Spring 2-1-2016

SOCI 350.01: The Community

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What is Community? In many ways, communities- the social lives that people make together- lie at the heart of the discipline of sociology. This course will explore a variety of ways that sociologists think about and study communities, and encourage students to think sociologically about the communities in which they live. - Lyn Macgregor

REQUIRED TEXT:

Flora and Flora- Rural Communities: Legacy and Change 4th Edition

Hutter- Experiencing Cities 2nd Edition

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Attendance - Your attendance is mandatory to do well in this course. Given the number of students in this course, it would be too timely to take attendance every day. However, I will randomly give quizzes and extra credit opportunities, through which I will take attendance through your participation.

2. Participation - We will all take turns leading discussions in each class. This is considered part of your participation grade. We will devise a schedule within the first week that covers the rest of the semester. You will likely be a discussion leader/facilitator at least once and possibly twice, depending on the number of students in the course. When it is your turn to lead the discussion, please come prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that day. In addition to assigned readings, please bring 1 supplementary topic per discussion leader. It can be from a local newspaper article, magazine article, TV news, or other topic of interest- so long as it pertains to the topic of the day!

3. Assignments - a variety of assignments will be announced throughout the semester and posted on Moodle. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed.
Reading assignments: please read assigned readings before attending class in order to effectively participate in learning and small group sessions. Bring 1-2 questions on student facilitation days pertaining to the relevant readings.

Book Group/Presentation: We will choose book groups based on the listed titles below at the beginning of the semester. You and your group will be responsible for reading the book and discussing the major topics and points in it. You will devise a 10 minute presentation for the end of the semester that uses 2 theories from this class to describe the book to your classmates.

4. **Exams** – The semester will be broken into 3 main sections. Exams will be given after the first and second, and a final paper will examine the third.

A few notes on exams: please be on-time and prepared for exams; late arrivals disrupt concentration and are disrespectful to your fellow students. Cheating of any sort will not be tolerated. I do not offer make up exams. If you have a university recognized excuse to miss an exam, it is up to you to notify me BEFORE you miss the exam. Please keep me informed if something is going on in your life that makes it difficult for you to take the exam on time- it is hard to help after the fact, but I’m more than willing to help out if you keep me in the loop.

**Total Points:**

- Attendance: 20 points
- Participation: 50 points
- Quizzes (5): 25 points
- Exam 1: 30 points
- Exam 2: 30 points
- Exam 3: 30 points
- Book Group Presentation: 25 points
- **Total Points:** 210 points

**GRADING POLICY:**

Final grades will be based on a percentage of total possible points.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage of Total Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>below 60%</td>
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TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

As the semester unfolds, changes may be made to the syllabus. (I can just about assure you changes will be made). Any changes will be announced in-class and on Moodle. It is your responsibility to get up to date information by attending class. If I change dates related to assignments or exams, I will never move a date forward, only later than the original date. I also reserve the right to cancel assignments as I see fit- so total points for the semester can change as a result.
-Topics marked with * will have a discussion leader

- Week 1-1/25-1/29
  Theme- Introduction to Community
  Readings and Discussion Topic
  Monday- Introduction and Syllabus
  Wednesday- “What is Community?” article on Moodle
  Friday- Book Group

- Week 2- 2/1- 2/5
  Theme- Historical Developments
  Readings and Discussion Topics
  Monday- Hutter- Ch. 1 and Ch. 2
  Wednesday- Student facilitation
  Friday- Book Group

- Week 3- 2/8-2/12
  Theme- Disciplinary Perspectives
  Readings and Discussion Topics
  Monday- Hutter- Ch. 3 and 4 (pg. 59-71)
  Wednesday- Student facilitation
  Friday- Book Group

- Week 4- 2/15- 2/19
  Theme- Historical Developments
  Readings and Discussion Topics
  Monday- NO CLASS
  Wednesday- Simmel, Worth, and Tonnies articles on Moodle
  Friday- Book Group

- Week 5- 2/22- 2/26
  Theme- Community and Social Capitals
  Readings and Discussion Topics
  Monday- Flora- Ch. 1 and Ch. 2
  Wednesday- Student facilitations
  Friday- In class Exam 1
Week 6- 2/29- 3/4
Theme- Strangers and the Ecology of Fear
Readings and Discussion Topics
Monday- Hutter- Ch. 9 and Ch. 10
Wednesday- Student facilitations
Friday- Book Group

Week 7- 3/7- 3/11
Theme- Social Policy and Poverty
Readings and Discussion Topics
Monday- Flora- Ch. 6 and Hutter- Ch. 11
Wednesday- Student facilitations
Friday- Book Group

Week 8- 3/14- 3/18
Theme- Natural and Built Capitals
Readings and Discussion Topics
Monday- No class
Wednesday- Flora- Ch. 2 and Ch. 8
Friday- Book Group

Week 9- 3/21- 3/25
Theme- City People
Readings and Discussion Topics
Monday- Hutter- Ch. 12 and Ch. 13
Wednesday- Student facilitations
Friday- Book Group

Week 10- 3/28- 4/1
Theme- Rural People
Readings and Discussion Topics
Monday- Flora- Ch. 3
Wednesday- Student facilitations
Friday- In Class Exam 2

Week 11- 4/4- 4/8
Spring Break- NO CLASSES THIS WEEK!!!!!!!!!!

Week 12- 4/11- 4/15
Theme- Technology
Readings and Discussion Topics
Monday- “Whispy Communities” article on Moodle
Wednesday- Student facilitations
Friday- Book Group
• **Week 13- 4/18- 4/22**
  Theme: Creating Change and Communitarian Movement
  Readings and Discussion Topics
  *Monday*- Flora- Ch. 12, and TBA
  *Wednesday*- Student facilitations
  *Friday*- Book Group

• **Week 14- 4/25- 4/29**
  Theme: Book Group Presentations
  Readings and Discussion Topics
  *Monday*- Groups 1, 2, and 3
  *Wednesday*- **No Class**
  *Friday*- Book Group

• **Week 15- 5/2- 5/6**
  Theme: Book Group Presentations
  Readings and Discussion Topics
  *Monday*- Group Presentations- Groups 4, 5 and 6
  *Wednesday*- Group Presentations- Groups 7, 8, and 9
  *Friday*- Course Wrap up- Essay 3 hand out (take home essay) due during finals week
Book Group Presentation Choices:


3. John Freie- *Counterfeit Community: The Exploitation of Our Longings for Connectedness*

4. Thomas Lyson- *Civic Agriculture: Reconnecting Farm, Food, and Community (Civic Society: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives)*

5. Sonya Salamon- *Newcomers to Old Towns: The Suburbanization of the Heartland*


7. Robert Nisbet- *The Quest for Community: A Study in the Order and Ethics of Freedom*

8. Daniel Kemmis- *The Good City and the Good Life: Renewing the Sense of Community*


General Information

UNIVERSITY REQUIRED STATEMENT:
“All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.”

All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at [http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/132](http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/132)

FOR COMPLETE ACADEMIC POLICIES PLEASE VIEW THE UM CATALOG.