

COURSE SYLLABUS
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
SOCIOLOGY 1A

Reedley College

Instructor: Professor R. A. Lyon

Fall 2016

Class Room: Physical Science, Room 76

[SOC-1A-56373 \(56373\) INTRO TO SOC](#)

08/16/2016-12/15/2016 Lecture Tuesday, Thursday 06:00PM - 07:15PM

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Course Description

Sociology 1A promotes the understanding of society and how it works. It also examines how society affects individuals and how individuals affect society. It is an introduction to the principles and theoretical perspectives of sociology and their applications to social life through reading, writing, lecture and discussion. Discussion of sociological methods and findings in such areas as family, socialization, culture, race relations, stratification, social change and deviance will be reviewed.

Course Objectives

There are several objectives that I have for this course. First, I would like you to become familiar with the sociological perspectives so that you can apply them to your understanding of the world we live in. Secondly, you should learn to use the major concepts that sociologists have devised in the study of society. Finally, I expect you to participate intelligently during class discussions and be able to think creatively and critically about the concepts as they relate to "our lives." I hope that during this course and the discussions we have that you can incorporate theory and/or methods, concepts and topics related to sociology.

Course Organization

The course objectives will be reached through a program of directed reading, writing, lectures, exams/quizzes and discussions.

Text: Custom Edition of - The Essentials of Sociology, by James Henslin 12th edition (older editions are OK).

Reading Assignments: A schedule detailing reading assignments, homework assignments, and examinations is included in the syllabus.

Lectures: My lectures are designed to supplement what you are reading in the text, and are an extension and application of topics. I hope that we can discuss issues and experiences as they relate to our readings. Keep in mind you are responsible for the reading assignments whether or not they are discussed in class.

Course Requirements and Grading

Examinations: There will be four exams covering the assigned readings each worth 30 points. Exams will cover three chapters and will be in the form of multiple-choice, matching, fill-in or short answer. **It is your responsibility to be prepared for**

the exams when they are scheduled thus I will not give make-up exams! I will drop your lowest exam score, excluding the final. The final exam will consist of 40 questions worth 40 points (The final exam covers the entire semester's class discussions and reading assignments including Chapters 12 & 15). Follow all exam procedures carefully. It will be necessary for you to have on the day of each exam Scantron Form # 882-E forms plus pencils. They are to be filled out in pencil. If you have an exam scoring question, contact me immediately (within 2 days) or scores are final.

Writing: Additionally, a percentage of your grade will be based on your writing/critical thinking ability. The major writing assignment will be a term paper (minimum 4 pages in length). You are to select a book from the list at the end of this syllabus by September 8th and analyze the book 'sociologically' utilizing sociological terms and employing the following three sociological perspectives: Functionalism, Conflict Theory, & Symbolic Interactionism. This is not a book report! Following the list of books will be detailed directions you are to follow to complete this assignment. This assignment is due in class Tuesday, November 29th. The term paper is worth 70 points.

Homework: Homework assignments consist of matching terms and are intended to familiarize you with the contents of each chapter. The assignments will be posted on Canvas and are to be turned in in class. No assignments are to be submitted via e-mail or other means.

Attendance/Participation:

Attendance will be taken every class meeting. Attendance is required because there will be some learning that is not directly evaluated and missed if you are not in class. I believe attendance and participation are necessary for success in this course, thus my policy is to drop anyone who misses 6 credit hours in the first nine weeks of the semester (October 9th). Being tardy is disruptive to class, so do not be tardy. Plan ahead. It is ultimately your responsibility to withdraw from the course. If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining the information conveyed in that missed lecture. There are **No Excused** absences. If you have any special needs or disabilities, please inform me as soon as possible so that I may accommodate you. The Disabled Students Program and Services (**DSPS**) **638-0332** is also available to assist you. The tutorial center and the computer lab are also available, **call 638-0358** for hours and services.

ADA Statement:

"If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (ie: Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the American With Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation act please contact your instructor as soon as possible."

Pet peeves: "Zipping up" prior to the end of class. DO NOT begin packing up (stacking up your stuff/closing your notebooks) until the end of the regularly scheduled class time. Within class, I expect mutual respect. This means no "chatting/talking" while I am lecturing or while classmates are talking. Feel free to speak your mind or relate your position to the rest of the class WHEN you are given the floor. If you must leave early let me know before class begins. "Catching Z's" during class is disrespectful behavior and will not be tolerated (you are absent).

