COURSE OVERVIEW
This course will provide students with an overview of the sociological approach. Major theoretical concepts and methodologies will be examined and illustrated with a wide variety of classic as well as recent empirical studies. Some of the topics we'll look at include: the influence of society on love and death; causes and consequences of social inequality (race and ethnic relations; gender relations); and social definitions of deviant behavior.

Blackboard site: https://classes.emory.edu,
Log in, then click on: Soc101: Intro to Sociology (Scott). This site will include all materials that we hand out in class (the syllabus, instructions for written assignments, etc.), as well as outlines of the lectures. Any important announcements will also be posted on this site.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance is strongly encouraged. I will use lectures to give you additional information not found in the readings, and I will also provide frameworks for understanding and integrating the readings with the lecture material. We will also have discussion in class to help clarify all the material, so you need to show up so that you can participate in this. As an incentive, regular attendance (missing 2 or fewer classes) will be used to “improve” on very close grades (borderline).

2. Three written assignments (percentages vary – see below; 45% total)
These assignments will involve either reflections about your own behavior or gathering some kind of information/data (e.g. brief survey), and writing about the data you gather. I will hand out instructions for these assignments during the semester.

Assignment 1 (5-7 page paper) due Friday, Sep 28: 15%
Assignment 2 (5-7 page paper) due Friday, Nov 9: 15%
Assignment 3 (5-7 page paper) due Friday, Dec 7: 15%

All written assignments must be given to me during class. I do not accept assignments through email.
3. Two exams (percentages vary – see below; 55% total)

   Exam 1 (Midterm): Friday, Oct 19 (in class) 25%
   Exam 2 (Final): Thursday, Dec 13, 8:30-11:00am 30%

- The Midterm will be an in-class exam.
- The Final will be given during the University scheduled Final Exam period for this class (and cannot be rescheduled).
- The exams will consist of a combination of short answer and essay questions, and they will cover both the readings and lecture material.
- Note that the Final is not cumulative. More details later.

4. Readings.

   We do not have a typical “textbook” for this class; rather the readings are comprised of original articles from different authors (many are contained in the Henslin reader). Thus, much of what you will be reading is actual sociological research. Some of the readings are more difficult than others, and some weeks there is a heavier reading load than other weeks. I will give you guidance on “how” to read the articles, particularly the more difficult ones.

   On the following pages is a schedule of the readings required for the course. You are expected to complete the readings before class each week. We will discuss some of the readings in class, so both the reading and class attendance are important. And, class lecture and discussion will be more interesting if you have completed the readings!

If you have trouble understanding any of the readings or the lecture material, please feel free to talk to me or to the teaching assistant for this class.

REQUIRED TEXTS


   Unless otherwise indicated, the selections listed below are located in the Henslin book

2. Reserve Readings (BlackBoard)

   There are also additional required readings, available as PDF files on our BLACKBOARD site.

   The Reserve Readings are marked with an asterisk (*) below.
OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Accommodating Disabilities:
If you have or acquire any sort of condition that may require special accommodation(s), please inform me AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (e.g., not the day of an exam) so that we may make the appropriate arrangements. Proper documentation from the Office of Disabilities Services will be required. Please contact their office to get more information on available services and accommodations, as well as documentation requirements. They can be reach at 404-727-6016 or via the web at http://www.ods.emory.edu.

Academic Conduct:
All students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the policies of Emory College with respect to conduct and academic honesty. Anyone engaging in acts that violate these policies, such as plagiarism or cheating, will be referred to the Honors Council. For more information on the Emory Honor Code, see http://www.college.emory.edu/current/standards/honor_code.html.

Make-Up Policy:
My permission is needed to make-up exams and the short assignments. If you are going to miss an exam or assignment, please make every effort to notify me before the missed class and to gather appropriate material to justify your absence. If you are unable to notify me before the class/due date, please try to have a friend, roommate, etc. contact me via e-mail and inform me of your absence. A mutually convenient time will be arranged for you to make up the assignment. Makeup assignments will only be allowed in a situation of an excused absence (e.g., illness, family emergency, etc.). A note from the Dean will be required to make up the final exam.

The use of cell phones is not permitted in this class. Please turn OFF your phones before entering the classroom.
TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

PART I: The Sociological Perspective

TOPIC 1  What Is Sociology?

Aug 29 (W):  Introductions


Sep 3 (M)  Labor Day Holiday – No Class


TOPIC 2  How Do We Do Sociology? (Sociological Research Methods)

Sep 7 (F):  James Henslin, How Sociologists Do Research. (In Henslin, pp. 35-47)


TOPIC 3  Basic Sociological Concepts Part I: Social Structure

Sep 14 (F):  Erving Goffman, 1959, *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life.* (In Henslin, pp. 135-146.)


Sep 19 (W):  Film: *Quiet Rage: The Stanford Prison Experiment*.

Sep 21 (F):  Discussion of Zimbardo reading and film.
TOPIC 4  Basic Sociological Concepts Part II: Culture


Sep 28 (F):  PAPER ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE
Horace Miner, 1956, *Body Ritual among the Nacirema*. (Henslin, pp. 87-91.)

TOPIC 5  The Case of Love: Culture, Social Structure, and Sentiment


TOPIC 6  The Case of Death: Culture, Social Structure, and Fear


Oct 10 (W):  *Kate Chopin, 1894, The Story of an Hour*

Oct 12 (F):  *Viviana Zelizer, 1985. Pricing the Priceless Child, Chapter 2, “From Useful to Useless: Moral Conflict over Child Labor” (pp. 56-72)

Oct 15 (M):  Fall Break

Oct 17 (W):  Review

Oct 19 (F):  Exam 1
PART II: Individuals and Social Interaction

TOPIC 7  Socialization: Development of the Self


Oct 26 (F):  Film: *Killing Us Softly*


TOPIC 8  Deviance


PART III: Groups and Society

TOPIC 9  Organizations

Nov 7 (W):  Robin Leidner, 1993, *Over the Counter at McDonald’s*. (Henslin, pp. 497-507.)

Nov 9 (F):  PAPER ASSIGNMENT #2 DUE
TOPIC 10  Social Class


Nov 19 (M):  Film TBA

Nov 21 (W):  Class Cancelled – Enjoy Thanksgiving!

TOPIC 11  Race and Ethnicity


TOPIC 12  Gender and Work


Dec 7 (F):  PAPER ASSIGNMENT #3 DUE
  *Christine Williams, 1989. Masculinity in Nursing, (ch. 4 in Gender Differences at Work, pp. 88-91; 109-130).

Dec 10 (M):  Review

Thur, Dec 13  8:30am – 11:00am  FINAL EXAM