SOC 1301 – GLB/Intro to Sociology
COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Dr. Barbara Forbes
Office Location: Online
Office Hours: Online or By Appointment
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Course Description
In this course, students develop sociological imagination, learn about the scientific tools and methods used by sociologists, compare several different theoretical frameworks, and survey some of the most popular fields under the sociology umbrella, such as gerontology, marriage and family studies, and criminology.

This course has been selected as a Global Course – tied to the QEP. The QEP seeks to prepare students for an interconnected world. In relation to the QEP, students completing this course will be able to (LO1) demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, trends, processes, and systems), (LO2) apply knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics, and (LO3) view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world. This course will provide activities, experiences, and opportunities to reach all of the QEP learning outcomes. The posttest in this course will assess the QEP student learning outcomes.

Course Competencies
1. Students will identify and demonstrate knowledge of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and empirical findings.
2. Students will understand, apply, and explain basic research methods, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation of results.
3. Students will apply principles of sociology to personal, social, and organizational issues.
4. Students will be able to evaluate evidence, discriminate between ambiguous concepts or theories, act ethically, show respect for human welfare, and identify and defend others' values that are the foundation of the discipline.
5. Students will apply critical/analytical thinking to deconstruct current debates, to provide practical solutions to problem-based scenarios or social issues commonly examined by sociologists.
6. Students will recognize, demonstrate, and express respect for the complexity of sociocultural diversity.

Pretest and Posttest for Each Competency
The Pretest and Posttest for this Introduction to Sociology course assess your knowledge of scientific tools and methods used by sociologists, theoretical frameworks, and some of the most popular fields under the sociology umbrella, such as gerontology, marriage and family studies, and criminology.

The Posttest is an assessment of your knowledge of the material required for the competency. A score of 80 points or higher is required on the Posttest to demonstrate competency. If you score less than 80 points on any competency you will have an

opportunity to review the material and re-take the competency Posttest. You may take the Posttest assessment up to three times. If you have not passed the competency in three attempts, you will work with an Academic Coach to determine another method of fulfilling the program requirements in this subject. In order to demonstrate competency, a score of 80 points or higher is required.

If the term ends prior to you being able to demonstrate competency you will receive a grade of "X" and be required to complete the remaining competencies in the next term.

Policies

Technology Requirements
This is an online course and the following technological resources are required:

- Computer/Internet access and connection: high-speed preferred (not dial up)
- Speakers - so you can hear audio enhanced assignments throughout the semester
- Headset/Microphone
- Webcam
- Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

This course may also require the following:

As a student enrolled at Texas A&M University-Commerce, you have access to an email account via myLeo - all my emails sent from eCollege (and all other university emails) will go to this account, so please be sure to check it regularly. Conversely, you are to email me via the eCollege email system or your myLeo email as our spam filters will catch Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the 'myCourses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

Access and Navigation
This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903-468-6000 or helpdesk@tamucommerce.edu.

eCollege Student Technical Support
Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with an eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with an eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to Dropbox, How to post to discussions, etc.)

Course Concerns
If you have questions pertaining to the content of this course (e.g., questions about an exam, about course due dates, etc.), please contact your instructor via email, through the "Virtual Office," or during office hours.

Other Questions/Concerns
Contact the appropriate TAMU-C department related to your questions/concerns. If you are unable to reach the appropriate department with questions regarding your course enrollment, billing, advising, or financial aid, please call 903-886-5511 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.)

Communication and Support
Email is the best way to communicate as it is checked throughout the day. However, in order to avoid duplication of questions and answers I prefer that you post all class related questions in the Virtual Office course tab. It is likely that your peers will have the same question. Emails of a personal nature should be sent to my email address via eCollege.

Course and University Procedures/Policies

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Academic Honesty Policy
Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. Violation of these academic standards may result in removal or failure. Please see the TAMUC Catalog.

Dropping the Class
If you need to adjust your schedule by dropping this course, please contact your Academic Coach. Please be aware that dropping your course may impact your financial aid, veterans and military benefits, three peat, 45-hour, and 30-hour rules. It is the student's responsibility to drop the course. If you fail to officially drop the class, a failing grade shall be assigned.

Incompletes

If you receive a grade of "X" or Incomplete you have one full term to complete the items that remain incomplete. If you have not submitted the necessary assignments by the end of the next full term your grade automatically converts to an "F."

Student Withdrawal
A student wishing to withdraw from all courses before the end of a term for which he/she is registered must clear his or her record by filing an application for voluntary withdrawal. Please contact your Academic Coach.

This action must be taken by the date stated in the Academic Calendar as the last day to drop a class or withdraw. Any student who withdraws from the university is subject to the conditions outlined in the section regarding Scholastic Probation or Suspension in the university catalog. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from classes if he or she does not plan to attend during the semester in he/she has enrolled. A student has one year from the first day of a semester to appeal a withdrawal refund. Courses withdrawn are counted as attempted hours and count towards the three-peat, 45-hour and 30-hour rules and financial aid and veterans and military benefits.

Instructor Withdrawal
Your instructor of record reserves the right to withdraw a student from his or her course based on inadequate access to and progress in the online course materials.

Students with Disabilities
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

Student Conduct
All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See 'Code of Student Conduct' from Student Guide Handbook)