

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

SOCI 1510

SPRING 2018

Instructor:	Jennifer Knudsen
Telephones:	940-565-2296
E-mail:	Use course message system otherwise in an emergency only , use:
	Jennifer.Knudsen@unt.edu
Website:	Blackboard Learn
Office:	Sycamore 288 U
Office Hours:	On-line: M/W from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM CST/CDT (or by appointment)

REQUIRED TEXT

Thompson, Angela and Keith Whitworth. 2016. *Sociological/You*. Fort Worth, TX: United Instructors and Textbook Authors Co-op. (See below how to obtain the text.)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Sociology is the branch of the social sciences that is concerned specifically with the systematic study of human society (including social behavior, interaction and life). To understand how the social world, in which we are all members, is constructed is one of the most important reasons for sociological study. Most humans take for granted much of the processes involved in the construction of their society, including its organization, ideology and technology. "Introduction to Sociology" is a survey course on the field of sociology, and its basic principles, concepts, theories and methods of sociological research. As such, attention will be given to the theoretical perspectives provided by such early social scientists and sociologists as Comte, Marx, Tönnies, Durkheim, Weber and Simmel, as well as current sociological thinkers.

1. Increase the student's awareness and understanding of the society in which we live, the social phenomena which we observe, and the world in which we live;
2. View social phenomena specifically from a sociological perspective;
3. Employ a comparative perspective on human societies and other social phenomena;
4. Present alternative explanations or theories of social phenomena;
5. Examine scientific research (its nature and ethics), various types of research, appropriate methods, technologies and data that sociologists use to investigate the human condition;
6. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures, and cultures;
7. Recognize the structural, systemic factors which affect the quality of life of persons of different ages, gender, social class, sexual orientation, disability, and racial/ethnic backgrounds;
8. Address the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural and global forces on human society;
9. Encourage one to think for oneself, by engaging in public discourse and by obtaining information through appropriate sources; and, finally,
10. Consider alternative explanations and solutions for contemporary social issues.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the development and nature of the field of sociology,
2. Identify and describe important sociological theories,
3. Identify and describe the most significant methodological issues and strategies in sociology,
4. Identify important research methods and be able to compare and contrast their strengths and weaknesses, and,
5. Identify and critically discuss contemporary issues or themes in current scholarship in sociology.

Note: Each of the above student learning outcomes must be performed at an appropriate level as stated in the requirements for each course assignment. More details will be available on the Blackboard site.

COURSE POLICIES

Three factors are considered vital to your success in this course: 1) completing the reading on time, 2) taking quizzes and exams and submitting written work on time, and 3) regular and prompt participation. Please note that you may not be reminded of work that you have missed. It is your responsibility.

COURSE INFORMATION

This course is conducted exclusively via the Internet. Discussion is critical to yours and the class's success. Therefore, you are required to participate fully in all activities. You should check the course website on a regular basis and go on line to see if there are new updates, messages, postings, discussions, email, etc. With the exception of weekends and holidays, I check my course email regularly and respond as quickly as possible. Finally, there are a number of ways in which you may interact with me and other members of the class: 1) course's "message" system, 2) announcements, and 3) discussion postings. Except in an emergency, please do not send course-related messages to my UNT email. **Use the Blackboard message system for this course for all course-related issues, etc.**

VIRTUAL CLASSROOM CITIZENSHIP

The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use the rules for proper netiquette when interacting with class members, teaching assistants and the instructor: <http://www.brighthub.com/education/online-learning/articles/26946.aspx>.

IMPORTANT DATES

January 15, 2017	MLK Day (no classes; university closed (Monday))
January 16, 2017	First Class Day
March 12-16, 2017	Spring Break (no classes)
May 3, 2017	Last Class Day
May 4, 2017	Reading Day (no classes)
May 5-11, 2017	Finals

GRADES AND GRADING STRUCTURE

The final grade for this class will be based on your performance on 1) Five Exams, and 2) Weekly Participation and Discussion.

Exams: There are five exams for this course, which may **ONLY** be taken on the specified dates (see below) for full credit. In order to complete and pass this course, all five exams must be taken. Each is worth up to 100 points, for a total of 500 (out of the possible 600 total points; see below). **IMPORTANT:** the final cannot be taken late for **any reason**. All exams **except** the final can be taken late at a 50% late penalty (half-credit). If official documentation is provided in regard to an illness, family emergency, or required UNT sponsored event up-to full credit **may** be earned on the late exam. The instructor should be notified **as soon as** the student is aware of any exam schedule conflict (ex: sporting event, game, university event, etc.) to avoid a late penalty.

