

Foundations of Sociology I: Soc 301-001

Winter 2022

CRN 43287

Asynchronous Online: Canvas

Office Hours: MW 11:30-12:30 & by appointment in Cramer Hall 217D

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I've taught this class many times in the traditional style but this is the first time I'm teaching it this way. Since teaching the class all online is new and since Canvas is new, this will be an emergent process. We'll have to see how things are going and what works and what doesn't. This class will be a work in progress! I'll be patient with you as you negotiate this new system and I hope you'll be patient with me.

Since we aren't meeting in person, COVID protocols are less directly relevant, although I hope you maintain them for your protection and for the protection of others. Please prioritize your health and safety.

CONTACT INFO: The best way to contact me is via email. Please be sure to put "Soc 301" in the subject line so I can find your email amidst the spam. If you do not put that in the subject line, I might not read your email. I have a great many students so don't expect an instant reply.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS: The Social Lens by Kenneth Allan. 3rd edition is preferred but older editions are acceptable.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will provide students with an introduction to the Foundations of Sociological Theory, with a special emphasis on Classical Sociology. We will examine how sociological theories work as complex frameworks that sociologists use to explain and analyze social action, social processes, and social structures.

COURSEWORK: Each week's module will have a video lecture, a discussion assignment, and a written assignment. You should start the week by completing the reading before you watch the lecture. After you finish the reading and watch the lecture, make your first discussion post. Your first discussion post is due by 5pm on Tuesday. On Wednesday, check in to read other students' discussion posts. You need to reply to **TWO Different Posts** by 5pm on Friday. The week's assignment is due by 5pm on the next week's Monday - so Assignment 1 is due on Monday of Week 2, and so on.

Weekly Schedule:

- Monday 5pm - Last week's assignment is due
- Tuesday 5pm - First discussion post is due
- Friday 5pm - Two different response posts are due

Grades:

- Weekly Assignments = 10 points each
- Discussion Posts = 4 points for first post, 2 points for each response post
- Final Exam = 100 points
- Total Points = 260

Final grades will be based on the standard curve (90%+ = A, 80-89%= B, etc). You start the quarter with 0 points and accumulate them with each successful assignment.

Reading Schedule (subject to change)

- Week 1: Chapter 1. On Theory (don't neglect the intro to Part 1 on pages 1-4!)
- Week 2: Chapter 3. Marx (yes, we are skipping chapter 2). Please also read "The Communist Manifesto" at <http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1848/communist-manifesto> (you can skip the Preface if you like)
- Week 3: Chapter 3. Marx, continued
- Week 4: Chapter 4. Weber
- Week 5: Chapter 4. Weber, continued
- Week 6: Chapter 5. Durkheim
- Week 7: Chapter 6. Mead
- Week 8: Chapter 6. Simmel
- Week 9: Chapter 7. Gilman
- Week 10: Chapter 7. DuBois

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: This course is heavily dependent on reading. You should read the assigned chapter at the beginning of each week's module. It is your responsibility to have internet access. Participation will take place in the Weekly Discussions. It is important to finish these on time so other students can respond to your posts and so you can get responses from other students. Late discussion posts don't help anybody.

CLASS CONDUCT: In an effort to make this class a learning environment for everyone, please be considerate of the other students in class. This is another reminder to participate in the Weekly Discussions on time! We will be discussing topics that may be controversial, so it is very important that we all maintain respect for the diversity of opinions represented in the class. This is an educational environment, so ideas may be questioned and critiqued but personal attacks will not be tolerated. Please treat online discussion posts with the same level of courtesy and respect for others that you would use in a traditional classroom.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Academic honesty is a cornerstone of meaningful education and a reflection of maturity and integrity. Portland State University is committed to the highest

standards of academic honesty. The Student Conduct Code prohibits all forms of academic cheating, fraud, and dishonesty, but not limited to plagiarism, buying and selling of assignments for others, unauthorized disclosure and receipt of academic information and other practices understood to academically dishonor. Copies of the Student Conduct Code may be obtained by contacting 503-725-4422, or by visiting room 433 in Smith Memorial Center. Any assignment or exam found to be academically dishonest will receive no points for the whole exam/assignment and a referral to the appropriate authority.

In other words, don't cheat or plagiarize!

