

S100: Introduction to Sociology
Fall 2008
Section # 26649
Class Meetings: TR 4:00-5:15 in BH 304

Instructor: Joe DiGrazia

Office: Memorial Hall M13

Office hours: W 2:00-4:00pm

Email: jdigrazi@indiana.edu (I check my email several times each day)

Mailbox: 744 Ballantine Hall (open 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. M-F)

Class Webpage: <http://oncourse.iu.edu>

Course Description

This course is intended to provide students with an introduction to the field of sociology. Sociology is the study of society and human social behavior. This course consists of three sections. In section one, we will begin with an examination of the theoretical foundations of the discipline and an exploration of the research methods used by sociologists to understand the social world. We will also explore some fundamental concepts in sociology such as culture and socialization. In doing so, students will come to recognize how sociologists understand the world and how they come to gain the knowledge they have.

In sections two and three we will survey a number of substantive areas of sociology and use the theoretical perspectives and methodologies learned in the first part of the course to better analyze them. Section two will include topics relating to inequality and race, class and gender. Additionally, we explore how issues of race, class and gender intersect with institutions like the family, education, and the criminal justice system. Section three covers topics relating to politics, social change and globalization. It is my aim for students to come away from this course not only with knowledge of the substantive topics covered, but also with an understanding of the sociological perspective and the unique view of the world held by sociology. I also hope that students get a sense of how sociology is both interesting and important in understanding their daily lives.

Required Texts

The required text for this course is:

Schaefer, Richard. 2008. *Sociology Matters*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill

This text can be purchased at the IU bookstore or via Amazon.

Additional readings can be found on the class OnCourse page. This page can be found by logging into <http://oncourse.iu.edu> and clicking the link for s100. The readings can be located under "Resources."

Student Responsibilities

Attendance Policy: I expect all students to attend class and be on time. You may miss up to 4 classes, regardless of the reason, without penalty. You do not have to provide excuses for these absences, however, for every absence beyond 4 (regardless of the reason, with the exception of university-sanctioned absences such as religious holidays), your final grade will be lowered by 1/3 of a letter grade (e.g. A- to B+). NOTE: Although you may miss up to 4 classes without penalty, you will not receive credit for any in-class exercises missed nor will you be able to make them up, again, with the exception of university-sanctioned absences.

Class Preparation: In addition to coming to class, you are expected to be prepared for class. You should have all assigned readings completed by the date that appears on the syllabus. Come to class prepared to discuss and ask questions about what you have read and what you have learned in previous class sessions. Information from the readings may appear on the exams even if we do not discuss it in class.

Participation: I expect each person to show up to every class prepared to participate. Each of you brings to the class a unique perspective, which the entire class will benefit from hearing. I encourage you to ask questions, disagree, or support others' statements. While active participation is encouraged, remember to always be respectful of your classmates, the instructor, and any guests who may come to speak to the class. Personal attacks and belittling comments are not acceptable. You are encouraged to disagree as long as the tone is respectful and the debate is constructive.

Quizzes and Exercises- Periodically, we will have in-class quizzes or exercises. These may take the form of traditional quizzes based on the readings for the day or they may take the form of individual or group in-class activities. There will be 12 of these in-class exercises/quizzes throughout the semester and the dates for them will not be announced in advance. No make-up quizzes will be given; however, your lowest two quiz grades will be dropped. Each quiz will be worth 1% of your final grade.

Exams: There will be three exams in this course, including a final. These exams will cover material from the lectures, readings, films, in-class discussions and activities. The exams will require you to have learned the content of this material and will ask you to draw connections between different topics and theories. The two midterm exams will each be worth 25% and 30% of your final grade, respectively, and the final exam will be worth 35%.

Make-up Exams: Make-up exams typically will not be given. The only exception to this policy is when the situation involves extreme and unusual circumstances. You must also provide documentation of these circumstances. If you cannot take the exam for some reason, you must contact me prior to the exam. With my permission, you may take the exam at a later date. Failure to get my permission will mean that you will not be able to take a make-up exam. If there is an emergency on the day of the exam, email me before the exam is given and provide me with documentation of

the emergency. In the rare event that a make-up exam will be given, the grading will reflect the fact that the student had more time to prepare than others.

The dates for the exams will be:

Exam I – Thursday, October 2

Exam II-Thursday, November 6

Exam III (final)-Tuesday, December 16 (2:45pm-4:45pm)

Incompletes: In accordance with departmental and university policies, I will not grant an incomplete except in cases of unusual or extreme circumstances.

OnCourse: You must be able to use OnCourse for this class. Many of the readings for this course, as well as additional resources, will be available to download from oncourse and your grades will be updated on this site.

In order to access the course readings on oncourse:

Navigate to <http://oncourse.iu.edu>

Click on the link for s100 under the fall 2008 tab

Click on “resources” to locate the assigned readings

Special Needs: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), IU seeks to provide “reasonable accommodation” for qualified individuals with documented disabilities. It is the student’s responsibility to inform me and to contact the Disability Student Service Office (855-7579; <http://www.dsa.indiana.edu/dss.html>) about any special learning/study needs relating to a documented disability.

