SOC 200: Introduction to Sociology
Portland State University
Course Information Sheet
Fall 2018

Section: 003; MWF 10:15AM-11:20PM, CH171
Instructor: Sasha Bassett, MS
Office: CH 217W
Office Phone: 503-725-5820
Office Hours: MW 11:30AM-12:30PM
E-mail: sbassett@pdx.edu

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:
The best way to reach me is via email at sbassett@pdx.edu. Please do not email me via D2L.
You can expect a reply within 24-48 hours during business days. Response times may be longer on weekends or holidays. Students may come in anytime during office hours. If the scheduled times for office hours do not work with your schedule, please email me to set up an appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Sociology 200 provides an examination of sociological concepts and perspectives concerning human groups; includes attention to socialization, culture, institutions, stratification, and societies. It also offers consideration of fundamental concepts and research methodology.

PREREQUISITES:
There are no prerequisites.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Upon successful completion of Sociology 200, students should be able to:

- Interpret the major theoretical perspectives.
- Explain the research process used in sociology.
- Analyze the components of culture.
- Explain the process of socialization.
- Examine the influence of group membership on the individual
- Think critically about social structure.
- Examine and critique forms of social resistance.
- Evaluate the significance of different identities (race/gender/class) in society.
- Formulate explanations for crime and deviance.
- Describe and compare different types of social institutions.
- Assess the implications of globalized society.
- Think critically about development and progress
- Produce sociological explanations for social problems.
REQUIRED MATERIALS:


*NOTE: The version of the textbook I have made available through the bookstore is a “binder edition”, rather than a traditional textbook. I have made a bound copy of this text available for checkout at the PSU Library Course Reserves (AKA circulation desk). An e-text can be purchased using this link: https://digital.wwnorton.com/realworld5.

Internet and D2L: Some readings for this course will require the use of a reliable internet connection. Internet issues will not be a valid excuse for submitting late assignments. Many course resources will be available on D2L (https://d2l.pdx.edu/). If you have trouble accessing your D2L account, contact the OIT help desk (SMSU 18) at 503-725-HELP or help@pdx.edu.

Word Processing and Printer: You will be required to write a final paper for this course. Handwritten papers will not be accepted, and thus, you will need to have access to software like Microsoft Word and to a printer. Both are available in campus computer labs; PSU students also have 500 free (black and white) pages allocated to their ODIN account per term.

Book, Movie or TV show: The final paper for this course requires you to read a book, or watch a movie or TV show with themes that align with the course material. In this sense, a Netflix, Hulu, or Amazon account may be useful but is not required. You may also locate many of these materials through the public library system – visit https://multcolib.org/ for more information.

CRITERIA FOR GRADING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graded Item(s)</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Weighted % of Final grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-Class Activities</td>
<td>5 points each (125 points total)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>50 points each (200 points total)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>75 Points</td>
<td>25%</td>
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Please note that while the major requirements have point values assigned to them, this course relies on weighted totals to determine students’ final grades. If you have questions or concerns about the grading of your work, please email sbassett@pdx.edu.

ASSIGNMENTS:

While this course will not assign traditional “homework”, you will be expected to keep up with the assigned readings to prepare for in-class quizzes, activities, discussions, and exams.

Additionally, you will be expected to write a final paper for this course, to be uploaded to D2L by the end of the final exam period. This paper will require you to apply course concepts to the book, movie, or TV show of your choice in 4-6 double-spaced pages. An extended guideline and rubric for the final paper will be distributed to the class at the end of week 3. This is a task that you will work towards throughout the term; proposals for final paper topics are due in week 5.

Extra credit assignments may occasionally be offered as the course progresses. This is subject to the discretion of the instructor – students should not rely on extra credit to boost their scoring.
QUizzes & IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES:

Be prepared for quizzes or short in-class group assignments during any class session. These may include multiple-choice questions covering major points from the assigned readings, short responses, or class discussion. A student who is not present to take a quiz or participate in the group assignment will receive a grade of zero, except in the case of a documented excused absence (defined in EXAMS below). These activities will account for your participation points.

**Quiz Forgiveness:** For a variety of reasons, this course observes a degree of “forgiveness” with respect to the scores you will accumulate on quizzes throughout the term. Specifically – your two lowest quiz scores (regardless of daily attendance) will be dropped from your overall grade.

