

COURSE SYLLABUS
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
SOCIOLOGY 1A

Reedley College

Instructor: Professor R. A. Lyon

Summer 2016

Class Room: Forestry, Engineering, & Math, Room 4

[SOC-1A-73548 \(73548\) INTRO TO SOC](#)

06/20/2016-07/28/2016 Lecture Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
08:00AM - 10:05AM

Office/Phone: Room TBD Office Hours: TBD

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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 11th edition (8th, 9th. & 10th are OK).

Reading Assignments: A weekly 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, excluding the final. The final exam will consist of 10 questions worth 30 points (this section covers the entire semester's class discussions and reading assignments). 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. There will be three (3) one-page papers due; each worth 30 points. The due dates are listed on the calendar at the end of this syllabus. A detailed explanation of the assignments will likewise be incorporated at the end of this syllabus.

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 Blackboard 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 3 classes in the first two weeks. 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 you 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 are late, enter through the back door. 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; I will enforce this policy to its fullest. 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 (plus class participation).

Total Possible Points: 280

Homework assignments (12 x 5) 60 points. If 1 or 2 answers are incorrect you will still receive full credit. 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 Assignments (3 x 30) 90 points.

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

Final: 30 points

Class Participation: 10 points

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 provided you submit a ½ page typed 'excuse' based upon sociological principles for each assignment that is submitted late. Each 'excuse' needs to be different and original – no duplications.

Late writing assignments will likewise be accepted within 1 week from the due date provided you submit a ½ page typed 'sociological excuse' for the paper being late.

READING & EXAM SCHEDULE (subject to change)

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Sociological Perspective	Chapter 1	6/21
Culture	Chapter 2	6/22
Socialization	Chapter 3	6/27

EXAM #1 June 29th

Social Structure/Interaction	Chapter 4	6/29
Written project # 1 due		7/5
Groups/Organizations	Chapter 5	7/5
Deviance and Crime	Chapter 6	7/7
Written project # 2 due		7/11

EXAM #2 July 12

Global Stratification	Chapter 7	7/12
Social Class in the U.S.	Chapter 8	7/14
Race and Ethnicity	Chapter 9	7/18

EXAM #3-----July 20th

Gender and Age	Chapter 10	7/20
Written project # 3 due		7/21
Politics/Economics	Chapter 11	7/25
Education and Religion	Chapter 13	7/26

Exam #4 & Final July 28th (you will need 2 scantron cards!)

Important Dates:

Last day to drop the class & get full refund: Day 1 (6/20)

June 26: last day to drop without 'W'

July 4: Holiday - no class

July 11: Last day to drop with a 'W'

After July 11: letter grade is given

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 Blackboard.
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** go 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.

Written Assignments:

Written assignments are to be typed, double-spaced, one-page 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.

Writing assignment # 1 due July 5th

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.

Writing assignment # 2 due July 11th

Topic: Should food stamps 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.

Writing assignment # 3 due July 21st

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?

The writing assignments will be each worth 30 points and will be graded according to the following criteria: 10 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 10 points for your summary and overall appearance (length, grammar, spelling, and organization).