

Sociology 101 – Introduction to Sociology Syllabus for Spring 2010

Section 003, MWF: 9:00-9:50

Section 004, MWF: 11:00-11:50

KIVA 104

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<u>Office Hours:</u>	Tuesdays 10 - 2 and by appointment		Tuesdays 2 - 4pm

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the sociological perspective and the academic discipline of sociology. As a student in this class, you will become familiar with the basic theoretical frameworks that sociology has developed to explain the social world, as well as research methods used to investigate that world and test these theories. Understanding the sociological perspective can be an enlightening experience. It challenges us to question many of our “common sense” ideas about who we are by revealing how structures of power, culture, and socioeconomics shape our identities and behaviors. By the end of the semester, students should be able to apply basic sociological concepts to contemporary social issues, as well as to their own lives.

Required Materials: (texts also available on 2-hour reserve at Zimmerman Library).

- Anderson, Elijah. 1999. *The Code of the Street: Decency, Violence, and the Moral Life of the Inner City*.
- Conley, Dalton. 2008. *You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking Like a Sociologist*.

- **iClickers:** <http://www.iclicker.com/registration>

Students must purchase “iClickers” for this class. These are available at the UNM Bookstore. For registration, your student ID is your UNM NetID, and your Clicker ID is the number on the bar-code sticker on the back of your clicker.

WebCT: <https://vista.unm.edu/>

This class relies heavily on WebCT. If you do not have regular internet access, please reconsider your enrollment in this class. You should log in **at least once a week** to view and participate in online discussions and make sure your grades are recorded properly. All assignment grades will be posted on WebCT.

FAQ: There are a number of “frequently asked questions” that I have answered on WebCT (copy attached to syllabus). Please consult the FAQ before contacting the instructor with your questions.

Failure to register and use your iClicker and WebCT by Feb. 1st will result in disenrollment.

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/unmsoc101>. You are not required to join Twitter. But if you’d like, you can follow me [@unmsoc101](https://twitter.com/unmsoc101). I occasionally post links to articles and videos of interest and I can answer brief questions. I will “re-tweet” any @comments pertaining to class material, links to relevant news-stories, video-clips, etc. you send.

Course Requirements

Participation (20 points): There are three aspects of participation in this course. iClicker polls (5 points) will be held regularly at the beginning of class. In-class participation (10 points) will consist of: group-work, individual writing, film responses and other activities (no make-ups). Online participation (10 points) includes: discussion of class topics, timely events and related material on WebCT. **Note:** there are 25 points available, but your grade will be calculated out of 20. This means you can earn up to 5 extra credit points in this area.

Quizzes (20 points): Quizzes will be given regularly with iClickers. They will be multiple-choice and related to lecture and readings. There are no make-ups, but I will drop your 3 lowest scores.

Exams (50 points): There will be two exams: a midterm and a final (each worth 25 points). If you have an excused absence for an exam, contact Tom or Ben (before the scheduled exam) to arrange a make-up.

Essays (5 points): There are two essays you will complete for this class.

Code of the Street (5 points): Group discussion about *Code of the Street* chapters on WebCT.

<u>Grading</u>		<u>Grading Scale</u>			
Participation	20	99% or ↑	A+	80 – 82	B-
Quizzes	20	92 – 98	A	77 – 79	C+
Exams	50	90 – 91	A-	70 – 76	C
Essays	5	87 – 89	B+	60 – 69	D
Code of the Street	5	83 – 86	B	59 or ↓	F

Attendance: You are expected to attend all class meetings and participate in class assignments. Failure to do so will adversely affect your grade. Please be on time and stay for the duration of the class. If you are more than 10 minutes late, please don't come in. If you need to leave early, please let me know at the beginning of class. Your iClicker records your attendance. For excused absences, please write your name, the date(s) you missed, and your class section (003,004) on documentation for excused absences. Points allotted on days with excused absence will not count against you.

Classroom Etiquette: During class, you are expected to demonstrate respect to those around you by paying attention and avoiding disruptive behaviors. It is not acceptable for students to sleep, read, text, play video-games, read newspapers, shuffle papers, converse with others, or otherwise engage in disrespectful/disruptive behavior during class. Do not pack up your things until class is dismissed. It is nearly impossible for me to concentrate on lecturing and guiding discussions, and for others to hear, pay attention, and participate when students are being disruptive. University policy on disruptive classroom demeanor is available online at the Dean of Students website: <http://www.unm.edu/~doso/>

Email: If you have a question or problem related to the class that is **not addressed in the FAQ**, please email me from your UNM account using “**SOC 101 003 or 004**” as the subject line. Keep your email brief and professional (please use complete sentences and offer clear statement of your query). You can expect a concise response from me within a day or so. If I do not respond to your email within 2 days (not counting weekends), please resend it.