Discussion/Participation: Weekly discussion is mandatory and full engagement is critical to your and the course's success. The quality of this participation is also very important. Your participation will be measured in terms of quality (not just quantity), regularity and completeness of your discussion. Your discussion should be interactive and engaging. In fact, you should ask questions of your fellow students, make comments, or even ask for them for clarification on various aspects of their understanding of the reading. These discussions are worth a total of 100 points toward your final grade. Discussions will be due every Saturday. Important information regarding discussions and grading criteria are on Blackboard: see 'Discussion Guidelines' in Blackboard.

Practice Quizzes and Exercises: There are quizzes and sets of exercises in the 'Student Resources' section at the bottom of each chapter in your text. These quizzes will **NOT** be graded, but in order to prepare for the exams, you are strongly encouraged to do these quizzes and exercises.

End-of-Semester Assessment: Near the end of the semester you will be asked to complete a brief assessment that will be used by the university to measure how well you have assimilated the information covered in this course. This assignment is **mandatory**. Completion of this assessment could earn you **up-to** 50 extra credit points in the course. However, if you do not complete and submit this assignment, then 30 points may be deducted from your final grade.

GRADING POINT SYSTEM

GRADING SOURCE	POINTS
Five Exams	500
Discussion/Participation	100
End of Semester Assessment	50
Total Points	650

GRADING SCALE

GRADE	POINTS REQUIRED
A	540+
B	480-539
C	420-479
D	360-419
F	0-359

COURSE TOPICS, READING AND QUIZ/EXAM SCHEDULE**

Week	Month	Day	Topics	Assigned Readings	Discussion, Quiz, & Exam Schedule
1	Jan	16	Introduction to Sociology	Chapter 1	Discussion 1 & Practice Quiz 1 (Jan. 20)
2	Jan	22	Research Methods	Chapter 2	Discussion 2 & Practice Quiz 2 (Jan. 27)
3	Jan	29	Culture	Chapter 3	Discussion 3 & Practice Quiz 3 (Feb. 3)
					Exam 1 (Feb. 2-4)
4	Feb	5	Socialization	Chapter 4	Discussion 4 & Practice Quiz 4 (Feb. 10)
5	Feb	12	Social Interaction	Chapter 5	Discussion 5 & Practice Quiz 5 (Feb. 17)
6	Feb	19	Groups and Organizations	Chapter 6	Discussion 6 & Practice Quiz 6 (Feb. 24)
					Exam 2 (Feb. 23-25)
7	Feb	26	Deviance	Chapter 7	Discussion 7 & Practice Quiz 7 (Mar. 3)
8	Mar	5	Stratification	Chapter 8	Discussion 8 & Practice Quiz 8 (Mar. 10)
	Mar	12	SPRING BREAK		
9	Mar	19	Sex and Gender	Chapter 9	Discussion 9 & Practice Quiz 9 (Mar. 24)
					Exam 3 (Mar. 23-25)
10	Mar	26	Race and Ethnicity	Chapter 10	Discussion 10 & Practice Quiz 10 (Mar. 31)
11	Mar	2	Economics and Politics	Chapter 11	Discussion 11 & Practice Quiz 11 (Apr. 7)
12	Apr	9	Religion and Education	Chapter 12	Discussion 12 & Practice Quiz 12 (Apr. 14)
					Exam 4 (Apr. 13-15)
13	Apr	16	Marriage and Family	Chapter 13	Discussion 13 & Practice Quiz 13 (Apr. 21)
14	Apr	23	Health and Population	Chapter 14	Discussion 14 & Practice Quiz 14 (Apr. 28)
15	Apr	30	Social Change & Social Movements	Chapter 15	Discussion 15 & Practice Quiz 15 (May. 5)
	May	7	FINALS		Final: Exam 5 (May. 7-9)

Remember practice quizzes are **NOT graded, See: Quizzes and Exercises**

NOTES

***Overview:** *SociologicalYou* is an online comprehensive learning system for your Introductory Sociology course. *SociologicalYou* incorporates the latest in proven learning theory to provide an engaging learning experience unlike any textbook currently on the market and provides an unparalleled collection of student resources to enhance your learning.

Your textbook is titled, *SociologicalYou*, as **YOU** are a sociological being impacted by social forces and societal influences as you live and interact in a social world. The major goals of the textbook are for you to:

- 1) tap into your sociological self
- 2) view the social world from a sociological perspective
- 3) become a more engaged, socially responsible, global citizen as a result of working through the textbook.