While in class turn all cellphones off. **THE USE OF WORD PROCESSING AND/OR TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES IN THIS CLASS IS PROHIBITED.** If you cannot control a conditioned response to do such activities in a classroom setting, please dis-enroll from this course immediately. Violation of these "rules" may result in you being required to leave the class (and if this behavior continues, you will be suspended and lose your attendance points). The college has a strict policy on cheating and plagiarism. Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college, each student is expected to exert an honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences. I reserve the right to fail anyone for cheating.

Grading: All grading will be on the basis of the number of points earned out of the total points possible (280)*. This number will be expressed as a percentage and based on the following scale:

90 to 100%	= A	(252-280)
80 to 89%	= B	(224-251)
70 to 79%	= C	(196-223)
60 to 69%	= D	(168-195)
0 to 59%	= F	(0 -167)

*The total points are subject to change.

Total Possible Points: 280

Homework assignments (14 x 5) 70 points. If 1 or 2 answers are incorrect you will still receive full credit (5 points for each homework assignment). If you miss more than 2, no points will be awarded on that assignment. I will correct your paper and return it to you so you are aware of any mistakes.

Written Assignment: 70 points.

Exams: 4 exams x 30 points = 120 points – 30 (I will drop your lowest score) = 90 points.

Final: 40 points

Class Participation: 10 points

Extra Credit: 60 points possible

Homework assignments are due on the dates stated on the calendar included in this syllabus. If you cannot turn in the assignment on the due date I will accept late homework assignments until the exam covering those chapters. The last day to turn in the homework assignments for chapters 12 & 15 will be Dec. 13th. After that date no homework assignments will be accepted.

Late writing assignments will be accepted within 1 week from the due date (Dec. 6th) provided you submit a ½ page typed 'sociological excuse' for the paper being late otherwise points will be deducted for the paper being late.

READING & EXAM SCHEDULE (subject to change)

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Sociological Perspective	Ch. 1 (H/W due)	8/18
Culture	Ch. 2 (H/W due)	8/25
Socialization	Ch. 3 (H/W due)	9/1

EXAM #1 September 8th & Book Selection Due

Social Structure/Interaction	Ch. 4 (H/W due)	9/13
Extra Credit Written project # 1 due on or before		9/15
Groups/Organizations	Ch. 5 (H/W due)	9/20
Deviance and Crime	Ch. 6 (H/W due)	9/27

EXAM #2 October 4

Global Stratification	Ch. 7 (H/W due)	10/6
Social Class in the U.S.	Ch. 8 (H/W due)	10/18
Extra Credit Written project # 2 due on or before		10/18
Race and Ethnicity	Ch. 9 (H/W due)	10/20

EXAM #3-----October 27th

Gender and Age	Ch. 10 (H/W due)	11/1
Politics/Economics	Ch. 11 (H/W due)	11/8
Extra Credit Written project # 3 due on or before		11/10
Education & Religion	Ch. 13 (H/W due)	11/17 (note sequence change)

Exam #4 November 22nd

Marriage/Family	Ch. 12 (H/W due)	11/29
Writing project due (Sociological Analysis)		11/29
Social Change/Movements	Ch. 15 (H/W due)	12/6

Final December 13th

Important Dates

Fall Semester 2016

- Mon, Aug 15 Start of Fall Semester
- Mon, Sept 5 Labor Day
- Fri, Aug 26 Last day to drop with a refund
- Fri, Sept 2 Last day to register for a full-term Fall 2015 on WebAdvisor
- Fri, Sept 2 Last day to drop a full term class in person and avoid a "W" on your transcript
- Sun, Sept 4 Last day to drop a Fall 2015 full-term class on WebAdvisor to avoid a 'W' on your transcript
- Mon, Sept 5 Labor Day - Campus Closed
- Fri, Sept 16 Last day to apply for Pass/No Pass
- Fri, Oct 14 Last day to drop a full term class in person and receive a "W" on transcript.
- Fri, Nov 11 Veterans Day (no class held)
- Nov 24 & 25 Thanksgiving Day Holidays (campus closed)
- Dec 12-16 Final exams week
- Fri, Dec 16 Fall Semester Ends
- Dec 19 - Jan 4 Winter Break - Campus Closed

