

SOCIOLOGY 101—PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY

Sociological principles underlying the development, structure and function of culture, society, human groups, personality formation and social change.



Semester: Summer 2020 (THINK Summer Institute)

Class Dates: July 13th-17th, July 20th-24th, and July 27th-July 31st

Class Time: Mon-Fri, 8:30-11:30am

Professor: Dr. Clayton Peoples

Course Description/Organization:

This course is designed to introduce students to the discipline of sociology. In this course, we will begin with an introduction to the field of sociology. We will then move on to a discussion of socialization processes, culture, and deviance. Next, we will discuss social inequality in its varying forms. Then we will discuss institutions/groups, such as the family, religion, and demography/population. Finally, we will conclude by discussing politics, social movements and change.

Required Text (will be ordered and provided by THINK):

Schaefer, Richard T. 2019. *Sociology Matters*. 7th Ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Silver Core Objectives (COs) and Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

This class fulfills the core social science requirement (CO6 of the Silver Plan/Cultures, Societies, and Individuals): “Students will learn how to systematically analyze human social conditions (e.g., individuals, groups, communities, and cultures). In particular, students will learn to observe, theorize, model, experiment, and/or interpret as a means of inquiring into human social relations.” In addition, this course develops COs 1 (effective communication and composition) and 3 (critical analysis and use of information) via written assignments (e.g. reaction papers) that require critical analysis of information.

SLO #1: Identify fundamental concepts and theories within the field of sociology and be familiar with sociological methods of inquiry into human social relations (CO6).

SLO #2: Think and write critically about social conditions and social forces that shape human behavior stratification and inequalities according to such characteristics as race, class, and gender (CO3).and outcomes (CO1 and CO3).

SLO #3: Systematically analyze aspects of social structure such as statuses and roles, institutions, social stratification and inequalities according to such characteristics as race, class, and gender (CO3).

Statement on Audio and Video Recording:

Surreptitious or covert video-taping of class or unauthorized audio recording of class is prohibited by law and by Board of Regents policy. This class may be videotaped or audio recorded only with the written permission of the instructor. In order to accommodate students with disabilities, some students may be given permission to record class lectures and discussions. Therefore, students should understand that their comments during class may be recorded. Additionally, this course may leverage 3rd party web/multimedia content, if you experience any issues accessing this content, please notify your instructor.

Course Rules:

Department of Sociology Policy on Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on exams, plagiarism) is a serious offense. All work that you submit in this class must be your own original work, and must have been generated by you specifically for the assignments. Cheating, plagiarism or otherwise obtaining grades under false pretenses constitute academic dishonesty according to the code of this university. The University Academic Standards Policy defines academic dishonesty, and mandates specific sanctions for violations. See the University Academic Standards policy: <https://www.unr.edu/administrative-manual/6000-6999-curricula-teaching-research/instruction-research-procedures/6502-academic-standards>

Each student is responsible for being familiar with UNR's policies on academic dishonesty. It is the policy of the Department of Sociology that any student who engages in any act of academic dishonesty will automatically get a course grade of “F.” Further, in accordance with UNR’s Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty Procedures, a record will be created with the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. Repeated offenses may lead to expulsion from the university.

What is plagiarism? Whereas most acts of academic dishonesty are obvious, students are sometimes unclear what “plagiarism” entails. Plagiarism means that you incorporate another author’s work into your own, but create the impression that you yourself are the original author. For instance, it is plagiarism when you cut and paste another author’s text into your own paper, but do not clearly mark it as a quote and do not credit the original source. Another example of plagiarism is when you use another author’s text, but change the syntax and vocabulary only slightly. Yet another instance of plagiarism involves using another person’s ideas and presenting them as your own. The web offers a number of great resources on the subject of plagiarism that help you decide when you need to credit another author and when something can be assumed to be common knowledge (in which case you do not need to credit a source).