How to Register: Upon successfully purchasing *SociologicalYou* with a credit card, the next screen will ask you to choose either the *SociologicalYou* Standard Edition or the *SociologicalYou* Health Professions Edition. The next step will be the student registration form. (NOTE: if you use an access code an email will be sent to you with a link to the registration form.) Complete the form and create a login and password. Enter the CAPTCHA code and select "Register." (NOTE: Don't leave the registration form without registering.) Remember your login and password as you will use both each time you access *SociologicalYou*. Upon successfully completing and submitting the form you will be directed to the *SociologicalYou* login prompt. Enter the login and password you created to access the textbook and student resources.

How to Login: To daily access *SociologicalYou*, go to <http://www.sociologicalyou.com> and select "Existing Students LOGIN." Enter your login and password. You will be directed to the home page where you can select chapters from the "Textbook" drop down menu, the chapters on the left navigational, or the chapter numbers at the bottom of the page.

Track Your Progress within Chapters: When you select a chapter within **SociologicalYou** there is an option to enter your name and email to track your overall progress. This will allow you to see the overall percent of the chapter you have completed. This feature is optional. We recommend you choose "Skip step, start anonymously," which will not track your progress. This is the easiest choice that will allow you quick access to the chapters. If you choose to track your progress it will be similar to reading an *ebook* so that you can see how much more you have left to read. Your instructor does not have access to your progress in your chapter. Your progress is just for you to view. You can "*Take a break and continue later*" by selecting, "*Remember me on this device*," and you can choose to receive an email with a link to begin where you left off on another device.

IMPORTANT: The practice questions within each chapter are strategically placed after each learning objective and are for PRACTICE and REVIEW only. A grade is NOT submitted to the instructor. It is recommended you complete the questions so that you can determine how much of the content you are retaining.

Textbook Features: **SociologicalYou** is an online textbook that is designed to make it easy and fun to read the modular chapters. Each chapter is divided into five themes.

- The Sociological Perspective
- Social Structures
- Social Problems
- The Sociological Imagination
- Social Changes

Each theme provides specific learning objectives and a short review of each in the form of review questions. These questions are designed as retrieval practice and provide a more effective learning strategy than review by rereading. There are additional study aids below each chapter to help you hang onto the knowledge that you want to remember. The categories include:

- Study Guide
- Practice Quiz
- Figures and Tables
- Learning Objectives
- Key Terms (Quizlet)
- Outline
- Chapter Features

How to Get the Most from SociologicalYou: **SociologicalYou** is much more than a textbook – it is a complete learning system for students. It has an unparalleled plethora of resources to help you master the content. We recommend you begin with Chapter 1 and select and review each of the categories of student resources. This will provide insight on all the resources. Be sure to view the "Miscellaneous Resources" in Chapter 1 for study tips and information.

Support/Help Desk: Contact the **SociologicalYou** Support Team at: support@sociologicalyou.com The **SociologicalYou** support team will normally respond within 2 hours during normal business hours. Students with login issues will be addressed quickly during the evenings and weekends to ensure you have access to **SociologicalYou** at all times.

Questions/Concerns/Help: You can select the "Support" link at the top of each page or the green circle with a question mark to reach the **SociologicalYou** support team, who are ready to assist you with all your questions or issues with purchasing the textbook, registering, logging into the textbook, or how to use the features within **SociologicalYou**, Thank You!

****The reading dates reflect the start of the week (usually Mondays) and the specific readings (for that week) must be completed by that Saturday.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Now that you have read this syllabus, I want you to go onto Blackboard and contact me through the Discussion: "Syllabus Assignment" before the end of the first week of class. You are to write your "bio" in the Discussion providing me with your given name, the name that you preferred to be called, major interests, etc., and anything else that you think is important to know about you (e.g., where you come from, etc.).

