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CALENDAR

GENERAL INFORMATION

Professor Information



Instructor:

Professor Ana Rusch

Office Hours: By Appointment

E-mail: Please use Canvas Course Messages

“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

Course Description and Purpose

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.

Course Objectives

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Policies

Please review the [FIU's Policies](#) webpage. The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses.

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.

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. You will not be tested on the information in the optional book will but it will be useful to better understand the context of this course.
- **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 announcements from the professor** regarding assignments and/or schedule changes. (The professor reserves the right to modify the syllabus.)

Technical Requirements & Skills

One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently, and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course; but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency using a computer. Please go to the "[What's Required](#)" webpage to find out more information on this subject.

Please visit our [Technical Requirements](#) webpage for additional information.

Accessibility And Accommodation

The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

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.

Please visit our [ADA Compliance](#) webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course.

Please visit [Blackboard's Commitment Accessibility](#) webpage for more information.

For additional assistance please contact FIU's [Disability Resource Center](#).

Academic Misconduct Statement

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Academic Misconduct includes: **Cheating** – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not. **Plagiarism** – The use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is responsible for plagiarism.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will result in a failing grade of the course and/or expulsion from the university itself.

Learn more about the [academic integrity policies and procedures](#) as well as [student resources](#) that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution Civility Statement

"FIU prides itself as a community of diverse backgrounds: ethnic, racial, religious, cultural, social, political, economic, gender, sexual orientation, age, and ability. The University encourages, supports and appreciates these differences, and discourages all forms of prejudice, bias, bigotry, discrimination, and intimidation in the process of learning.

Civility is an essential component of the core values of FIU and that includes classroom behavior, whether in-person or online. FIU believes in fostering a supportive, safe, and caring environment conducive to learning. When both faculty and students model civility in the classroom, it contributes to the growth of individuals and their role as concerned and enlightened global citizens. All opinions and experiences, despite how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. Students are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an *idea*, but never to attack an *individual*.

Please consider that sarcasm and humor can be misconstrued in online interactions as well as in-person ones, and generate unintended disruptions. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course ambiance. Students are discouraged from checking text messages, social media, playing games on a computer/phone, or carrying on conversations while the instructor is lecturing or a classmate is presenting.

This statement is provided as part of FIU's Civility Initiative, for more information visit the Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution website at conduct.fiu.edu"

Textbook



REVEL for Essentials of Sociology -- Access Card (Required)

James M. Henslin

Pearson, 12nd Edition, 2016

ISBN-10: 0134253388

ISBN-13: 9780134253381

You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](http://fiu bookstore).



Social Things: An Introduction to the Sociological Life (Optional)

Charles Lemert

Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 5th Edition, 2011

ISBN-10: 1442211628

ISBN-13: 978-1442211629

You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](#).

Expectations of This Course

This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

Students are expected to:

- **Review the how to get started information** located in the course content
- **Introduce yourself to the class** during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion forum
- **Take the practice quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with Blackboard
- online with instructor/s and peers
- and follow the course calendar
- Log in to the course **at least three times** per week
- Respond to discussion boards, blogs, and journal postings **within the due date so please pay close attention to when each assignment is due by**
- Respond to **emails** within **48 hours**
- Submit assignments by the corresponding deadline

The instructor and the TA will:

- Log in to the course **twice each day Monday-Friday** per week
- Respond to discussion boards, blogs, and journal postings within **48 hours**
- Respond to **emails** within **48 hours**
- Grade assignments within **a week** of the assignment deadline

COURSE DETAIL

Course Communication

Communication in this course will take place via **course email**

The Email feature is an external communication tool that allows users to send emails to users enrolled within the course. Emails are sent to the students' FIU email on record. The Email tool is located on the Course Menu, on the left side of the course webpage.

Visit our [Writing Resources webpage](#) for more information on professional writing and technical communication skills.

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.

Discussion Forums

Keep in mind that your discussion forum postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post.

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 and/or if word count is not written in the post. Each post is due on that week's Sunday by 11:59pm.

Assessments

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "Practice Quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum hardware requirements.

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you need further assistance please contact [FIU Online Support Services](#).

This course will have a final exam. The exams are based on the required reading materials. There will be **no make-ups or extension of deadline** given in this course.

Final Paper

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. I do not want a summary of the issue or movie nor do I want your opinion on the topic as it is not an opinion paper. Instead, you are expected to analyze your chosen topic through a Sociological lens using the class material. 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.

Grading

Course Requirements	Points for Each	Weight
Discussion/Participation	100	20%
Term Paper	100	25%
Final Exam	100	55%

Date	Topic and Readings	Tasks
<p>Week 1 June 18 – June 24</p>	<p>Topic: What is Sociology and the Sociological Perspective?</p> <p>Topic: Culture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the Academic Honesty Policy Discussions due by Sunday, June 24 by 11:59PM
<p>Week 2 June 25 – July 1</p>	<p>Topic: Socialization</p> <p>Topic: Social Structure and Social Interaction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions due by Sunday, July 1 by 11:59PM
<p>Week 3 July 2 - 8</p>	<p>Topic: Social Groups and Formal Organizations</p> <p>Topic: Deviance and Social Control</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions due by Sunday, July 8 by 11:59PM
<p>Week 4 July 9 - 15</p>	<p>Topic: Global Stratification</p> <p>Topic: Social Class in the United States</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions due by Sunday, July 15 by 11:59PM Final Paper: due Sunday, July 15 by 11:59PM No extensions will be given.
<p>Week 5 July 16- July 22</p>	<p>Topic: Race and Ethnicity</p> <p>Topic: Gender and Age</p> <p>Topic: Politics and Economy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions due by Sunday, July 22 by 11:59PM
<p>Week 6 July 22 - 27</p>	<p>Final Exam</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Exam: available Sunday, July 22 12:00AM through Wednesday July 25, 11:59PM (No Makeup Exams or Extensions will be given)

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