

## SOC 2000 Section 010 Understanding Human Society

M/W 8am-925am  
Classroom: 0106 State Hall

Instructor: Jenny Lendrum  
Email: jenny.lendrum@wayne.edu  
Office: #2262 Faculty Administration Building (FAB)  
Office Hours: Wednesdays 10am-11am and by appointment

### Course Description

This course is intended to introduce you to the field of sociology and ‘the sociological imagination’ and help you apply that perspective to your everyday lives and communicate those insights to others. 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 will encourage the sharing of personal perspectives. This course emphasizes active learning and knowledge application. To meet these goals, you will complete quizzes, identify and analyze examples of the concepts and perspectives we are learning about, and collaborate in robust class discussions.

### Required Text

Henslin, James (2012) *Sociology: A Down to Earth Approach*. Boston, MA. Pearson. \*

\* Any edition between 9<sup>th</sup> ed. - 12<sup>th</sup> ed. can be used for class. In an effort to save costs, please consider renting or buying used or electronic copies of the text.

### Learning Outcomes

The discipline of sociology and its role in contributing to our understanding of social reality, such that the student will be able to: (a) describe how sociology differs from and is similar to other social sciences and to give examples of these differences; (b) describe how sociology contributes to a liberal arts understanding of social reality; and (c) apply the sociological imagination, sociological principles, and concepts to her/his own life.

Additionally:

- To have a basic understanding of the foundational theorists and their theories.
- To have a brief overview of some contemporary sociological theories and theorists that explains human behavior.
- To be able to look at social phenomenon and apply multiple theories to explain what is happening.
- To reflect on how our personal lives have been shaped by social forces and institutions.
- To open your mind and see society in a different way.

## Course Organization and Requirements

---

### In-Class Group Work

We will regularly do in-class group work. Working together helps to solidify concepts discussed in the text and in class.

### Quizzes (100 points)

There will be 5 quizzes during the semester; each quiz will be worth 20 points. The quizzes will be short and will cover material from the lectures and readings as well as concepts/applications discussed during group work. They will be made available on Blackboard; you will have 30 minutes to complete each quiz in one sitting. **A missed quiz may not be made up for any reason.**

### Midterm Exam (75 points)

The midterm exam will cover material from the readings, lectures and group work/discussions that we will have covered up to the mid-term exam.

### Final Exam (150 points)

The final exam will cover material from the readings, lectures and group work/discussions that we will have covered from the mid-term through the end of the semester.

**\*\* Exams may only be made up in a case of an extreme emergency.** If you miss an exam 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. If, prior to the exam, you know you will miss an exam (medical or work related), email me prior to the exam.

### Current Events/Theory Paper (100 points)

A 5-7 page current events paper applying a theoretical framework. The topic must be approved by the instructor no later than February 18. Approval must be requested in writing (email only). The paper will be due March 11 in class. Late papers will automatically receive a 25 point deduction. Paper will not be accepted after March 14. Details/rubric regarding the paper will follow.

### Group Presentations (75 points)

Groups of 2-4 students will sign up for weekly presentations of 12-15 minutes. An individual 1-page memo for each group member will be due the day you present (in class, in writing). Details/rubric regarding the presentations will follow.

**\*\* GRADING RUBRIC:** Your grade is based on a total of 500 points.\*\*

### Grading Key

---

#### Grading Scale

93-100% A	87-89.9% B+	77-79.9% C+	67-69.9% D+
90-92.9% A-	83-86.9% B	73-76.9% C	63-66.9% D
	80-82.9% B-	70-72.9% C-	60-62.9% D-
			Below 60% F

## Course Policies

---

### Communication

The best way to get in touch with me is via email. Please include the course number (SOC 2000) in the subject line of the e-mail. You are responsible for contacting the instructor in adequate advance to permit time for the completion of time-sensitive tasks, such as assigned readings and assessments. I encourage you to use office hours to discuss course concepts, to answer questions or discuss concerns. Additionally, keep in mind 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.

### Attendance and Participation

Students are expected to attend class and lectures, 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 should expect 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 do 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. Specifically, please note the following:

Plagiarism: To take and use another's words or ideas as one's own. Examples include: (a) failure to use appropriate referencing when using the words or ideas of other persons; (b) altering the language, paraphrasing, omitting, rearranging, or forming new combinations of words in an attempt to make the thoughts of another appear as your own.

### 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/>

### Technology

Feel free to utilize your laptop to take notes and otherwise organize course material; however, if I notice any non-class related activities (chatting on facebook, watching youtube videos, etc.), you will be asked to discontinue your use of the computer for the rest of the semester. Phones are to be kept off the desks and laps and out of sight. Technological devices can function as a huge distraction in the classroom.

### Late Policy

Make every attempt to arrive to class on time. If, however, you are held up, be mindful of your entrance into the classroom as it can be highly distracting to your classmates.

### Syllabus

The syllabus is tentative and may be subject to instructor changes.

### Class Readings

---

- Chapter 1: The Sociological Perspective
- Chapter 3: Socialization
- Chapter 4: Social Structure and Social Interaction
- Chapter 2: Culture
- Chapter 6: Societies and Social Networks
- Chapter 8: Deviance and Social Control
- Chapter 9: Global Stratification
- Chapter 10: Social Class in the United States
- Chapter 19: Medicine and Health
- Chapter 5: How Sociologists Do Research
- Chapter 21: Collective Behavior & Social Movements
- Chapter 22: Social Change and the Environment
- Chapter 11: Sex and Gender
- Chapter 12: Race and Ethnicity
- Chapter 16: Marriage and Family

**Semester Schedule (*Schedule is tentative and subject to change*)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Notes</b>
1	January 12 1st day of class	Welcome!	
	January 14		
2	January 19 University closed	NO CLASS	MLK Day
	January 21		
3	January 26		Last day (Jan 26 <sup>th</sup> ) to drop with 100% tuition cancellation
	January 28	Quiz #1 [bb] DUE Jan 31, 6:00pm Group #1 presentation	
4	February 2		
	February 4	Group #2 presentation	Last week to drop (Jan 27 <sup>th</sup> -Feb 8 <sup>th</sup> ) with no grade reported (no refund)
5	February 9		
	February 11	Group #3 presentation	
6	February 16		
	February 18	Quiz #2 [bb] DUE Feb 21, 6:00pm Group #4 presentation	Current Events/Theory paper <u>approval</u> due Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>
7	February 23		
	February 25	Group #5 presentation	
8	March 2	Midterm [in class]	
	March 4	Group #6 presentation	
9	March 9		
	March 11	Quiz #3 [bb] DUE Mar 14, 6:00pm	Current Events/Theory <u>paper</u> due Mar 11 <sup>th</sup>
10	March 16-21 No classes😊	NO CLASSES	SPRING BREAK
11	March 23		
	March 25	Group #7 presentation	Last day to withdraw (Mar 29 <sup>th</sup> )
12	March 30		
	April 1	Quiz #4 [bb] DUE Apr 4, 6:00pm Group #8 presentation	
13	April 6		
	April 8	Group #9 presentation	
14	April 13		
	April 15	Group #10 presentation	
15	April 20		
	April 22	Quiz #5 [bb] DUE Apr 25, 6:00pm	
16	April 27	NO CLASS	Self-Study
	April 29	FINAL EXAM	8:00am – 10:30am