

INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF SOCIETY (SOC 302)
Spring 2016

Time and Place:

Lecture on TTH 2-3 in MEZ 1.306 and lab on F 9-10 in JES A209A (44385)
Lecture on TTH 2-3 in MEZ 1.306 and lab on F 10-11 in JES A216A (44390)
Lecture on TTH 2-3 in MEZ 1.306 and lab on F 10-11 in JES A217A (44395)
Lecture on TTH 2-3 in MEZ 1.306 and lab on F 11-12 in JES A217A (44400)
Lecture on TTH 2-3 in MEZ 1.306 and lab on F 11-12 in MEZ 1.102 (44405)
Lecture on TTH 2-3 in MEZ 1.306 and lab on F 12-1 in PAR 306 (44410)

Instructor Info:

Dr. Penny A. Green
Office: CLA 3.602
Phone: 512-232-6306

Office Hours: T 11:00-12:00 and 4:30-5:00
TH 12:00-1:00 and 4:30-5:00
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Teaching Assistants:

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces the science of Sociology by focusing on five broad topics: (1) What is Sociology? (2) The Individual in Society, (3) Social Institutions, (4) Social Inequality, and (5) Globalization and Social Change. In the process, we'll examine important concepts, theories, and methodologies used by sociologists working on both the micro and macro levels. We'll look at interconnections between social institutions (i.e., the family, education, the economy), as well as the ways in which institutional change has caused widening income inequality in the U.S. and around the world. Finally, we'll examine the process of globalization and some of its economic, political, and cultural consequences. Much of the data that we look at will focus on the U.S., but given our increasingly interconnected world, other societies will be considered as well. Class format will be a mixture of lecture and discussion, with a strong emphasis on lecture due to class size. Regardless of the format, I'll try to demonstrate Sociology's relevance to everyday life, as well as for public policy making.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- a) **Attendance:** Stellar academic performance requires regular attendance and punctuality. **You're allowed three non-penalized absences during the semester (excluding our introductory class meeting on January 19th). These non-penalized absences are intended to cover such circumstances as illnesses, family emergencies, and participation in university sponsored events, among other things. Please save your non-penalized absences to cover situations which unavoidably cause you to miss class. For a number of reasons, you cannot attend another lab to makeup missing your own lab. Students who miss more than three classes and/or labs, regardless of the reason, will have their semester grades reduced by one percentage point for each absence beyond the three allowed. In accordance with University policy, the one exception concerns absences for religious holidays, assuming advance, written notification is given.** Role will be taken on a regular basis, typically daily. If you come to class or discussion lab late, it's your responsibility to contact your TA **that day** to ensure you're marked present. You're free to leave class if I haven't arrived by 2:15, unless you're instructed otherwise. You're free to leave lab if your TA hasn't arrived by 15 minutes after the starting time, unless you're instructed otherwise.

b) **Preparation:** You're expected to come to class and especially lab prepared to answer questions about and discuss the assigned readings. For lab discussions, you'll be given questions to think about, which will then be discussed within your assigned group. Good participation is expected of everyone, but my TAs will add between one and three full percentage points to the semester grades of students who **distinguish themselves through exemplary class participation.**

GRADING:

a) **Exams:** You'll take four exams during the semester, which will cover my lectures, your group discussions, and your assigned readings. A majority of the exam questions will come from lecture/discussion, with the remainder coming from your readings. Exams will include multiple-choice and true/false questions, with a heavy emphasis on multiple-choice. If you miss an exam, it's your responsibility to contact your TA ASAP to schedule a makeup. You must take your makeup exam prior to the scheduled date for the next exam. If you don't take your makeup before the scheduled date for the next exam, you will not be able to makeup your missed exam and you will be given a grade of "0" for the missed exam. **The average of your four exams will count for 70% of your semester grade.**

b) **Short Paper:** You'll write a short (2-3 typed, double-spaced pages) research paper on a topic of your choice. Your topic should be selected from the topics covered in the text, but it does not need to be a topic that we cover in class. Specific guidelines for writing your paper will be posted on Blackboard. **Your paper grade will count for 15% of your semester grade. Papers are due on Thursday, April 28th. Late papers are penalized at the rate of one point per day, regardless of why they're late. Late papers will not be accepted after Friday, May 6th.**

