SOC 1301 01E Intro to Sociology
COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2016
MWF 1:00 pm – 1:50 pm
Ferguson SS 310

Instructor: Gabriel Wymore
Office Location: Ferguson 207
Office Hours: MWF 11:00 am – 12:50 pm; Tue. 10:00 am – 10:50 am; or by appointment.
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Preferred Form of Communication: email or face to face

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: Society in Focus: An Introduction to Sociology (8th Ed.) by William E. Thompson, Joseph V. Hickey, and Mica L. Thompson. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2017, ISBN: 978-1-4422-5597-5. The book should be available in the university bookstore and on various websites. Rowman & Littlefield provide student resources on a companion website. It is a very good idea to bring the textbook to class as the professor will periodically refer to page numbers, boxes, text, and graphics during classroom presentations.

Course Description: Overview of major concepts and principles of sociology, including socialization, social control, social order, social stratification, ethnicity, social deviance, and social change.

University Catalogue Description: This course is designed to help students better understand the social world in which they live as well as provide a foundation for other in sociology. It provides an overview of major concepts and principles of sociology, including globalization, diversity, socialization, social control, social order, social stratification, ethnicity,
social deviance, and social change. This course emphasizes global dynamics (issues, trends, processes, and systems) from a sociological perspective, and helps students view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** This introductory course is part of the QEP Global curriculum and can be counted for University Studies credit in Social and Behavioral Sciences and is a required prerequisite for nearly all other course in sociology. After completing this course students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a sociological perspective based on critical thinking skills in order to better understand the social world in which they live and interact on a daily basis.

2. Define and give examples of basic sociological terms and concepts that will help them better understand their social world and to lay a solid academic foundation for future courses in sociology and/or related fields.

3. Demonstrate the ability to think critically and be able to look as familiar situations from a different and more sociological perspective.

4. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics including global issues, processes, trends, and systems.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments**

**Student Responsibilities**

**Class Format:** This class will be a traditional face to face class, with web enhancement through e-college. Every effort will be made to provide you with the best possible learning experience. This will be done through lectures, Power Points, discussions, videos, reading assignments and writing assignments. Power Points will be posted on e-college so they can be reviewed. Grades will be posted on e-college as soon as they are available.

**Tests/Exams:** There will be five (5) major tests/exams (worth 100 points each) and an optional comprehensive final. Check the course schedule for dates. Each test will be multiple choice. If a student misses an exam for an excused reason, he/she will be required to take the comprehensive final. You will also be allowed to take the optional final if you would like to replace your lowest test score. (If you score lower on the final, the higher score will be kept.) If more than one test/exam is missed the student should drop the course. If a student takes all five exams and is satisfied with your scores, you will not be required to take the final.
**Critical Thinking Papers**: There will be four (4) critical thinking papers (Worth 50 points each) required for this class. Due dates for papers are outlined in course schedule. All papers should be your own original work, plagiarism will not be tolerated in any form and will be reported to the Department Head and the Dean. If you borrow a quote or someone’s ideas, cite them. Late papers will only be accepted up to one class day late. Late papers will automatically be deducted 10 points. No late papers will be accepted beyond the next class day. Grading rubric for the papers will be described in each assignment.

**GLOBALIZATION ASSIGNMENT**: Read Chapter 9, Global Stratification. (Worth 50 points)

Take any major subtopic in Chapter 9 and write a brief summary of it and analyze it from one or more of the major sociological perspectives on globalization.

**Attendance/Participation**: Good attendance and participation are required for this class. Attendance will be taken daily. Discussions and lectures cannot be made up and much of the information on tests and papers will be learned in class. Participating in discussions also helps the student to learn and better understand the concepts and topics being covered.

**Tardiness**: Please come to class on time. I understand that everyone runs late once and a while, but excessive tardiness will not be tolerated. The classroom door locks automatically and will not be opened after class has started. Tardiness is disrespectful and disruptive to the other students and the teacher.

**GRADING**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

- 5 Tests/Exams worth 100 points each = 500 points
- 4 Critical Thinking papers worth 50 points each = 200 points
- Globalization Assignment = 50 points
- Total Points = 750 points

- A = 90%-100% (675 points - 750 points)
- B = 80%-89% (600 points - 674 points)
- C = 70%-79% (525 points - 599 points)
- D = 60%-69% (450 points - 524 points)
- F = 59% or below (449 points and below)

**Extra Credit**: There will be no extra credit assignments in this course. The only extra credit that will be offered will be one extra essay question on each test. Please do not come to me the last few weeks of school begging for extra credit, I won’t give it.
TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

• To fully participate in online courses you will need to use a current Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox. For Mac users, the most current update of Firefox is suggested.

