

**SOCIOLOGY 108: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
SPRING 2011: SECTION 09**

Lecture:	Mon., Wed., Fri.: 12:00 – 12:50.
Lecture location:	Lawson 221
Instructor:	Justin A. Martin, M.A.
Office:	Faner 3421
Telephone:	618.453.2494
E-mail:	justin.martin@siu.edu
Office Hours:	Mon., Wed. 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Other times by appointment

Core Curriculum Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: (a) demonstrate knowledge of basic sociological concepts about social processes (e.g., socialization, deviance, social control, and stratification by class, gender, and race) and social institutions (e.g., the family, religion, and the state); (b) summarize theoretical or explanatory arguments in sociology; (c) apply these arguments to contemporary events or personal experience; and (d) display knowledge of cultural, class, religious, and other differences within and between societies.

Course Content and Requirements:

This course is designed to accomplish the above four objectives and to help you understand how society is created, sustained, and changed. Ideally, you will also learn to see the interconnections between individuals and society and to think logically and creatively about the world around you. There will be three meetings each week. You are expected to attend all scheduled meetings, and you are expected to read all course materials. Exam materials will come from both readings and lectures. The instructor reserves the right to make reasonable revisions to this syllabus as he deems necessary.

Grading Criteria:

Your grade for this course will be determined based on the following criteria:

Exams	200 pts. total
Exam 1	50 pts.
Exam 2	50 pts.
Exam 3	50 pts.
Exam 4	50 pts.
Optional Final Exam	50 pts.
Journal Entries (10)	50 pts. total
Attendance / Participation	50 pts. total

Students who earn 90% or more of the points will earn an “A.”

Students who earn 80% to 89% of the points will earn a “B.”

Students who earn 70% to 79% of the points will earn a “C.”

Students who earn 60% to 69% of the points will earn a “D.”

Students who earn less than 60% of the points will earn an “F.”

Examinations:

The exams will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. The exams will not be cumulative although the continued understanding of certain key concepts will be necessary throughout the semester. Exams **MUST** be taken on the scheduled day. There will be **NO** make-up exams. Additionally, students who fail an exam are strongly encouraged to meet with me to discuss their performance. There are four examinations and an optional final exam. Students taking the final exam will have their lowest exam grade dropped. For example: if your lowest exam score is from Exam One and you score higher on the Final Exam, the grade for Exam One will be dropped. Should your score on the Final Exam be your lowest exam grade, it will be dropped. The questions for the Final Exam will be taken verbatim from the previous four exams. No review for the Final Exam will be given.

Attendance & Participation:

Beyond merely attending class sessions, you are expected to participate in discussions. Class participation includes reading the course materials and asking questions or making comments. When relevant, students are encouraged to enrich class discussions by bringing in current events, accounts from personal experiences, or other appropriate material from outside the class. Participation points will also include any in-class activities assigned by the instructor.

Journals:

Each student is expected to develop awareness for sociological mindfulness in their own reflection that has been observed through the assigned readings in *The Sociologically Examined Life*. Journal writing will allow you to use your sociological imagination to analyze and share your experiences. You will hand in 10 journal assignments that are due on the dates listed in the course schedule.

To fulfill this assignment, you must critically analyze the assigned readings. I **DO NOT** want to see a summary of the readings. What you choose to write about is up to you. You can relate it to experiences in your life or discuss how it relates to current events. May you can discuss what you liked or disliked from the readings or its weakness or strengths. I want to know what you think and how the reading relates to sociology.

Journals must be double-spaced, 12-point font, one full page to two pages in length. They are due on the assigned date, must be handed in at the beginning of the class period assigned, and late assignments will **NOT** be accepted or graded.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit opportunities **MAY** be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

Emergency Procedures:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus and is available on the BERT website at www.siu.edu/emergency.bert.html, Department of Public Safety's website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guidelines pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Statement:

Persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations to meet the expectations of this course are encouraged to bring this to the attention of your instructor as soon as possible. Written documentation of the disability should be submitted during the first week of the semester along with a request for special accommodations. Contact SIU Disability Support Services (DSS) to facilitate requests:

Woody Hall B-150, Carbondale IL 62901, Mail Code: 4705. DSSsiu@siu.edu

Phone: 618.453.5738 Fax: 618.453.5700 TTY: 618.453.2293

Acknowledging Differences:

During the semester, students will have the opportunity to share thoughts, opinions, and beliefs about their life experiences. The differences in these perspectives that each student brings to the discussion will add to the richness of the course. Students should communicate in ways that acknowledge and respect such differences. While it is natural and expected that many of us will have differing opinions, we must always respect our fellow students in the class and the opinions they hold. I expect and encourage students to be critical of each other's ideas, but it is unacceptable to be dismissive or and/or combative with other students in the class.