Academic Disputes: If a student has a complaint about this or any class, it is essential that the student first talk with the professor of the course. This is why the *Pathfinder* says on p. 39 that the “student should first try to resolve the grievance informally by discussing the grievance with the faculty or staff member as soon as reasonably possible after the student becomes or should become aware of the matter.” If this first step is unsuccessful, then the *Pathfinder* lays out the subsequent steps that must be followed in timely fashion. Failure to follow these steps violates due process procedure, and can thus void any grievance.

Dishonesty in Academic Matters “Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The university reserves the right to take disciplinary action, including dismissal, against any student who is found responsible for academic dishonesty. Any student who has been judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course...Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; and misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or outside the university” (*The University of New Mexico Catalog, 2005-2006: 43*).

Student Support Services: In accordance with University Policy 2310 and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any student who, because of a disability, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. It is the responsibility of the student to request accommodation for individual learning needs. For further information, contact the Accessibility Resource Center at 277-3506.

Course Schedule:	Readings From Text
<i>Week 1: Introduction</i> 01/20 Introduction, Syllabus 01/22 The Sociological Imagination Required Essay Due	Conley, chapter 1
<i>Week 2: Sociological Imagination</i> 01/25 The History of Sociology 01/27 Sociological Theories 01/29 The Discipline of Sociology	Conley, chapters 1 and 2
<i>Week 3: Research Methods</i> 02/01 Methods of social science research 02/03 Research ethics and policy 02/05 Research Activity	Conley, chapter 2
<i>Week 4: Culture, Socialization and the Social Construction of Reality</i> 02/08 Culture and Media 02/10 Socialization and the social construction of reality 02/12 Status and roles	Conley, chapters 3 and 4
<i>Week 5: Family and Social forms</i> 02/15 The Family 02/17 The Family and Socialization 02/19 Social groups and organization	Conley, chapters 7 and 5

<p><i>Week 6: deviance and social control</i> 02/22 Deviance and Social Control 02/24 Crime 02/26 Authority and the State</p>	Conley, chapters 6 and 11
<p><i>Week 7: Education and economy</i> 03/01 Economy 03/03 Economy and the State 03/05 Education</p>	Conley, chapters 10 and 8
<p><i>Week 8: Economy</i> 03/08 Education and Cultural reproduction 03/10 Review 03/12 Mid-term Exam</p>	Conley, chapter 8
<p><i>Spring Break! No Class 03/15-19</i></p>	
<p><i>Week 9: Introduction to Inequality Sex and Gender</i> 03/22 The Social Construction of Sex and Gender 03/24 Sexuality and Gender Inequality 03/26 <i>Film: Tough Guise</i></p>	Conley, chapter 12
<p><i>Week 10: Race and Ethnicity</i> 03/29 The Social Construction of Race and Ethnicity 03/31 Consequences of Inequality 04/02 Racial and Ethnic Relations</p>	Conley, chapter 13
<p><i>Week 11: Health Inequalities</i> 04/05 Health care in the US 04/07 Health Inequalities 04/09 Health Inequalities</p>	Conley, 16
<p><i>Week 12: Stratification</i> 04/12 Stratification 04/14 Poverty 04/16 Overview/catch-up</p>	Conley, 14 and 15
<p><i>Week 13: Inequality wrap up</i> 04/19 Inequality wrap-up 04/21 Intersectionality 04/23 Introduction to Code of the Street</p>	<p>On WebCT: McIntosh, “White Privilege and Male Privilege, Unpacking the Knapsack.” Anderson, Introduction</p>
<p><i>Week 14: Code of the Street</i> 04/26 Code of the Street 04/28 Code of the Street 04/30 Code of the Street</p>	Anderson, Introduction; Chapters 1 and 2
<p><i>Week 15: Code of the Street</i> 05/03 Film wrap-up and discussion Required essay 2 Due 05/05 Code of the Street wrap-up and Review 05/07 Final Exam</p>	Anderson chapter 3 and 4

Sociology 101 Frequently Asked Questions (1/20/2010)

iClickers

Is my iClicker working/registered?