**MISSed EXaminations:**

Students who do not have a university-excused absence will not be allowed to make up a scheduled examination. You must have written documentation for the absence and have notified the instructor within 24 hours of the absence to be able to schedule a make-up exam. A grade of zero will be assigned for any student who misses an exam without an officially excused absence.

Exams may be rescheduled with: 1. DRC recommendation, 2. Prior clearance from the instructor (must arrange 1 week in advance of the exam), 3. Documentation of “emergency” circumstances.

**ATTendance POLICY:**

Although attendance is not mandatory, it is highly important to your grade in this course. In-class activities will be frequent, and missing class will negatively affect your final grade. Additionally, excessive tardiness will not be tolerated, as it is disruptive to the instructor and other students. Students arriving any later than 15 minutes after the start of class will not receive credit for any exercises or assignments on that day. Attendance will be factored into borderline grades.

In the event that a student enrolled in this course is no longer able to attend classes, they must withdraw themselves if they wish to receive a "W" rather than an "F" on their transcript. Please refer to the student handbook for more information on this process.

**CLASSROOM POLICIES:**

**Electronic devices.** Electronic devices (including but not limited to laptops, cell phones, iPads, etc.) are highly discouraged in the classroom. If you wish to use a laptop to take notes during class, you will be required to sit in the front row(s) of the classroom. This policy is designed to increase classroom engagement, and is informed by recent research showing that the use of laptops in classrooms generally does not improve student learning.

**Academic Honesty.** The PSU Student Conduct Code prohibits all forms of academic cheating, fraud, and dishonesty. This includes but is not limited to plagiarism, buying and selling of assignments for others, unauthorized disclosure and receipt of academic information, and other practices understood to academically dishonest. Information on avoiding plagiarism available at https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/. Any assignment or exam found to be academically dishonest will receive no credit and you will be referred to the Office of the Dean of Student Life. You will fail the course if any additional incidents of academic dishonesty occur. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further information.
**Classroom Conduct.** Rather than repeating the readings, classroom activities are designed to clarify the concepts and questions from the reading, summarize the big picture, and expand on difficult concepts. Multiple modes of presentation and active learning are integrated into the class to increase your comprehension and retention of new ideas. You are expected to contribute to this classroom environment by being prepared, being an active participant, and being courteous to your classmates. Being prepared includes bringing your textbook to class.

PLEASE BE ADVISED that some discussion may turn to current politics. All students should aim to question and critique ideas without personally attacking others. If your behaviors are negatively affecting the classroom experience and you do not improve after a warning, you will be asked to leave the classroom and will lose all credit for the day. Persistent issues will result in a report to the Office of the Dean of Student Life. If a student is asked to leave the classroom because of uncivil behavior, the student may not return to that class until he or she arranges a conference with the instructor: it is the student's responsibility to arrange for this conference.

**Harassment and Discrimination.** 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 I have the responsibility to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination. If you would rather share information about sexual harassment, sexual violence or discrimination to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can find a list of those individuals at [http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/get-help](http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/get-help). For more information about Title IX, please complete the required student module *Creating a Safe Campus* at [http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/safe-campus-module](http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/safe-campus-module).

**ADDITIONAL STUDENT RESOURCES:**

**Disability Resource Center.** Any student with a physical, psychiatric/emotional, or learning disability is encouraged to contact the DRC to arrange academic accommodations to support your success in the course (503-725-4150, drc@pdx.edu). Students registered with the DRC can receive reasonable accommodations regarding the scheduled deadlines for this course.

**Writing Center.** The Writing Center at PSU offers a variety of resources, and students are strongly encouraged to utilize their services while working on the final paper. For more information (or to schedule an appointment), please visit [https://www.pdx.edu/writing-center/](https://www.pdx.edu/writing-center/).

**Sociology Department Advising.** The department of sociology offers a variety of academic advising services to undergraduate students. For more information on this, please visit [https://www.pdx.edu/sociology/undergraduate-advising](https://www.pdx.edu/sociology/undergraduate-advising).

**Veterans Resource Center.** The VRC serves as a baseline of support for student veterans, active duty service members and dependents in order to meet their unique academic, professional and personal needs. Please visit [https://www.pdx.edu/veterans/vrc/](https://www.pdx.edu/veterans/vrc/) for more information.