Suggestions for Student Success

1. This is a college course. You are a college student and will be respected and treated as a college student.
2. It is your responsibility to be able to have access to Canvas.
3. Be on time (or early) for tests.
4. Bring a pencil and Scantron 882E.
5. If you stop attending class, drop the course.
6. If you stop attending class and reappear, see the professor (he missed you).
7. Keep the course syllabus. It tells you some important things about the class.
8. If you arrive late, it is best to be as unobtrusive as possible in finding a seat.
9. When you arrive late, **don't** begin a conversation with someone who was paying attention before you interrupted the class with your late arrival.
10. Follow the instructions on assignments - don't make up your own.
11. If you make an agreement for a special arrangement with the professor, and subsequently failed to live up to the agreement, make a new one with the professor before proceeding.
12. When the papers written beautifully, but doesn't include what Professor (or the text) is teaching, it could be assumed that was taken from the Internet. Do not plagiarize!
13. Tell the truth about handing in papers.
14. When you've been busted for plagiarism, give it up.
15. No, the professor does not carry a stapler.
16. It's not good manners to walk up to the front of the class while the professor is lecturing.
17. When asked for your name, give your full name.
18. When you are late with an assignment, or don't follow the assignment, **don't** beg to get full credit. It's called accountability.
19. If you are talking during a lecture (or video) and the professor is staring at you, it's a cue to stop talking.
20. You should know your professor's name.
21. Keep voice mail and e-mail messages short and to the point-state the class you're in as well.
22. Don't ask for "extra credit" if you haven't accomplished the "regular credit."
23. If you use e-mail to communicate, check it to see if there is a response.
24. The class is in session until the professor announces it is finished - remain calm until it's over (and don't begin packing up or stacking up your stuff before then).
25. If you have any questions about your grade, check **before** the end of the semester to avoid any surprises.
26. Please do not enter a classroom before the previous class is dismissed.

Extra Credit Written Assignments:

Written assignments are to be typed, double-spaced, two pages minimum in length, and are to be handed in in class on the due dates. Points based on content (critical sociological analysis of the material) and appearance (grammar, spelling, organization). Always keep a copy.

Extra Credit Writing assignment # 1 due September 15th

Topic: Based upon the sociological perspective of Functionalism consider the following question: Should community college be tuition free? You are to defend the current fee based system employing sociological terms and the functionalist's perspective. Remember to think in terms of macro-sociological concepts & specify clearly what groups/institutions, etc. are involved and how they perpetuate the status quo; i.e., how they are functional or dysfunctional.

Extra Credit Writing assignment # 2 due October 18th

Topic: Should food stamps (EBT) be used to purchase fast food at McDonald's restaurants? Describe in sociological terms and utilizing the conflict theory take a position (pro or con) and support it. Remember to think in terms of macro-sociological concepts & specify clearly what groups/institutions, etc. are involved and how they are in conflict.

Extra Credit Writing assignment # 3 due November 10th

Topic: You have a close friend (since childhood) and he/she comes out gay to you or as transgender (you choose). Describe in sociological terms and utilizing the symbolic interactionist perspective, describe your 'new' feelings and attitude towards your friend. How has your relationship been changed? What will others think? What about your family? This assignment focuses on the micro-sociological level: what labels & symbols apply? How are they altered, if at all? State clearly the labels & symbols you point out.

The extra credit writing assignments will be each worth 20 points and will be graded according to the following criteria: 5 points for clearly stating the topic and defining the appropriate sociological perspective; 10 points for clearly stating your position with at least 3 lines of reasoning in support of your position employing sociological principles and sociological terms; and 5 points for your summary and overall appearance (length, grammar, spelling, and organization). No extra credit papers will be accepted after the specified due dates. No exceptions!

List of Books for the Term Paper:

1. The Jungle by Upton Sinclair
2. 1984 by George Orwell
3. To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
4. Lakota Woman by Mary Crow Dog and Richard Erdoes
5. Lord of the Flies by William Golding

Writing Project

Book Selection due Thursday, September 8, 2016

Completed project due Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Guidelines:

The overall project is to be a minimum of 4 pages in length.

