

SOC 150 - Introduction to Sociology

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607-753-2482 or 607-777-5176

Moffett Hall 2110

Tuesdays & Thursdays in Sperry 304:

Section: 003 CRN: 91463 4:25 P.M. to 5:40 P.M.

Section: 004 CRN: 91464 6:00 P.M. to 7:15 P.M

Office Hours:

7:15-8:30pm on Tuesday & Thursday

Also By Appointment

Course Description

This course examines social structure, social institutions, social processes and major social forces that impact our lives. The course has an emphasis on the structures and features of American society. (No prerequisites)

Class Format

This class is highly interactive, and will involve the use of various media including video, music, role-playing, online tools, and social networks. The class is discussion driven, with several required interactive class activities. Students are expected to engage in regular discussion, and be active and involved participants in the learning process. Most lectures will focus on the material presented in the assigned text, offering expansion, clarification and in-depth analysis, however the course will also employ additional learning tools and activities.

Required Textbooks

- *The Essentials of Sociology 8th Edition* by James Henslin (ISBN 0-205-67608-1)

Additional Reading

Additional brief excerpts from core source materials may be provided throughout the semester. These will be required or supplemental reading, and will be timed to correspond with textbook reading, daily topics, and class discussions.

Exams and Quizzes

The class will consist of three exams. The first exam is worth 20%, the second exam is 20% of your final, and the third is 40% of your final grade. The final exam is the most substantial, and has cumulative elements.

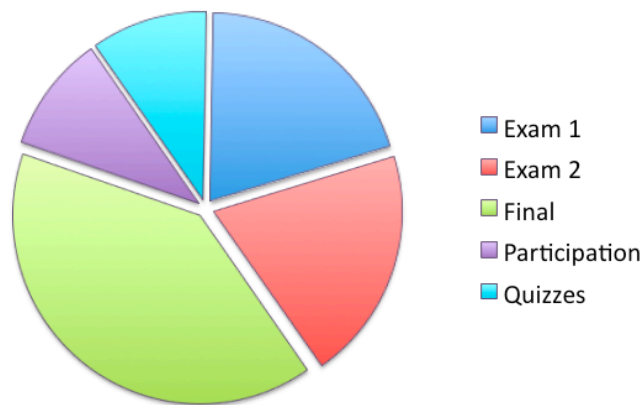
Study guides will be made available prior to each exam. Students are responsible for all assigned readings, which may appear on the exam.

To encourage reading and class participation, a number of unannounced quizzes will occur. The quizzes will have scores evenly averaged and applied as a weighted element of your grade. The timing of the quizzes, the day of the quizzes and the material within them, is at my discretion. The quizzes will relate to current material, which may include specific discussions or events within the class on the given day. (10% of total grade)

Participation

Participation, based mostly on attendance, with class discussion factored in, will round off the final 10% of your grade. Please be in attendance, and be attentive, to receive full credit for participation.

Grading Breakdown



Class / Teaching Policy

In accord with College policy, and the ethics of teaching and university administration, the syllabus, course policies, and grading policies will be adhered to. These rules exist in order to ensure that all students are informed, and have the same levels of access to course materials and coursework that may impact their grades. I do not negotiate on the contents of the syllabus. If you remain enrolled in the class, you accept the conditions of the syllabus.

The professor reserves the right to: (1) alter reading and assignments if it is deemed to be in the best interest of learning the subject (2) alter the schedule to adjust for time constraints or better-than expected progress and (3) correct any errors present in the syllabus. The schedule is most often adjusted to make room for time constraints. Additional assignments, tests etc. will not be added to change the criteria for grade assessments.

The criteria itself will not be altered, and will be adhered to strictly. Test assessments and grades may be adjusted only in the event of grading or processing error. Any grade changes, as the result of error, will be universally applied to all students who fall under the error.

If you are struggling, or otherwise not comprehending the material, please see me immediately. If you have a disability or work with the Office of Disability Services, please provide me with notice, and documentation / instructions so I may help you. Extra credit opportunities open to all students may be built into the class structure to allow for an opportunity to be rewarded for additional independent efforts. The principle of equal access and parity in assessment prohibits instructors from providing only some students with extra opportunities without justification.

