UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS FALL 2025

SOCI 4350 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION Credit Hours 3

Honors Supplemental Syllabus

As a prerequisite for earning Honors credit in SOCI 4350 Community Organization, Honors students should perform the review of the following book, namely certain sections of it, and make practical recommendations on the basis of it, as described below.

Mueller**,** Dennis. Reason, Religion, and Democracy. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Sections to reviewed include at the minimum Preface, Introduction, and Conclusion.

Being a value Honors student you are selected to be the member of a work team of experts such as sociologists and other social scientists. As such an expert, you are given the task to review some relevant sections of an influential and partly controversial book and to make on that basis certain practical recommendations. Your review should represent an accurate exposition of these sections of the book and optionally a comparison with other comparable books or articles and data or evidence if you are aware of them and relating this to own observations and experiences. Your recommendations, particularly those for preserving and improving democracy, political-civic engagement and community involvement reflecting American (Jefferson’s) ideals of equality, justice and liberty ‘for all’, should be grounded on such a review. As an expert, your objective and function represent providing an objective review of the book’s assigned sections and on that basis making informed recommendations that will inform and assist its potential readers and the wider sociological scientific community.

As an expert, your should meet these expectations:

Writing a paper describing your review and practical recommendations. The paper’s length should be 2,000 words, including citations, footnotes, and bibliography, as a lower limit. The paper’s organization should include at the minimum 4 sections such as 1. introduction, 2. analysis, 3. practical recommendations and 4. conclusions.

Writing a 1-page summary of your paper.

Making a formal presentation of your analysis and practical recommendations to the class on Canvas during the 14th week of the semester.

Your paper and presentation are expected to enfold in he following manner:

Defining the subjects of democracy and more broadly political-civic engagement and, if possible, community involvement in accordance with the designated book.

Describing the relations between democracy, reason or rationality and science, and religion in accordance with the designated book.

Explaining the growing threats to democracy and science by religion in accordance with the designated book.

Making practical recommendations for preserving and improving democracy and generally political-civic engagement and community involvement reflecting American ideals on the basis of your review of the designated book,

You will receive Honors credit on the condition that your paper accords with the following stipulations:

Paper proceeds according to the suggested organization and all sections, especially section 2 and section 4, comprise necessary information that is based on corresponding evidence from the designated book.

Paper and summary are written satisfactorily, including clearly expressing, well-organizing and self-understanding ideas, along with performing a word-spelling check.

Paper is grounded on the assigned book at the minimum and uses additional academic sources or data optionally.

The designated book and other optional sources are cited through complete citations with years of publication and page numbers.