

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

SOCI 1510 Section 001

M-W-F: 9 - 9:50am

GAB 105

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Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 10:00 am–11:00 am and 1:00 pm–2:00 pm; or by appointment

The sociological imagination enables us to grasp history and biography and the relations between the two within society. That is its task and its promise. To recognize this task and this promise is the mark of the classic social analyst. ~C. Wright Mills, 1959~

Required Reading

The required reading for this course will be delivered in an **e-book online** in Blackboard: **Andersen, M. L. & Taylor, H. F. (2017). *Sociology: The Essentials*, 9th edition. Wadsworth Publishing (Cengage Learning).** ISBN-13: 978-1-305-50308-3

In addition to your UNT EUID and password, you will need a code from the publisher in order to access the readings and other course materials. Access codes may be purchased from the UNT Bookstore. The UNT Bookstore also carries a bundle which includes the access code and a printed version of the textbook. You may also purchase the access code direct from Cengage at: <https://login.cengagebrain.com/course/MTPN-0M7P-9V7D> (You may need to cut and paste in browser)

Because you will be required to complete readings and a quiz each week, students who are unable to purchase this code by the end of the first week of class should drop the course.

Please note that the course design does not permit substitution of a used book.

Once you have received the MindTap access code from the publisher you can begin to work on the course. All reading materials are given through MindTap. The Course Key needed for our course is: MTPN-0M7P-9V7D. Any practice quizzes or exercises you complete in MindTap, even if they say they are graded, are only for your benefit. The actual quizzes and exams for this course which will comprise your grade are located in Blackboard.

Course Overview

This course introduces students to the social and cultural basis of human behavior and examines the impact of social groups and organizations in shaping personal identity, attitudes, and action. It explores social inequality and exposes students to the fundamental ways that social class, race,

ethnicity, gender and sexuality affect individual life chances and opportunities in the United States and throughout the world. Finally, this course acquaints students with major social institutions such as the family, religion, politics, the economy, and healthcare, and familiarizes them with how institutions shape and are shaped by individuals.

Course Objectives

Having successfully completed the course, students will be able to:

1. define and apply the sociological imagination;
2. explain what constitutes social structure and how to study it;
3. demonstrate knowledge and critical reasoning;
4. describe the role of social inequality in society and explain its impact;
5. describe the major social institutions in society and the ways in which they influence and are influenced by the larger society;
6. recognize the ways in which society changes over time;
7. employ the appropriate methods, technologies and data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition;
8. analyze social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures and cultures;
9. use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories;
10. develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues;
11. analyze the effects of a number of elements (*i.e.*, historical, social, political, economic, cultural) on social institutions and specific aspects of social life;
12. identify differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.

Course Format

This is a “blended” course intended to provide you with a unique and engaged learning experience. Part of the course material will be delivered in face-to-face meetings and the other part will be administered online. You will attend two, 50-minute face-to-face meetings per week. Meetings will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays each week and will typically be comprised of lectures and discussion. Friday you will be required to complete online work associated with the course discussions and lectures.

Prior to each week’s lecture, you will be introduced to new concepts and material online in Blackboard. You will have the ability to check your understanding and knowledge of the material each week through mastery quizzes administered online. The material you have been exposed to online will be reinforced in lecture and discussions. It is a course expectation that you will complete the assigned online chapters, quizzes, exams, and assignments in the time allocated on the course outline located at the end of this document. You should plan to spend at least two hours each week online. Part of this time “substitutes” for the third class meeting (50 minutes) associated with a three-hour course that meets M-W-F, while the remainder is considered normal class preparation.

Exams and Assignments

Exams: There will be a total of three exams: two exams will be worth 100 points each and the final exam will be worth 100 points. Exams will cover material from the assigned online chapters, quizzes, lectures, class discussions and experiential learning exercises. The exams will be administered totally online and will consist of multiple choice questions. The dates and material covered by each exam is set forth in the course outline located at the end of this document.

