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 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.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Instructor: Seth Crawford, Ph.D.
Office hours: I have no office hours on campus, but if you would like to meet me in real time within Blackboard, I will take advantage of the option of virtual classroom. Note that I cannot guarantee privacy since I cannot guarantee that you will be the only person using the virtual classroom at any given time. Email is the best way to discuss personal information.
Email: seth.crawford@oregonstate.edu
I check my email rather 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 Blackboard (Bb) 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.

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:

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

Sometimes I will be sending the announcements for the class through the Bb system. They will be reaching your ONID account and will let you know of assignment dates and deadlines, grades I gave, feedback, etc. It is required that you are able to check your ONID email account and receive these messages. If you prefer to have it forwarded to another account, set it up as soon as possible.

A text editor is absolutely crucial for successful completion of any short answers, written assignments or essays. I do not recommend typing your assignment in a window and submit without saving it. The connection can be lost for that short moment, and you will lose your work and will not be able to retrieve it. Dealing with technology is a part of online education.

I prefer the assignments submitted in Microsoft Word.

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:

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.

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:

Coursework and Assignments:
Weekly Quizzes – 20 points each; 200 points total
Each quiz will be composed of 20 multiple choice/true-false questions worth 1 point each. You are allowed one extension on one quiz during the term if you miss a deadline. All extensions should be arranged directly with the instructor and must be completed within 48 hours of the original deadline. You may use your book and notes during the quizzes.

Discussion Board Participation – 10 points each, 100 points total
The discussion board on Blackboard is the place to discuss the readings, weekly videos, and other topics of sociological relevance. Each week you will need to participate in discussion boards. In the discussion boards I will ask you what you have learned from the class materials and how a new information changed your thinking.
Minimum 3 substantive posts per week is required (posts “I agree”, “I thought the same” do not count). Three posts per week of average length and quality will result in a "C" for your discussion board grade. If you want a higher grade your posts should be longer, in greater depth, and more numerous.
Full credit is only available to the students who 1) comply with the posting deadlines, 2) answer all discussion questions, 3) respond to people who posted in their own threads and maintain the dialogue in their thread, and 4) respond to at least two other posts. Your discussion board posts will be graded weekly at first and I will provide feedback on your improvement. I may grade it less often in the middle of the quarter.

Sociological Imagination Autobiography – 100 points
Write an 8-10-page typed, double-spaced autobiographical essay. The main point of the essay is to apply sociological imagination to your own life. This includes but is not limited to - reflecting on your own experiences and struggles with power, privilege, and inequality, - taking a look at your “personal troubles” and seeing where they may be “public issues” instead (C.Wright Mills), - understanding in what way your personal qualities and choices may have been a reflection of your social structure (culture, agents of socialization, etc.).
You can start working on your autobiography any time, but journaling assignment is designed to provide you with written material to work from and to prepare you for applying sociological imagination to your own life. You will be journaling during weeks 1-6 and then will have four more weeks for putting the autobiography together. I encourage you to submit the first draft before the deadline and get my feedback. The autobiography is due in the end of Week 10.

Journaling – 20 points each (6 journals, one lowest score dropped, 100 points total)
Journal is a place for a private reflection and a way to further your learning by writing about it. Journaling is also a jumping board for working on your autobiography. Each week during weeks 1-6 I will post a link to a journal with a journal prompt. If the guiding questions for your autobiography do not look immediately clear now, they will become much clearer when you write some on a biting size chunk of each question, which will also be specifically connected to your own life. Journals are private, they are only seen by you and me, and I will leave comments on them to further your sociological thinking.

Midterm and Final Test – 100 points each
Note that final test covers the entire course material.
The exam is NOT proctored
The final exam is a closed-book tests. Each test is a random block of multiple choice and true/false questions. The questions from the quizzes may or may not appear in the exam.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE
(Notice that the titles of the topics and the order of topics may change from quarter to quarter. Please use the current syllabus for your section)

Week One – Sociological Imagination
Week Two – Studying the Social World
Week Three – Culture
Week Four – Socialization
Week Five – Social Structure and Interaction
Week Six – Deviance
Week Seven – Social Class
Week Eight – Global Inequality
Week Nine – Race and Ethnicity
Week Ten – Gender and Sexuality
Final Exam is due during the finals week
Evaluation of Student Performance

Grading Scale (500 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

Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by Disability Access Services (DAS). If you, as a student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098 or at [http://ds.oregonstate.edu](http://ds.oregonstate.edu). DAS notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations.

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.
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.