c) **Pop Quizzes:** There'll be an unspecified number of pop quizzes during the semester. These will cover the previous day's lecture and/or the current reading assignment, typically both. **Makeups will not be given for missed pop quizzes, regardless of why the quiz was missed, but your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.** In accordance with University policy, the one exception to this policy concerns absences for religious holidays. If you miss a pop quiz for religious reasons, the missed quiz will not be counted against you, assuming advance, written notification was given. **The average of your pop quizzes will count for 15% of your semester grade.**

d) Grading Scale:	92.5-100	A	72.5-76.4	C
	89.5-92.4	A-	69.5-72.4	C-
	86.5-89.4	B+	66.5-69.4	D+
	82.5-86.4	B	62.5-66.4	D
	79.5-82.4	B-	59.5-62.4	D-
	76.5-79.4	C+	<59.5	F

****Please note that in order for this class to meet the Soc 302 requirement for a major in Sociology, you must earn at least a "C" in the class. A "C-" will not meet the requirement.****

DEADLINES:

Wednesday, February 3rd is the last day to drop a course for a possible refund. **Monday, April 4th** is the last day to change registration in a course to or from the pass/fail basis. It is also the last day that a student can, with the Dean's approval, drop a course or withdraw from the university, except for urgent, substantiated, non-academic reasons. (See *General Information, Chapter Four* for qualifications concerning these deadlines).

SUGGESTIONS AND MATTERS OF POLICY:

1. If you run across a word that you don't know, look it up. I strongly encourage using dictionaries.
2. You need to take good notes. See me or your TA immediately if you suspect you might be having trouble. Don't get behind. It's a good idea to review your notes at least once between class periods. Touch base with me or your TA to fill in gaps and clarify problem areas.
3. There's no such thing as a stupid or inappropriate question. When discussing controversial issues, we will show respect for one another and our respective opinions, even if we do not share those opinions.
4. Neither I nor my TAs lend out our notes. If you miss class, make arrangements to copy another student's notes. We'll be happy to go over them with you and answer any questions you may have.
5. You're responsible for any material covered, as well as any assignments and/or announcements made during your absences. You're also responsible for any announcements posted on Canvas or sent to the class via email, though out the semester.
6. If you tell me or your TA that you're going to miss a future class, we'll acknowledge what you tell us. This acknowledgment does not, however, excuse the absence. It will count unless it's for a religious holiday, in which case we'll need advance, written notification.
7. Only one person talks at a time. Whoever "has the floor" deserves everyone's attention. If you have a question during lecture or if you need something repeated, please don't ask your neighbor. Raise your hand and ask me. I'll be happy to go back over it for you.
8. Cheating is considered a very serious matter and will be dealt with accordingly. You can view the UT Honor Code at <http://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/gi09-10/ch01/index.html>.
9. If you currently have a disability requiring accommodations, please let me know not later than **Tuesday, January 26th**. Be prepared at that time, or shortly thereafter, to provide appropriate documentation. Otherwise, you'll take exams and quizzes under the same conditions as everyone else. You may request accommodations from Services for Students with Disabilities (471-6259 or <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>).
10. If class is unexpectedly cancelled, the scheduled activity (e.g., reading assignment, discussion, exam) will automatically carry over to the next day of class, unless I inform you otherwise via email.
11. Please turn your cell phone off during class and lab, unless you have a compelling reason to keep it on.
12. Laptops are allowed for note taking purposes only. If it comes to my attention, or the attention of your TA, that you are using your laptop for purposes other than note taking, we reserve the right to prohibit you from using your laptop in class and/or lab.
13. You're expected to show the same respect to my graduate assistants as you show to me. Disruptive, inattentive, or disrespectful behavior will be penalized with "negative participation points" (i.e., full percentage points subtracted from your semester grade).
14. I don't give exams early. Please don't ask.

