

SOCL 2002 section 1 HONORS INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY

Spring 2019 Information and course syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Robert O'Neil

OFFICE: Stubbs Hall 13

OFFICE HOURS: mwf 8:30-9:15 AM,
or by appointment

CLASS: mwf 1:30-2:20 in Lockett 111

My office phone: (225) 578-1997

My e-mail: roneil@lsu.edu.

Sociology Dept. Main office phone: 578-1645.

Required textbook: Benokraitis, Nijole V. (2016). SOC 4 published by Wadsworth/Cengage Learning. ISBN 1-305-09455-7 or 978-1-305-09455-0 [or suitable substitute].

Course objectives: General Catalog: "Major subject areas and principles of sociology." Sociology is the scientific study of societies and social life. This course is designed to give students a broad overview of basic theories, concepts, and issues in sociology, and to serve as a foundation for other sociology courses. This is a "General Education" course. As such, according to some bureaucrats here and elsewhere this course is supposed to achieve a "learning competency" of: "*LSU graduates will demonstrate an understanding of factors associated with global interdependence, including economic, political, psychological, cultural and linguistic forces.*" While you recover from your hysterical laughter, rest assured that you will not be required to learn Navaho, Hindi, Finnish, Edu-babble, or any other foreign language in this course. Nor will you be taught any new dance moves. My mother forbade dancing. And I promise I won't hypnotize you. There will be some discussion of the interplay between population dynamics, the job market, inequality, and offshoring.

Class format: Class time will include both lecture and discussion of assigned readings. Students are expected to read the textbook assignments before they are covered in class. I also use a considerable amount of outside material, so it is important to come to class and pay attention. If you miss a class, get notes from another student. I will not provide notes to students.

Attendance: LSU policies require regular attendance on the part of students. To do well in the course, you need to come to class. Students are expected to know what is going on in terms of proper registration, topics, exam dates, and other information pertinent to this course.

Evaluation and grading:

Exams- There will be 4 exams given, including the final. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions, worth one point each. Exams will not be cumulative- they will only cover material presented in that segment of the course. **BE ON TIME-** No student will be allowed to start an exam after the first student is finished. No student will be allowed to leave the classroom and then return during exams. **Makeup exams-** If you make arrangements with me beforehand, you will be allowed to take a multiple-choice exam. If not, you may be required to take a written exam. All makeups must be taken within two weeks of the regular exam date.

Makeups for the final exam must be taken by noon Monday, May 6th and require permission of the Dean of Students. **YOU MUST DOCUMENT YOUR REASON FOR MISSING ANY EXAM.**

Short assignments- I will give 5 short written assignments at various times during the semester. These will be worth 5 points each. Some in-class, some take-home. All will be assigned in class.

Scrapbook- Each student will construct a scrapbook of 5 newspaper articles that illustrate sociological concepts presented in this course. A summary of each concept and how the accompanying story illustrates it will be attached to each story. Details of this requirement will be presented during the semester. The scrapbook will be worth a maximum of 25 points. **Scrapbook due date is Wednesday, April 10th.** There will be a 10% penalty for every calendar day it is late.

COURSE GRADE REQUIREMENTS:

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 4 exams x 50 pts. | = | 200 |
| 5 short assignments x 5 pts. | = | 25 |
| scrapbook | = | <u>25</u> |
| Total | | 250 points |

(over)

GRADING SCALE

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 242-250=97%+=A+ | 217-223=87%+=B+ | 192-198=77%+=C+ | 167-173=67%+=D+ |
| 232-241=93%+=A | 207-216=83%+=B | 182-191=73%+=C | 157-166=63%+=D |
| 224-231=90%+=A- | 199-206=80%+=B- | 174-181=70%+=C- | 149-156=60%+=D- |
| | | | 0-148=F |

Rounding is already included in this grading scale: 224 points=89.6% of 250. This is rounded up to 90%=A-.

Do not ask for more.

CHEATING includes aiding or receiving aid from another student on exams or assignments; copying answers from another student; using notes, answer keys, or other materials when taking an exam; or in any way presenting someone else's work as your own. It also includes failure to follow test rules. Any student caught cheating can receive an F in the course and be turned over to the Office of Student Advocacy & Accountability for disciplinary action. That action can include disciplinary probation, community service, and possible expulsion from the university. For athletes, it will also mean a loss of NCAA eligibility.

COURSE SCHEDULE

(Tentative and subject to change)

Wednesday, January 9- Introduction to course

Jan. 11, 14- Perspectives & methods- chapters 1 & 2 (also chptr. 3 p.49 on "ethnocentrism")

Jan. 16, 18- Culture & social structure- chapters 3 & 5 (also chptr 6 pp. 116-117 on "institutions")

MONDAY, JANUARY 21- MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY- NO CLASS

Jan. 23- Social structure continued

Jan. 25, 28, 30- Socialization- chapter 4 (also chptr. 5 on symbolic interactionism)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1- EXAM 1

Feb. 4, 6- Groups, organizations & networks- chapter 6

Feb. 8, 11, 13- Race & ethnicity- chapter 10

Feb. 15, 18, 20- Stratification- chapter 8

Feb. 22, 25- Economies- chapter 11

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27- EXAM 2

March 1- Political systems- chapter 11

MARCH 4-6- MARDI GRAS- NO CLASS

Mar. 8- Political systems continued

Mar. 11, 13, 15- Education & Religion- chapter 13

Mar. 18, 20, 22, 25- Crime & deviance- chapter 7

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27- EXAM 3

Mar. 29, April 1- Sex & Gender- chapter 9

April 3, 5, 8- Family & the life course (Aging)- chapter 12

*****WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10- SCRAPBOOKS DUE AT CLASS TIME*****

April 10, 12- Population- chapter 15

APRIL 13-21 SPRING BREAK- NO CLASS

April 22- Population continued

April 24, 26- Social change & social movements- chapter 16 (also chptr. 3 pp.54-56 on "culture change")

FINAL EXAM: Saturday, May 4th at 10:00 AM- Noon in Lockett 111.