**Sociology 1000 – Sociological Principles**

**Fall 2020**

**Tues/Thurs 11:10 AM-12:25 PM**

**Webconference Via Zoom**

**Instructor:** Dan Auerbach **Email:** dauerbac@uwyo.edu

**Office: TBA** **Office Phone:** TBA

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 2:45 PM-4:00 PM

**Teaching Assistant:** Tomi Castillon **Email:** tcastil4@uwyo.edu

**Office Hours: TBD**

**Office: TBD**

**Course Description:**

Sociology 1000 is a survey of the discipline that serves as a foundation for other sociology courses. The course will introduce students to a broad range of topics: from early sociological theory to basic concepts such as culture, inequality, and social structure. Topics range from small-group interactions to global processes. The goal of this class is to provide you with the tools to critically analyze issues of race, class, gender, sexuality, the family, amongst other topics, through a sociological perspective. Most of our attention will be placed on the contemporary United States. However, we will also examine historical transformations in the aforementioned social relationships.

Throughout this course students will be able to: 1) Identify what sociology is and differentiate it from other social sciences; 2) develop an understanding of the sociological imagination; 3) identify and explicate fundamental concepts and theoretical perspectives that sociologists use to analyze social action; 4) extend and apply concepts and theoretical perspectives outside of the readings; 5) think critically about how social structures and processes shape our lives.

**Required Readings:**

There is one required textbook: *Introduction to Sociology, Second Edition*. This is an open-source textbook and is available free, to you, at the following link: <https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-sociology-2e>. You can download a PDF copy, view it online, or even order a print copy. Note: the print copy is not free (the other versions are).

In addition to the textbook there will be other articles that dig a little bit deeper into some of the topics. These articles can be download from the corresponding module on CANVAS. The expectation is that you come to class (your group’s Zoom session) having read the articles and book chapters for that week. The reading schedule for the course is included later in the syllabus.

**Course Requirements:**

Students will be evaluated based on three different types of assignments: exams, short writing assignments, and class participation.

**Exams:** There will be a total of three exams for this course. The first two exams will be “in-class” examinations and will take place during the Thursday class period for that week. The Tuesday class will be devoted to a review session (attendance for the review session is optional). The third exam will take place during Finals week. All three examinations will be non-cumulative. Exam 1 will cover material from week 1 to week 5. Exam 2 will cover material from week 7 to week 10. Exam 3 will cover material from the final weeks of the semester.

The tests will consist of a mixture of multiple choice, short answer, and an essay. Each exam will be worth 100 points.

**Short Writing Assignments:**

There will be four written assignments that are designed to let you “do” sociology by applying sociological concepts discussed in class and found in the readings and lectures. Assignments must be 2 ***double-spaced pages in length with 12-point font, one-inch margins, and Times New Roman font***. Each writing assignment is worth 25 points and is due on a Friday by 11:59 PM. Assignments must be submitted via CANVAS. Late papers will not be accepted.

**Short Assignment #1:**

Mills writes that, “The sociological imagination enables us to grasp history and biography and the relations between the two within society. This is its task and its promise.” Also, in this chapter he introduces us to the concepts of personal troubles and public issues. What does he mean by grasping “history and biography and the relations between the two within society”? How does the distinction between the concepts of personal troubles and public issues help us understand the world sociologically?

Flip through a newspaper (either in print or online) or some other news source and identify one example of what Mills would call an issue. Why would Mills call it a public issue? How might this public issue affect your personal biography? How might others biographies be impacted?

**Short Assignment #2:**

Evaluate a book, movie, or TV show: ***Briefly*** summarize the book, movie, or TV show, and discuss how race, class, gender, ***or*** sexuality is represented. Use concepts from the readings, lectures, and class discussions.

**Short Assignment #3:**

Reflect on your experience working a job in relation to Harry Magdoff’s discussion in, “The Meaning of Work.” Make sure to identify one of the processes mentioned by Magdoff, elaborate on what it means, and then expand on how this relates to your job (previous or current).

**Short Assignment #4:**

Write a short autobiography highlighting themes, concepts, and/or theories that we have addressed in class that have influenced your life. For this assignment, and this assignment only, you can write up to 5 pages double-spaced.

**Participation:**

Throughout the course, there will be numerous in-class activities that are part of your grade. For instance, we will divide into small groups for discussion. Within these groups, specific questions will be addressed. The ideas of the group will be recorded by individuals within the group and turned in at the end of class. Also, on a regular basis, we will take a couple of minutes to pause and reflect on the readings. You will be asked to record your reflections and submit them to CANVAS at the end of class.