15. When emailing me or your TA, you must use appropriate etiquette and put our class (i.e., SOC 302) and your TA's name (i.e., Samantha, Janice, Elizabeth) in the subject line. If you don't use proper etiquette and include this information, we will not respond to your email. The TAs will go over proper etiquette with you in lab.
16. **You must attend the lab that you are officially registered for; the only way to change labs is to go through "adds and drops." You cannot "makeup" a missed lab session by attending another lab. If you attend a lab other than the one that you are officially registered for, you will be counted absent.**
17. If you come in late to an exam, the person proctoring the exam will decide whether to allow you to take the exam at that time or require you to schedule a makeup.
18. On Canvas, this class will appear with the unique 44385, regardless of your actual unique.
19. Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside.
20. Please familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building. Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at: www.utexas.edu/emergency
21. In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors. Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.
22. Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class.
23. If you observe unusual and/or problematic behavior in another student or if you are experiencing a personal problem, you may contact the Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL) at 512-232-5050.
24. If you need to email me, please don't send it via Canvas, if possible.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Anthony Giddens, Mitchell Duneier, Richard Appelbaum, and Deborah Carr (2014) Introduction to Sociology (Seagull 9th Edition). Norton.

Books can be purchased at the University Co-op (2246 Guadalupe) or at Bookholders (2025 Guadalupe)

Note: All lab discussions focus on the subject matter of the assigned readings covered that week in class.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

January	19	I. Course Introduction
		II. Studying Sociology
	21	Chapt. 1: "What is Sociology?" (pp. 1-17 to 'Modern Theoretical Approaches')
	22	Organized Discussions

26 Finish Chapt. 1 (pp. 17-25)

28 **Chapt. 2: “Asking and Answering Sociological Questions”** (pp. 29-34 to ‘Asking and Answering Sociological Questions Today: the Research Process’)

29 Organized Discussions (Finish Chapt. 2, pp. 35-47)

III. The Individual in Society

February 2 **Chapt. 3: “Culture and Society”** (pp. 49-65 to ‘Research Today: Understanding the Modern World’)

4 Finish Chapt. 3 (pp. 65-81)

5 Organized Discussions

9 **Chapt. 5: “Social Interaction and Everyday Life”** (pp. 107-118 to ‘Theories of Social Interaction’)

11 Finish Chapt. 5 (pp. 118-131)

12 Organized Discussions

16 First Exam (given in class)

IV. Social Institutions

18 **Chapt. 14: “Work and Economic Life”** (pp. 393-410 to ‘Current Research on Work and Economic Life’)

19 Organized Discussions (go over exam)

23 Finish Chapt. 14 (pp. 410-433)

25 **Chapt. 15: “Family and Intimate Relationships”** (pp. 435-451 to ‘Class and the American Family’)

26 Organized Discussions

March 1 Finish Chapt. 15 (pp. 451-469)

3 **Chapt. 16: “Education”** (pp. 471-484 to ‘Cultural and Social-Psychological Influences on Student Outcomes’)

4 Organized Discussions

8 Finish Chapt. 16 (pp. 484-499)

10 Second Exam (given in class)

11 Organized Discussions (go over exam)

Spring Break!!

V. Social Inequality

22 **Chapt. 8: “Stratification, Class, and Inequality”** (pp. 191-201)

24 (pp. 202-213 to “Poverty in the U.S.”)

25 Organized Discussions

29 Finish Chapt. 8 (pp. 213-225)

31 **Chapt: 10: “Gender Inequality”** (pp. 255-277 to ‘Global Gendered Inequalities in Economic Well-Being’)

April 1 Organized Discussions

5 Finish Chapt. 10 (pp. 277-289)

7 **Chapt. 11: “Ethnicity and Race”** (pp. 291-306 to ‘Research on Race and Ethnicity Today’)

8 Organized Discussions

12 Finish Chapt. 11 (pp. 306-319)

14 Third Exam (given in class)

15 Organized Discussions (go over exam)

VI. Globalization and Social Change

19 **Chapt. 19: “Urbanization, Population, and the Environment”** (pp. 589-609 to ‘Rise of the Megalopolis’)

21 Finish Chapt. 19 (pp. 609-633)

22 Organized Discussions

26 **Chapt: 20: “Globalization in a Changing World”** (pp. 635-653 to ‘Globalization and Risk’)

28 Finish Chapt. 20 (pp. 653-667) (**Due Date for Papers**)

29 Organized Discussions (lab evaluations)

May 3 **Chapt. 9 “ Global Inequality”** (pp. 229-243 to ‘Research on Global Inequality Today’)

5 Finish Chapt. 9 (pp. 243-253) (course evaluation)

6 Fourth Exam (given in labs) (Absolute Deadline for Papers)