Honor Code: Academic dishonesty (such as cheating or plagiarism) will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to university policy. Please see the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct for university policies on academic misconduct and academic dishonesty (<http://www.dsa.indiana.edu/code/index.html>).

Grading:

Final grades for the course are out of 1000 points will be calculated based on the following criteria:

Quizzes/Exercises	10%	100 points
Exam 1	25%	250 points
Exam 2	30%	300 points
Exam 3 (final)	35%	350 points

The grading scale is as follows:

A+ 970-1000	C 730-769
A 930-969	C- 700-729
A- 900-929	D+ 670-699
B+ 870-899	D 630-669

B 830-869
B- 800-829
C+ 770-799

D- 600-629
F 0-599

Tentative Schedule:

You are expected to complete all of the listed readings BEFORE each class.

Section 1: Introduction to Sociology

Week 1: The Sociological Perspective

9/2: Tuesday: Overview of the course and syllabus.

9/4: Thursday: What is Sociology?

Readings: Schaefer pgs 1-6

Miner, Horace. 1956. "Body Ritual Among Nacirema" **oncourse**

Week 2: Sociological Theory

9/9: Tuesday: Overview of Theoretical Perspectives, focus on Symbolic Interactionism and Microsociology.

Readings: Schaefer pgs 7-19

9/11: Thursday: Conflict Theory and Functionalism

Readings: Marx, Karl. "The Communist Manifesto" (selected pages) **oncourse**

Durkheim, Emile. "The Normality of Crime" **oncourse**

Merton, Robert. "Manifest and Latent Functions" **oncourse**

Week 3: How Do Sociologists Do Research?

9/16: Tuesday: Research Methods in Sociology and the Scientific Method

Readings: Schaefer pgs 20-30

9/18: Thursday: Sociological Research

Readings: Reingold and Wike "Confederate Symbols, Southern Identity, and Racial Attitudes: The Case of the Georgia State Flag."

Boswell and Spade. "Fraternities and Rape Culture" **oncourse**

Week 4: Culture and Socialization

9/23: Tuesday: Culture

Readings: Schaefer pgs 36-52

9/25: Thursday: Socialization

Readings: Schaefer pgs 52-68

Week 5: Social Structure and Interaction

9/30: Tuesday: Interaction and Social Structure
Readings: Schaefer pgs 71-86

10/2: Thursday: Exam I

Section 2: Inequality, Race, Class, and Gender

Week 6: Inequality and Stratification

10/7: Tuesday: Inequality and Stratification
Readings: Schaefer pgs 122-144

10/9: Thursday: Race and Inequality
Readings: Schaefer: 154-160; 163-170

Week 7: Inequality and Stratification

10/14: Tuesday: Education
Readings: Schaefer: 218-228

10/16: Thursday: Inequality, Race, Education
Readings Kozol "Savage Inequalities" **oncourse**

Week 8: Gender

10/21: Tuesday: Gender
Reading: Schaefer: pg 176-181
Reading: Gould, Lois. 1972. "X: A Fabulous Child's Story." 321-330 **oncourse**

10/23: Thursday: Gender Inequality
Reading: Schaefer pg 181-191
Orenstein "Learning Silence: Girls and Boys in School"

Week 9: Crime and the Family

10/28: Tuesday: Crime and the Criminal Justice System
Reading: Schafer: pgs 112-119
Western, Bruce and Becky Petit. 2002. "Beyond Crime and Punishment: Prisons and Inequality" *Contexts* 3: 37-43 **oncourse**

10/30: Thursday: The Family
Reading: Schaefer pg 194-206

Week 10: Elections and Exam II

11/4: Elections and Political Participation
Reading: TBA

11/6: Thursday: Exam II

Section 3: Politics, Change and Global Society

Week 11: Political and Economic Sociology

11/11: Tuesday: Politics and the Economy
Reading: Schaefer pgs 229-242.

11/13: Thursday: The Welfare State
Reading: Epsing-Anderson, Gosta. 2007. "Equal Opportunities and the Welfare State." *Contexts* 6: 23-27 **oncourse**

Week 12: Globalization

11/18: Tuesday: Introduction to Globalization
Reading: Schaefer pgs 144-153

11/20: Thursday: Economic Globalization
Reading: Bnacich, Edna, Lucie Cheng, Norma Chinchilla, Nora Hamilton, and Paul Ong. "The Garment Industry in the Restructuring Global Economy" **oncourse**

Week 13: Globalization

11/25: Tuesday: Cultural Globalization
Reading: MacBride and Roach. "The New International Information Oder." **oncourse**
Sinclair, Jacka and Cunningham. "Peripheral Vision." **oncourse**

11/27: Thursday: No Class (Thanksgiving)

Week 14: Globalization and Political Activity

12/2: Tuesday: Political Globalization
Reading : Ohmae, "The End of the Nation State." **oncourse**
Anan, "The Role of the State in the Age of Globalization" **oncourse**

12/4: Thursday: Social Movements
Reading: Freeman, Jo. "On the Origins of Social Movements" **oncourse**
Schaefer pgs 277-291

Week 15: Social Movements

12/9: Tuesday: Social Movements
Reading: No readings for this class

12/11: Thursday: Review for Exam and Catch Up

Final Exam: December 16, 2:45pm-4:45pm