**Course Grades:**

Exam #1 100 points

Exam #2 100 points

Exam #3 100 points

Short Writing Assignments 100 points

Participation 50 points

Total 450 points

**Grading Scale:**

**A =90-100**

**B =80-89.9**

**C =70-79.9**

**D =60-69.9**

**F =<60**

**Classroom Behavior Policy:** At all times, treat your presence in the classroom and your enrollment in this course as you would a job. Act professionally, arrive on time, pay attention, complete your work in a timely and professional manner, and treat all deadlines seriously. You will be respectful towards you classmates and instructor. Spirited debate and disagreement are to be expected in any classroom and all views will be heard fully, but at all times we will behave civilly and with respect towards one another. Personal attacks, offensive language, name-calling, and dismissive gestures are not warranted in a learning atmosphere. As the instructor, I have the right to dismiss you from the classroom, study sessions, electronic forums, and other areas where disruptive behavior occurs.

**Diversity Statement:** The University of Wyoming values an educational environment that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive. The diversity that students and faculty bring to class, including age, country of origin, culture, disability, economic class, ethnicity, gender identity, immigration status, linguistic, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, worldview, and other social and cultural diversity is valued, respected, and considered a resource for learning.

**Disability Support:** The University of Wyoming is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you have a disability, including but not limited to physical, learning, sensory or psychological disabilities, and would like to request accommodations in this course due to your disability, please register with and provide documentation of your disability as soon as possible to Disability Support Services (DSS), Room 128 Knight Hall. You may also contact DSS at (307) 766-3073 or [udss@uwyo.edu.](mailto:udss@uwyo.edu) It is in the student’s best interest to request accommodations within the first week of classes, understanding that accommodations are not retroactive. Visit the DSS website for more information at: [www.uwyo.edu/udss](http://www.uwyo.edu/udss).

**Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination Policy—Duty to Report:** While I want you to feel comfortable coming to me with issues you may be struggling with or concerns you may be having, please be aware that I have some reporting requirements that are part of my job requirements at UW.

For example, if you inform me of an issue of sexual harassment, sexual assault, or discrimination I will keep the information as private as I can, but I am required to bring it to the attention of the institution’s Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to talk to those offices directly, you can contact Equal Opportunity Report and Response (Bureau of Mines Room 319, 766-5200, [report-it@uwyo.edu](mailto:report-it@uwyo.edu), [www.uwyo.edu/reportit](http://www.uwyo.edu/reportit)). Additionally, you can also report incidents or complaints to the UW Police Department. You can also get support at the STOP Violence program ([stopviolence@uwyo.edu](mailto:stopviolence@uwyo.edu), [www.uwyo.edu/stop](http://www.uwyo.edu/stop), 766-3296) (or SAFE Project ([www.safeproject.org](http://www.safeproject.org), [campus@safeproject.org](mailto:campus@safeproject.org), 766-3434, 24-Hour hotline: 745-3556).

Another common example is if you are struggling with an issue that may be traumatic or unusual stress. I will likely inform the Dean of Students Office or Counseling Center. If you would like to reach out directly to them for assistance, you can contact them using the info below or going to [www.uwyo.edu/dos/uwyocares](http://www.uwyo.edu/dos/uwyocares).

Finally, know that if, for some reason, our interaction involves a disruptive behavior or potential violation of policy, I inform the Dean of Students, even when you and I may have reached an informal resolution to the incident. The purpose of this is to keep the Dean apprised of any behaviors and what was done to resolve them.

**Student Resources:**

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES: [udss@uwyo.edu](mailto:udss@uwyo.edu), 766-3073, 128 Knight Hall, [www.uwyo.edu/udss](http://www.uwyo.edu/udss)

COUNSELING CENTER: [uccstaff@uwyo.edu](mailto:uccstaff@uwyo.edu), 766-2187, 766-8989 (After hours), 341 Knight Hall, [www.uwyo.edu/ucc](http://www.uwyo.edu/ucc)

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: 766-4286, 312 Old Main, [www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs](http://www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs)

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE: [dos@uwyo.edu](mailto:dos@uwyo.edu), 766-3296, 128 Knight Hall, [www.uwyo.edu/dos](http://www.uwyo.edu/dos)

UW POLICE DEPARTMENT: [uwpd@uwyo.edu](mailto:uwpd@uwyo.edu), 766-5179, 1426 E Flint St, [www.uwyo.edu/uwpd](http://www.uwyo.edu/uwpd)

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT WEBSITE: [www.uwyo.edu/dos/conduct](http://www.uwyo.edu/dos/conduct)

**Substantive Changes to the Syllabus:** All deadlines, requirements, and course structure is subject to change if deemed necessary by the instructor. Students will be notified verbally in class, on our WyoCourses page announcement, and via email of these changes.