**Women’s Resource Center.** The PSU Women’s Resource Center advocates for the best educational and campus experience by advancing social justice and by working towards a safe and healthy campus for all students. Please visit [https://www.pdx.edu/wrc/](https://www.pdx.edu/wrc/) for more information.

**Queer Resource Center.** The Queer Resource Center provides students along sexuality and gender spectra with the support they need to persist to graduation. For more information, please visit [https://www.pdx.edu/queer/](https://www.pdx.edu/queer/).
**Cultural Resource Centers.** The Cultural Resource Centers provide leadership, employment, and volunteer opportunities; resources such as computer labs, event, lounge and study spaces; and extensive programming. Cultural resource centers at PSU include:

- La Casa Unida Student Center
- Multicultural Student Center
- Native American Student & Community Center
- Pan-African Commons
- Gathering Space

For more information, please visit [https://www.pdx.edu/cultural-resource-centers/](https://www.pdx.edu/cultural-resource-centers/).

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**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

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<tr>
<th>TOPIC:</th>
<th>HOW TO PREPARE:</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday (9/24): Introduction to the Course</td>
<td>Read: Syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday (9/26): The Sociological Perspective</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein pg. 1-20</td>
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<td>Friday (9/28): Basic Social Concepts</td>
<td>Read: D2L (Conley pg. 18-41)</td>
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<td><strong>Week 2:</strong></td>
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<td>Monday (10/1): Structural Functionalism</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein pg. 20-23</td>
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<td>Wednesday (10/3): Conflict Theory</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein pg. 23-27</td>
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<td>Friday (10/5): Symbolic Interaction</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein pg. 27-38</td>
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<td><strong>Week 3:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday (10/8): Sociological Research Methods</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein Ch. 2</td>
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<td>Wednesday (10/10): <strong>Exam 1</strong></td>
<td>Review: <strong>Key Concepts 1</strong></td>
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<td>Friday (10/12): Culture &amp; Society</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein Ch. 3</td>
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<td><strong>Week 4:</strong></td>
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<td>Monday (10/15): Socialization</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein Ch. 4</td>
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<td>Wednesday (10/17): Organizations &amp; Groups</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein Ch. 5</td>
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<td>Friday (10/19): The Economy &amp; Work</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein Ch. 11</td>
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<td><strong>Week 5:</strong></td>
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<td>Monday (10/22): Stratification &amp; Social Class</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein Ch. 7</td>
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<td>Wednesday (10/24): The State</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein pg. 277-290</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday (10/26): <strong>Exam 2</strong></td>
<td>Review: <strong>Key Concepts 2</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Week 6:</strong></td>
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<td>Monday (10/29): Conformity, Deviance, &amp; Crime</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein Ch. 6</td>
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<td>Wednesday (10/31): Race &amp; Ethnicity</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein Ch. 8</td>
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<td>Friday (11/2): Gender &amp; Sexuality</td>
<td>Read: Ferris &amp; Stein Ch. 9</td>
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**DUE:** Final paper topics (Submit via D2L by 5PM on 2/9)
**Dates are subject to change. Any changes to this document will be announced in class and via D2L.**

**Week 7:**
- Monday (11/5): The Family
- Wednesday (11/7): Guest Speaker – Queeries Panel
- Friday (11/9): **Exam 3**

**Week 8:**
- Monday (11/12): CLASS CANCELLED - CAMPUS CLOSED FOR VETERANS DAY
- Wednesday (11/14): Education & Religion
- Friday (11/16): The Media

**Week 9:**
- Monday (11/19): Technology
- Wednesday (11/21): Urbanization & Development
- Friday (11/23): CLASS CANCELLED – DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING

**Week 10:**
- Monday (11/26): Environmental Sociology
- Wednesday (11/28): Medical Sociology
- Friday (11/30): **Exam 4**

**FINAL EXAM PERIOD:** WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5th, 2018: 10-15-12:05 PM
**NO CLASS. YOUR FINAL PAPER IS DUE VIA D2L BY THE END OF THE PERIOD.**

**NOTE:** Final grades for this course will be posted to Banweb no later than December 11th, 2018.