Classroom Decorum:

I have an obligation to maintain a classroom environment that allows students to learn to the best of their abilities. While I encourage students to ask questions and make comments in class, I will not tolerate or permit behavior that is disruptive, distracting, or demeaning. If you cell phone must be on for medical, child care, or other reasons, please set it to silent or vibrate.

Ethical Conduct:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is dedicated not only to learning, research, and the advancement of knowledge, but also to the development of ethically sensitive and responsible persons. The university seeks to achieve these goals through sound educational programs and policies governing individual conduct that encourages independence and maturity. By accepting membership in this university, an individual joins a community

characterized by free expression, free inquiry, honesty, respect for others, and participation in constructive change. All rights and responsibilities exercised within this academic environment shall be compatible with these principles. Acts of Academic Dishonesty are a breach of the student conduct code. Dishonesty includes: 1) Plagiarism, representing the work of another as one's own work; 2) Preparing work for another that is to be used as that person's own work; 3) Cheating by any method or means; 4) Knowingly and willfully falsifying or manufacturing scientific or educational data and representing the same to be the result of scientific or scholarly experiment or research; 5) Knowingly furnishing false information to a university official relative to academic matters; 6) Soliciting, aiding, abetting, concealing, or attempting conduct in violation of this code. If you are in doubt or have questions regarding behavior that may constitute academic dishonesty, please consult with your instructor or refer to the SIU Handbook, available at: <http://www.siu.edu/~policies/policies/conduct.html>

Required Course Materials:

TEXT = Schaefer, Richard T. 2009. *Sociology Matters*. Fourth Ed. New York: McGraw Hill.

READER = Schwalbe, Michael. 2008. *The Sociologically Examined Life: Pieces of the Conversation*. Fourth Ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

BB = Additional readings posted on Blackboard to be read as assigned and discussed in class

COURSE SCHEDULE

(Subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.)

TOPICS & READINGS

WEEK 1: Introduction & Overview

01/17: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No Class
01/19 – 01/21: No Readings

WEEK 2: Sociological Theory

01/24 – 01/28: TEXT: Pp. 1-18
READER: Preface, Chapter One
JOURNAL DUE: 01/28

WEEK 3: Research Methods

01/31 – 02/04: TEXT: Pp. 19-32
READER: Chapter Twelve
JOURNAL DUE: 02/04

WEEK 4: Socialization

02/07 – 02/11: TEXT: Pp. 52-68
READER: Chapter Five
JOURNAL DUE: 02/11

WEEK 5: Social Groups

02/14 – 02/18: TEXT: Pp. 71-93
READER: Chapter Four
JOURNAL DUE: 02/16

***** 02/18: **EXAM ONE**

WEEK 6: Culture

02/21 – 02/25: TEXT: Pp. 35-51
READER: Chapter Two
JOURNAL DUE: 02/25

WEEK 7: Deviance and Social Control

02/28 – 03/04: TEXT: Pp. 96-122
READER: Chapter Three
JOURNAL DUE: 03/04

WEEK 8: The Family & Religion

03/07 – 03/11: TEXT: Pp. 203-225
READER: Chapter Ten
JOURNAL DUE: 03/09
***** 03/11: EXAM TWO

WEEK 9: Spring Break

03/14 – 03/18

WEEK 10: Education

03/21 – 03/25: TEXT: Pp. 227-239
READER: Chapter Eleven
JOURNAL DUE: 03/25

WEEK 11: The Media

03/28 – 04/01: NO READINGS

WEEK 12: Stratification

04/04: NO CLASS
04/06 – 04/08: TEXT: Pp. 124-156

WEEK 13: Racial Inequality

04/11 – 04/15: TEXT: Pp. 159-180
READER: Chapter Seven
JOURNAL DUE: 04/13
***** 04/15: EXAM THREE

WEEK 14: Sexuality & Gender

04/11 – 04/15: TEXT: Pp. 183-201
READER: Chapter Eight
JOURNAL DUE: 04/15

WEEK 15: Population, Health & Society

04/25 – 04/29: TEXT: Pp. 270-280
READER: Chapter Nine
JOURNAL DUE: 04/29

WEEK 16: Social Movements

05/02 – 05/06: TEXT: Pp. 292-312
***** 05/06: EXAM FOUR

FINALS WEEK:

Optional Final: Date, Time and Location to be announced