To encourage students to master the material before testing, all exams will be timed. Students will be given 50 minutes to complete each of the first two exams and 60 minutes to complete the final. Please note that you will only be permitted to “move forward” during an exam. You may not skip a question and return to it later, or answer it and later try to change your answer after you have saved your response. Please be advised that the order of the exam questions will vary for each student.

Quizzes: You must complete the assigned online chapters each week in order to successfully participate in class discussions and the experiential learning exercises. At the end of each chapter, you must successfully complete a 10-question multiple choice quiz by answering at least 7 questions correctly. *Each question worth 0.5 points so you must score at least 3.5 points.* You may repeat each quiz as many times as you wish to achieve the desired score; however, you will be required to wait at least one hour before repeating the quiz. All quizzes will be timed. You will be allowed 10 minutes to complete each quiz.

Students who fail to correctly answer a minimum of 3.5 points, or 7 questions correct, or who do not complete the quizzes during the assigned time period will receive a zero. Please note that no make-up quizzes will be given.

Pop Quiz: Students will be assigned one unannounced or “pop” quiz in class at some point during the semester. This quiz will be worth 10 points. ***Please note that no make-up quiz will be given.***

Reflection Papers: Identifying how and why we behave and why we have certain attitudes and beliefs can be a daunting task. Twice during the semester, students will be asked to reflect on their beliefs related to a topic discussed in class. Each reflection paper will be worth 35 points. Specific instructions for each paper will be provided in class and posted on Blackboard.

Survey Completion: Twice during the semester, students will complete a tracking exam used by the Sociology Department. The grades made on this tracking exam will not count towards the student’s average but will be used by the department. Students will receive a completion score for each of the two exams completed. Each exam is worth 15 points towards the course total. ***Please note that no make-up surveys will be given.*** Each survey is worth 15 points.

Attendance

Class attendance is important and is required. Absences not only cause students to miss the material presented and discussed in class, but also tend to disrupt group activities. In addition, students tend to do better in any college course if they attend regularly.

University approved absences will be considered excused and are not subject to penalty. University excused absences include those necessitated by university sponsored events, or an illness which results in some form of visit to a medical doctor. All excused absences require written documentation

(e.g., indication of illness by a medical doctor, form from athletic department) which must be provided within three days of return to classes. For more information on university approved absences, please consult the undergraduate catalog.

Student absences which do not qualify as “university excused” may be excused by the instructor on a case-by-case basis. Students are advised not to view the allowance of three unexcused absences as vacation from school, but rather as a contingency in case of an event that would not typically qualify as an excused absence (car problems, traffic issues, work conflict, etc.).

Grade Calculation

Final grades will be determined through the use of a point system. The maximum value of each exam and assignment along with the range of points associated with each letter grade are listed in the tables below. Throughout the term, students may keep up with their point totals by reviewing their grades on Blackboard.

Assignment	Point Value
Exams (2 @ 100 points each)	200
Final exam	100
Reading Quizzes (13 @ 5 points each)	65
Pop Quiz	10
Reflection Papers (2 @ 35 points each)	70
Survey Completion (2 @ 15 points each)	30
TOTAL	475

Letter Grade	Point Range
A	427 - 475 points
B	380 - 426 points
C	332 - 379 points
D	285 - 331 points
F	284 points or below

Additional Course Policies and Procedures

Blackboard: Copies of the syllabus and assignments will be posted on Blackboard. All assignments *must* be posted via Blackboard to receive credit.

Reading and preparation for class: Each student is expected to have completed all assigned chapters before class. Please note that students are responsible for the assigned reading material whether we discuss it in class or not.

MindTap: All reading material, practice material, and the text can be found through MindTap. You will need to purchase the access code for the ebook through Cengage. You will also need the Course Key to login to our course.

Course Key: You will need the following course key for the ebook: **MTPN-0M7P-9V7D**.

