

Northeastern State University
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Department of Geography and Sociology
Tahlequah, OK

Instructor:

Dr. Ande Kidanemariam
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Course Title

Soc 1113 - Introduction to Sociology

Class Days & Times

TTH - 9:30 -10:45 (SH 110)

Prerequisites:

None

Catalog Description of Course:

Analysis and description of society, culture, the socialization process, social institutions, and social change; consideration of basic sociological theories.

Instructional Materials: (Required textbook)

William E. Thompson and J.V. Hickey, 2002, Society In Focus: Introduction to Sociology. 4TH edition. Addison Wesley Longman Inc.

Course Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to a distinct sociological perspective that will help you to understand better the relationship and connection between your private life and the social world around you. Throughout the course we will explore and examine how our personal, everyday experiences shape and are shaped by the social forces of society in which we live. The central theme of the course will focus on:

- the social construction of reality and social identity formation (who are we?)
- social conformity and social deviance (why do people break the rules?)
- social structures such as groups, organizations, institutions (how do these structures affect us?)
- social inequality (why do some people, groups, societies get more than others?)
- social change (how did we get here and where are we headed?)

Course Objectives: The major objectives of this class are:

(1) to understand the kind of questions and issues sociologists address and the methods they employ to gain and increase understanding of social reality (2) to explore the dynamic relation between individual action or behavior and social structural forces; (3) to deepen our knowledge about the patterns of, and explanations for, social inequality; to enhance students' awareness of the unique sociological perspective that can provide useful insights

about the way the world works and how we can analyze society scientifically; and (5) to help students to develop critical thinking and research skills, both of which are necessary for success in many careers and occupations.

Instructional Procedures:

The class format will consist of lectures, group discussions, and active class participation. You are expected to read the assigned chapters prior to each class and to be prepared to be ACTIVE in class and group discussion. You can expect to be called upon in class to answer questions with regard to the reading.

There will be three exams (including the final). Each exam will consist of multiple choice questions. Each exam is worth 100 points (a total of 300 points). Students are expected to attend class regularly. Four in-class writing/group discussion assignments worth 20 points (5 points each) will be given during the semester, bringing the total to 320 points for the whole semester. No make ups for this particular in class writing assignments.

In case of absence from class, you are responsible for keeping track of material covered, changes made in course outlines, test dates etc. Always feel free to consult with me about anything that relates to this class.

Policy on Makeup Exams:

Makeup exams are generally unfair to other students. So, try not to miss an exam. However, if you do miss a test for reasons or circumstances beyond your control, I will expect you to provide me with *written verification* of illness, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances. Students with University excused absences should provide proof of university program activities.

Note: In case of makeup exams, the Instructor reserves the right to give any type of exam, including essay questions.

Class Attendance:

You are required to attend class regularly. I will be taking class roll daily. Excessive absences will reduce your final grade for the course. Four unexcused absences will result in a grade reduction of one letter grade. Eight; two letter grades, and nine or more will result in an automatic "F" for the course.

Student Evaluation and Grading Scale: The three exams and the various writing assignments will account for a total of 320 points. Final grades will be computed on total points accumulated throughout the course. Grades will not be curved. Your scores will convert to letter grades as follows:

90 - 100 = A
80 - 89 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
59 and below = F

Course Schedule for Readings and Exams (subject to change)

Part I: The Sociological Perspective

Week 1 (14-16) - Introduction to course; *Discovering Society* - chap.1 - text
- Doing Sociology - chap.2

Part II: The Social Framework

Week 2 (21-23) - Culture - chap.3

Week 3 (28-30) - Socialization - chap.4

Week 4 (4 -6) - Society and Social Interaction - chap 5

First Exam (Feb.6)

Week 5 (11-13) - Social Groups and Organizations - chap 6

Part III Social Differentiation and Inequality

Week 6 (18-20) - Deviance and Conformity - chap. 7

Week 7 (25- 27) - Social Stratification (US and Global) - chaps. 8 and 9

Week 8 (4- 6) - Race and Ethnicity – chap 10

Week 9 (11- 13) – Race and Ethnicity (con't)

Midterm Exam (Mar. 13) (material covered immediately after the first test up to this point)

Week 10 (Mar. 18-20) – **Spring Break -No Classes**

Week 11 (25-27) - Age and the Elderly - chap.12

Part IV Social Institutions

Week 12 (1 - 3) - Families- chap 13

Week 13 (8-13) - The Economy and Work - chap. 17

Week 14 (15-17) - Health and Medicine -chap. 18

Week 15 (22-24) - Population, Urbanization, and Ecology - Chap. 19

Week 16 (29-1) - Social Change and the Future - chap. 20

Final Exam: Thursday, May 8, 9:00 am

The last day to drop a course with an automatic “W” for the Spring Semester will be **Friday, April 11, 2003**. If you just disappeared from class without officially dropping the course, you will most likely end up with an “F” grade for the course.

ADA Compliance:

If any student in the class feels that he/she has a disability and needs special accommodations of any nature whatsoever, the instructor will work with you and the University’s Office of Student Affairs to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that you have a fair opportunity to perform in this class. Please advise the instructor of such disability and the desired accommodations at the first class attended.

Inclement Weather/Disaster Policy:

The following are basic premises for the inclement weather policy at Northeastern State University:

1. Classes are expected to be held if at all possible.
2. It is the student’s responsibility to receive the information when weather is questionable.
3. Neither students nor faculty are expected to risk life or limb.
4. Faculty members are obligated to hold classes if the University is not closed, unless

the faculty member is unable to get campus.

Policy: During times of inclement weather, decisions concerning day classes will be made by 6:00 a.m. in order for the media to be notified and for the students to receive the announcement before they leave home. Decisions concerning night classes will be made by 3:00 p.m.

The following media will be notified regarding closing of the campus:

Radio Station:

KRMG 740 AM	Tulsa
KAYI 107 FM	Tulsa
KTLQ 1350 AM	Tahlequah
KEOK 102 FM	Tahlequah
KBIX 1490 AM	Muskogee
KMMY 97 FM	Muskogee
KVOO 1170 AM	Tulsa

Television Stations:

KJRH Channel 2	Tulsa
KOTV Channel 6	Tulsa
KTUL Channel 8	Tulsa
KFSM Channel 5	fort Smith
Cable Channel 96	Tahlequah

The automated attendant message on 918-456-5511 will be modified to include information concerning campus operations during inclement weather.

