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. Summer term courses may be accelerated – please check the Ecampus Schedule of Classes for more information.

SOC 204
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

COURSE CREDIT:
(3) This course combines approximately 90 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 3 credits.

PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ENFORCED PREREQUISITES:
None.

COURSE 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.

This course will introduce students to the concepts, theories, methods, and subject matter of sociology. The major topics we will study include: sociology as a science and a perspective that explores patterns of human behavior, the ways in which human beings actively create the social world in which they live and the constraints of that social structure on their beliefs and actions, social inequality, social institutions, and the dynamics of social change.

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

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Instructor: Kathleen Stanley
Email: stanleyk@onid.orst.edu

Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information. For accuracy, please check the ECampus Schedule of Classes to see the most current instructor information. You can search for contact information by name from the OSU Home Page.
LEARNING RESOURCES:


There is a website for the text that can be found at: http://www.cengage.com/cgi-wadsworth/course_products_wp.pl?fid=M20bl&product_isbn_issn=9780840032041
This site has study guides and practice tests to help you prepare for the quizzes.

Blackboard: All course materials, aside from the textbook, can be found on Blackboard. The materials, including power point presentations, chapter outlines, my supplemental remarks, assignments, and grades are organized by week. Be sure to check Blackboard and your onid email account regularly for announcements.

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.

Students can also click the ‘OSU Beaver Store’ link associated with the course information in the Ecampus schedule of classes for course textbook information and ordering.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- define and apply key sociological concepts
- describe the methods used by sociologists to learn about the social world
- use sociological theories to analyze everyday events and behaviors
- analyze contemporary social issues

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:

Strategies for Success:

1. This course moves along at a steady pace. It is **very important that you keep up** with the readings, quizzes, assignments, and discussion board. This course is structured in such a way that you cannot fall behind and catch up later!
2. Before reading each chapter, take a look at the powerpoint lectures and chapter outlines. This will give you a sense of how each chapter is organized and what will be emphasized.
3. Take reading notes. They will be a useful tool to have while taking the quizzes.
4. Make use of the website for the text.
5. Pay attention to due dates for assignments. Don’t procrastinate!
6. Use the discussion board to try out new ideas and interact with your classmates.
7. Sociology is all about groups and interactions. Participation is a big part of your grade; make the most of it.
8. If you have questions about anything - ask! Don’t wait until the last minute as I may not be able to respond in time.
9. Be sure to use Word when preparing your assignments. If you use another word processing program that I cannot open your assignments will be considered late.
10. Be sure to submit your assignments through Blackboard.
11. Have fun!

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

**Week One**
- **Reading**: Ferrante, Chapter One: The Sociological Imagination
- **Video**: The Origins of Sociology
- **Quiz** must be taken by Sunday at 5 p.m.

**Week Two**
- **Reading**: Ferrante, Chapter Two: Theoretical Perspectives and Research Methods
- **Video**: Life Along the Mexican Border
- **Assignment #1** due by Friday at 12 p.m.
- **Quiz** must be taken by Sunday at 5 p.m.

**Week Three**
- **Reading**: Ferrante, Chapter Three: Culture
- **Video**: Consuming Kids
- **Quiz** must be taken by Sunday at 5 p.m.

**Week Four**
- **Reading**: Ferrante, Chapter Four: Socialization
- **Video**: Mickey Mouse Monopoly
- **Optional - Extra Credit #1** due by Friday at 12 p.m.
- **Quiz** must be taken by Sunday at 5 p.m.

**Week Five**
- **Reading**: Ferrante, Chapter Five: Social Interaction
- **Quiz** must be taken by Sunday at 5 p.m.
  - There is no video for this week.

**Week Six**
- **Reading**: Ferrante, Chapter Six: Formal Organizations
- **Video**: Big Brother
- **Assignment #2** is due on Friday at 12 p.m.
- **Quiz** must be taken by Sunday at 5 p.m.

**Week Seven**
- **Reading**: Ferrante, Chapter Seven: Deviance, Conformity, and Social Control
- **Video**: Gangs
- **Quiz** must be taken by Sunday at 5 p.m.
Week Eight
Reading: Ferrante, Chapter Eight: Social Stratification
Videos: People Like Us (2 clips)
Children of Poverty
Optional - Extra Credit #2 due by Friday at 12 p.m.
Quiz must be taken by Sunday at 5 p.m.

