

# **SYG 2000 Introduction to Sociology Syllabus**

SYG 2000Web Course  
Introduction to Sociology  
Summer, 2006

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Last date to withdraw without a grade is May 22, 2006

NOTE: This is a WebCT course. All of the assignments will be sent to the instructor via WebCT e-mail.

**ALL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND THE ORIENTATION AND  
SUBMIT THE FIRST TWO ASSIGNMENTS BY THE DATE  
ASSIGNMENT 2 IS DUE. FAILURE TO DO EITHER OF THESE  
WILL RESULT IN THE STUDENT AUTOMATICALLY BEING  
DROPPED FROM THE CLASS.**

#### MATERIALS REQUIRED

Macionis, John J. *Sociology, Tenth Edition*,  
Prentice Hall, 2005

Since this course deals with society and social issues, we may use current events as assignment and/or discussion topics. Be sure that you have access to *The Tampa Tribune* and *Time* magazine so that they can be used as sources material.

A computer with a minimum of Windows95, 16MB of RAM (24MB recommended), Sound Blaster or compatible sound card and speakers, CD-ROM drive (4x speed or faster), Netscape Communicator 4.01 or higher, or Internet Explorer 4.01 or higher, high-speed modem or other fast Internet connection. Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0 and Apple QuickTime 3.02 are provided.

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introductory course which emphasizes the scientific method in examining society. Topics of study include group structure, roles, social stratification, socialization, deviance, collective behavior, and minority relations.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Define sociology and describe its origins.
- Explain the three major paradigms used in sociology (conflict, symbolic interaction, structural-functional).
- List and briefly describe the various steps in using the scientific method.
- Identify and define the major elements of social structure, such as roles, status, groups, and institutions.
- Define a social group and describe the different types of groups in our society.

Identify and define the major components of culture.  
Discuss the agents and importance of socialization.  
Explain the social self and how it develops.  
Define the concept of deviance and discuss the theories that have been used to explain deviant behavior.  
Define social stratification and contrast the basic characteristics of the structural functional and social-conflict explanations for its existence.  
Describe the characteristics of the major classes in the United States and how these affect your life.  
Define minority group and distinguish between prejudice and discrimination.  
Discuss how conceptions of gender develop.  
Discuss problems related to aging in our society.  
Define demography and discuss the demographic processes that account for population growth, as well as changes.  
Compare past, present, and future urbanization trends in developed and less developed nations.  
Define collective behavior and give examples of types of crowd behavior.  
Identify and explain the types of social movements that can occur and give examples of each.  
Discuss the sources, types, consequences, and theories of social change in our world today.  
Discuss the functions of at least one social institution in our society.

#### GRADING

Your grade for the course is determined by two examinations and the completion of weekly writing assignments. These weekly assignments will fulfill the Gordon Rule writing requirement for the course. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU CHECK THE WELCOME PAGE A FEW TIMES A WEEK FOR UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

#### EXAMS

The exams are composed of multiple choice questions, definitions, and essays. Definitions and essays **MUST** be in the **STUDENT'S OWN WORDS AND NOT TAKEN DIRECTLY FROM THE TEXT OR ANY OTHER SOURCE** The final will not be comprehensive. The material on the exams covers only the information in the textbook.

Exams will be placed in the Test Center on the Ybor Campus and **MUST** be taken during the week indicated. It is the student's responsibility to verify Test Center hours. The Test Center may be contacted directly at 253-7723. Remember that your test must be completed by the time the center closes. You should allow **AT LEAST 90 minutes** to take the test, longer if you are a slow test taker. The exams are **NOT** easy. There is a lot of information in each chapter. Review questions will be posted 2 weeks before each test. You should go through these carefully. Email me with any questions you may have, but don't wait until the day before the exam.

If you do not take the test during the week indicated you will be given a grade of zero for the test. There are no make-up exams and there is no extra credit.

