SOC 200: Introduction to Sociology
Portland State University
Fall 2016

Instructor: Sarah Aktepy, MA
Email: saktepy@pdx.edu
Office Hours: By appointment only
Section: 200-003 CRN: 13459

Course Description
Sociology 200 introduces the basic concepts and perspectives concerning human groups. Presents significant research and theory in areas such as socialization, group membership, gender, stratification, deviance, culture, and community studies. Includes population, social change, and social institutions (family, education, political systems, and economic systems).

Course Objectives
Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:
- Explain what sociology is, as well as what sociologists do, and how they go about their work.
- Define the process of socialization and examine dynamic interrelationship among individuals and society.
- Interpret and apply major sociological perspectives.
- Analyze and describe “real life” dimensions of social stratification.
- Formulate sociological explanations for social problems.
- Describe how social change transforms society.

Prerequisite
There are no prerequisites.

Textbook and Readings

Course Format and Expectations
Criteria for Grading:
The final course grade will be determined based on the following weights:
Discussion Participation________________________100 points (4@25 points each)
Multiple Choice Exams (including Final Exam)________200 points (2@100 points each)
Paper (1)____________________________________100 points
Total________________________________________400 points possible for the course

Grading Scale is as follows:
360-400=A; 320-359=B; 280-319=C, 240-279=D, 239 or below=F.

Discussion Participation:
Students are required to post in the discussion forum and reply to at least one classmates post for each discussion assignment. All posts should be respectful, thoughtful, and address key points of the readings assigned for that particular week. Be sure to post complete thoughts without
misspellings or slang and include citations from the textbook and any supplementary readings to support your posts and responses. You will need to post first and then respond to one of your peers post.

Post at least two paragraphs for each question.

- Don’t rely on personal experiences. It is important to demonstrate your knowledge of the material and build on that knowledge. It is required to include in-text citations from the textbook to support your posts.
- In-text citations and the reference should be in ASA format.
- Do the work! Don’t rely on questions to the class to comprise your post. If you don’t know something research and read first.
- When posting a reply read all the comments before responding. Try not to repeat what others have posted, or at a minimum expand on what has already been posted. Try to respond to the posts with the least responses.
- Follow-up! Read comments on your posts and respond to them. Often time’s comments include questions and require an additional response from you.
- Respect the perspectives of others at all times. If you disagree, provide an alternative sociological perspective or theory and support it with citations from the chapter readings. However, if you feel that anyone is being disrespectful, bring it to my attention.
- Post early! This is replacing classroom discussions, and should be treated as a discussion.

Film/Paper:
Students will critically analyze and apply sociological concepts to a film that is accessible on D2L. Detailed instructions and helpful hints for a successful paper will be available in Course Content-> Paper->Film Paper Instructions. The paper must be 2 pages SINGLE spaced (NOT including cover and reference pages), 1 inch margins, 12 point times new roman font, in ASA format, and submitted via Dropbox. No late papers will be accepted! Film papers grades will be available in D2L two weeks after the submission deadline.

Exams:
All exams are multiple choice, timed (120 minutes), and must be completed by the due date. Exam #1 will cover readings for chapters 1 through 6 (Midterm). Exam #2 (Final) is NOT cumulative and will cover readings for chapters 7 through 15. Exam grades will be available in D2L immediately upon successful completion of the exam. Be sure to allow yourself plenty of time to complete the exams, as technical issues with D2L may occur (see Online Class Considerations). No late exams will be accepted!

Online Class Considerations:
Regular and reliable access to the internet is mandatory. If this is your first class using D2L please take advantage of the trainings offered at PSU to get acquainted with the online system. Prior computer/word processing experience is highly recommended. Problems accessing the course due to computer or internet issues will not be taken into consideration when grading or if you fail to meet assignment deadlines. Students experiencing issues with D2L must contact the PSU OIT Helpdesk for assistance: http://www.pdx.edu/oit/contact.

Online classes require a significant amount of work since all communication is done through written means. A substantial amount of time each week will be required to complete chapter
readings, online discussions, the film paper, and multiple choice exams. Possessing a high level of self-discipline will help you be successful. If you fall behind on your readings, or do not actively participate in discussion posts you will not do well. I encourage you to be sure that you are fully committed to the time and effort necessary to be successful in this course!

