**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**SOCIOLOGY-1A-51924**

**INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY**

**Reedley Community College**, **Fall, 2022**

**Instructor: Rebeca Rangel M.A.**

**SOCIOLOGY-1A-****51924.** **08/08-12/09/22**

**Portable classroom;** **ROOM 5**: **Tuesday-Thursday,** **2:00-3:15 pm**

**Email:** [**rebeca.rangel@scccd.edu**](mailto:rebeca.rangel@scccd.edu)

**I. Course Description;**

Sociology 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 application 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 examined, discussed and applied to our own life experience.

**II. Course Objectives**; To become familiar with the three primary sociological theories so that you may apply them to your understanding of the world, they are; **Symbolic Interaction**, **Structural Functionalist** and **Conflict Theory.**

1. To implement the major concepts that sociologists have devised in the study of society.
2. I expect all students to participate **in a respectful** and intelligent manner during class discussion.
3. To be able to **think creatively** and **critically** about sociological concepts and to apply them to "our lives” and the world around us.
4. To develop the ability to demonstrate and provide real world/life examples of sociological concepts in classroom discussions.

**Communication Policy**

**Announcements will be emailed to students on a regular basis. It is your responsibility to check your email regularly, I will be sending you important information about course assignments.**

When you contact me by email ([rebeca.rangel@scccd.edu](mailto:rebeca.rangel@scccd.edu)), when submitting messages, **please include the following** in the **subject box:** **Identify which course you are in**, example; **SOC-1A, # 51924. Be sure to check your messages frequently.** Please allow 24 to 48-hour turnaround time for emails, if you do not hear from me, that means I did not receive your email, **please resend your message.**

**The following link is worth a visit, if you are not sure about taking this course;** [**www.thoughtco.com/should-i-drop-a-class=793148**](http://www.thoughtco.com/should-i-drop-a-class=793148)

If you are struggling with the course, contact me immediately. I want and expect **all** students to do well in this course. I have no way of knowing how you are doing or what is going on, in reference to our course unless you contact me. Again**, please do not hesitate to contact me**. I am here for you.

**III. Course Organization;**

The course objectives will be reached through a program of: directed reading, writing, lectures, exams and discussion, see below:

1. **Research paper at least 800 words, see, X. Suggested Topics for Research Assignment for your research paper topic and VII. READING & EXAM SCHEDULE for Research paper due; 09/22, 8:00 am, due in seven weeks.**
2. **Three exams. see: VII. READING & EXAM SCHEDULE**
3. **Eighteen class meetings;** Attendance and participation are required**.**
4. Fourteen films, to be reflected within class discussions along with assigned reading.
5. **Text: Essentials of Sociology, A Down to Earth Approach, James Henslin, 13th edition.**  **ISBN: 978-0134205649, Editions 12 and 11, are also acceptable.**
6. **Reading Assignments:** Scheduled weekly are included within syllabus.

**Lecture/classroom discussion:** Are designed to supplement textbook reading assignments.

My goal is to discuss issues and experiences as they relate to textbook assignments, in a thoughtful and intelligent manner. **Plan on reading Henslin Textbook, otherwise, it will be difficult to participate in discussions or earn a passing grade.**

**IV. Course Requirements;**

**1. Exams:** Will be administered online; Within Canvas, in Quizzes tab . There will be three exams covering the assigned readings and will be in the form of multiple-choice and true or false. **It is your responsibility to be prepared for exams when they are scheduled. There are no make-up exams.** Please plan on reading all assigned Henslin Chapters.

**2. Written Assignment:**

a. There is one written research assignment, on a **topic approved by instructor**. Written Assignment must be at least, 800, words with a title and resource page. For suggested topics go to **X**.

b. **Research assignment is to be uploaded onto Assignments tab within Canvas.**

**4.** **Late Assignments**: Students are responsible for turning assignments in on time. If an emergency prevents you from turning assignment in on time, you must notify me **in advance of due date** . **Late assignments will automatically be marked down 50%.**

**5. Writing Standards**: It is assumed students can perform professionally in preparing work required for this class and will submit all assignments by due date. All assignments are to be spell-checked and grammar-checked and follow general **APA requirements**

(i.e. citing references, etc.) as appropriate for the assignment.  **APA requirements are free & available on the internet and library.**

**V. Attendance/Participation;**

1. Students are expected to participate **intelligently** and **respectfully** during class discussion.

2. A percentage of your grade will be based on attendance and participation.

Attendance will be taken every class meeting and **is required.** There is learning that is not directly evaluated and missed if you are not in class. In other words,

**Attendance and participation are necessary in order to success in this course**.

3.  **My policy is to drop anyone who misses the equivalent of one week of classes**.

