzing social behavior.
3. Appreciate social diversity - both within our own culture and across cultures and societies by using sociological perspectives and sociological imagination.
4. Explain history and development of Sociology as a science and a discipline.
5. Apply sociological concepts and theories to one's personal and social lives.
6. Analyze the major social institutions (economics, government, religion, education, and families) and their significance.
7. Explain the dynamics of population, urbanization, ecology, medicine, health, and environmental issues.
8. Analyze the socialization process, gender roles/stratification, and how we become social beings.
9. Explain social stratification/social inequality, race, ethnic relations, and aging in the United States and other societies.
10. Explain interaction, group dynamics, bureaucracy, and social structure.
11. Define, explain, and understand sexuality, deviant and collective behavior.
12. Analyze the importance and dimensions of social change.

V. **METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Methods presented will be lectures, class discussions, videos, and the text.

<u>DATE (WEEK OF)</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>ASSIGNED READING</u>
August 26	The Sociological Perspective	Chapter 1
August 31	Sociological Investigation	Chapter 2
September 1	<u>LAST DAY TO ADD CLASSES</u>	
September 7	<u>NO CLASSES (LABOR DAY)</u>	
September 2	Sociological Investigation	Chapter 2
September 8	Culture	Chapter 3
September 14	Society	Chapter 4
	<u>FIRST EXAM</u>	
September 21	Socialization Social Interaction in Every Day Life	Chapter 5 Chapter 6
September 28	Groups and Organizations Sexuality and Society Deviance	Chapter 7 Chapter 8 Chapter 9
October 5	Social Stratification Social Class in United States	Chapter 10 Chapter 11
October 12	Global Stratification	Chapter 12
	<u>SECOND EXAM (MID-TERM)</u>	
October 19	Gender Stratification Race and Ethnicity Aging and the Elderly	Chapter 13 Chapter 14 Chapter 15
October 26	Economy and Work Politics and Government	Chapter 16 Chapter 17
November 2	Families Religion	Chapter 18 Chapter 19
November 4	<u>LAST DAY TO DROP CLASSES</u>	
November 9	Education	Chapter 20
	<u>THIRD EXAM</u>	
November 16	Health and Medicine	Chapter 21

November 23	Population, Urbanization, and Environment	Chapter 22
November 26, 27	<u>THANKSGIVING VACATION</u>	
November 30	Collective Behavior and Social Movements	Chapter 23
	Social Change: Traditional, Modern, & Postmodern Societies	Chapter 24
December 1, 2	<u>PROJECT DUE</u> (Extra-credit)	
December 8 (T)	<u>MAKEUP EXAM (8:05 TR Class)</u> <u>MAKEUP EXAM (11:15 TR Class)</u>	
December 9 (W)	<u>MAKEUP EXAM (8:00 a.m. MWF Class)</u> <u>MAKEUP EXAM (12:20 p.m. MWF Class)</u>	
December 10 (R)	<u>FINAL EXAM</u> 8:00-10:15 a.m. (8:05 a.m. TR Class) <u>FINAL EXAM</u> 10:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. (11:15 a.m. TR Class)	
December 11 (F)	<u>FINAL EXAM</u> 8:00 -10:15 a.m. (8:00 a.m. MWF Class) <u>FINAL EXAM</u> 1:00-3:15 p.m. (12:20 p.m. MWF Class)	

VI. **GRADING:**

EXAMS: Four exams will cover all assigned readings from the text and everything covered during lecture. The exam questions will be a combination of 25 multiple choice, 30 true-false, 5 identification, or short essays. The final exam is not comprehensive. Each exam is 100 points. The course will be based on total points (500). A study guide will be provided before each exam. Please bring a No. 2 lead pencil for the exams. If class is cancelled on a test day due to inclement weather, the test will be given on the make-up day for Finals, Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2009.

VII. **MAKEUP EXAMS:**

All makeup exams must be taken during the LAST regular class meeting (the week before final exam - check above schedule). A student is allowed to make up only ONE exam. If two or more exams are missed, you will receive an F for the course. Failure to take the makeup exam or final will result in an F for the course.

VIII. **CHEATING: ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Any student caught cheating will receive an "F" for the course.

Refer to the DMACC Student Handbook: <http://www.dmacc.edu/handbook/welcome.asp>

You are expected to complete your work without cheating or plagiarism. These constitute academic misconduct, and disciplinary action will be taken. Penalties include failure on the quiz, exam or paper, failure for the course, and filling an Academic Misconduct Form that will be placed in your college records. Information on avoiding plagiarism can be found at <http://www.library.dmacc.edu/PublicPages/Plagiarism.htm>.