**Note:** Students are expected to complete all requirements for the course in order to receive a satisfactory final grade. Failure to complete both exams and the film paper will result in an “F” for the course. No late papers or exams will be accepted!

**Online Conduct:**
Demonstrating respect for classmates and instructors is required by all students. Active and thoughtful written communication and discussion participation is highly encouraged and should be done with forethought, consideration for maintaining an online environment that is respectful towards all individuals or groups and conducive for learning, and demonstrates the student’s ability to apply a sociological lens. Any statements that are disrespectful is a violation of PSUs Student Code of Conduct and will not be tolerated. The PSU Student Code of Conduct can be found here: [http://www.pdx.edu/dos/psu-student-code-conduct](http://www.pdx.edu/dos/psu-student-code-conduct).

**Academic Dishonesty:**
Students are expected to do their own work and maintain academic integrity. Academic dishonesty includes acts of cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Academic dishonesty is a violation of PSUs Student Code of Conduct. Any violations will be reported and result in a grade of zero for the assignment, a grade of “F” for the course, and university disciplinary action will be implemented. Several resources for avoiding plagiarism or paraphrasing can be found online, such as: [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/).

**Additional Resources**

**Email Correspondence:**
It is your responsibility to check your D2L and PSU email during the course. All students are expected to communicate with the instructor using their official PSU student email accounts. All correspondence with the instructor should be sent to saktepy@pdx.edu with “SOC 200” in the subject line. The instructor will reply within 72 hours to student emails.

**University Library:**
Many resources and tools can be accessed online [http://library.pdx.edu/](http://library.pdx.edu/).

**Writing Center:**
Students are encouraged to utilize the PSU Writing Center as needed [http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu/](http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu/).

**Students with Disabilities:**
Students with disabilities who may require accommodations are encouraged to contact the Disabilities Resources Center (DRC) [http://www.pdx.edu/drc/](http://www.pdx.edu/drc/). The DRC is located at 116 Smith Memorial Student Union Building and can be contacted either in-person during their drop-in hours from 11:00am to 1:00pm Monday through Friday, by phone at 503-725-4150, or by email at drc@pdx.edu.
Course Readings Schedule (review checklist in D2L for corresponding assignments):

**Week 1 (Sep 26-Oct 2 1130PM)**
Chapter 1: The Sociological Imagination
*Introductions* Discussion Post Due

**Week 2 (Oct 3-Oct 9 at 1130PM)**
Chapter 2: Sociological Research
Chapter 3: Culture
Discussion Post #1 Due

**Week 3 (Oct 10-Oct 16 at 1130PM)**
Chapter 4: Socialization
Chapter 5: Social Structure and Interaction
Discussion Post #2 Due

**Week 4 (Oct 17-Oct 23 at 1130PM)**
Chapter 6: Deviance
Discussion Post #3 Due
Exam #1 Due

**Week 5 (Oct 24-Oct 30 at 1130PM)**
Chapter 9: Government and Economy
Film Access Available in D2L

**Week 6 (Oct 31 -Nov 6 at 1130PM)**
Chapter 10: Social Class
Film Analysis Paper Due

**Week 7 (Nov 7-Nov 13 at 1130PM)**
Chapter 11: Global Inequality
No Classes at PSU Nov 11 (Veteran’s Day)

**Week 8 (Nov 14-Nov 20 at 1130PM)**
Chapter 12: Gender and Sexuality
Discussion Post #4 Due

**Week 9 (Nov 21-Nov 27 at 1130PM)**
Chapter 14: Population, Health, and Environment
No Classes at PSU Nov 24 & 25 (Thanksgiving Holiday)

**Week 10 (Nov 28-Dec 4 at 1130PM)**
Chapter 15: Social Change
Discussion Post #5 Due
Extra Credit Due by Dec 4 at 1130PM

**Finals Week (Dec 5-Dec 10)**
Final Exam Due by Thursday Dec 8 at 1130PM

*Dates or contents of the syllabus may be revised or changed by the instructor at any time. Any changes will be announced via D2L.*