Online Text and Access Code: Students are responsible for purchasing an access code. An access code and e-text are required for online access to materials and quizzes necessary for passing the class. There will be no extensions granted for not obtaining these or for allowing these to lapse or expire.

Make-up policy: There are NO make-up exams provided. All students must take the final exam. *Any student who does not take the final exam will automatically fail the course.*

Students are typically given seven days to complete the reading assignments and associated quizzes. Regardless of the circumstances, students who miss quizzes will not be allowed to make them up.

Extra credit: There will be no extra credit in this course. Please do not ask.

Late papers or assignments: All papers and assignments must be submitted via Blackboard before the posted deadline to be graded. *Late papers/assignments will not be accepted. Any paper or assignment sent via email or received in person will not be graded.* Students may either submit papers in Microsoft Word or PDF as attachments or they may cut and paste the content of their papers/assignments into the submission window in Blackboard. If in doubt, cut and paste! *Papers that are submitted in a different format or that cannot be opened will not be graded.*

Cell phones: Use of a cell phone during class for any purpose **is not allowed** unless approved in advance by the instructor. Students caught using a cell phone (checking for messages, texting, etc.) will be asked to leave the class and 10 points will be automatically deducted from the student's grade. Do not have your cell phone out during class.

Classroom conduct: Tardiness and leaving early are very disruptive to the instructor and other students. Class will start on time, so please make sure you are present at the beginning of the class period. Please let the instructor know prior to the beginning of class if you absolutely must leave early and make sure your exit distracts others as little as possible.

Please make every effort to respect others. Disagreements are allowed and expected, but the focus should be on ideas rather than on the individual who expresses them. Signs of disrespect that will not be tolerated include but are not limited to, having background conversations when others are talking, packing up early when others are still talking or asking questions, and working on material for other classes.

Students must secure permission from the instructors to use a laptop computer during class. Students who are given permission, but use the laptop for any purpose other than to take lecture notes, will lose that privilege.

Please note that poor classroom conduct will be reflected in your grade regardless of how well you do on exams, quizzes or other assignments.

University Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty

The University of North Texas is very clear on this point. Students must do their own work. Cheating on exams, quizzes, plagiarism, or any other form of scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Detailed explanations of the UNT's standards of academic integrity for students may be found in the *UNT Policy Manual* at <http://policy.unt.edu/policydesc/student-standards-academic-integrity-18-1-16>.

If it is determined that a student has cheated on an exam or has committed plagiarism, he or she will automatically fail that exam or assignment and a zero will be entered for the grade. The student will also be reported to UNT's Office of Academic Integrity.

Students Requiring Special Accommodation

If you have a condition that requires accommodation in this course, please notify the instructor during the first week of class. Any necessary or appropriate accommodations will be made provided that timely notice is received, and that the arrangement is consistent with recommendations from Disability Services, when applicable. Students who require this type of assistance should contact the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) at (940) 565-4323, or at TTY (940) 369-8652 to make appropriate arrangements. Information on the services provided by the ODA as well as application procedures is available at <http://www.unt.edu/oda/index.html>. Information on UNT's policies related to disability accommodations is available at <http://policy.unt.edu/policy/18-1-14>.

Please note that disability accommodations are not retroactive. Accommodations will be made only after a disability is officially verified.

Problems, Questions, Concerns

Students are strongly encouraged to speak with the instructor if you are having problems with the course or if you have other concerns. *The best way to reach the instructor outside of class is by e-mail.*

COURSE OUTLINE

Face-to-Face Meeting Schedule:

