NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus.

Oregon State University

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
SOC 204 Section 400 Ecampus course
3 Credits/ No prerequisites/Bacc Core Course in Social Processes and Institutions

Instructor: Dr. Olga Custer
Email: Email is the best way to discuss personal information. custero@oregonstate.edu
I check my email pretty often. Do not hesitate to send me an email if you want to contact me with any questions, including personal questions that you do not want to bring into the virtual classroom.

Discussion Board: A discussion Board named “General” is located inside the Canvas course and is created for common questions about course design, homework, etc. If you have a question of such kind, post it into the General Discussion Board to see if another student can answer it. If you are not getting an answer that way, email me. The best way to deal with questions is to ask them and get an answer.

Catalogue description:
Development and application of sociological concepts and perspectives concerning human groups, includes attention to socialization, culture, organization, stratification, and societies. Consideration of fundamental concepts and research methodology.

Baccalaureate Core Course Attributes:
Core, Pers, Soc Proc & Inst
Liberal Arts Social Core

Additional Description:
This course will concentrate on getting acquainted with the sociological perspective, a different view on the world. Our major concern will be to use sociological imagination for taking a look at familiar problems from a different side, quite enriching from both an academic and a personal point of view. In the course of learning this, we will also learn about society’s social structure and its main elements, such as culture, systems of social stratification, groups, organizations, and social institutions. In the course of studying this, we will explore cultural diversity, different
types of inequality, and will definitely acquire a new perspective on the extent of freedom of choice for individuals in the United States and in global perspective.

**Bacc Core Social Processes and Institutions Learning Outcomes**
1. Use theoretical frameworks to interpret the role of the individual within social process and institutions.
2. Analyze current social issues and place them in historical contexts.
3. Critique the nature, value, and limitations of the basic methods of the social sciences.

**What is Required for this Course**
The custom textbook *Sociology Project* by Manza with MySocLab access packaged. You will be required to enroll in the class in MySocLab by creating a Pearson student account and using the course ID rowe39568. If you don’t have the textbook in your hand yet you can enroll in MySocLab using a free 14 day pass and start reading your textbook in e-test format right away. See the handout called “How Students Enroll” for more details.

Sometimes I will be sending the announcements for the class through the Canvas system. They will be reaching your ONID account unless you specify something different in the settings. These messages are important as they will inform you about assignment dates and deadlines, grades I gave, feedback, etc. It is **required** that you are able to **stay on top of communication in this class**. If you are not getting any emails from me, especially if there was a new announcement in Canvas you should probably check your onid account and your settings.

**Note:** For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website. Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.

**Coursework and Assignments:**
This course consists of two parts, MySocLab assignments and Canvas assignments. Mostly, but with some exceptions, you will be reading the textbook, exploring the media that came with it, and doing the quizzes in your MySocLab. You will be doing discussions boards in your Canvas site.

**MySocLab assignments – 75% of your total grade.**
On a typical week you will log into your MySocLab course and find the assignments in your course calendar. The assignments will include:
- reviewing the course objectives
- reading the chapter of e-text
- taking a chapter exam.

These assignments are due in the end of the week, on Sunday 11:59 p.m. Pacific time. Please work at your own pace during the week, but be sure to submit everything that is assigned before this deadline. I recommend doing the exam after going through the study plan and its practice quizzes. Notice that the Study Plan is available but it is optional. You can access it in the chapter assignments, try and see if it works for you.

Your **midterm (25%) and final (25%) exams** will be available through the MySocLab as well.
The midterm assignment is due during week 5, the final assignment is due during the finals week. MySocLab has its own automatic gradebook, so you will know your standing for this part of your grade at all times.

**Canvas Discussions – 25% of your total grade.**
Each week you will need to participate in a discussion board. Minimum 3 substantive posts per week is required (posts “I agree”, “I thought the same” do not count). Think of it as going to class and discussing the class material in the organized manner. Discussion boards are not for sharing opinions, they are for engaging with the class material, sinking your teeth into sociological terms and concepts, and trying out your sociological thinking.
Full credit is only available to the students who 1) comply with the posting deadlines, 2) answer all discussion questions, 3) post more than the minimum requirement, 4) respond to people who posted in their own threads (i.e. maintain the dialogue in their thread), and 5) respond to at least two other posts in the threads started by their classmates.
First (the original) post is due on Thursday of the current week, the last post is due in the end of the week, on Sunday at 11:59 p.m. Notice that you will not be able to see other students’ posts until you post your own original post.
The discussion board will be graded by the rubric (available on your Canvas site).

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

- **Week One** – Sociological Imagination
- **Week Two** – Social Theory
- **Week Three** – Studying the Social World
- **Week Four** – Social Interaction
- **Week Five** – Social Structure.
- **Midterm** exam is due in the end of week 5, on Sunday at 11:59 p.m. PST.
- **Week Six** – Culture, Media, and Communication
- **Week Seven** – Social Stratification, Inequality, and Poverty
- **Week Eight** – Race and Ethnicity
- **Week Nine** – Gender and Sexuality
- **Week Ten** – Crime, Deviance, and Social Control

**Final Exam** exam due date TBA.

Student Conduct: Students are expected to conduct themselves in compliance with the university’s regulations regarding civility and academic honesty. For more information visit OSU’s website (http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/regs.htm). Please take the time to visit this site and familiarize yourself with the information.

Students with Disabilities: Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty, and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with accommodations approved through SSD are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are
eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through SSD should contact SSD immediately at 737-4098.

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:**

If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

- COURSE DEMO
- GETTING STARTED

**REFUND POLICY INFORMATION**

Please see the Ecampus website for policy information on refunds and late fees.