

Foundations of Sociology II: Soc 302-001

Winter 2022

CRN 43288

MWF 10:15-11:20

Fariborz Maseeh Hall 230 (the building formerly known as Neuberger Hall)

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Office Hours: MW 11:30-12:30 and by appointment

Obviously, this quarter is different from other quarters. Health and self care will be our first priority. Do not prioritize this class over your health and well being. Communication will be extra important this quarter. We're all going to have to be flexible under pandemic conditions. This syllabus establishes a set of goals we're going to work toward, but we might have to change things as new situations emerge and as the concept of this class becomes a reality.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:** 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 Contemporary 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.

**CONTACT INFO:** The best way to contact me is via email. Please be sure to put "Soc 302" 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.

**COURSEWORK:**

**EXAMS:** There will be two exams. Students must take both exams in order to earn a passing grade. No early exams will be given. I reserve the right to implement anti-cheating measures during exams.

**ASSIGNMENTS:** There will be 4 scheduled assignments. The assignments will ask you to apply theory to sociological problems. Each will involve a short writing component. Each

assignment will focus on a particular theorist or type of theory. Each assignment will be due one week after it is handed out.

GRADES: Grades will be based on the following:

Exam 1 = 80 points

Exam 2 = 120 points

Assignments = 80 points (20 points apiece)

Participation = 20 points

Final grades will be based on the standard curve. You start the quarter with 0 points and accumulate them with each successful project.

### **CLASS CALENDAR:**

READING SCHEDULE: (a work in progress, subject to change)

WEEK 1: Structural Functionalism, Ch8

WEEK 2: Conflict Theory, Ch9, **Assignment 1 starts 1/14**

WEEK 3: Social Class, Ch10, **A1 due 1/21, A2 starts 1/21**

WEEK 4: Racial & Gender Inequality, Ch 11, **A2 due 1/28**

WEEK 5: Self & Situation: Goffman & Garfinkel, Ch13, **Midterm Exam access starts 2/4**

WEEK 6: Problems in Modernity, Ch14, **Midterm Exam due 2/11**

WEEK 7: Globalization, Ch15, **A3 starts 2/18**

WEEK 8: Postmodernism, Ch16, **A3 due 2/25**

WEEK 9: Identity Politics, Ch17, **A4 starts 3/4**

WEEK 10: Loose Ends and Review for Final Exam, **A4 due 3/11**

FINAL EXAM will take place during finals week, starting Monday, June 7.

**ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:** This course is heavily dependent on reading. Students should complete the assigned readings prior to each class, bring the textbook to class and be prepared to engage in thoughtful discussion regarding the readings. Regular attendance will benefit the dedicated student since exams will cover lecture material not included in the texts. Canvas will be an important component of this course, so make sure you can log in to your account at <http://canvas.pdx.edu/>

**CLASS CONDUCT:** In an effort to make this class a learning environment for everyone, please be considerate of the other students in class. Please try to get to class on time and refrain from leaving before class is done. 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.

**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, usable, 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 at 116 Smith Memorial Student Union, 503-725-4150, [drc@pdx.edu](mailto: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/](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

**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.