**COVID-19 Policies:** During this pandemic, you must abide by all UW policies and public health rulesput forward by the City of Laramie (or by Natrona County if at UW-Casper), the University of Wyomingand the State of Wyoming to promote the health and well-being of fellow students and your own personalself-care. Please review our current policy.

As with other disruptive behaviors, we have the right to dismiss you from the classroom (Zoom and physical), or other class activities if you fail to abide by these COVID-19 policies. These behaviors will be referred to the Dean of Students Office using the UWYO Cares Reporting Form for Student Code of Conduct processes.

**Course Schedule**

**Week 1 (August 25 & 27): Introduction to Sociology**

Read: Chapter 1, “An Introduction to Sociology,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

**Week 2 (September 1 & 3): The Sociological Imagination and Making Sense of the World Differently**

Read: C. Wright Mills, “The Promise”

Michael Schwalbe, “Making Sense of the World Differently”

**Week 3 (September 8 & 10): Culture**

Read: Chapter 3, “Culture,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Lisa Wade, “What’s so Cultural About Hookup Culture”

*Short Assignment #1 Due by 11:59 PM, Friday, September 11*

**Week 4 (September 15 & 17): Society and Social Interaction/Socialization**

Read: Chapter 4, “Society and Social Interaction,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Chapter 5, “Socialization,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Watch: Breaching Norms as demonstrated through “Seinfeld”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RfprRZQxWps&list=PL4JrkjIidhcTYrii1dzOFwhNPLxgdsg8e>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxB-H6f3crY&list=PL4JrkjIidhcTYrii1dzOFwhNPLxgdsg8e&index=2>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGVSIkEi3mM&list=PL4JrkjIidhcTYrii1dzOFwhNPLxgdsg8e&index=6>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RU3Q4nRWq7I&list=PL4JrkjIidhcTYrii1dzOFwhNPLxgdsg8e&index=7>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ssktVpcv9WI&list=PL4JrkjIidhcTYrii1dzOFwhNPLxgdsg8e&index=8>

**Week 5 (September 22 & 24): Deviance, Crime, and Social Control**

Read: Chapter 7, “Deviance, Crime, and Social Control,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Malcolm D. Holmes, “Crime, Race and Ethnicity”

**Week 6 (September 29 & October 1): EXAM 1**

Tuesday: Review session via Zoom

Thursday: Exam via CANVAS, 11:10 AM-12:25 PM

**Week 7 (October 6 & 8): Social Stratification in the United States/Global Inequality**

Read: Chapter 9, “Social Stratification in America,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Chapter 10, “Global Inequality,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Watch: “Fashion: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver,” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VdLf4fihP78>

**Week 8 (October 13 & 15): Race and Ethnicity**

Read: Chapter 11, “Race and Ethnicity,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Rory Kramer, Brianna Remster, and Camille Z. Charles, “Black Lives and Police Tactics Matter”

**Week 9 (October 20 & 22): Gender, Sex, and Sexuality**

Read: Chapter 12, “Gender, Sex, and Sexuality,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Olga Khazan, “The Makeup Tax”

*Short Assignment #2 Due by 11:59 PM, Friday, October 23*

**Week 10 (October 27 & 29): Health and Medicine**

Read: Chapter 19, “Health and Medicine,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Jennifer Tabler, et al., “Getting by with a Little Help from Our Friends”

**Week 11 (November 3 & 5): EXAM 2**

Tuesday: Review session via Zoom

Thursday: Exam via CANVAS, 11:10 AM-12:25 PM

**Week 12 (November 10 & 12): Work and the Economy**

Read: Chapter 18, “Work and the Economy,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Harry Magdoff, “The Meaning of Work: A Marxist Perspective”

**Week 13 (November 17 & 19): Media and Technology**

Read: Chapter 8, “Media and Technology,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Jerry Mander, “Privatization of Consciousness”

*Short Assignment #3 Due by 11:59 PM, Friday, November 20*

**Week 14 (November 24 & Thanksgiving Break): Population, Urbanization, and Environment**

Read: Chapter 20, “Population, Urbanization, and Environment,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

Joy Rayanne Piontak and Michael D. Schulman, “Food Insecurity in Rural America”

**Week 15 (December 1 & 3): Population, Urbanization, and Environment/Social Movements**

Read: Chapter 21, “Social Movements,” in *Introduction to Sociology 2e*

*Short Assignment #4 Due by 11:59 PM, Friday, December 4 (will accept papers until Friday, December 11)*

**Week 16 (Finals Week): EXAM 3**

Date: TBA