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SOCI 101S.03: Introduction to Sociology

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INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
SOCI 101
Spring, 2016

Course Information

- Number: SOCI 101
- Title: Introduction to Sociology
- Prerequisites: None
- Credits: 3

Personal Information

- Instructor: John Domitrovich
- Office hours
- Telephone: 251-2337 (Home in Missoula)
- email address: john_domitrovich@skc.edu

Required Materials

Required text is IN CONFLICT AND ORDER: UNDERSTANDING SOCIETY by D.S. Eitzen, M.B. Zinn AND K. E. Smith; 13th edition. Additional reading material will be placed in Moodle. A number of videos and slide presentations will be shown throughout the quarter, and students will be held responsible for their content.

Course Description sociology is concerned with the scientific study of human interactions within a societal context. This course will not only zero in on our own society, but it will utilize a cross-cultural focus in order to bring salient aspects of our own culture into relief.

Course Objectives

Knowledge Objectives

- 1) Following this course, students will have a developed understanding of the process of "doing sociology". The student will be able to apply the symbolic interactionist, conflict and functionalist theories to a wide range of social contexts.
- 2) The student will gain an appreciation for the cultural variation seen among the world cultures in terms of social structure, socialization and the social use of space and time.
- 3) The student will develop a basic understanding of various types of social structure and anti-structure and will also gain an understanding of the deindividuation process.
- 4) The student will understand the basic concepts related to the scientific method (variable, correlation, hypothesis, theory, experimental research design, and operationalizing).
- 5) The student will have a developed understanding of the essential differences between race, racism, and ethnicity.
- 6) The student will have a basic understanding of the essential differences between the processes of assimilation and pluralism (multiculturalism).

- 7) the student will develop a basic understanding of victor turner's ideas related to structure and anti-structure and the application of these concepts to the 1960's countercultural social movement.
- 8) The student will gain a basic understanding of the religious makeup of American society, with an emphasis on the distinctions between liberal and conservative Christians, evangelical Christians, fundamentalist Christians, and the concept of the separation of church and state.
- 9) The student will be able to define the characteristics of a social movement and will be able to describe various aspects. (immigration policies, sterilization policies, anti-miscegenation laws, etc.) of the American eugenics social movement of the 20th century.

Value Objectives

- The student will develop an appreciation for the tremendous diversity of expression seen between individuals and groups. At the same time the student will, hopefully, realize that, despite the seeming differences in social behavior, there exists a commonality that transcends all overt differences.
- Student will assess their own gender role schemas and develop an appreciation for, and an awareness of the cultural change process with respect to American gender roles.

Course Format

There will be three exams, each worth 100 points, the exams will be multiple choice and essay. All three exams must be completed in order to receive a final semester grade.

Grades will be based on the following points:

360-400=A (.90)

320-359=B (.80)

280-319=C (.70)

240-279=D (.60)

Less than 240=F

There will be several extra credit questions presented to the class during the semester. A student may accumulate up to a total of 30 extra credit points that can be applied to the final grade tally.

Attendance is considered essential in order to do well in this course. Attendance is worth 100 points and the student may miss one class without being penalized. For every additional class missed, the student will lose 10 points in the final tally.

If an exam is not taken by a student and the student does not have an acceptable excuse (entailing a medical note from the doctor, court summons, death in family, etc.), the student must take a makeup exam within the next week, and the highest possible grade that the student can receive is a grade of "C" (70%).

If a student has something occurring on the date of an exam that necessitates that they miss the class, the student must contact the instructor **before** the exam is given to inform him of this situation in order for the absence to be excused.

Please keep all copies of returned and graded extra credit papers until the end of the semester (for your own protection)

Reasonable Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations are provided to students with diagnosed or suspected disabilities through Disability Student Services. If you have a disability that you feel will affect your academic performance in this class, please inform your instructor immediately.

Tentative Class Schedule

- Week One:
 - (1/27) Syllabus review. What is sociology? Inductive approach Local, national and intercultural patterns Sociological patterns and order A man's or a woman's world?
 - Read chapters 1 ("The Sociological Perspective?") and 15 ("Families") in text.
- Week Two:
 - (2/3) Continue on the question, 'Is it a Man's or a Woman's World?' A Focus on Symbols as the Basis of Social life
 - PowerPoint in Moodle on "Symbol Systems"
 - Read chapters 2 ("The Structure of Social Groups") and 10 ("Gender Inequality") in text
- Week Three:
 - (2/10) Continue on discussion of symbols and symbol systems Variables Hypotheses Correlation Experimental Research Design
 - Read chapter 3 ("The Duality of Social Life: Conflict and Order") in text
- Week Four:
 - (2/17) Continue discussion on scientific methodology The order, conflict, and symbolic interactionist paradigms
 - Videos (The Power of the Situation") and ("Constructing Social reality")
 - Read Article on "The Surveillance Society" in Moodle
 - Read chapter 4 ("Culture") in text
 - Read "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema"
- Week Five:
 - (2/24) **Exam #1** A Focus on Culture Subculture Counterculture American Cultural Values Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis Collectivist and Individualist Cultures
 - Slides on Ghana, West Africa
 - Module on "Culture" in Moodle
- Week Six:
 - (3/2) Continue focus on Culture; Ethnocentrism and Cultural relativity
 - Read chapter 6 ("Groups, Networks, and Organizations") in text
- Week Seven:
 - (3/9) Focus on Religion Types of Religious Beliefs Liberal and Conservative Christians, Christian Evangelicals and Fundamentalists.
 - Read Module on "God Talk" in Moodle
 - PowerPoint on "American Religion" in Moodle
 - Read chapter 17 ("Religion in Modern Society") in text
- Week Eight:
 - (3/16) Continue on Religion
 - Video ("Jesus Camp")
 - Video ("The Cult")
 - Read Module on "Deindividuation and Rites of Passage" in Moodle
 - Complete Sandra Bem's Gender Role Inventory in Moodle
 - Read "The Native American Two Spirit" in Moodle

- Week Nine
 - (3/23) Socialization Process Deindividuation Sandra Bem's Research
 - Read chapter 8 ("Stratification, Class and Inequality") in text
 - Read Module on "Religion and Class" in Moodle
 - Read Module on "Social Stratification" in Moodle
 - Read Module on "Apartheid in South Africa" in Moodle
- Week Ten
 - (3/30) Social Stratification; Open and Closed Systems of Social
 - Stratification; American Class Structure Poor in America
 - Video ("People Like Us: Class in America")
 - Read chapter 9 ("Global Inequality") in text
- Week Eleven
 - (4/6) NO CLASS due to spring break
- Week Twelve (4/13) **Exam #2**
 - Slides on the East Indian Social Stratification System and Hindu Iconography
 - Read chapter 11 ("Ethnicity and Race") in text
 - Read module in Moodle on "The Eugenics Social Movement" in Moodle
 - Read module on "Supremacy and Religion" in Moodle
- Week Thirteen
 - (4/20) Race and Racism Ethnicity Eugenics Social Movement
 - Read Module on "Assimilation and Pluralism" in Moodle
 - Read Module on "The Construction of Race and Racism"
 - Read the Module on "Prejudice and Discrimination"
- Week Fourteen
 - (4/27) Slides on the Aryan Nations Racist Group
 - Video ("Faces of the Enemy")
- Week Fifteen
 - (5/4) Assimilation and Pluralism
- Week Sixteen Finals week
 - **Exam#3 on Wednesday, May 11th between 5:30-7:30 pm**