

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

SYG 2000 - U07 1231

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2023

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<https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/162507>

Course Description and Purpose

This course offers an introduction to sociology as a way of understanding complex social, political, and economic phenomena in the world. Sociology is a field of study that focuses on social structures, social forces, and group interactions. Specifically, this course will concentrate on several important sociological topics such as culture, the social construction of knowledge, “race,” gender, and economic inequality, as well as political sociology. This is what you might call a “global learning” class.

Course Objectives

Sociologists look at the world, society and how we act from a broader, *sociological perspective* – that is, looking at things from diverse, broader, societal-wide ways (different from how many people traditionally see the world). This is one of the major objectives for this class, where combining and developing critical thinking skills are applied to the understanding of major themes in society. Thus, by the end of the class, students should be able to:

- Understand the main sociological theoretical perspectives.
- Apply these perspectives to contemporary social problems.
- Develop insight into the critical link between social structure and individual circumstances.
- Acquire analytical skills for understanding and evaluating social phenomena and the interactions from which they emerge.

TEXTBOOK

YOU MAY ASK YOURSELF - An Introduction to thinking like a Sociologist, 7th edition
Ebook preferred)

ISBN-13: 978-0393537789

ISBN-10: 0393537781

by Dalton Conley

Important Information

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- [Accessibility and Accommodations](#)
- [Academic Misconduct Statement](#)

*The professor reserves the right to change or modify the syllabus at any time during the semester.

Grading Scheme

Letter	Range%	Letter	Range%	Letter	Range%
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

Exams: 35% of final grade

Assignments: 40% of final grade

Participation/Discussion/Presentations: 25% of final grade

***Course/Departmental Policies**

- **Academic Honesty & Library link:** Students that are found responsible for academic misconduct will be subject to the Academic Misconduct Procedures and Sanctions outlined in the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook: [Academic Integrity - Get Support Student Affairs - Florida International University - FIU](#) . For more information on what FIU classifies as Academic Misconduct, you can also consult the short videos and other resources pasted here: [Resources - Plagiarism Prevention - FIU Libraries at Florida International University](#)
- **Cell Phone Policy:** ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONE USE IS ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOM (unless approved by professor for class use). ANY USE OF CELLPHONES OR TEXTING IN THE CLASS WILL RESULT IN THE AUTOMATIC LOSS OF POINTS FROM THE PARTICIPATION GRADE. LAPTOPS WILL BE ALLOWED AT DISCRETION OF PROFESSOR FOR CLASS ACTIVITIES/ASSIGNMENTS/NOTETAKING.

Global Learning Outcomes

This is a Discipline-specific Global Learning course that counts towards your FIU Global Learning graduation requirement.

- **Global Awareness:** Students will be able to explain how globally diverse values, beliefs, and behaviors are influenced by social forces.
- **Global Perspective:** Students will be able to examine social processes from diverse perspectives (e.g. conflict, functionalist, and symbolic interactionist approaches).
- **Global Engagement:** Students will be able to propose solutions to a global problem taking into account multiple perspectives

Unit 1: Introduction and the Sociological Perspective

(Due dates/assignments/and schedule is subject to change as the semester progresses. Use this only as a general guideline for the semester. The professor will indicate and assign all assignments and give test date information in class and via email/CANVAS as we move forward. There will be approximately 3 or 4 exams (per every 3-4 chapters)

Introduction to class:

Due by each student must have already ordered the textbook

- Review syllabus and class assignments (hard copy). Short video assignment will be due
- Clarify expectations for class and instructor
- Discuss basic concepts of sociology and challenges to the class

The Sociological Perspective

- Class Lecture and Discussion

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UNIT 2 –CULTURE & INDIVIDUAL IN SOCIETY

Culture

- *Class Lecture and Discussion*

Due

- Read: Text chapter 1 & 2
- HW 2 due (Professor will give assignment in previous class)
- Discussion

Session 3

Socialization and Social Interaction

- Class Lecture and Discussion
- Film: *TBA*

Due

- Read: Text, chapters 3, 4, 5
- HW 3

Session 4

Social groups and Deviant Behavior

- Class Lecture and Discussion

Due

- Read: Text, chapters 6, 7
- HW 4

UNIT 3 – SOCIAL INEQUALITY

Session 5	Class Stratification <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class Lecture and Discussion• Film: <i>Waging a living</i>	Due <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Read:</u> Text, chapter 8
Session 6	Global Inequality <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class Lecture and Discussion	Due <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Read:</u> Text, chapter 9• <u>HW 5</u>
Session 7	Race and Ethnicity <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class Lecture and Discussion• Film: <i>MissRepresentation</i>	Due <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Read:</u> Text, chapter 10• <u>HW 6</u>
	Gender Stratification <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class Lecture and Discussion	Due <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Read:</u> Text, chapter 11• <u>HW 7</u>

UNIT 4 – INSTITUTIONS AND GLOBALIZATION

Session 9	Marriage and Alternative Family Arrangements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class Lecture and Discussion	Due <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Read:</u> Text, chapter 13
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- Film: *Every Good Marriage Begins with Tears*

Session 10

Religion

Due

- Class Lecture and Discussion

- Read: Text, chapter 14
- HW 8

Session 11

Education

Due

- Class Lecture and Discussion

- Read: Text, chapter 14
- HW 9

Political and Economic Systems

Due

Session 12

- Class Lecture and Discussion

- Read: Text, chapter 16
- HW 10