

*Subject to change. I reserve full right to amend, alter, and otherwise change this syllabus at any time.*

**Spring 2017**  
**SYG 2000 - Introduction to Sociology**  
**Instructor: Ana Rusch**

Class meets: Online  
Email: ARusc001@fiu.edu  
Office hours: By Appointment

*“There is no gender identity behind the expressions of gender...  
identity is performatively constituted by the very 'expressions'  
that are said to be its results”--- Judith Butler*

*“There's really no such thing as the 'voiceless'. There are only  
the deliberately silenced, or the preferably unheard”---  
Arundhati Roy*

*“Maybe the target nowadays is not to discover what we are but  
to refuse what we are.”--- Michel Foucault*

This exciting course introduces sociological perspectives and methods, and the sociological study of issues such as socialization, gender, race/ethnicity, social class, and global inequality. We will review and examine the contributions of sociology thought and theory in a global perspective. We will begin by exploring foundational concepts and current debates surrounding issues such as inequality, gender, sexuality, race, space, and identity. This class is an introduction to the main concepts of sociology and how they intersect with current real world experiences. We will explore issues such as the relationship between the global north and south; what is society and how it differs from culture; and how racial, sexual, and gender identifications are created. This is a hands on class that will explore sociology theories and methods in an exciting and interactive way.

**Key Required Readings:**

**Name: Essentials of Sociology REVEL ACCESS, by James Henslin**

Edition: 12<sup>TH</sup>

ISBN: 9780134253381

Publisher: PEARSON

Language: English

**Required**

**Name: Social Things: An Introduction to the Sociological Life**

Paperback: 264 pages

Publisher: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers; 5th Edition Edition (August 5, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442211628

ISBN-13: 978-1442211629

**Optional**

## ***Course Requirements***

### **Grading Scale:**

<b>Letter</b>	<b>Range (%)</b>	<b>Letter</b>	<b>Range (%)</b>	<b>Letter</b>	<b>Range (%)</b>
A	95 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 - 76
A-	90 - 94	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69
B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	59 or less

**1) Class Participation and Attendance:** This online course IS your classroom and you must regularly login to submit your Discussions, Exams, check for updates, new announcements, and/or communicate with the professor or your classmates.

**2) Weekly Discussion Board (15%):** Each student is expected to post a summary of the week's assigned readings. The posts should be insightful and demonstrate your understanding of the readings. You should talk about what the chapter is about and relate it to other chapters, current events, and/or wider theories. Please avoid using too many quotes. The minimum word count is 350, please make sure to write your word count on your post, points will be deducted if less than 350. Each post is due on that week's Sunday by 11:59pm.

**3) Final Paper (20%):** This is the moment where you will show your ability to critically engage with the course's topics. You will pick a current event or global issue then critically analyze it using a minimum of three chapters. Each paper should be 1200-1500 words in length. All copies of your final paper will be submitted to the instructor electronically, by 11:55PM on the due date to the Turnitin component on Blackboard.

**5) Midterm (30%) & Final Exam (30%):** The exams are based on the required reading materials.

**\*DEADLINES:** You are given the due dates beforehand; this means you are responsible for making appropriate accommodations. The due dates will not be extended for any reason.

- Discussion Board Participation – 15%
- Midterm Exam – 30%
- Final Paper – 20%
- Final Exam – 35%

## Course Policies

*Readings/Assignments:* Success in this course requires familiarity with the textbook. The professor will not cover all material in the text, because the student is responsible for reading the text and posing questions.

**Be respectful.** The topic of this class is inherently personal. Thus, there will be diversity of opinions within the discussion boards, this does not mean that you have to agree with everything being said or read. You must, however, be respectful and courteous of each other's opinions. This should be a safe space to learn and grow as academics so you must be respectful to one another.

**Submit original work.** Plagiarism is a serious offense. If you use the work of other authors without giving them credit you will receive a '0' and be reported to Academic Affairs.

**Review** and follow the course calendar.

**Expect emails from the professor** regarding assignments and/or schedule changes. (The professor reserves the right to modify the syllabus.)

*Exams:* There will be **no make-ups or extension of deadline** given in this course.

*Class communications:* Communications will be by use of your Blackboard course messages.

*Academic Integrity:* Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will result in a failing grade of the course and/or expulsion from the university itself. See the university's policy on academic misconduct at [https://ugrad.fiu.edu/academic\\_misconduct](https://ugrad.fiu.edu/academic_misconduct) .

*Accommodations:* Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations must first contact the Disability Resource Center. The DRC will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Please come see me as soon as possible regarding this matter.

**I do not allow the use of recording devices in my classroom at any time. Voice or video recording of the lectures is prohibited.**

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## Course Schedule

### **Week 1: What is Sociology and the Sociological Perspective? (01/09-01/15)**

- Students' Introduction
- Review the Academic Honesty Policy
- Read the Course Syllabus

### **Week 2: Culture (01/16-01/22)**

- Discussion 1 Due by Sunday 11:59pm

### **Week 3: Socialization (01/23-01/29)**

- Discussion 2 Due by Sunday 11:59pm

### **Week 4: Social Structure and Social Interaction (01/30-02/05)**

- Discussion 3 Due by Sunday 11:59pm

### **Week 5: Social Groups and Formal Organizations (02/06-02/12)**

- Discussion 4 Due by Sunday 11:59pm

### **Week 6: Deviance and Social Control (02/13- 02/19)**

- Discussion 5 Due by Sunday 11:59pm
- January 16 Monday
  - Martin Luther King Holiday (University Closed)

### **Week 7: Global Stratification (02/20-02/26)**

- Discussion 6 Due by Sunday 11:59pm

### **Week 8: Midterm Week (02/27-03/05)**

- Midterm Exam opens Friday, March. 3rd, 12:00am, closes Sunday March 5th, 11:59pm. **No Makeup Exams or Extensions will be given**

### **Week 9: Social Class in the United States (03/06-03/12)**

- Discussion 7 Due by Sunday 11:59pm

### **Week 10: Spring Break (03/13-03/19)**

- Spring Break (University Open, No Classes)

**Week 11: Race and Ethnicity and Gender and Age (03/20-03/26)**

- Discussion 8 AND Discussion 9 Due by Sunday 11:59pm

**Week 12: Politics and Economy (03/27-04/02)**

- Discussion 10 Due by Sunday 11:59pm
- Submission of Term papers due by Sunday, April 02, 11:59pm.
- **No extensions will be given.**

**Week 13: Marriage and Family AND Education and Religion (04/03-04/09)**

- Discussion 11 AND Discussion 12 Due by Sunday 11:59pm

**Week 14: Population and Urbanization (04/10-04/16)**

- Discussion 13 Due by Sunday 11:59pm

**Week 15: Population and Urbanization (04/17-04/23)**

- Discussion 14 Due by Sunday 11:59pm

**Week 16: Finals Week (04/24-04/27)**

- Final Exam open Monday, April. 24<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 11:59pm  
**No Makeup Exams or Extensions will be given.**