SYLLABUS
SOCG 1013 P01 GENERAL SOCIOLOGY
SOCIOLOGY PROGRAM
DIVISION OF SOCIAL WORK, BEHAVIORAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES
BRAILSFORD COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
SPRING 2010

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REQUIRED TEXT:

RECOMMENDED TEXT: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This is an introduction to the discipline of sociology. The course focuses on why and how sociologists study social and cultural phenomena such as inequality, race and ethnicity, gender, populations, family, political behavior, deviance, and social change.

COURSE GOAL: To provide students from across the University with an introduction to the fundamentals concepts, principles and processes of Sociology.

SPECIFIC COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Upon completion of this course, a student will be able to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aligns with . . .</th>
<th>SOCG Program Goal</th>
<th>Core Curriculum</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Demonstrates knowledge of the reciprocal effect of social institutions on the lives of individuals and groups within society.</td>
<td>Teach 1 and 4</td>
<td>Social and Behavioral</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Develop an awareness of how social institutions shape and constrain individuals’ choices and experiences.</td>
<td>Teach 1 and 4</td>
<td>Social and Behavioral</td>
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<td>3. Analyze and critique social events using sociological concepts and theories.</td>
<td>Teach 1, 4 and Integrate 3</td>
<td>Social and Behavioral</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Employ critical thinking skills to social phenomenon</td>
<td>Teach 1, 4 and Integrate 3</td>
<td>Social and Behavioral</td>
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Program Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of the Sociology Program, students will know how to

1) define and apply basic sociological concepts used in micro and macro sociological theory
2) conduct basic statistical analyses
3) employ methods that social and behavioral scientists
4) examine social institutions and processes across cultures

COURSE EVALUATION METHODS/GRADING:

There will be three exams and other class assignments as discussed below throughout this course. Exams will consist of two components; one section will be multiple choice and will be completed in class; the second will consist of short answers questions and be submitted online. Additional assignments will consist of in-class article analysis and on-line eCourse assignments to capture students’ ability to apply sociological concepts and principles to contemporary phenomena. Class Attendance and participation in class discussions/assignments play a significant role in the grading process.

Grading: Final grades are based on the three exam (100 points each) and the article analyses and eCourse assignments (100 points total) for a total of 400 points. Grades are assigned based on the totals: 360 and above=A, 320 and above=B, 280 and above=C, 240 and above=D, below 240=F.

COURSE PROCEDURES:

eCourse Assignments:
Acceptable eCourse Assignments will be submitted via PVAMU’s eCourse System ONLY; attempting to hand assignments into instructor during class time and after the due date is unacceptable. Assignments should be started in a timely fashion to ensure submission before due date and students should allow for time to contact the IT department, at ext. 2525, if problems with the system are encountered.

Make-up Assignments:
Only students with a legitimate and documented reason for missing scheduled
Assignments/examinations will be allowed to makeup the assignment. Students who cannot complete assignments by the scheduled due date must notify the instructor well in advance. Make-up times will be determined in consultation with the instructor. Failure to take prompt and immediate action in scheduling make-up assignments will result in forfeiture of the right to make up the assignment.

Grade Groveling Policy: Students concerned about their grades should endeavor to attend all class sessions and complete all work to the best of their ability. Students earn high grades, based on demonstrating mastery of the subject matter and not based on what they want or need for their overall GPA. Therefore, no grade groveling will be entertained and no “do-overs” allowed.

Class Attendance and Classroom Conduct:
Regular and punctual class attendance is mandatory. Excessive absences (more than a week’s worth) may lead to a grade reduction or other penalty. Students are expected to come to class having read assigned readings and performed assigned projects. Students are expected to take an active part in class meetings. The best way for students to sharpen their thinking and speaking skills is for them to be actively involved in class discussions. If you should miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain missed materials and assignments from your classmates. Students must avoid any form of class disturbance including talking out of turn, ringing cell phones, talking on cell phones, getting up to leave class to talk on a cell phone and then returning to class and arriving late to class.

Access to Learning Resources:
PVAMU Library: Phone: (936)261-1500; web: http://www.tamu.edu/pvamu/library/
University Bookstore: Phone: (936)261-1990;
web: http://www.bkstr.com/Home/10001-10734-1?demoKey=d

Withdrawal Policy:
Should you decide to drop this course at any time, you must take the initiative yourself. Failure to drop a course because of not passing or excessive absences will result in an “F” grade at the end of the semester. To receive a grade of “W” you must drop the class by April 5.

ADA Statement:
Prairie View A&M University and the TAMU System are dedicated to providing the least restrictive learning environment for all students. PVAMU promotes equity in academic access through the implementation of reasonable accommodations as required by the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which will enable students with disabilities to benefit from post-secondary educational programs, courses and activities.
If you require reasonable accommodations because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please notify the instructor before the end of the first two weeks of class to arrange for reasonable accommodations or register with the Office of Disability Services, Evans 317, ph. 936-261-3581.
UNIVERSITY RULES AND PROCEDURES:

Disability statement (See Student Handbook):
Students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in class should register with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal laws, a student requesting special accommodations must provide documentation of their disability to the SSD coordinator.

Academic misconduct (See Student Handbook):
You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures.

Forms of academic dishonesty:
1. Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.
2. Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.
3. Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.
4. Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else’s words, ideas, or data as one’s own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one’s own work also constitutes plagiarism.

Nonacademic misconduct (See Student Handbook)
The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under nonacademic procedures.

Sexual misconduct (See Student Handbook):
Sexual harassment of students and employers at Prairie View A&M University is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Attendance Policy:
Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance. Excessive absences will result in lowered grades. Excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may result in
a student’s course grade being reduced or in assignment of a grade of “F”. Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class.