IX. GRADE COMPUTATION:

	<u>Possible Points</u>	<u>Your Score</u>
Exam #1	100	_____
Exam #2	100	_____
Exam #3	100	_____
Final	100	_____
Projects	<u>100</u>	_____
 TOTAL POSSIBLE:	 <u>500</u>	 YOUR TOTAL _____

X. TENTATIVE GRADING SCALE:

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

XI. ATTENDANCE - PARTICIPATION:

I believe that attendance and class participation are especially important in sociology. I will be taking attendance and expect you to be in class. Contacting your instructor is not necessary if you occasionally miss a class. However, contacting your instructor is very important if you miss an extended number of class sessions. Class attendance is strongly recommended. Missing classes can harm your grade. By missing class, you not only miss the notes (information for exams) but also miss the stimulation that the lecture, other students, and class discussions may provide. In the classroom I will draw relationships between theory and concepts and your everyday experiences. Students should also be aware that good lecture attendance is strongly correlated with good performance on exams. Essay questions will come from lectures. YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MISSED NOTES. Students are encouraged to get involved in class participation and discussion at any time. Much of the substance of sociology is debatable. Questions, rebuttals, and debate are always welcome in this class. Students are encouraged to speak their minds at any time. Your values, attitudes, and beliefs may differ from others. Differences do not mean that one view is right and the other is wrong. Respect differences since education tolerates diversity of opinions. Derogatory terms and name calling are not acceptable. I expect you to express your opinions in acceptable language and exhibit appropriate behavior at all times. Students are expected to arrive on time. Students who disrupt the classroom will be asked to leave.

XII. WITHDRAWAL POLICY:

I want to help you succeed in this class. If you have a legitimate reason to be absent for an extended time, please contact me in order to arrange to make up missed work. I'll be happy to assign an "Incomplete" grade if you request it and if there is a reasonable probability that you will complete the missing assignments.

If you choose to drop the class, you must complete an official drop slip and return it to Student Records in Building 1. Without this drop slip, you will receive an F for the course. The last day to drop a class this semester is **November 4, 2009**.

XIII. GENERAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:

You should become acquainted with the services provided in Bldg. 6, Rm. 20, the Academic Achievement Center (964-6558) and Rm. 23, the Testing Center (964-6595).

Academic Achievement Center	http://www.dmacc.edu/student_services/academic_achievement_center.asp Building 6, Room 20 Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Friday – 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. NOTE: Summer hours may vary
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It is a good place to seek individual help for your classes. Tutoring services, test taking skills, study skills, time management, writing lab, and a computer lab are also available.

Computer Labs	http://www.dmacc.edu/helpdesk/pc_labs.htm Building 6 Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Friday – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday – 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
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The Counseling Center (Academic), located in Bldg. 1 is an invaluable help in many areas. A personal counselor is also located in Bldg. 2, Room 10B (964-6268).

Library	http://www.library.dmacc.edu/ Building 6, Room 3 Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Friday – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday – 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
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Special Needs

Accommodations: http://www.dmacc.edu/student_services/disabilities.asp

It is the policy of DMACC to accommodate students with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability who requires reasonable accommodation should contact the Special Needs Coordinator at (515) 964-6850 voice or (515) 964-6810 tty.

If you carry a cell phone or pager/beeper to classroom, please turn it OFF and DO NOT use during class time. If you have special circumstances that you feel warrant an exception to this policy, you must bring this to my attention in order to obtain permission.

Important Note: (Disclaimer) This syllabus is representative of materials that will be covered in this class; it is not a contract between the students and the institution. It is subject to change without notice. Any potential exceptions to stated policies and requirements will be addressed on an individual basis, and only for reasons that meet specific requirements. If you have any problems related to this class, please feel free to discuss them with me.

XIV. OTHER REQUIREMENTS - TWO WRITING ASSIGNMENTS (100 points)

Two projects (50 points each) dealing with the application of sociological principles and theories are also required. Papers must be typed or word processed, neat, and meet acceptable standards of grammar and style. These projects will be discussed in class and due date announced. Save copies of your paper.

Project I (Survey): Construction and Development of a Questionnaire (50 points)

The student is expected to pick a sociological topic and develop a survey or questionnaire on that topic. This includes 20 variables and their categories – gender (male, female), race, education, income, religion, marital status, etc.). In addition, develop 10-15 questions with responses to find out people's feelings, attitudes, opinions, and behavior.