4.Being tardy is disruptive to class, I will count two tardies as one absence. It is ultimately your responsibility to withdraw from the course**.**

5. If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining the information conveyed in missed class.

6. **If you have any special needs, please inform me as soon as possible so that I may accommodate you.** The Disabled Students Program and Services,

**DSPS 638-0332,** 8:00am-5:00pm , **Monday through Friday or Counseling Services, 559-638-0337.**

**VI. Grading:**

All grading will be on the basis of number of points earned out of a total points possible (490)\*

I. Research assignment 150

II. Attendance & Class Participation: 180

III. Exam I (1-4) 20

IV. Exam II Midterm (5-8) 40

V. Exam III Final (9-13) 100

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**Total possible** 490

**\*The total points are subject to change.**

**VII. READING & EXAM SCHEDULE (subject to change)**

**TOPIC READING DATE**

**WK 1****, Ch 1,** **Sociological Perspective**,  **8/9 & 8/11**

**3 Assignments due; 08/11/22;**

1. **Select Research Assignment topic due.**
2. **list five critical points to remember within syllabus**
3. **Select one** of the three primary Sociological theories; **Structural Functional**, **Symbolic Interaction** and **Conflict** **and one concept from CH 1 and** **view Film; The Boy who harnessed the Wind, true story, Netflix**

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**WK 2 ,** **Ch 2,** **Culture,**  **Films;** Growing up in America, ages; 7,14 and 21. **8/16 & 8/18**

**Films;** Growing up in America, ages; 7,14 and 21.

**Age 7;** [**Meryl Streep - Age 7 in America (1991) - YouTube**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bW-EpDhPvuE)**, Age; 14;** [**HDev\_Age14\_Part1\_30m07s**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZjCCEdg3o44)

**Age 21; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdjggwDo-Ds>**

**WK 3****, Ch 3,** **Socialization,** **Films;** **Dallas Buyers Club**, Matthew McConaughey, true story and

film; **14 Peaks, Nothing is Impossible, Netflix. Documentary. 8/23 & 8/25 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**WK 4, Ch 3, continued /** **Minimalism, A Documentary about the important things. 8/30 & 9/01**

**WK 5,** **Ch 4, Social Structure..** **Green Book,** based on true story and **EXAM I** **9/06 & 9/08**

**EXAM 1\_\_9/08\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**WK 6, Ch 5, Groups/Organizations,** **film; The Billion Dollar Code. Netflix 9/13** & **9/15**

**WK 7, Ch 6, Deviance..** **Coded Bias** and **The Great Hack, Netflix (skip Ch7)**  **9/20 & 9/22**

**\_ Research Assignment Due today 9/22\_(submit online in Canvas within Assignments tab)**

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**WK 8, Ch 8, Social Class,** **One of Us, (the life of three Hesidic Jews) 9/27 & 9/29**

**WK 9 ,** Ch 9, **Race & Ethnicity ;** **Don’t Look Up. Netflix 10/04 & 10/06**

**EXAM #2 MIDTERM, 10/06\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**WK 10, Ch 10, Gender and Age; Netflix; What the Health. 10/11 & 10/13**

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**WK 11,** Ch 12,  **Marriage & Family** **(skip Ch11)** **10/18 & 10/20**

**Film; Loving,** first interracial couple in the U.S. case went to Supreme Court. Based on true story,

on **youtube and Netflix.**

**WK 12, Ch13, Education & Religion**, **film; Dirty Money (**payday loan industry), **10/25 & 10/27**

WK 13, Ch 15, **Social Change and the Environment..** **Don’t Look Up.** **(skip Ch14) 11/01 & 11/03**

WK 14, Ch15, **Social Change.. continued,**  **Film, My Octopus Teacher, 11/08 & 11/10**

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**WK 15,**  **Research Assignment presentations** **11/15 & 11/17**

**WK 16**  **Research Assignment presentations** **11/22 & 11/24**

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**Thanksgiving Break**  **11/24-26**

**WK 1****7, Research presentations continued**  **11/29 & 12/01**

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**WK, 18 Research presentations continued Final EXAM 12/06-08 12/06-08**

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VIII Suggestions for Student Success

1. Be on time (or early)
2. If you stop attending class, drop the course.
3. **Keep the course syllabus. It has information you may find helpful.**
4. If you are late, please **don't** begin a conversation with someone who was paying attention before you interrupted the class with your late arrival.
5. When the paper is written beautifully but doesn't include what Professor (or the text) is teaching, it is naturally assumed that it was taken from the Internet.
6. No, the instructor does not carry a stapler.
7. Keep your e-mail messages **short** and to the point-**state the class** **you’re in** as well.
8. If you have any questions about your grade, check **before** the end of the semester to avoid any surprises.
9. Within class, I expect **mutual respect.** This means no “chatting/talking” while I am lecturing or while classmates are talking.
10. Feel free to share your opinion with classmates, **WHEN you are given the floor.**
11. If you are late, please enter the classroom quietly. If you must leave early let me know before class begins.
12. Sleeping in class will not be tolerated.
13. **While in class, cellphones are off.**

***THE USE OF ANY Electronic DEVICE IN CLASS IS PROHIBITED*.**

1. If you cannot control yourself in a classroom setting, please **unenroll** from this

course immediately. Violation of these “rules” may result in you being required to leave the class (if this behavior continues, you can lose your attendance points and or be suspended).