If you are getting points for quizzes, your clicker is registered. The link to register your iClicker is posted on the main page of WebCT. Be sure to use your UNM NetID (not your lobo-number) when you register. You are responsible for making sure that your iClicker is working.

I can't see my clicker number, how do I register it?

I can register your clicker manually after class or during office hours. This process takes a few minutes, so plan on spending some time after class to do so.

I forgot my iClicker, can I still get participation/quiz points?

No. I drop the three lowest quiz scores, forgetting your clicker once or twice won't hurt you.

My clicker got lost or stolen. What do I do?

Please check with me to see if someone turned it in. You will need to replace the clicker as soon as possible. When you purchase a replacement, please email me your new clicker number and your NetID.

Absences:

I missed participation assignments that happened before I was enrolled. Why does that count against me?

Missing class for any reason, including enrolling after the semester starts, runs the risk of losing participation points. There are other ways to get participation points.

I found this really interesting article/video-clip that highlights a topic we covered.

Awesome! When students make connections with the material and current events, that's what sociology is all about. You should start a new topic in the discussion section. Be sure to embed your video or post a link to the article (it helps if you include a quote so we can get an idea about what you found interesting). To start off the discussion, say a few things about what you found interesting/relevant and ask what your fellow students think.

I missed class today, what did we cover? Did I miss anything important?

Unless you have experienced a catastrophic event that requires you to miss an unusual amount of class (more than 6 classes), there is no need to email the instructor. Lecture-slides are posted before class and podcasts of lectures are uploaded in a timely fashion.

I missed a film. Can I borrow it or watch it some other time?

I do not lend films out to my students, nor do I schedule special viewings. If you have missed a film that is not available online, you will need to get notes from another student.

Is there any way I can make up points I missed?

No. There are ample avenues for points in this class. You may use them to make-up points.

Grades:

Do you grade on a curve?

I do make adjustments to exam grades when it is called for, but I do this before posting exam scores. I do not curve grades at the end of the semester.

What is my overall grade? Where do I stand?

Your grades are posted on WebCT. I will post mid-term grades after Spring Break and I'll post final grades for review prior to finals week. If you'd like to know where you stand in the meantime, you will need to visit during office hours. University policy prohibits me from discussing student grades over email.

When will grades be posted?

Most grades will be posted within a week of the assignment. Occasionally, this may take a bit longer. Please be patient.

Hey! I turned in an assignment, but I didn't get a grade for it.

Sometimes the sheets get stuck together, or I can't read a name to enter your grade. You are welcome visit during office hours with to look through and find your assignment

Why don't I have any quiz scores posted?

Your iClicker is not registered properly.

How should I study for quizzes and/or exams?

You should read prior to coming to class and take notes on the lecture. I provide the slide outline, but that is not the substance of the lecture. I will not ask questions that require memorization, so focus on how concepts are related to one another rather than how they are defined. Be sure that you get the gist of sociological approaches to understanding different topics, and you should know the explanations/theories that are covered in class.

I found this really interesting article/video-clip that highlights a topic we covered.

Awesome! When students make connections with the material and current events, that's what sociology is all about. You should start a new topic in the discussion section. Be sure to embed your video or post a link to the article (it helps if you include a quote so we can get an idea about what you found interesting). To start off the discussion, say a few things about what you found interesting/relevant and ask what your fellow students think.

Misc. Questions**I'm confused about something I read or something you said, I think you misspoke or said something factually inaccurate.**

In addition to being an instructor, I'm also human. Occasionally, explanations that make sense to me don't resonate with everyone. Additionally, if I present information incorrectly or you believe that I've said something factually inaccurate, please raise your hand and ask me about it then. Chances are, other students have the same questions. This will make the class better for everyone. If you don't want to ask about it in class, write down your question and ask after class or during office hours.

I disagree with something I read (or something you said), it sounds biased/runs counter to my personal beliefs.

This course covers a number of topics that are controversial. Oftentimes, the sociological perspective runs counter to "common-sense" understandings we have about aspects of the social world. Because of this, I *expect* that students will disagree with some of the material they are confronted with in this course. I will never penalize a student for disagreeing with me or the material. In fact, I encourage it. If done well, debate promotes better learning and more understanding. So speak up in class or start a topic in the discussion forum and present your side. When you do so, be sure to offer *credible* evidence (from research—not blogs or other opinion pieces) that supports your position. ”