You are to analyze your chosen book utilizing sociological terms, descriptions, and theories. You should briefly recount the main theme of the book followed by your analysis employing the three sociological perspectives: functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism. Each perspective should be defined as you move from one to the next. State clearly & succinctly each sociological perspective and how it illustrates various components of your chosen book.

You should incorporate various sociological terms and sociologists when appropriate. Such terms and sociologists might include the following: sociologists: C. Wright Mills, Karl Marx, Max Weber, etc. and terms: Protestant ethic, society, sociological perspective, culture, subculture, counterculture, values, norms sanctions, institutions, groups, deviance, social class, socialization, looking glass self, generalized other, social interaction, macro & micro sociology, social status, roles, mores, taboos, etc. These are a few of the terms that could be employed. Remember to use those that are appropriate only.

Remember this is not a book report but rather a sociological analysis of your book utilizing the three sociological perspectives: functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism.

Grading: your paper will be graded using the following guidelines: Stating clearly the theme of the book and the definitions of each sociological perspective (20 points); employing each of the three sociological perspectives (functionalism, conflict theory & symbolic interactionism) and giving detailed examples of how each perspective illustrates various segments of your book in your analysis (10 points each for a total of 30 points); utilizing sociological terminology throughout in support of your analysis (10 points); and 10 points for your summary and overall appearance (length, grammar, spelling, and organization). Total =70 points.

FALL 2016 FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

Group Definitions

Time/Group A

Daily
MWF
M
W **
F **
MT
MW
MTh
MF
WTh **
WF **
MTW
MTTh
MTF
MWTh
MThF
WThF **
MTWTh
MTWF
MTThF
MWThF

Time/Group B

TTh
T
Th **
TW
TF
ThF **
TWTh
TWF
TThF
TWThF

Night M:

M
TW

Night T:

T
TTh

Night W:

W

Night Th:

Th

Night F:

F

Class Time/Group	SAT. DEC. 10	MON. DEC. 12	TUE. DEC. 13	WED. DEC. 14	THU. DEC. 15	FRI. DEC. 16
7:00 A	For Saturday classes, the instructor should begin the final exam at the time the class usually meets.			OPEN*		7-8:50
7:00 B					7-8:50	
8:00 A		8-9:50				
8:00 B			8-9:50			
9:00 A				9-10:50		
9:00 B					9-10:50	
10:00 A		10-11:50				
10:00 B			10-11:50			
11:00 A				11-12:50		
11:00 B					11-12:50	
12:00 A		12-1:50				
12:00 B			12-1:50			
1:00 A				1-2:50		
1:00 B					1-2:50	
2:00 A	2-3:50					
2:00 B		2-3:50				
3:00 A			3-4:50			
3:00 B				3-4:50		
4:00 A	4-5:50					
4:00 B		4-5:50				
Night M		§				
Night T			§			
Night W				§		
Night Th					§	
Night F						§

DAY CLASSES

- If your class does not start on the hour, please assume that it starts at the beginning of the hour in order to determine on which day and at what time your final exam will be. (For example: if you have a 8:30 a.m. Tuesday/Thursday class, your class will then fall into group 9:00 A.)
- Classes which meet two days a week and which have different starting times for those two days will have a final exam determined by the first class meeting of the week. (For example: A class which meets at 9 a.m. on Monday and 10 a.m. on Wednesday will fall into group 9:00 A.)
- Examinations calling for special arrangements and/or approved makeup exams must be scheduled through the class instructor. Final examinations not adhering to this schedule may be made by the instructor and are subject to approval by the division dean.
- Students who have three final examinations scheduled on the same day may seek to have one final exam moved to another day by contacting the individual instructors BEFORE the start of the final exam week.

EXTENDED DAY

(Classes beginning at or after 4:30 p.m. and Saturday classes.)

- Final exams will be given during the final exam week using the above schedule.
- Classes which meet more than once during a week will meet only once during the final exam week, with the class meeting devoted to the final examination. Unless approved by the division dean, such classes will meet on the first normally scheduled night.

NOTE: Instructors must submit their final grades in the Student Services Building, no later than noon on Monday, December 18, 2016.

- * Open periods are for final exam conflicts, makeup exams, and exam by special arrangement.
- ** Classes falling into these groups are possibly in conflict with other classes. If so, the other classes have priority for the rooms. The instructor will choose an open period for the final exam.

§ For night classes, the instructor should begin the final exam at the time the class usually begins.