

SOCIOLOGY 131.02 (CID 4066)
PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY
3 CREDIT HOURS
FALL, 2009
CHSS 210
8:00-9:30 A.M., TU/THUR

PROFESSOR: Walter H. Bennett
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OFFICE HOURS: 7:00-9:00 & 10:00-11:00 MWF
7:00-11:00 Tues/Thru
Other times by appointment

I. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S) AND OR REFERENCE(S) READING LIST

Students should assume responsibility to obtain course materials at the beginning of the semester. Think Sociology, Carl, John D., ISBN 9780131754591 (Pearson Prentice Hall)

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVES

This course may be described as an introduction to Sociology as an academic discipline with a distinctive point of view in the study of society and human behavior. The course is based around a lecture method of instruction to achieve the following objectives:

1. To introduce students to the distinctive subject matter of sociology.
2. To enable students to learn fundamental concepts and general principles used in the study of social interaction and human society.
3. To enable students to identify and examine the underlying assumptions related to basic theoretical orientations and methodological approaches in the study of social reality.
4. To encourage students to think critically and to use the Sociological Imagination in the study of the reciprocal relationship between individuals and society.

III. SEMESTER COURSE GRADE

The semester grade will be based upon four components of equal value. Three of these components are exams as formally scheduled in this syllabus. Each exam will consist of both essay and multiple choice or true/false questions. Class activities and exercises make up the fourth component used in the determination of the semester grade. The fourth component will consist of written reviews of audio-visual aids as used in class. Test results will be provided at class meeting following each exam, except the final. Grades on all material contributing to final course grade will be available to students. Semester grades will be based on the following scale:

A = 90 – 100
B = 80 – 89
C = 70 – 79
D = 60 – 69
F = Below a 60 average

IV. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. ATTENDANCE POLICY

SHSU policy is that attendance is mandatory. Attendance is recorded at the beginning of class. Students who arrive once class is underway, or leave early, may be counted absent unless the late arrival/early departure has been negotiated with the professor prior to the class meeting. A student is not only expected to show appropriate cause for both absences and tardiness, but he/she is also expected to initiate action to satisfy all missed class work, whether assigned or not.

2. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action, including dismissal and class failure. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of

academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of recourse materials. For a complete listing of the University policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

3. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the University. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. **This meeting should take place within the first two weeks of the semester.** <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>. SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities.

4. RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911(a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20..." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent him/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the University policy, see: http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

5. VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM

Unannounced visitors to classes must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office. <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

6. CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT

Each student is expected to be fully acquainted and comply with all publishing policies, rules, and regulations of the component, copies of which shall be available to each student for review online and/or at various locations on each campus. Students are also expected to comply with all federal and state laws. The Code of Student Conduct and Discipline is found at the following link: <http://www.shsu.edu/students/guife/dean/codeofconduct.html>

- a. Students are to treat faculty and other students with respect.
- b. Students are not allowed to use cell phones, I-Pods, MP3, etc... They should be stowed and **turned off** during class.
- c. Computers may be used to take notes **ONLY**.

7. INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS

Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form towards the end of the semester.

V. **COURSE OUTLINE/ASSIGNMENTS/TIME SCHEDULE** [The course outline and relative time schedule is tentative and may be subject to revision].

	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Textbook Reference Page(s)</u>
Aug. 25, 27	Sociology	Chapter 1
Sept. 1, 3, 8	Sociological Research	Chapter 2
Sept. 10	TEST #1	
Sept. 14, 17,	Culture	Chapter 3
Sept. 22, 24, 29	Social Structure and Social Interaction	Chapter 4
Oct. 1, 6, 8	Socialization	Chapter 5
Oct. 15.	TEST #2	
Oct. 20, 22	Groups and Societies	Chapter 6
October 27, 29	Social Class in the United States	Chapter 7
Nov. 3, 5, 10	Global Stratification	Chapter 8
	Population and Environmental Impact	Chapter 9
	Race and Ethnic Stratification	Chapter 10
	Gender Stratification	Chapter 11
Nov. 12	TEST #3	
Nov. 17, 19, 24	Aging and Health	Chapter 12
Dec. 1, 3,	Crime and the Legal System	Chapter 13
Dec. 8, 10	Marriage and Family	Chapter 14
	Education and Religion	Chapter 15
	Economy and Politics	Chapter 16

FINAL EXAM (as determined by the University Academic Calendar)