**The college has a strict policy on cheating and plagiarism;**

**I will enforce this policy to its fullest. I reserve the right to fail a student for cheating.**

**IX. Extra-Credit Opportunities**

I will extend opportunities to earn extra-credit points by: viewing specific films, attending school, community events or listening to and submitting an

**opinion paper**, on a radio program which relates to Sociology. Each opportunity is worth a maximum of five points, total extra credit possible, 10 points.

To earn the extra-credit points, you will need to write the one page opinion paper relating **your perceptions** of what occurred. Paper must be submitted **within** **one week** of the event, movie or program.

**X. Suggested Topics for Research Assignment**

1. **Racism in America**
2. **Media & its affect on youth and or community**
3. **Food democracy, (fooddemocracynow.org)**
4. **Youth culture, mean girls and competition**
5. **At-risk youth, the cost of dropping out**
6. **Gun culture in the United States.**
7. **Sociology of Sexuality in America.**
8. **Immigration & the American Economy**
9. **The cost of poverty to society**
10. **The role of religion or Cults in Society**
11. **White Collar Crime: Netflix: All the Queen’s Horses. 2017**
12. **Sweatshops in America**
13. **Women in nontraditional employment**
14. **Equal pay for equal work, (Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009)**
15. **LGBT community and equality, are we there yet?**
16. **Violence in American Culture, causes, (solutions)**
17. **Education in America, can we afford it?**
18. **Homelessness in America, who are the homeless?**
19. **The cost of drug addiction to people affected and or society**
20. **Corporate America/ the 1% & poverty , is there a Connection**
21. **Global warning, how does it affect society?**
22. **Technology and the 21st Century**
23. **The prison industrial complex and the privatization of prisons and the military:**

**- (**[**https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-dark-truth-about-blackwater/**](https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-dark-truth-about-blackwater/)**)**

**-Yale Review International Studies,(<http://yris.yira.org/essays/707>) private military contractors**

**-(**[**https://www.sentencingproject.org**](https://www.sentencingproject.org)**) private prisons in America**

1. **Drop outs & education. What does it mean to the future of our country?**

This is only a working list. It is not comprehensive. Your research paper may be on a topic of your choice, **with instructor’s approval.**

**XI. Research Assignment**

**Research Assignment** DUE; Wednesday; Week 7; **09/22, 8am**  
 Late work not accepted, no exceptions.

1. **Required;** **Submit Research topic for approval; 08/11.**due via email or Canvas messenger **for instructor’s approval.**
2. Research paper, **800 words,** see above for Suggested Topic for Research Assignment.
3. Writing Standards:  
   It is assumed students can write at college level, which is required for this class and will submit all assignments by due dates. All documents are to be spell-checked, grammar-checked and follow **APA format requirements**  
   (i.e. citing references, etc.) as appropriate for the assignment. **APA requirements** are free & available on the internet and library.
4. Integrate at least one of the sociological theories; Symbolic Interaction, Structural Functionalism and/or Conflict.
5. **Be sure to conclude within your Research Assignment**; recommendation/s, a fix, solution/s. In your paper you will be discussing a social issue, event or institution. **Again**, whatever your topic is, your conclusion needs to address recommendations for alleviating or ‘fixing’ the issue or condition within society. In other words, propose solution/s within the conclusion of your Research Paper.
6. **Provide at least 12 resources** on your reference page, person interviews are acceptable.
7. Three Examples below;  
   1. **Homeless** How do people become homeless? Who are the homeless? Do other countries have a homeless issue? As US being the richest country in the world, what are we doing to fix this? Do Americans care about homeless people? Why/why not?   
   2. Racism/Discrimination In America You need to focus on specific examples; **Racism/Discrimination In America** toward people of color (minorities) if this is your topic, what about Racism toward minorities? Immigrants? Women? How it affects them? Where does it occur? As small children in school, high school, within the workforce? There are several directions you can go in. Where does racism/discrimination come from? How does it spread? How can it be prevented?  
   3. **Education in America** and can we afford it? Be more specific. What education? Kindergarten to 12th grade? College? Address plus and minus’s of access to education, why you believe we can/cannot afford education?

As you move forward with your research, keep in mind, two factors; you need to narrow your topic, example; racism in education, who gets ahead, how, why? Racism in employment, sports, health education. Racism in politics. Which populations are most affected, where? These are only suggestions. Narrowing/focusing topic, means you are more thorough in what you decide to write.