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

I encourage in and out of classroom input. I am available for consultation (by appointment only) and welcome the opportunity to assist you. To arrange for an appointment and for purposes of this course, please use the Blackboard Learn course **messaging system**. With the exception of weekends, I vigilantly check my email and usually respond within 24 hours. Ask questions. If there is something that you do not understand, then ask. If you do not ask, I will have to assume that you understand everything that is going on. Do not fall behind in class. Make sure you keep up with readings and notes. If you begin to experience academic difficulty, be sure you consult with me. Do not wait until late in the semester and expect me to be able to be very sympathetic. I value your input, your ideas, and your contributions, and will do my best to encourage them by working with you to create a climate that is conducive to your participation. I am sure that all of you will have something to contribute at one time or other. Please do so. I will treat your contributions with respect and expect you to do the same for your classmates. Finally, I reserve the right to change or make adjustments to this syllabus as I see fit.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty (cheating and/or plagiarism) will not be tolerated at any time. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty will be handled in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth by the University of North Texas, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences and the Department of Sociology. You will find the complete provisions of the code in the student handbook. Please note that I take academic dishonesty very seriously and the consequences will be very harsh.

Plagiarism is defined as the act of taking another's ideas, words, writings, or research findings and not giving them proper credit through quotations or citations. Even when we are paraphrasing another's ideas, we must give them credit. To do otherwise is to allow the reader to think these ideas and words are your own when they are not. This act is considered theft of intellectual property. Plagiarism is considered one of the most serious transgressions that can be committed in the educational community.

In the case of plagiarism, there are several options available to an instructor, including verbal and/or written reprimand, assignment of a lower grade with an explanation from the instructor, expulsion from the course with the assignment of a passing grade (WP), expulsion from the course with the assignment of a failing grade (WF), and/or expulsion from the university.

Therefore, all written work should be properly cited when:

1. Describing the ideas of another (even if it is not a direct quotation),
2. Describing the research of another (even if it is not a direct quotation),
3. Using the words, phrases, paragraphs, or pages of another, and/or
4. Quoting the words of another.

RELIGIOUS OBLIGATIONS AND HOLIDAYS

If there are reasons that will cause you to "miss" class sessions for religious reasons, etc., sometime during the semester, you must notify me - in advance - in writing by no later than 5:00 PM, Friday, of the first week of classes.

ADD/DROP POLICY

Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Add/Drop Policy.

F-1 STUDENTS TAKING DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES

U.S. Federal Regulation: For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website at:

<http://www.oea.gov/index.php/links/electronic-code-of-federal-regulations>

The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at:

"Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f) (6) (i) (G)" and can be found buried within this document:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2012-title8-vol1/xml/CFR-2012-title8-vol1-sec214-2.xml>

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS COMPLIANCE

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

1. Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
2. Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

STUDENT ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

Links to all of these services can be found on the [Academic Support tab](#) within Blackboard Learn:

- Academic Resource Center: buy textbooks and supplies, access academic catalogs and programs, register for classes, and more.
- Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities: provides Code of Student Conduct along with other useful links.
- Office of Disability Accommodation: ODA exist to prevent discrimination on the basis of disability and to help students reach a higher level of independence.
- Counseling and Testing Services: CTS provides counseling services to the UNT community as well as testing services; such as admissions testing, computer-based testing, career testing and other tests.
- UNT Libraries: online library services
- Online Tutoring: chat in real time, mark up your paper using drawing tools and edit the text of your paper with the tutor's help.
- The Learning Center Support Programs: various program links provided to enhance the student experience.
- Supplemental Instruction: program for every student, not just for students that are struggling.
- UNT Writing Lab: offers free writing tutoring to all UNT students, undergraduate and graduate.
- Math Tutor Lab: located in GAB, room 440.
- Succeed at UNT: how to be "a successful student" information.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS AND ASSISTANCE

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspect of the course.

- UIT Help Desk: <http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>
- Hardware and software necessary to use Bb Learn: <http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/>
Browser requirements: <http://kb.blackboard.com/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=84639794>
- Headset/Microphone (if required for synchronous chats) Word Processor
- [Other related hardware or software necessary for the course]

Minimum Technical Skills Needed:

Examples include:

1. Using the learning management system,
2. Using email with attachments,
3. Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats,
4. Copying and pasting,
5. Downloading and installing software, and
6. Using spreadsheet programs.

STUDENT TECHNICAL SUPPORT

The University of North Texas [UIT Student Helpdesk](#) provides student technical support in the use of Blackboard and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940.565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Our hours are:

Monday-Thursday 8am-midnight

Friday 8am-8pm

Saturday 9am-5p

Sunday 8am-midnight

VOLUNTARY PRODUCT ACCESSIBILITY TEMPLATE (VPAT) Blackboard Learn Release 9.1

The [Voluntary Product Accessibility Template](#)®, or VPAT®, documents Blackboard Learn 9.1's conformance with the accessibility standards under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. '794 d), as amended by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (P.L. 105 - 220), August 7, 1998.