Week Nine
Reading: Ferrante, Chapter Nine: Race and Ethnicity
Video: A Class Divided
Quiz must be taken by Sunday at 5 p.m.

Week Ten
Reading: Ferrante, Chapter Ten: Gender
Video: Generation M: Misogyny in Media and Culture
Assignment #3 is due on Friday at 12 p.m.
Quiz must be taken by Sunday at 5 p.m.

Video Journals are due by Monday of Finals Week at 5 p.m.

Assignments

All assignments, whether required or extra credit, must be typed, double spaced, with standard margins and 12 pt font in Word. Submit your completed papers through Blackboard. Required assignments that are late will be docked 3 points for each day (or part of a day) that they are late. Extra credit papers will not be accepted past the date and time they are due. Please proof-read carefully. Errors of spelling, grammar, and punctuation detract from the quality of your work. Papers should be 2-3 pages in length.

1. The Sociological Imagination -- Required; 25 points. Due Week 2
Visit the Beloit University Mindset List at http://www.beloit.edu/mindset/2014.php

In the box at the top, choose the year you anticipate graduating from college and read through the list. How well do you think it captures the mindset of your classmates? Is there anything you would add to the list? How does this list relate to C. Wright Mills' concept of the sociological imagination? What does it tell you about the ways in which your life, your world view, and your opportunities are shaped by larger social-historical forces? Remember that the point of your essay should be to demonstrate your understanding of Mills' concept and apply it to your own life.

2. Social Interaction -- Required; 25 points. Due Week 6

Read the section of the text that discusses Erving Goffman's dramaturgical approach to the study of social interaction (Chapter 5). You will be using the following concepts for this assignment: dramaturgy, the presentation of self, impression management, roles, front-stage and back-stage.
Choose a social interaction with which you are familiar and analyze the interactions using the dramaturgical model. Some examples: Thanksgiving Dinner with your extended family; the various interactions you observe and participate in at work, interactions in a classroom, or doctor's office. Be creative - choose an example that will allow you to demonstrate the usefulness of the theory and your understanding of it. What does Goffman's model add to your understanding of everyday social interactions?

3) **Social Inequality** -- Required; 25 points. Due Week 10

Read the article by Peggy McIntosh "Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack" at http://www.case.edu/president/aaction/UnpackingTheKnapsack.pdf

Or watch the video version of her paper at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DRnoddGTMTY

Use McIntosh’s list as a starting point for creating your own list describing the ways that you have been either privileged or disadvantaged by your social class, your race or ethnicity, and your gender and sexual orientation. You need to have a list of privileges and disadvantages for each variable. The point is to identify those things, whether good or bad which are uneearned, that are part of the social structure and that you as an individual did nothing to deserve. What does your list tell you about the way that your life has been shaped by the system of social inequality?

**Extra Credit Assignments**

1) **Sociological Theories** -- Optional; 10 points. Due Week 4

Sport is a very significant aspect of American society. Millions of people of all ages participate either as direct participants or as spectators. In the Chapter on Sociological Theories, Ferrante discusses the functions of sports in society. Summarize her argument and extend it. Are these other ways that sports are functional for society? What issues would a sociologist working from a conflict perspective focus on? What issues would a sociologist working from an interactionist perspective focus on? What does each perspective add to your understanding of sports?

2) **McDonaldization** -- Optional; 10 points. Due Week 8

In Chapter 6, Ferrante discusses a form of rationalization that George Ritzer has named the “McDonaldization of society.” What are the main features of this trend? Choose a social institution other than fast food restaurants and analyze it using Ritzer’s model (education, health care, the family, religion). Be sure to discuss all four principles and provide examples of each from the institution you have selected. What are the positive and negative effects of McDonaldization in your analysis?
Evaluation of Student Performance

Student mastery of these outcomes will be measured in the following ways:

**Weekly Quizzes** - These are quizzes over the readings. Each quiz will be composed of 20 multiple choice/true-false questions worth 1 point each. You will have 30 minutes for each quiz. One-half point will be deducted from your score for every 1 minute (or part of a minute) that you exceed the time limit. The exam window will be open each week from Monday at 12 p.m. until Sunday at 5 p.m. You may use your book and notes during the quizzes but it is not a good idea to depend too heavily on them. If you spend a lot of time looking up answers, you will run out of time to complete the quiz. (20 points each; 200 total points)