ACCESS & INCLUSION: PSU values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to fostering mutual respect and full participation for all students. My goal is to create a learning environment that is equitable, useable, inclusive, and welcoming. If any aspects of instruction or course design result in barriers to your inclusion or learning, please notify me. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) provides reasonable accommodations for students who encounter barriers in the learning environment.

If you have, or think you may have, a disability that may affect your work in this class and feel you need accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center to schedule an appointment and initiate a conversation about reasonable accommodations. The DRC is located in 116 Smith Memorial Student Union, 503-725-4150, drc@pdx.edu, <https://www.pdx.edu/drc>.

If you already have accommodations, please contact me to make sure that I have received a faculty notification letter and discuss your accommodations.

Students who need accommodations for tests and quizzes are expected to schedule their tests to overlap with the time the class is taking the test.

Please be aware that the accessible tables or chairs in the room should remain available for students who find that standard classroom seating is not useable.

For information about emergency preparedness, please go to the Fire and Life Safety webpage(<https://www.pdx.edu/environmental-health-safety/fire-and-life-safety>) for information.

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment for my students and for the campus as a whole. Please be aware that federal, state, and PSU policies require faculty members to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination. Similarly, PSU faculty are required to file a report if they have reasonable cause to believe that a child with whom they come into contact has suffered abuse, or that any person with whom they come into contact has abused a child. If you would rather share information about these experiences with an employee who does not have these reporting responsibilities and can keep the information confidential, please contact one of the following campus resources (or visit this link):

- Women's Resource Center (503-725-5672)

- Queer Resource Center (503-725-9742)
- Center for Student Health and Counseling (SHAC): 1880 SW 6th Ave, (503) 725-2800
- Student Legal Services: 1825 SW Broadway, (SMSU) M343, (503) 725-4556

Classroom Requirements for All Students and Faculty Due to Covid-19

The University has established rules and policies to make the return to the classroom as safe as possible. It is required for everyone to follow all the Return to Campus rules and policies. To participate in this class, PSU requires students to comply with the following.

Masks Required at all Times in Classroom

Wear a mask or face covering indoors at all times. Your mask or face covering must be properly worn (fully covering nose and mouth and tight fitting). Mesh masks, face shields, or face covering that incorporates a valve designed to facilitate easy exhalation are not acceptable. Because a mask must be worn in the classroom, there should be no eating or drinking in the classroom. If you have a medical condition or a disability that prevents you from wearing a mask or cloth face covering, you must obtain an accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to be exempt from this requirement.

CDC, State, and County guidance does not limit class size for in-person instruction or require physical distancing.

Vaccination

Be vaccinated against COVID-19 and complete the COVID-19 vaccination attestation form. Those students with medical or nonmedical exemptions or who will not be on campus at all must complete the process described on "COVID-19 Vaccine Exemption Request Form" to establish those exemptions.

Health Check, Illness, Exposure or Positive Test for COVID-19

Complete the required self-check for COVID-19 symptoms before coming to campus each day.

If you are feeling sick or have been exposed to COVID-19, do not come to campus. Call SHAC to discuss your symptoms and situation (503.725.2800). They will advise you on testing, quarantine, and when you can return to campus.

If you test positive for COVID-19, report your result to SHAC and do not come to campus. SHAC will advise you on quarantine, notification of close contacts and when you can return to campus.

Please notify me, (i.e. your instructor), should you need to miss a class period for any of these reasons so that we can discuss strategies to support your learning during this time.

If I become ill or need to quarantine during the term, either I or the department chair will notify you via PSU email about my absence and how course instruction will continue.

Failure to Comply with Any of these Rules

As the instructor of this course, the University has given me the authority to require your compliance with these policies. If you do not comply with these requirements, I may ask you to leave the classroom or I may need to cancel the class session entirely.

In addition, failure to comply with these requirements may result in a referral to the Office of the Dean of Student Life to consider charges under PSU's Code of Conduct. A student found to have violated a university rule (or rules) through the due process of student conduct might face disciplinary and educational sanctions (or consequences). For a complete list of sanctions, see Section 14 of the Student Code of Conduct & Responsibility

Guidance May Change

Please note that the University rules, policies, and guidance may change at any time at the direction of the CDC, State, or County requirements. Please review the University's main COVID-19 Response webpage and look for emails from the University on these topics.