

Sociology 101-405: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Fall Semester, 2005
Tuesday & Thursday 11:00-11:50
Office Hours: Wed., Thurs. 12:00-1:30
-- or by appointment

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<u>Teaching Assistants</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Office Hours</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Peter Barwis	Bolton 721	M 10-11, W 11-12	229-4026
Nicole Michaud	Bolton 721	M 11-1	229-4026
Heather Price	Bolton 721	Tu 10-11, Th 12-1	229-4026
Andy Tigert	Bolton 772	M 12-1, Tu 1-2	229-3254

Texts & Website

Both the textbook and reader are required and can be purchased at the university bookstore. The articles marked by a double asterisk (**) on this syllabus are also required reading and can be purchased at the bookstore or obtained through either regular or electronic reserve. There is a course website on Desire2Learn (D2L) that will include announcements, lecture notes, and your course grades. You can access the site from the UWM homepage or at: <http://D2L.uwm.edu>. To login, type your UWM email username and password.

Anthony Giddens et al., Introduction to Sociology, 4th ed. (Text).
Garth Massey, Readings for Sociology, 4th ed. (Reader)
Moore, Sociology 101 (articles with **)

Course Organization and Grading

The purpose of this course is to introduce the basic ideas of sociology and to illustrate the usefulness of those ideas for understanding the social world. It is also designed to meet the General Education Requirement in the social sciences and counts toward the fulfillment of that requirement. Although I will present some facts and definitions during the lectures, my goal is not to have you memorize (and then forget) a lot of facts. Rather, I want you to understand the basic concepts of sociology and to use those concepts in thinking about human social behavior. It is my hope that the course will challenge you to think critically about existing social arrangements and their effect upon your life.

There will be two lectures each week, every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00 to 11:50. The lectures offer a different perspective on the material covered in the readings and will not always follow the textbook. Although the size of the class limits my ability to interact with you individually, please come to lecture prepared to ask and answer questions. I will often pose questions to the class and encourage you to share your views with your fellow students. We all learn more by participating actively in a course, and I encourage you to join in the discussions of the ideas and readings presented in the lectures and class discussions.

The first half of the course examines the relationship between the individual and society.

It will introduce some of the basic concepts of the social sciences -- culture, socialization, social structure, and deviance. It also examines the class divisions in our society that are reflected in the growing concentration of income and wealth, the increasingly unequal rewards of different occupations, and the persistence and extent of poverty. The material covered in this part of the course will be the subject of the first exam. The second half of the course focuses upon the inequalities of race and gender and upon some of the global changes taking place in the world today. We will discuss the nature of prejudice, the history of race relations in the U.S., and the relationship of gender roles and gender inequality to family. We will also discuss the struggle of the less-developed countries to raise their standard of living, world population growth, and environmental degradation. These topics will be the subject of a second exam given during the final week of classes.

The first two exams will cover only the topics discussed during either the first or the second half of the course. In addition, there will be a final exam given during exam week that will be cumulative (i.e., it will cover all of the topics discussed in the course). Each exam will consist of 49 multiple-choice questions and will count for 100 points toward your final grade (on each exam you will get 2 points for your name). Should you take the first two exams and be satisfied with your grade, you do not have to take the final exam since only your two highest exam grades will count. If you miss either of the first two exams, you must take the final. Together, the two highest exam scores will count for two-thirds of your course grade. The remaining third of your grade will be based upon your performance in your discussion section.

The discussion groups will meet each week and attendance is required. It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to pass this course without participating in the discussion section. Each TA is likely to organize her/his discussions a little differently. However, all of the discussion sections will include regular assignments on the readings. Your written responses to the assigned questions, and your participation in the weekly discussions, will count for the remaining third of your grade. Also, please keep in mind that the grade of incomplete is given only in exceptional circumstances. You are responsible for your work being completed and turned in on time. In summary, the breakdown of the course requirements is:

Exams (2 at 100 points each)...	200 points
Weekly assignments, class participation and attendance...	<u>100 points</u>
Total possible points	300 points

The grading scale is:

A 275 or more points	C 215-232
A- 269-274	C- 209-214
B+ 263-268	D+ 203-208
B 245-262	D 185-202
B- 239-244	D- 179-184
C+ 233-238	F Less than 179

Course Outline

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
Sept. 6	Sociology: Science or Commonsense?	Reader (2) The Sociological Imagination
Sept. 8	The Culture Concept: Ethnocentrism and Cultural Relativism	Text, Chapter 3, pp. 53-73 Reader (8) Queer Customs (13) A Look Behind the Veil
Sept. 13	Socialization: The "Self" and Symbolic Interaction	Text, Chapter 4 (entire)
Sept. 15	Socialization: Stages of Growth	Reader (9) Growing Up as a Fore...
Sept. 20	Obedience	Reader (6) The My Lai Massacre
Sept. 22	Social Structure: Groups & Organizations	Text, Chapter 6, pp. 138-169 Reader (31) The McDonald's System
Sept. 27	Theories of Deviance	Text, Chapter 7 (entire) Reader (17) The Saints and the Roughnecks
Sept. 29	America's War on Drugs	** Commonsense Drug Policy
Oct. 4	Crime in America	** Legalization Madness
Oct. 6	Social Stratification: Wealth and Income Inequality	Text, Chapter 8 (entire)
Oct. 11	Social Stratification: Occupations and Wage Inequality	Reader (20) What Happened to...
Oct. 13	Surviving the Good Times	
Oct. 18	Poverty in America	Reader (18) Nickel and Dimed
Oct. 20	FIRST EXAM	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>

Oct. 25	Race and Ethnicity: The Nature of Prejudice	Text, Chapter 11 (entire)
Oct. 27	The History of Racial Inequality	Reader (7) Racism and Research
Nov. 1	Goin' to Chicago	Reader (14) Love and Race...
Nov. 3	Racial Inequality Today	**The Continuing Causes of Segregation
Nov. 8	Segregation in Milwaukee	
Nov. 10	Gender Inequality: Evidence and Theory	Text, Chapter 10 (entire)
Nov. 15	The Opposite Sex	Reader (15) Women's Personal Lives
Nov. 17	Changing Sex Roles	Reader (37) Emotional Geography...
Nov. 22	Family: Past and Present	Text, Chapter 15 (entire)
Nov. 29	Global Inequality: The Obstacles to Development	Text, Chapter 9 (entire) Reader (29) Foundations of Third World...
Dec. 1	The Population Paradox	Text, Chapter 19, pp. 620-641
Dec. 6	Population Growth	Reader (48) An Alternative to Globalization
Dec. 8	The Environmental Crisis	
Dec. 13	SECOND EXAM	

(Final Exam: Tuesday, December 20th, 10:00-11:30)