

## **WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY**

Sociology 2000-942      Fall 2015

Lakeview High School – Room 104

Mondays & Wednesdays, 1:10pm-2:35pm

Professor:             Dr. Charlotte Winston  
Office Hours:         By Appointment  
Office Phone:         313-577-2930  
Email:                  [cwinston@wayne.edu](mailto:cwinston@wayne.edu) (the best way to contact me)

**Required Text:** Tim Curry, et al. Sociology for the twenty-first century, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Pearson

\*Additional readings will be made available on Blackboard (Bb).

### **Course Description:**

This course is designed to introduce students to the sociological approach to understanding human behavior. The course will focus on how society functions and is organized, and how society impacts and influences individual motivation, understanding, action, and well-being. Students will examine basic sociological principals, concepts, and theories, in describing human culture, societies, the socialization process, crime and deviance, and various types of stratification. Stressing critical thinking skills, this course is designed to help students develop a “sociological imagination” or the ability to understand human lives as shaped by historically-conditioned social forces.

### **Course Objectives:**

In Sociology 2000 you will:

- ✓ Identify core principles in sociology
- ✓ Analyze social phenomena, as sociologist do, using the “sociological imagination.”
- ✓ Identify the variety of ways that sociologist, as social scientists, study the social world.
- ✓ Display critical thinking skills.
- ✓ Engage in intellectual discussions with your classmates.

### **Important Dates:**

Labor Day – No Class:                             Monday, September 7  
Early Assessment (mid-term):                   Wednesday, September 16 - Tuesday, October 20  
Thanksgiving Holiday – No Class:             Wednesday, November 25  
Classes end:                                         Monday, December 14

### **Attendance Policy:**

**Regular class attendance and participation is required.** Students will sign in at every class session. Attendance is very important and excessive absences, tardiness, and leaving class early will be reflected in your final course grade. If you are absent, you must provide proof of a verifiable emergency (e.g., sickness, death, court, etc.). In the case of an absence, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and get a copy of the lecture notes. I will not provide students with lecture notes nor will I reiterate lectures for individual students. Attendance/participation points are granted on the following basis:

0-2	Absences	20 points
3	Absences	10 points
>3	Absences	0 points

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus if it becomes necessary. If changes are necessary, students will be notified immediately in class or via e-mail.

Please remember that you are responsible for meeting all of your academic obligations, even if you are engaged in school sponsored activities, e.g. athletics, senior activities, field trips, etc. There are no excused absences for such activities. In the case of a scheduling conflict between two classes, you should make appropriate arrangements with me and your other instructor, being mindful that a regularly scheduled class has higher priority.

### **Religious Holidays:**

Because of the extraordinary variety of religious affiliations of the University student body and staff, the Academic Calendar makes no provisions for religious holidays. However, it is University policy to respect the faith and religious obligations of the individual. Students with classes or examinations that conflict with their religious observances are expected to notify their instructors well in advance so that mutually agreeable alternatives may be worked out.

### **Student Conduct:**

The success of this class depends largely on the students making class participation imperative. All expressions of ideas are welcome assuming that these expressions are not uncivil to your classmates. Harassment of any nature will not be tolerated. Students are also expected to maintain academic integrity. Cheating of any sort may result in failure of this course. For additional information on academic integrity and related issues, refer to the Student Conduct Services homepage (<http://www.doso.wayne.edu/student-conduct/index.html>). The student code of conduct is also available on Blackboard for you to review. Remember, ignorance is not a viable defense against allegations of student conduct violations.

### **FERPA & SDS:**

**FERPA:** Per the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), college personnel are not allowed to release students' personal information to anyone, including parents and other students. I will not discuss grades over the phone or e-mail.

**SDS:** If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services (SDS) for coordination of your academic accommodations. The SDS office is located at 1600 David Adamany Undergraduate Library in the Student Academic Success Services department, or you can call 313-577-1851 or 313-577-3365 (TDD only).

### **E-Mail:**

I check email daily during the week, and will almost always respond within 24-hours. I don't usually check email on the weekend. Email works best for procedural questions (scheduling an appointment, etc.); detailed questions about course material are usually easier to clarify in class or by appointment.

**NOTE:** College is a professional setting; therefore, you are expected to interact in a professional manner, this includes using proper e-mail etiquette. Go to the advising blog listed below to review "Email etiquette: How to email a professor." If your email is not properly constructed it will not be addressed.

[blogs.umass.edu/ppls/2013/09/09/email-etiquette-how-to-email-a-professor/](http://blogs.umass.edu/ppls/2013/09/09/email-etiquette-how-to-email-a-professor/)

### **Additional Policies:**

- **NO LATE, EMAILED, OR PARTIAL ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED – NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**
- **The use of cell phones or electronic media during class time is strictly prohibited.** Students are asked to put their cell phones on vibrate or turn them off.
- **Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.**
- **The use of profanity is not allowed.**

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### **Exams:**

Students taking this course will be tested over material derived from the text, articles, film/videos, lecture, and class discussions. Reading and note-taking is REQUIRED for this course. Reading chapters before the start of class gives you the opportunity to critically analyze the material and prepare questions for further explanation and discussion during lectures.

