SOCIOLOGY 1
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Instructor: Professor Smith
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Office Hours: Mondays, 4:00-6:00pm, 468 Barrows
Online office hours sign-up: https://www.wejoinin.com/sheets/vjrc0

Course Objectives:
Sociology is the study of the social — social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human thinking and behavior. The primary objective of this course is to awaken students’ sociological imagination — to get students beyond the individual when trying to understand and explain human behavior — by helping them to see how social forces affect human thinking and behaviors in multiple and complex ways. Because sociology is a social science, we will also consider the diverse set of research methods that yield important sociological insights.

Course Requirements:
Final grades will be determined as follows:

30% Two Analytic Papers (worth 15% each). In 750-1000 words (roughly 3-4 pages in length), students will be expected to respond to prompts about key concepts and theories. Prompts will give students an opportunity to both showcase the depth of their understanding of concepts and theoretical arguments but also to apply their new-found knowledge to real world situations. Important note: Please organize your time wisely as late papers will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Plagiarism is a very serious offense and will be treated as such. Any student suspected of passing someone else’s work off as their own will be investigated thoroughly and, if necessary, will be reported to the Office of Student Affairs for disposition. For more information about what plagiarism is and how to avoid it, please visit the following website: http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/instruct/guides/citations.html#Plagiarism

25% Midterm Examination. The midterm exam will cover material reviewed from the beginning of the semester until week six. The midterm will be administered over two class meetings — October 9th and October 11th. The exam will combine multiple choice, short, and long answer essay questions. One week before the midterm, students will be given a study guide to aid the process of preparing for the midterm.

30% Final Examination. The final exam, which will cover material reviewed from the midterm forward, will be held on Friday, December 20th, 7-10pm. The exam will combine multiple choice, short, and long answer essay questions. Two weeks before the final, students will be given a study guide to aid the process of preparing for the final exam.

15% Attendance and Participation. Attendance and participation in discussion sections are mandatory. Students’ final grades will reflect the extent and nature of their engagement in twice-weekly discussion section meetings. During discussion sections, GSIs will
review lectures and assigned readings and use a variety of other activities, including section-specific assignments, to help students understand the materials from the course as well as how to apply related concepts and theories. GSIs also hold their own office hours. If students are having difficulty understanding the material and/or completing assignments for any reason, they should seek help from their GSI immediately.

**Reading Materials:**
Students will find all of the assigned readings on the course’s bCourses page. Five books, however, are available for purchase at the University Bookstore. Because assignments from these texts are significantly longer, students might prefer to purchase them instead of accessing electronic copies on bCourses.


**Course Outline and Readings:**

**The Sociological Imagination**

**Week 1: August 28th & 30th**

Introduction


**The Individual & Society**

**Week 2: September 4th & 6th**

Seeing and Thinking Sociologically

Emile Durkheim, *Suicide: A Study in Sociology*, edited by George Simpson. New York: Free Press, 1951. Read the following:

- Introduction: pp. 41-53
• Book 2: pp. 145-151; 152-170; 208-216; 217-228; 241-258
• Book 3: pp. 297-300

**WEEK 3: SEPTEMBER 9TH (NO CLASS MEETINGS ON 9/11 & 9/13)**

*Seeing and Thinking Sociologically*

Durkheim, cont’d.

*First paper prompt distributed: 9/9*

**WEEK 4: SEPTEMBER 16TH, 18TH & 20TH**

*The Influence of Social Structure on Our Everyday Lives*


*First paper due: 9/16*

**WEEK 5: SEPTEMBER 23RD, 25TH & 27TH**

*How Individuals Structure Society*


**INEQUALITY: CLASS, RACE, & GENDER**

**WEEK 6: SEPTEMBER 30TH, OCTOBER 2ND & 4TH**

*Theories of Stratification*

Karl Marx, “Classes in Capitalism and Pre-Capitalism.”
Max Weber, “Class, Status, Party.”

**WEEK 7: OCTOBER 9TH & 11TH**

*In-Class Midterm Examination*

**WEEK 8: OCTOBER 14TH, 16TH & 18TH**

*Functionalist and Conflict Theories of Stratification*

**Week 9: October 21st, 23rd & 25th**  
**Structuring Inequality**


**Week 10: October 28th, 30th & Nov 1st**  
**The Social Construction of Race & Ethnicity**

Watch: *Race: The Power of an Illusion* (DVD 3046)  

And Read One of the Following (You Choose):


**Week 11: Nov 4th, 6th & 8th**  
**The Continuing Significance of Race**


Second paper prompt distributed: 11/8

**Week 12: Nov 13th & 15th (No class 11/11: Veteran’s Day)**  
**The Social Construction of Gender**


Second paper due: 11/13

**Week 13: Nov 18th, 20th & 22nd**  
**The Continuing Significance of Gender**


**Week 14: Nov 25th (No classes on 11/27 & 11/29: Thanksgiving Break)**
THE CONTINUING SIGNIFICANCE OF GENDER

Wrap-up Lecture on Gender

ON BEING A SOCIOLOGIST

WEEK 15: DEC 2ND, 4TH & 6TH
SOCIOLOGY’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORLD


WEEK 16: DEC 9TH, 11TH & 13TH
READING, REVIEW, AND RECITATION

WEEK 17: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, 7PM-10PM
SOCIOLOGY 1 FINAL EXAM