Student Academic Appeals Process
Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to students rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the Undergraduate Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR SPRING 2010 SEMESTER

- General Student Assembly with Pres. Wright, Thursday, January 28 in the “Baby Dome.” Classes dismissed at 9:30 am, classes resume at 12:00 pm.
- Last day to drop course(s) without record, Wednesday, February 3.
- Courses dropped for nonpayment, Wednesday, February 3.
- Withdrawal from Courses with “W” begins Thursday, February 4.
- Mid-semester grades due, Tuesday, March 16.
- Graduation application deadline for Fall 2009, Friday, March 26.
- Late Graduation Application Deadline Period for Fall 2009, Mon. – Sat., Mar 29 – Apr 3.
- Last day to withdraw from courses with an automatic “W” ends April 5.
- Priority registration begins for Summer and Fall 2010, Tuesday, April 13.
- Last Day to Withdraw from the University (from all courses), Tuesday, May 4.
- Final grades due for graduating candidates, Wednesday, May 12.
- Commencement, Saturday, May 15.
- Final grades due for all students, Tuesday, May 18.

College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Student & Staff Aspiration Statement

The faculty and staff of the College of Arts and Sciences at PVAMU are committed to providing the best possible quality education to its students. To that end, we will work hard to prepare the
students for success by setting the proper academic environment and background necessary to facilitate learning. In order for us to be successful, there are some basic expectations our students must demonstrate. These expectations are a simple ingredient to foster camaraderie and ‘espirit de corps’ in every class and classroom on campus. Additionally, these are lifelong fundamental learning skills to better prepare students for success in America’s job market.

CAS student expectations:

- You are expected to come to class prepared and on time.
- Higher education is an investment in your future, to that end; you must endeavor to be properly equipped for class. (i.e. School supplies, text, and other supporting materials).
- Resolution of any classroom issues (i.e. Grades, course materials, etc) should begin with the instructor.
- If you must leave early, notify the instructor before the class begins, sit by the door, and exit quietly.
- Be considerate of your fellow classmates; please turn off all phones, pagers and other electronic devices.
- Do not talk to other students during lecture. If you have a question or a comment on the subject being discussed, address it to the instructor directly.
- Walk quietly through the hallways, classes in other rooms may still be in session.
- Please refrain from eating, drinking, sleeping in class, using profanity, and engaging in any form of horseplay in the classroom it is disruptive to your fellow classmates.
- Be respectful, civil, polite and considerate when dealing with you professors as well as your fellow classmates.
- Student attire is based on personal preference and taste. The rule of thumb is simple, if it projects a statement which is offensive to others, then maturity should dictate that it is probably not a good idea to wear in class.
- Enthusiasm is infectious, a smile and positive attitude will go far to motivate and charge your professors and fellow classmates.

Technical Considerations for Online and Web-Assist Courses

Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements:
- Pentium with Windows XP or PowerMac with OS 9
- 56K modem or network access
- Internet provider with SLIP or PPP
- 8X or greater CD-ROM
- 64MB RAM
- Hard drive with 40MB available space
- 15” monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit
- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Netscape Communicator ver. 4.61 or Microsoft Internet Explorer ver. 5.0 /plug-ins
- Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:
  - Sending and receiving email
  - A working knowledge of the Internet
  - Proficiency in Microsoft Word
  - Proficiency in the Acrobat PDF Reader
  - Basic knowledge of Windows or Mac O.S.

Netiquette (online etiquette): students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats when directed to do so. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others in the discussions. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated. When referring to information from books, websites or articles, please use APA standards to reference sources.

Technical Support: Students should call the Prairie View A&M University Helpdesk at 936-261-2525 for technical issues with accessing your online course. The helpdesk is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. For other technical questions regarding your online course, call the Office of Distance Learning at 936-261-3290 or 936-261-3282

Communication Expectations and Standards:
All emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor within 48 hours.

You can send email anytime that is convenient to you, but I check my email messages continuously during the day throughout the work-week (Monday through Friday). I will respond to email messages during the work-week by the close of business (5:00 pm) on the day following my receipt of them. Emails that I receive on Friday will be responded to by the close of business on the following Monday.

Submission of Assignments:
Assignments, Papers, Exercises, and Projects will distributed and submitted through your online course. Directions for accessing your online course will be provided. Additional assistance can be obtained from the Office of Distance Learning.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Assigned Reading:

Week 1: Introduction/Ch 1: Sociological Imagination
(Jan 18)

Week 2: Reading of Elijah Anderson’s, “Code of the Streets”
(Jan 25) Article Analysis

Week 3: Ch 2: Sociological Research
(Feb 1) eCourse Assignment #1
Week 4:   Sociological Research Article (Group) Analyses
          (Feb 8) Exam #1

Week 5:   Ch 3: Culture
          (Feb 15) Ch 4: Socialization

Week 6:   Ch 5: Social Structure and Interaction
          (Feb 22) eCourse Assignment #2

Week 7:   Ch 6: Deviance
          (Mar 1)

Week 8:   Review / Exam #2
          (Mar 8)

Week 9:   Spring Break!!!!
          (Mar 15)

Week 10:  Ch 7: Families
          (Mar 22)

Week 11:  Ch 8: Education and Religion
          (Mar 29)

Week 12:  Ch 9: Government and Economy
          (Apr 5) eCourse #3

Week 13:  Ch 10: Social Class
          (Apr 12)

Week 14:  Article Analyses
          (Apr 19)

Week 15:  eCourse #4
          (Apr 26)

Week 16:  Review
          (May 3)

Week 17:  FINAL Exam Week
          (May 10)