There will be 3 unit exams given for this course. Exam questions will be taken from lectures, handouts, and videos. The exams will consist of multiple-choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer questions.

Makeup exams will be given only when students have a medical or other verifiable emergency that prevent them from completing the exam at the regular time. If an emergency should occur, it should be discussed with the professor within 1-week of the scheduled exam date (before or after). Any student requesting to make up an exam MUST provide verification at the time of the request.

### **Students must have a scantron and pencil for each exam.**

### **Reading Quiz:**

Reading quizzes will be given at the end of lectures 1-6, and 15. Students will be randomly assigned to a small group for the purpose of discussing and answering quiz questions. Anyone who arrives after the start of the quiz will not be able to take the quiz and will receive a zero. There are no makeups for missed quizzes. Each quiz is worth 5-points each, for a total of 35 points.

**Presentation:** At the end of the semester, see date below, students will create a 10-minute presentation based on findings from a scholarly research article. Further details for this assignment will be provided on 9/30/15.

**Incomplete (I):** There are no incompletes given for this class. All work must be turned in at the assigned time. Non-attendance will not result in an automatic drop from the course.

### **Grading:**

<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>Achievable Points</b>
Exam #1:	90
Exam #2:	95
Exam #3:	100
Reading quiz: (7) @ 5 pts ea.	35
Video Questions: (2) @ 10 pts ea.	20
Presentation:	40
Attendance/Participation	20
<b>Total Points Possible</b>	<b>400</b>

<b>GRADE SCALE</b>		
A	378-400	95-100%
A-	358-377	90-94
B+	342-357	86-89
B	330-341	83-85
B-	318-329	80-82
C+	302-317	76-79
C	290-301	73-75
C-	278-289	70-72
D+	262-277	66-69
D	250-261	63-65
D-	238-249	60-62
F	237 or less	59-below

## SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

SEPTEMBER	ASSIGNMENT	MISC.
2	WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, ICE BREAKER	
7	No Class – Labor Day	
9	CHAPTER 1: What is Sociology?	
14	CHAPTER 1 QUIZ	
16	CHAPTER 2: Sociological Research Methods	
21	CHAPTER 2 QUIZ	Video clip: Allie Baker
23	CHAPTER 3: Culture, Society, and Social Change	In class exercise
28	CHAPTER 3 QUIZ	
30	EXAM 1	
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
5	Article search/Return exam 1	Presentation instructions
7	CHAPTER 4: Socialization	
12	CHAPTER 4 QUIZ	
14	CHAPTER 5: Deviance & Crime	
19	CHAPTER 5 QUIZ	
21	CHAPTER 6: Interaction, Groups, and Organizations	
26	CHAPTER 6 QUIZ	
28	EXAM 2	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
2	Review Literature/Return Exam 2	
4	VIDEO	Sick around the world (1)
9	CHAPTER 15: Medicine and Health Care	Readings on Bb
11	CHAPTER 15 QUIZ	Video questions due (1)
16	CHAPTER 7: Inequalities of Social Class	

18	CHAPTER 7	
23	VIDEO	Race: The power of an illusion (2)
25	No Class - Thanksgiving Holiday	
30	CHAPTER 8: Inequalities of Race & Ethnicity	
<b>DECEMBER</b>		
2	CHAPTER 8	Video questions due (2)
7	CHAPTER 9: Inequalities of Gender	
9	PRESENTATIONS	
14	EXAM 3	

### GROUND RULES FOR CLASS DISCUSSION

I am distributing these ground rules to help guide all class discussions. Everyone in this class has an individual social location and a personal perspective to go along with that location. To facilitate class discussion, I encourage you to think about how everyone's perspective is shaped by his or her social location. I would like each of you to think in terms of the relationship between society and the individual when contributing to class discussions, or in other words, adhere to a sociological imagination. Please adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Recognize that the various axes of our social location – our gender, race, class, sexuality, age, etc. – accord us different amounts of power and prestige in society.
2. Acknowledge that sexism, racism, classism, heterosexism and other forms of institutionalized oppression exist.
3. Acknowledge that we are all systematically taught misinformation about our own group and about members of other groups. This is true for members of privileged and oppressed groups.
4. Agree not to blame ourselves or others for the misinformation we have learned, but accept responsibility for not repeating misinformation after we have learned otherwise.
5. Agree not to blame victims for the conditions of their lives.
6. Assume that people--both the people we study and the members of this class--always do the best they can.
7. Actively pursue information about our own groups and those of others.
8. Share information about our own groups with other members of the class and never demean, devalue, or in any way put down people for their experiences.
9. Agree to combat actively the myths and stereotypes about our own groups and other groups so that we can break down the walls which prohibit group cooperation and group gain.
10. Create a safe atmosphere for open discussion. If members of the class wish to make comments that they do not want repeated outside the classroom, they can preface their remarks with a request that the class agree not to repeat their remarks.

\*Adapted from the following source:

Weber, Lynn. "Ground Rules for Course Discussion." *Women's Quarterly* 18 (Spring/Summer 1990): 126-134.

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