• You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  o 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  o Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  o Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

• You must have a:
  o Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  o Speakers or headphones.
  o *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.

• Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

• Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.


Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.
  Pop-ups are allowed.
  JavaScript is enabled.
  Cookies are enabled.

• You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  o Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/
  o Adobe Flash Player (version 17 or later) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
- Adobe Shockwave Player  https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

- For additional information about system requirements, please see: System Requirements for LearningStudio https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical

**ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

**Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information**

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to myLeo.  http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.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@tamuc.edu.**

It is strongly recommended you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the “My Courses” tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

**Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support**

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

If you experience LearningStudio (eCollege) technical problems, contact the LearningStudio helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511 (toll free) or visit Pearson 24/7 Customer Support Site  http://247support.custhelp.com/

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 a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.

Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

Accessing Help from within Your Course: Click on the 'Tech Support' icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. You then will be able to get assistance via online chat or by phone.

Note: Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend’s home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure MUST be followed:

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511.
2. Students MUST file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number.
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and to provide me with the helpdesk ticket number.
4. At that time, I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you.

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser BEFORE the course begins and to take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform. ONLY Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate.

myLeo Support

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at myLeo. https://leo.tamuc.edu
Learner Support
Go to the following link One Stop Shop- created to serve you by attempting to provide as many resources as possible in one location.
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/

Go to the following link Academic Success Center- focused on providing academic resources to help you achieve academic success.
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/

FREE MOBILE APPS

The Courses apps for phones have been adapted to support the tasks students can easily complete on a smaller device. Due to the smaller screen size course content is not presented.

The Courses app is free of charge. The mobile Courses Apps are designed and adapted for different devices.

| App Title: | iPhone – Pearson LearningStudio Courses for iPhone  
| Android – LearningStudio Courses - Phone |
|---|---|
| Operating System: | iPhone - OS 6 and above  
Android – Jelly Bean, Kitkat, and Lollipop OS |
| iPhone App URL: | https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pearson-learningstudio-courses/id977280011?mt=8 |

Once downloaded, search for Texas A&M University-Commerce, and it should appear on the list. Then you will need to sign into the myLeo Mobile portal.

The Courses App for Android and iPhone contain the following feature set:

- View titles/code/Instructor of all Courses enrolled in online
- View and respond to all discussions in individual Courses
- View Instructor Announcements in individual Courses
- View Graded items, Grades and comments in individual Courses
- Grade to Date
- View Events (assignments) and Calendar in individual Courses
- View Activity Feed for all courses
- View course filters on activities
- View link to Privacy Policy
- Ability to Sign out
- Send Feedback
LEARNINGSTUDIO NOTIFICATIONS

Students can be alerted to course activities via text on their mobile phones or up to two email addresses.

Based on their preferences, students can automatically receive a push notification with every new: course announcement, threaded discussion post, grade, and/or assignment without having to login to the course. Enrolled students will automatically receive email notifications for announcements and can opt out of this feature. To receive text notifications, students must opt in.

To begin setting up notifications, go into your course in LearningStudio and click on the bell-shaped Notifications icon on the main menu ribbon.

By default the student’s university email address will appear. This cannot be changed in LearningStudio. Additional email addresses may be added by clicking the Add button. After all of the other selections are completed be sure to click the Save and Finish button.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures

This Classroom is a “Safe Space”

All persons who enter this classroom will be treated with dignity and respect regardless of age, race, sex, social class, religion, politics, sexual orientation, and/or lifestyle. There will be “Zero Tolerance” in this classroom for any form of ageism, racism, sexism, sexual harassment, or any other form of prejudice, discrimination, or bigotry.

Classroom Decorum:

Because we will be dealing with controversial contemporary social issues, an open mind and a mature attitude are important requirements for this course. Students are expected to be polite and courteous at all times. Disruptive behavior of any kind will not be tolerated.

Please silence all electronic devices that might in anyway disrupt or disturb others.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

It should go without saying that every student is expected to do his/her own work. Departmental policy provides that anyone caught cheating in any form or fashion will receive an “F” for the course and may be subjected to further disciplinary action by the university. Plagiarism (the use of other’s words, phrases, and ideas in your writing without giving credit to the original author) is a form of cheating and not only violates academic ethical standards, but is against the law. Don't do it!
Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

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 current Student Guidebook).

