Soc 200 Intro to Sociology
Winter 2012, 2pm

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MWF 2-3:05 pm                             Email: basj@pdx.edu
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REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: Our Social World, Condensed Version by Jeanne H.
Ballantine & Keith A. Roberts, ISBN 978-1-4129-6659-7. A copy of this is on reserve at
the PSU Library.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will give students an introduction into the
academic study of society. We will explore fundamental social theories and research
methods used by sociologists to examine the interactions between social structures and
individuals. We will be examining concepts such as culture, socialization, social
structures and institutions, groups and organizations, stratification, deviance, crime, race,
ethnicity, and gender. The goal of the course is to gain a basic knowledge of sociological
concepts and techniques, with a focus on the cultivation of the sociological imagination.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: 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. D2L
will be a small component of this course, so make sure you can log in to your account at
https://d2l.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. Turn off all electronic devices. This
includes iPods, phones, and laptops. If you want to have a chat with your classmates, do
it outside. 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.

If you have a disability and are in need of academic accommodations, please notify me
immediately to arrange needed supports.

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.

**CONTACT INFO:** The best way to contact me is via email. Please be sure to put “Soc 200” 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.

**WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS:** Every Friday we will be working on an assignment based on the topic of the week. These are a mandatory part of the course. Weekly assignments cannot be made up if they are missed. Each student’s lowest scoring assignment will be discarded for the purposes of grading. The format of the assignment will vary. Some will be take-home essays or projects, some will be in-class exercises, and others will be quizzes.

**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.

**GRADES:** Grades will be based on the following:
- Exam 1 = 80 points
- Exam 2 = 120 points
- In-class exercises = 80 points (10 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.

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

- Week 1  
  Chapters 1 & 2: Sociology in Theory & Practice
- Week 2  
  Chapter 3: Culture & Society (No class 1/16)
- Week 3  
  Chapter 4: Socialization & Identity
- Week 4  
  Chapter 5: Social Interaction, Social Structure, Institutions, Solidarity
- Exam 1 is scheduled for Friday, February 10th. Please plan accordingly.
- Week 5  
  Chapter 5: Organizations, Bureaucracy, Rationalization
- Week 6  
  Chapter 6: Conformity, Deviance, & Crime
- Week 7  
  Chapter 7: Stratification & Inequality
- Week 8  
  Chapter 7: Stratification & Inequality
- Week 9  
  Chapter 8: Race & Ethnicity
- Week 10  
  Loose Ends and Leftovers

The final exam is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 21st at 12:30 pm.** The final exam is considered part of the class and attendance is mandatory.