**PLEASE BRING A SCANTRON AND A #2 PENCIL TO EACH EXAM.**

#### WEEKLY WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

Each week there will be 2 writing assignments. Each assignment will be worth 20 points. The assignments are due by 8:00 AM on Mondays and Thursdays and will not be accepted late. A detailed assignment schedule can be accessed using the Assignment icon on the course homepage. Each assignment should be titled by assignment number on the subject line and should be typed directly as a message. Although the length of answers will vary, there is a limit of 300 words per question. All assignments will be submitted through the course web site only. **WORK SUBMITTED ANY OTHER WAY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Application assignments are a way for students to examine how sociology applies to everyday life. These assignments are linked to the most important concepts in the text and will be one way I can gauge how well you are understanding the ideas in the book. They will also allow you to see the relevance of sociology to everyday life. Assignment questions will occasionally direct you to a particular web site, giving you another opportunity to explore how various sociological ideas are used in everyday life. This semester we will focus our attention on the immigration debate and many, though not all, questions will relate sociological ideas to the subject.

**KEEP IN MIND THAT MANY STUDENTS ARE SUBMITTING WORK AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME. A SYSTEM OVERLOAD MAY OCCUR WHEN TOO MANY STUDENTS ATTEMPT TO SUBMIT WORK AT THE SAME TIME. TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE I SUGGEST YOU PLAN TO TURN WORK IN EARLY.**

Note: Introduction to Sociology is a Gordon Rule Writing class. This means that students must write satisfactorily a minimum of 1500 words this term. The amount of words will not be a problem due to the many assignments during the term. The work e-mailed to the instructor should be organized into paragraphs, with correct spelling and punctuation, and good sentence structure. If there are comma splices and sentence fragments, a reduction in the points received for the assignment will occur. If there are too many writing errors and the writing is not college-level, the only grade that can be earned in the course is a D or F.

#### STUDY TIPS

Student success in the course is dependent upon being able to organize time. Completion of the assignments and reading each week should take you 4 - 6 hours. Set up a schedule at home and stick to it. Don't wait until the last minute to work on your assignments! Nineteen chapters will be covered during the term. If students get behind, those points are missed. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of 0 for that quarter of the course.

#### GRADING SCALE

During the course points will be earned as follows:

ACTIVITY	POINTS
Written assignments (20 points each)	220
Midterm Exam Chapters 1-9, 22-24	150
Final Exam Chs.10-21	150
Total Points Possible	520

**FINAL GRADES WILL BE ASSIGNED AS FOLLOWS**

A = 520-468 points - 90-100%  
B = 467-416 points - 80-89%  
C = 415-364 points - 70-79%  
D = 363-312 points - 60-69%  
F = 311-0 points - 0-59%

## EXAMS

The Mid-term will be available in the Test Center on the Ybor Campus June 2-6, Friday-Tuesday

The Final exam will be available in the test Center on the Ybor Campus June23-27, Friday-Tuesday

The Ybor Test Center can be reached by calling 253-7723. Be sure to check hours of operation before planning when to take your exams. Remember that you **MUST BE FINISHED** when the test center closes, so allow plenty of time. Also remember to bring a scantron and #2 pencil.

## BACK-UP PLAN

WebCT operates from its own server. It is a good idea to bookmark the WebCT homepage so that you do not have to go through the HCC server. Occasionally events outside our control (think hurricanes) interfere with the normal functioning of the system. If necessary, I will make adjustment in due dates and times as well as revisions in assignments so that you are not penalized. In the event that your computer breaks down there are computer labs available on each campus. Bring your student identification and you will be given authorization to use the lab. Call the numbers below for hours of operation. Melissa Zucal is also available to assist you with WebCT problems. She can best be reached at [mzucal@hccfl.edu](mailto:mzucal@hccfl.edu)

## Computer Labs

Brandon 253-7920  
Dale Mabry 253-7330  
Plant City 253-2222  
Ybor 253-7616

## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If, to participate in this course, you require an accommodation due to a physical or learning impairment, you must contact the Office of Services to Students with Disabilities. The office is located on the Ybor Faculty Building. You may also reach the office by phone:  
813-253-7757  
TDD 813-253-7336

**BY REMAINING IN THIS CLASS I ASSUME THAT YOU HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE TERMS OF THIS SYLLABUS**