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

POLICIES ON ENROLLMENT, “X,” “DP,” “DF,” AND WITHDRAWAL: All university policies regarding last day of enrollment, use of “X,” “DP,” and “DF,” and withdrawal from class will be rigidly adhered to in this course. Students should check the university catalog, current semester schedule, and other official sources for specific deadlines, policies, etc. IT IS THE STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY to see that all university procedures are properly followed.

ADA Statement

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- Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

Nondiscrimination Notice
Texas A&M University-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.

**Texas A&M University Policy on Guns:** *Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.)* authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/3 4.06.02.R1.pdf) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

**COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

Current semester by specific dates

Mon, Aug. 29: First class day, Introductions, Syllabus

Wed, Aug. 31: Chapter 1 Discovering Sociology, Critical Thinking. **Turn in last page of syllabus.**

Fri, Sept 2: Chapter 1 continued.

Mon, Sept 5: **Labor Day – No Classes**

Wed, Sept.7: Chapter 2 Doing Sociology

Fri, Sept. 9: Chapter 2 continued.

Mon, Sept. 12: Review Chapters 1 & 2

Wed, Sept. 14: **TEST Chapters 1 & 2**


Mon, Sept. 19: Chapter 3 Society and Culture
Wed, Sept. 21: Chapter 3 continued
Fri, Sept. 23: Chapter 4 Socialization.
Mon, Sept. 26: Chapter 4 continued.
Wed, Sept. 28: Chapter 5 Social Interaction in Everyday Life
Fri, Sept. 30: Chapter 5 continued.
Mon, Oct. 3: Review for Test Chapters 3, 4, & 5. **Paper 1 Due**
Wed, Oct. 5: **TEST Chapters 3, 4, & 5**
Fri, Oct. 7: Go over Test. Go over criteria for Paper 2. Start Chapter 6.
Mon, Oct. 10: Chapter 6 Social Groups and Organizations and Bureaucracies
Wed, Oct 12: Chapter 6 continued.
Fri, Oct. 14: Chapter 7 Deviance and Conformity
Mon, Oct. 17: Chapter 7 continued
Wed, Oct. 19: Chapter 8 Social Stratification and the US Class System
Fri, Oct. 21: Chapter 8 continued. **Paper 2 Due.**
Mon, Oct. 24: Review for Test Chapters 6, 7, & 8
Wed, Oct. 26: Test Chapters 6, 7, & 8
Mon, Oct. 31: Chapter 10 Race and Ethnicity
Wed, Nov. 2: Chapter 10 continued.
Fri, Nov. 4: Chapter 11 Sex and Gender
Mon, Nov. 7: Chapter 11 continued.
Wed, Nov. 9: Chapter 12 Age and the Elderly
Fri, Nov. 11: Chapter 12 continued
Mon, Nov. 14: Review for Test Chapters 10, 11, & 12. **Paper 3 Due.**
Wed, Nov. 16: **TEST Chapters 10, 11, & 12**
Fri, Nov. 18: Go over Test. Go over criteria for Paper 4. Start Chapter 13
Mon, Nov. 21: **Globalization Assignment Due.**

Wed, Nov. 23: **Thanksgiving Break – No Class.**

Fri, Nov. 25: **Thanksgiving Break – No Class.**

Mon, Nov. 28: Chapter 13 Families

Wed, Nov. 30: Chapter 13 continued

Fri, Dec. 2: Chapter 14 Education

Mon, Dec. 5: Chapter 15 Religion

Wed, Dec. 7: Review for Test Chapters 13, 14, & 15. **Paper 4 Due.**

Fri, Dec. 9: TEST Chapter 13, 14, & 15,

Mon, Dec. 12 - 16: **Finals Week. Date and time TBA. Final Test will be comprehensive. (Optional)**

Fri, Dec. 16: Last day of semester. Grades due.

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Please take a few minutes to fill out and sign this page. This page can be turned in on Aug 31, 2016.

1. What is your classification? (Fresh, Soph, Junior, or Senior)
2. What is your major?

3. What are you hoping to learn in this class?

4. What does Sociology mean to you?

5. Any other information that you would like me to know about you?

I have received a copy of the syllabus, read it, and agree to be responsible for knowing and understanding the content inside it.

Print Name: __________________________________________

Signature ____________________________________________ Date ________________