**Assignments** - There are three assignments for the course. The assignments will ask you to use the concepts and theories we discuss as part of your own analysis of particular social processes. They are due throughout the course by the dates and times indicated for each assignment. Please submit them through Blackboard and be sure they are in Word. There will be a 3 point deduction for every day (or part of a day) that an assignment is late. (25 points each; 75 total points)

**Video Journal** - For each video you should provide a short synopsis and commentary. Your commentary should draw connections between the video and the topic for that week. Video journals are due at the end of the course. They should be submitted through Blackboard. (25 points)

**Discussion Board Participation** - The discussion board on Blackboard is the place to discuss the readings, weekly videos, and other topics of sociological relevance. The discussion board will allow you to demonstrate your engagement with the issues raised throughout the course and to share your developing insights with the rest of the class. I will lead off the discussion each week with an entry of my own that will include discussion prompts (questions to help you get started). You can respond to those questions or post something original as long as it is on the topic for that week. You are required to submit two posts per week - one should be an original post (which includes replies to my discussion prompts) and one should be in response to someone else's commentary. Your comments should be substantive, not just "I agree" or "Good Job." Two posts per week of average quality will earn you a "C" for your discussion board grade. If you want a higher grade your posts should be longer, in greater depth, and more numerous. (100 points)

**Extra Credit** - There will be two opportunities for extra credit. The extra credit assignments are optional and are worth 10 points each. They are due by the dates and times indicated and will not be accepted late.

**Grading Scale (400 total points):**

- 92 - 100% = A
- 90 - 91% = A-
- 87 - 89% = B+
- 82 - 86% = B
- 80 - 81% = B-
- 77 - 79% = C+
- 72 - 76% = C
- 70 - 71% = C-
- 67 - 69% = D+
- 62 - 66% = D
- 60 - 61% = D-
- 0 - 59% = F
Course site login information

Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities

Oregon State University is committed to student success; however, we do not require students to use accommodations nor will we provide them unless they are requested by the student. The student, as a legal adult, is responsible to request appropriate accommodations. The student must take the lead in applying to Disability Access Services (DAS) and submit requests for accommodations each term through DAS Online. OSU students apply to DAS and request accommodations at our Getting Started with DAS page.

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS 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 DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

Additionally, Canvas, the learning management system through which this course is offered, provides a vendor statement certifying how the platform is accessible to students with disabilities.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct (OSU policy)

Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Intentional acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism may be penalized by imposing an “F” grade in the course.

Student conduct is governed by the universities policies, as explained in the Office of the Dean of Student Life: Student Conduct and Community Standards. In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity, and respect.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g. on discussion boards, email postings, etc.) in compliance with the university’s regulations regarding civility. Students will be expected to treat all others with the same respect as they would want afforded to themselves. Disrespectful behavior (such as harassing behavior, personal insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Student Conduct and Community Standards.

For more info on these topics please see:

Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
Student Conduct and Community Standards - Offenses
Policy On Disruptive Behavior

Plagiarism
You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.”

Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

Turnitin Plagiarism Prevention
Your instructor may ask you to submit one or more of your writings to Turnitin, a plagiarism prevention service. Your assignment content will be checked for potential plagiarism against Internet sources, academic journal articles, and the papers of other OSU students, for common or borrowed content. Turnitin generates a report that highlights any potentially unoriginal text in your paper. The report may be submitted directly to your instructor or your instructor may elect to have you submit initial drafts through Turnitin and you will receive the report allowing you the opportunity to make adjustments and ensure that all source material has been properly cited.

Papers you submit through Turnitin for this or any class will be added to the OSU Turnitin database and may be checked against other OSU paper submissions. You will retain all rights to your written work. For further information on Turnitin please click HERE.

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

Tutoring
For information about possible tutoring for this course, please visit our Ecampus NetTutor page. Other resources include:

Writing Center
Online Writing Lab
Student Evaluation of Teaching

The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available in week 9 and close at the end of finals week. Students will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. Students will log in to “Student Online Services” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted. Course evaluation results are very important and are used to help improve courses and the learning experience of future students. Results from questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and unit heads/supervisors. Unless a comment is “signed,” which will associate a name with a comment, student comments on the open-ended questions are anonymous and forwarded to each instructor. “Signed” comments are forwarded to the unit head supervisor.

Refund Policy information

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