Grades and final grade assessments cannot be reconsidered unless there is an error resulting from instructor error or processing errors. Incomplete grades cannot, and will not, be used to offer students an extension in order to complete assignments unless such an extension is warranted due to uncontrollable or warranted circumstances as recognized by the College (illness, religious beliefs, bereavement etc..).

Attendance

You must have a valid excuse for missing class. Valid excuses are defined by the College policies. You can miss

class only three times without an excuse, with no penalty -- however, you are still responsible for delivering any assignments due on these days, on these days, not after. Following the third missed class (fourth class), you (1) are dropped 25% of your participation grade (2) the next additional absence (fifth class) results in 50% on participation (3) the next absence (sixth class), you receive 0% participation. For each absence following, you are deducted an entire letter grade from your overall grade, in addition to the participation reductions above.

Excuses, medical excuses, athletic absences or paperwork must be appropriately dated. Any documentation provided must cover all days missed in the range of dates. Attendance sheets will be handed out at every class; it is your responsibility to be sure that it is signed. If your name is not present, write it in. You must be present for the entire class to be considered in attendance. If you leave early, or come late, you may be considered absent. I reserve the right to circulate the attendance sheet multiple times. Only the first class day, religious holidays, and special event days as defined by the College calendar will not be counted in attendance counts.

Plagiarism / Academic Integrity

All written assignments are verified using E.V.E. (Essay Verification Engine) or Turn-It-In. If you plagiarize, you will fail this course. All other forms of academic dishonesty, including cheating in any form, will result in failure as well. In addition, the College administration may seek further action, up to and including expulsion.

SUNY Cortland's policy on academic integrity is published in the College Handbook and in the Code of Student Conduct. The introduction to the policy reads, in part:

"Students must recognize that their role in their education is active; they are responsible for their own learning. Specifically, it is the responsibility of students to protect their own work from inappropriate use by others and to protect the work of other people by providing proper citation of ideas and research findings to the appropriate source."

Testing Arrangements

Tests are to be taken at the time and place scheduled, unless arrangements have been made at least one week in advance. Students with disabilities / documented needs will receive any needed accommodations. Please make me aware of your needs.

Classroom Environment

It is my intention to create and maintain an open and comfortable learning and teaching environment. Please adhere to the following rules of conduct:

- Please do not come to class late or leave early. If you must enter class late, do so quietly and do not disrupt the class by walking between the class and the instructor.
- Do not leave class before dismissal unless it is an absolute necessity. You must be present for the entire class to be considered in attendance.
- Please do not speak with other classmates while the instructor or another student is speaking. If you have a question or comment, please raise your hand, rather than starting a conversation about it with your neighbor.
- Please turn off the electronics: cell phones, pagers, and beeper watches. Of course recording materials and assistive technologies are welcome, as are laptops provided you use them to view and record class material.
- Please avoid audible and visible signs of restlessness. These are both rude and disruptive to the rest of

the class.

- Please focus on class material during class time. Sleeping, talking to others, doing work for another class, reading the newspaper, and checking e-mail (for example) are unacceptable and disruptive.

Students with Disabilities

SUNY Cortland is committed to upholding and maintaining all aspects of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) approved in 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Students with disabilities can request accommodations through the Office of Disabilities Services in Van Hoesen Hall, Room B-1 (607-753-2066). Any information regarding your disability will remain strictly confidential. Because many accommodations require early planning, requests for accommodations should be made as early as possible. I will make every attempt to accommodate students.

Learning Outcomes

SOC 150 conforms to the following NCATE Liberal Learning outcomes:

- S: Social Justice
- G: Global Understanding

This course conforms to the following Teacher Candidate Learning Outcomes:

- 1: Demonstrate a solid foundation in the arts and sciences.
- 2: Possess in-depth knowledge of the subject areas to be taught.
- 11: Demonstrate sufficient technology skills and the ability to integrate technology into teaching/learning.
- 12: Foster respect for individual's abilities and disabilities and an appreciation of variations of ethnicity, culture, language, gender, age, class and sexual orientation.



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