How to avoid plagiarism? When writing a paper, focus on what and how you want to say something, not on the language another author used. The easiest way is to follow a “closed source” policy: That is, when you have read a paper, book or website that is relevant to a paper that you are writing, close it and put it aside before you write your own text. Once you are done, go over your paper again and make sure that you have not inadvertently copied another person’s language. Likewise, make sure that you do not pretend that another person’s insights are your own.

Keep in mind that plagiarism is more easily detected than you might think. Many instructors and graders have access to the same resources as you (e.g., the internet) and routinely check whether any text you have submitted appears elsewhere. If you are in doubt whether something constitutes plagiarism or not, ask your instructor, TA, or the UNR writing center.

Course Requirements:

Class Participation

Reaction paper on readings for that day, 10 in all, each worth 2 pts:	20 pts.
Presentation on a culture of your choice:	20 pts.

Tests

Test 1	20 pts.
Test 2	20 pts.
Test 3	20 pts.
Total:	100 pts.

The grading scale in this course follows the university-wide standard scale:

A = 93-100	A- = 90-93	B+ = 87-90	B = 83-87	B- = 80-83	C+ = 77-80
C = 73-77	C- = 70-73	D+ = 67-70	D = 63-67	D- = 60-63	F = 0-60

More about the Course Requirements:

Class Participation

Class participation is a very important component of any classroom environment, enriching the learning experience. Your participation is very important in this process. Reflecting the importance of class participation, it is worth 40% of the course grade:

Reaction Papers: For virtually every class, you will be required to have read something. I would like for you to type a *one page*, single-spaced reaction to these readings. Ten reaction papers over the course of the semester represent full credit (2 pts each, 20 pts total). *Please don't neglect these*—they are, after all, worth 20% of your grade, and they help keep you current on the readings. They will be graded as follows: full credit (2 pts), half credit (1 pt), and no credit (0 pts). *Since they are part of class participation, reaction papers will NOT be accepted if you have missed class UNLESS you inform me ahead of time or have a legitimate reason for missing (i.e. medical emergency, funeral).*

Culture Presentations: During this course you will have an opportunity to give a presentation on a culture of your choosing (with professor approval). On the day of the presentation, please turn in a 2-5 page report as well as a presentation outline. Presentations should be brief (10 minutes or less) and are really low pressure. Grading rubric will be forthcoming....

Tests

Tests will be predominantly multiple choice. *Make-up tests will NOT be given unless you inform me ahead of time or have written documentation showing a legitimate reason for missing (i.e. medical emergency, funeral, etc.). Make-up tests will be subject to a 10% deduction (2 pts deduction out of 20). Additionally, a make-up final exam will be subject to the University rules concerning semester deadlines.*

Tentative Course Outline (May be Subject to Change)

DATE	TOPIC/CLASS ACTIVITIES	READINGS
Mon July 13	Welcome to Class, Intro to Sociology	None
Tue July 14	Theoretical Perspectives, Methods*	Chapter 1, all
Wed July 15	Culture and Socialization*	Chapter 2, all
Thu July 16	Deviance/Crime*	Chapter 4 all
Fri July 17	TEST 1	
Mon July 20	Culture Presentations [†]	None
Tue July 21	Social Inequality*	Chapter 5, all
Wed July 22	Ethnic Inequality*	Chapter 6, all
Thu July 23	Gender Inequality*	Chapter 8, pp. 217-219 Chapter 7, all
Fri July 24	TEST 2	
Mon July 27	Family*	Chapter 8, pp 210-216
Tue July 28	Religion*	Chapter 8, pp 220-228
Wed July 29	Population*	Chapter 10, pp 261-267
Thu July 30	Political Economy, Social Movements*	Chapter 9, pp. 242-248 Chapter 11, pp 298-309
Fri July 31	TEST 3	

* Reaction Paper Day: Please turn in Reaction Paper on readings for that day.

[†] Class Presentation Day: Please prepare your presentation for that day.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Any student with a disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations should work with THINK coordinators, possibly in conjunction with the [Disability Resource Center](#) (Pennington Student Achievement Center, Suite 230; 784-6000), as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodations.