

**SOC 2000-003: Understanding Human Society**  
**Wayne State University**  
**Department of Sociology**  
**Fall 2013**

Mondays and Wednesdays: 3:00p.m. - 4:25p.m. (0134 State Hall)  
Course Instructor: Lisa M. Anabel Stoeckle  
Phone: (313) 577-2930 (Front office)  
E-Mail: et4198@wayne.edu  
Office: #2262 Faculty/Administration Building (FAB)  
Office Hours: Mondays 10:30a.m. - Noon and by appointment

### Required Texts/Material

Henslin, James M. 2012. *Sociology: A Down-to-Earth Approach*. 11<sup>th</sup> Edition. Pearson.  
ISBN: 978-0-205-09654-1

*Please, do not confuse this textbook with “Down to Earth Sociology: Introductory Readings”!!!*  
The textbook is available at the University Bookstore for purchase. It is also available on reserve at the Undergraduate Library (UGL). You may check out the book for 2 hours from the reserve.

### Course Catalogue Description

Analysis of basic sociological concepts and principles to give the student an understanding of the perspective that sociology brings to the study of human society.

### Additional Description

This course is intended to introduce you to the field of sociology. In this class, you will be exposed to the general ideas, concepts, theoretical perspectives, and research methods within the field of sociology. The underlying objective of this course is to help you develop a sociological imagination that will foster an enhanced awareness concerning the effects that social forces have on your lives and the lives of your fellow human beings. Areas of inquiry include social organization and institutional life, processes of socialization, culture, conflict, and social change—just to name a few. This course will stress abstract and critical thinking and to foster such thinking skills the sharing of personal perspectives is encouraged.

Specifically, in this course you will have the opportunity to:

- 1) Develop an understanding of and apply the sociological perspective towards understanding the world in which you live.
- 2) Develop an understanding of the basic elements of the scientific process.
- 3) Develop a “theoretical tool bag” that you can draw from to further understand the observations that you make in the social world.
- 4) Learn about yourself by applying course content to your everyday experiences in the social world.
- 5) Cultivate abstract and critical thinking skills.
- 6) Engage in intellectual discussions with your classmates.
- 7) Work on your reading, writing, and verbal skills.

## Communication

The best way to get in touch with me is via email.

Blackboard is an instrumental part of this course and as such, you are expected to login to Blackboard on a regular basis to gain access to additional course materials, check email, and review announcements. If you have not familiarized yourself with Blackboard yet, please do so immediately, since you will have to take the quizzes on Blackboard.

I will not, under any circumstances, communicate grade information via email or over the phone. Check Blackboard regularly, since your score of every assignment will be posted there.

**Email etiquette:** Students must use their Wayne State University email. I will not respond to any other emails from other accounts (i.e., gmail or yahoo). Emails should follow a professional format, including using punctuation, full sentences, correct spelling and grammar, and capital letters at the beginning of sentences or proper nouns. **Do not email me as if you were sending a text message.** Students must indicate their name and what course they are enrolled in so that I know who is sending the email. I will not engage in discussions of substance via email, particularly if there is a question regarding grades and class issues. It is too easy for emails to be taken out of context and the “tone” and the meaning received may not be what the sender has intended. Students must come to my office during office hours, or schedule an appointment to see me for all grade issues.

## Course Policies

### Attendance and Participation

Students are expected to attend lecture, although it is not required. You do not need permission if you cannot or choose not to attend class at any time. Nevertheless, preparation for class and attendance is directly correlated with success. Therefore, you are expected to participate in class and keep up with the assigned readings. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain class notes and learn the content of the class, by reading the texts and asking your classmates for notes. I will not give out lecture and discussion section notes.

### Academic Dishonesty and Class Conduct

You are required to adhere to university codes of conduct and guidelines throughout this course. In particular, you must be aware of what constitutes plagiarism and cheating. For more details on university guidelines and policies, please check the Student Code of Conduct posted on Blackboard.

## Semester Schedule (Tentative)

Week	Date	Reading	Notes
1	August 28 First day of class	Introduction to Sociology	
2	September 02 University closed (Labor Day)		
	September 04	Chapter 1: The Sociological Perspective	
3	September 09	Chapter 3: Socialization	Syllabus-Quiz [bb] DUE Sep 09, 9a.m.
	September 11 Last day to drop with 100% tuition cancellation	Chapter 4: Social Structure and Social Interaction	Quiz 1 [bb] DUE Sep 13, 6p.m.
4	September 16 September 18	Chapter 2: Culture <b>Mini-Exam 1</b> Chapter 6: Societies and Social Networks	Mini-Exam 1 [in class]
5	September 23 September 25 Last day to drop with no grade reported (no refund)	Chapter 8: Deviance and Social Control Deviance and Social Control II	Quiz 2 [bb] DUE Sep 27, 6p.m.
6	September 30 October 02	Chapter 9: Global Stratification Chapter 10: Social Class in the United States	
7	October 07 October 09 Last day to withdraw	<b>Midterm</b> Chapter 7: Bureaucracy and Formal Organization	Midterm [in class]
8	October 14 October 16	Chapter 19: Medicine and Health Medicine and Health II	Quiz 3 [bb] DUE Oct 18, 6p.m.
9	October 21 October 23	Chapter 5: How Sociologists Do Research How Sociologists Do Research II	
10	October 28 October 30	How Sociologists Do Research III <b>Mini-Exam 2</b> Chapter 20: Population and Urbanization	Mini-Exam 2 [in class]
11	November 04 November 06	Chapter 12: Race and Ethnicity Chapter 11: Sex and Gender	
12	November 11 November 13	Chapter 14: The Economy Chapter 15: Politics	Quiz 4 [bb] DUE Nov 15, 6p.m.
13	November 18 November 20	Chapter 21: Collective Behavior & Social Movements Social Movements II	
14	November 25 November 27 University closed (Thanksgiving)	Chapter 22: Social Change and the Environment	Quiz 5 [bb] DUE Nov 27, 6p.m.
15	December 02 December 04	Chapter 17: Education Chapter 16: Marriage and Family	
16	December 09 Last day of class	Chapter 18: Religion	Quiz 6 [bb] DUE Dec 11, 6p.m.
	FRIDAY, December 13 Final Exams Dec 11 – Dec 17	FINAL EXAM	1:20p.m. – 3:50p.m.

## Course Organization and Requirements

### Quizzes (100 points)

There will be 6 quizzes during the semester, each quiz will be worth a maximum of 20 points. These quizzes will be short and will cover material from lecture and from the readings. They will be made available on Blackboard at 6p.m. on a quiz day for 48 hours and you will have 25 minutes to complete each quiz in one sitting. **A missed quiz may not be made up for any reason.** The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

### Syllabus Quiz (5 points)

There will be an additional quiz about the syllabus available on Blackboard. It is due September 9<sup>th</sup> at 9a.m.

### Mini-Exams (50 points)

There will be two mini-exams in class, both are worth a maximum of 25 points. The first mini-exam will cover sociological theories; the second mini-exam will cover research methods.

### Midterm Exam (75 points)

We will have a midterm exam in class on Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. The midterm exam will cover material from the readings and class that we will have covered up to the exam.

### Final Exam (100 points)

The final exam is scheduled for Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> in class. The final exam will cover all the material from class and from the readings that we will have covered over the semester.

**Exams may only be made up in a case of an extreme emergency.** If you missed any of the exams for that reason, you may take a make-up exam only with valid official documentation to excuse your absence. You must e-mail me explaining the situation no later than 24hrs after the missed exam.

### Grading Key

93-100% A	87-89% B+	77-79% C+	67-69% D+
90-92% A-	83-86% B	73-76% C	63-66% D
	80-82% B-	70-72% C-	60-62% D-
			Below 60% F

GRADING RUBRIC: Your grade is based on a total of 330 points.

### Extra Credit

I will not give extra credit assignments and I do not negotiate grades. Focus your time and energy on the learning opportunities that I have provided you with, instead of hoping to do additional work toward the end of the course. If you follow the course plan, you will not need extra credit opportunities.

### Drops/Withdraws

If you wish to drop this class, you must do so by October 9<sup>th</sup>. After this point, you will be issued a withdrawal grade (WP, WF, or WN). If you fail to withdraw by October 9<sup>th</sup>, and stop attending class, you will receive an "F".

If you wish to challenge your final grade, you must do so through the proper university channels;  
<http://www.cfpc.wayne.edu/files/FinalGradeAppeal.pdf>

### Laptops, Cell Phones, etc.

Please feel free to use your laptop to take notes and otherwise organize course material; however, if I notice you chatting on facebook, watching youtube videos, etc., you must discontinue your use of the computer for the rest of the semester. Technological devices can function as a huge distraction in the classroom. If you have a cell phone, smart or otherwise, keep it in your pocket and on silent (vibrate is not silent).

### Religious Observances

It is Wayne State's policy to respect the faith and religious obligations of students, faculty and staff. Students with exams or classes that conflict with their religious observances should notify me well in advance (at least 2 weeks), so we can work out a mutually agreeable alternative.

### Students with Disabilities

Wayne State University is working to build a community that is inclusive and welcoming to all people, including those with disabilities. If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Student Disability Services (SDS) office is located at 5155 Gullen Mall in the Undergraduate Library. SDS telephone number is [313-577-1851](tel:313-577-1851). Once you have your accommodations in place, I will be glad to meet with you privately during my office hours to discuss your special needs. Please do not request accommodations directly from me without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services;

<http://studentdisability.wayne.edu/>

### Support Services

- Academic Success Center; <http://success.wayne.edu/>
- Academic Advisor for Sociology  
Stacie Moser, #2245 FAB  
(313) 577-2355  
[Stacie.moser@wayne.edu](mailto:Stacie.moser@wayne.edu)
- Wayne State Writing Center, located in the UGL, #2310; <http://clasweb.clas.wayne.edu/writing>
- Counseling and Psychological Services, located in the Student Center Building, #552;  
<http://caps.wayne.edu/>

Have a great semester and work hard!