For extra credit, the student is expected to do a survey, collect data by using the same survey (questionnaire), and analyze the results. (10 points)

Project II: Socialization Paper (Autobiography, Case Study) (50 points)

a) Reflect upon your life and the methods used by your parents (family), peers, siblings, mass media (TV, movies, books, music), school, church (religion), groups, military, clubs, organizations, teachers on your socialization experiences. Make sure that the following concepts are included: social interaction, ethnocentrism, conformity, values (American and family), Gemeinschaft or Gessellschaft, norms, mores, folkways, roles (6), statuses (4), social class, subculture, laws, sanctions, stereotypes, culture shock, self, culture, personality, deviance, counter culture, self-concept, etc. Underline or highlight all sociological concepts. List all 35 sociological concepts covered on the last page of the paper. (35 points)

b) Apply the theories of Cooley, Mead, Goffman to your socialization and personality development. (15 points) Be sure that you have read the socialization chapter before you write your paper. Projects not turned in on time will be penalized 5 points per day. (Confidentiality of your paper will be honored.)

XV. EXTRA CREDIT: (10 points)

A student can improve his or her grade by doing an extra credit report. The purpose of the extra credit report is to do a survey, collect and analyze sociological data.

Due date is one week before termination of class. (December 2, 3, 2009)

This includes:

1. Topic (Define a problem)

Your topic must be sociological. It must be concerned with interactions, relationships, groups, social organizations, or communities. Explain why you chose this topic. Why is it interesting to you?

2. Review of the Literature

Summarize what you have read about the topic. Feel free to quote your sources, but be sure to set off your quotes with "quotation marks." This portion of your paper is like a typical library research paper. Go to the library, use the computer online resources.

EBSCOhost – Choose Databases

Tip: To search within a single database, click on the database name listed below. To select more than one database to search, check the boxes next to the databases and click on the CONTINUE Button.

CONTINUE

MasterFILE Premier

Provides full text for over 1,810 periodicals covering nearly all subject including general reference, business, health, and much more. Click here for a [complete title list](#). Click here for [more info](#)

Academic Search Elite

Provides full text for over 1,200 journals covering the social sciences, humanities, general science, multi-cultural studies, education, and much more. Click here for a [complete title list](#). Click here for [more info](#)

Health Source Plus

Provides full text for over 255 health periodicals, over 1,065 health pamphlets, and 23 health reference books. Click here for a [complete title list](#). Click here for [more info](#).

Clinical Pharmacology

Clinical Pharmacology provides access up-to-date, concise and clinically-relevant drug monographs for all U.S. prescription drugs, hard-to-find herbal and nutritional supplements, over-the-counter products and new and investigational drugs.

Start off your research with your textbook and the references cited therein. THREE sources or references are required. (APA Style)

PLAGIARISM:

You are expected to avoid PLAGIARISM. Engaging in any form of plagiarism is considered academic misconduct by the College, resulting in an F for the paper. Plagiarism is defined as “the appropriation of and use of another person’s writing, and passing it off as the product of one’s own efforts. Copying any work and submitting it as original work.”

The purpose of the research paper is to encourage you to think and integrate your ideas. All phrases, paragraphs, or sentences borrowed from another person’s writing must be cited, referenced, and footnoted. Your project must be written using APA (American Psychological Association) style. College level writing, using appropriate language, grammar, and punctuation is expected. The paper must be word processed or typed. Computers with word processing are available in the Computer Lab in Bldg. 6.

3. State Your Hypothesis or Your Research Question

In this section you must state clearly what it is that you wish to find out.

"Should we have mandatory drug testing for professional athletes?"

"Is there a stigma attached to the disease of AIDS?"

"Should we have stricter gun-control laws?"

"Alcohol abuse in high school."

"Are professional athletes paid too much?"

"Should gays serve in the military?"

"Television violence stimulates aggressive behavior in children."

"Should capital punishment be abolished?"

"Is sexual harassment a problem in the work place?"

"Are attitudes toward divorce changed?"

"Majority of Americans are in favor of drug testing."

"Should there be stricter penalties for drunken-drivers?"

"Attitudes regarding abortion."

4. Research Method or Design

In this section describe in detail how you collect the information you needed to test your hypothesis or answer your research question. If you did a survey, how did you choose your population? How did you select a sample? Include a copy of your survey instrument (form.). How did you measure the key variables of your study?

5. Collect the Data (30 Questionnaires or surveys can be given in class if you are studying DMACC students.)

6. Data Analysis

In this section show me what you found out. Present the data as clearly and neatly as you can. Analysis usually means simplification. Put your numbers into percentages, place them in charts. Construct graphs and tables. Look at your textbook or in the American Sociological Review to see how data is displayed.

Most importantly, tell me how your data relates to your hypothesis. Does it support or not support your hypothesis. Does it answer or not answer your research question?

7. Summary and Conclusion

In this section of your paper tell me what you learned in the course of your investigation. Comment on your intended findings of course, but also, tell me what you learned by the way, accidentally. Advise your reader about how you might suggest a repeat of your study be done differently.