WEEK	DAY	DATE	TOPIC	DUE
1	M	8.29	Introduction to Course	
	W	8.31	CH 1: The Sociological Perspective	
	F	9.2	Online Work	
2	M	9.5	Labor Day- NO CLASS	
	W	9.7	CH 1: Continued	
	F	9.9	Online Work	
3	M	9.12	CH 2: Culture	
	W	9.14	CH 2: Continued Discuss Reflection Paper 1	
	F	9.16	Online Work	
4	M	9.19	CH 3: Research Methods	
	W	9.21	CH 3: Continued	
	F	9.23	Online Work	
5	M	9.26	CH 4: Socialization	
	W	9.28	CH 4: Socialization and Theories	
	F	9.30	Online Work	
6	M	10.3	CH 4: Socialization and Theories	
	W	10.5	Review for EXAM 1 EXAM 1	CHAPTER QUIZZES 1-4 EXAM 1 (CH 1-4) Thurs.
	F	10.7	Online Work	
7	M	10.10	Finish Reflection Paper 1 at home	Reflection Paper 1 DUE
	W	10.12	CH 5: Social Structure	
	F	10.14	Online Work	
8	M	10.17	CH 5: Continued	
	W	10.19	CH 6: Social Groups Discuss Reflection Paper 2	
	F	10.21	Online Work	
9	M	10.24	CH 6: Continued	
	W	10.26	CH 7: Deviance	
	F	10.28	Online Work	
10	M	10.31	CH 7: Continued	
	W	11.2	CH 8 & 9: Social Class and Global Stratification	
	F	11.4	Online Work	
11	M	11.7	CH 10: Race & Ethnicity	
	W	11.9	Review for EXAM 2	CHAPTER QUIZZES 5-10
	F	11.11	EXAM 2	EXAM 2 (CH 5-10)

12	M	11.14	CH 11 & 12: Gender & Sexuality	
	W	11.16	CH 11& 12: Continued	
	F	11.18	Online Work	
13	M	11.21	CH 13: Family & Religion	
	W	11.23	Online Work (finish reading CH 13)	
	F	11.25	NO CLASS- HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!	
14	M	11.28	CH 14: Education & Healthcare	
	W	11.30	CH 14: Continued	Reflection Paper 2 DUE
	F	12.2	Online Work	
15	M	12.5	Review for FINAL EXAM	
	W	12.7	Review for FINAL EXAM	CHAPTER QUIZZES 11-14
	F	12.9	NO CLASS	
16		12.9- 12.15	FINAL EXAM (CH 11-14) Opens at 1a on 12.9	DUE by 12.15 at 11pm

NOTE: Every Saturday night from 11:00pm until 2:00am CDT Sunday morning, Blackboard is offline. All quiz answers or submissions made during this time will NOT be recorded.

Blackboard/Online Student Help Line:

Email: clearhelp@unt.edu
Phone: (940) 565-2324

Online Schedule and Due Dates:

Week	Activity	Start Date	Day	Start Time	Due Date	Day	Due Time
1-5	Quiz – Syllabus Quiz – Chapter 1 Quiz – Chapter 2 Quiz – Chapter 3 Quiz – Chapter 4 Online Survey #1	8.29	Mon	5:00 pm	10.5	Wed	11:00 pm
6	Exam 1	10.5	Wed	1:00 am	10.6	Thurs	11:00 pm
	<i>Reflection Paper 1</i>	9.14	Wed	1:00 am	10.12	Wed	11:00 pm
7-11	Quiz – Chapter 5 Quiz – Chapter 6 Quiz – Chapters 7 Quiz – Chapters 8/9 Quiz – Chapter 10	10.8	Sat	1:00 am	11.9	Wed	11:00 pm
11	Exam 2	11.11	Fri	1:00 am	11.11	Fri	11:00 pm
12-15	Quiz – Chapter 11/12 Quiz – Chapter 13 Quiz – Chapter 14 Online Survey #2	11.12	Sat	1:00 am	12.7	Wed	11:00 pm
	<i>Reflection Paper 2</i>	10.19	Wed	1:00 am	11.30	Wed	11:00 pm
16	Final Exam	12.9	Fri	1:00 am	12.15	Thurs	11:00 pm