

Institutions & Social Change, SOC 205
Winter 2013
MW 8:30-10

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Companion website to the textbook: <http://www.mhhe.com/croteau1>

Prerequisites

There is a prerequisite for this class. Generally speaking, you should have taken **SOC 204** (as a prerequisite to this class) before taking SOC 205. Those students that haven't taken SOC 204 prior to SOC 205 are, however, allowed to take SOC 205 with my permission. Please talk to me on the first day to find out how you can stay in this class. I also highly recommend you take **Writing 115 and Reading 120** before taking or in conjunction with my class.

Course Description and Objectives

In this class we will continue our examination of various topics that the discipline of sociology has to offer. The main focus of this class is an analysis of **various social institutions and the forces of social change in our contemporary society**. In order to have a stimulating and successful sociology class, I encourage you to participate in class discussions. You also need to attend all class schedules and have read and studied the reading assignments prior to coming to class.

Required Textbook

Experience Sociology, by David Croteau and William Hoynes, published by McGraw-Hill.

If you purchase the book from LBCC bookstore you will get the customized version of the book which has some additional reading materials and an access code to a companion website called **CONNECT**. If you decide not to purchase the book from the bookstore, then you will have to buy the access code directly from the publisher.

Tests and Assignments

There are three tests for this class, two midterms and a final. The tests are not cumulative.

The three exams count for 60% of your final grade. The tests will be composed of a combination of multiple choice (MC) and essay questions. The MC questions come from the text and essay questions are primarily based on class discussions. **You will also be doing four assignments on the CONNECT website.** You need to register with **CONNECT** using the access code provided to you by the publisher in order to complete your assignments. Below is the link to the **CONNECT** web page for your class. Each assignment has a due date. Some of the assignments are worth more points than others. All assignments combined count for 40% of your final grade.

http://connect.mcgraw-hill.com/class/a_aflatooni_copy_of_winter_soc_205

Extra Credit Work

For those students who need some extra help to raise their test scores, I have assigned an extra reading for each week. You will find the extra readings at the end of each chapter in your book. If you read and answer the questions (some readings do not have questions and for those just write about your overall impression of the content of the article) at the end of each reading and turn in the answers each week you will receive ten points that will be added to each of your test scores. You will have to turn three before each test in order to receive ten points. Keep your answers short and turn in a typed copy each week.

Grading

Exams = 60%

Assignments = 40%

Classroom Environment and Policies

(1) Come to class prepared to discuss, having finished all reading and writing assignments.

(2) Keep notes of your reactions to works as you read. Be prepared to Share these reactions when called upon.

(3) Pick a passage from the reading assignment you find particularly Significant and be prepared to share it with the class.

(4) Come armed with questions. We learn by thinking critically, questioning, and getting involved.

(5) You have a responsibility to yourself, to me, and to your colleagues to be active learners. This class is not just about individual participation. It is a shared experience of inquiry. You are learning how to learn and how to be an active thinker.

(6). **Be cordial towards and respectful of your fellow students and their opinions. Do not talk or giggle when class is in session. Do not bring food and beverages to class and be on time. Please turn off your cellular phones and pagers while you are in class. Out of respect for your classmates and me, no cell phones, BlackBerry Devices, iPods, iPads, or MP3 players are allowed in class. Please turn off all electronics before class.**

(7). In a class of this nature, interaction and participation are important. If you do not follow through with your end of the bargain (i.e., attending class, participating in discussions, keeping up with the reading) it is unlikely our experience together will be completely successful.

(8) Missed exams and assignments will be counted as zeros except, for extraordinary circumstances. Acceptable reasons for missing an exam would include health problems, a death in the family, etc. **Please note that the arrangements should be made with me before the exam.** Make-up exams are taken at Student Assessment Center at RCH-111. **Late assignments are accepted but points will be deducted from them. I will not accept any late assignments during the finals week.**

(9) Class policy on plagiarism: Students who use someone else's work as their own or copy information or ideas from outside sources without proper citations will receive an "F" for their work. Bibliographies and in-text citations are required whenever you use outside sources, including the Internet. Do Your Own Work!

(10) Students who have some type of disability or medical condition that will require them to take their tests at the Office of Disability Services (541-917-4789) should contact me at the beginning of the term (the first week) and provide documentation from the Office of Disability so that I can make the appropriate arrangements with the ODS to take their tests there.

Course Outline

Week 1

Racial and Ethnicity

Reading: Chapter 10

Week 2

Gender and Sexuality

Reading: Chapter 11

Weeks 3 and 4

Family and Religion

Reading: Chapter 12

Midterm 1 Jan 30

Weeks 5 and 6

Education and Work

Reading: Chapter 13

Week 7

Media and Consumption

Reading: Chapter 14

Midterm 2: Feb 25

Week 8

Communities, the Environment, and Health

Reading: Chapter 15

Weeks 9

Politics and the Economy

Reading: Chapter 16

Week 10

Social Change, Globalization, Population, and Social Movements

Reading: Chapter 17

Week 11

Final Test: March 18 at 8 am