

## **S001: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY**

**CRN: 30797**

**Fall 2010: Tuesday/ Thursday 12-1:15 PM**

**Classroom 116**

**Discussion Sections: Monday 10-10:50, 11-11:50AM Library 296**

**Thursday 7-7:50, 8-8:50PM Classroom 282**

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*Instructor:* Dr. Laura Hamilton

*Office:* COB 229

*Office Hours:* Tuesday and Thursday 1:30-2:30 PM (or by appointment)

*Email:* lhamilton2@ucmerced.edu (this is the best way to reach me)

*Office Phone:* 209-228-3004

*Monday Session TA:* Michael Calderon-Zaks

*Thursday Session TA:* Michael Eissinger

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

In this introductory course, we will explore what it means to *do* sociology. One of the most exciting things about sociology is that you can study anything from a sociological perspective. Therefore, this class will cover a variety of diverse issues including but not limited to race, class, gender, deviance, religion, and politics. Throughout the semester we will look at how these topics relate to current social issues. Most importantly, students will learn to apply a sociological lens to the topics that most interest them.

### **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. Think critically about the causes and consequences of social inequality: In this class you will learn how systems of privilege organized around gender, race, class, and sexual orientation structure the world in which you live.
2. Explain and apply the major theoretical perspectives: The class addresses some of the major theoretical paradigms within sociology, and helps you to develop multiple ways of understanding the same issue.
3. Be able to use your sociological education outside the classroom: The ultimate goal of this course is to help you—even if this is the one sociology course you ever take—to apply sociology to the rest of your schooling, future career, and everyday life.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

#### ***Required Text:***

Ferguson, Susan J. 2010. *Mapping the Social Landscape: Readings in Sociology*.  
Toronto: Mc-Graw Hill. 6<sup>th</sup> Edition.

The book is available at the campus bookstore. Additional readings will be available through the course CROPS site. These are indicated with a bold **Online** in the class schedule.

**Readings:** You are expected to read all assigned readings *before* class. Readings *will* be covered in exams, so it is important that you understand the issues they address. To help guide your reading, I will provide reading questions (RQ) the class period before readings are due that will help you determine what concepts, issues, and arguments are central to each reading. Test questions that cover readings will be based on reading questions. They may not be word for word, but all test questions on the readings will come from concepts that a properly answered RQ will address. As we will not discuss readings in class, discussion sections will often focus on the RQ. These RQ will also be used in class for reading quizzes (see below). RQ will be posted on the course CROPS site.

**Reading Quizzes:** Over the course of the semester, there will be three reading quizzes worth 20 points each. Reading quizzes will occur *in your discussion* sections, and will not be announced in advance. They may involve any RQ from readings already addressed during your discussion section. See the *Make-ups* section of the syllabus for my policy on missed quizzes. During the day of the quiz, you will be required to provide the best answer you can to the selected RQ.

**Exams:** There will be three 100 point exams in this course (**Tuesday 9/28, Thursday 10/28, and Thursday 12/07**). All exams will be multiple choice and some short answer essay. Mark the dates on your calendar *now*. Exams will cover lectures, readings, in-class activities and discussions. See the readings section above for information about test questions that cover reading material. The exams will be non-cumulative but will build on your knowledge of sociological perspectives and methods. For my policy on make-up exams see the *Make-ups* section of the syllabus.

**Participation:** I expect all students to attend class and discussion sections, be on time, not leave early, and be prepared to engage in discussion. If you have more than **three** unexcused class absences, I will drop you from the class. The **ONLY** exception to this policy is for religious observance, a serious medical condition, or a family emergency. Attendance is also taken during discussion sections, as attendance (actually being there) is a necessary first step for participation. TA's will keep a record of your participation, as it will determine 10% of your overall grade.

| <b>GRADING:</b> | <i>Points</i> | <i>Percentage of Final Grade</i> |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Exam 1          | 100           | 25%                              |
| Exam 2          | 100           | 25%                              |
| Exam 3          | 100           | 25%                              |
| Reading Quizzes | 60            | 15%                              |
| Participation   | 40            | 10%                              |
| <hr/>           |               |                                  |
| Total           | 400           | 100%                             |

*Final Course Grade*

| <i>Letter</i> | <i>Points</i> | <i>Percentage</i> |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| A+            | = 388-400     | 97-100            |
| A             | = 372-387     | 93-96             |
| A-            | = 360-371     | 90-92             |
| B+            | = 348-359     | 87-89             |
| B             | = 332-347     | 83-86             |
| B-            | = 320-331     | 80-82             |
| C+            | = 308-319     | 77-79             |
| C             | = 292-307     | 73-76             |
| C-            | = 280-291     | 70-72             |
| D+            | = 268-279     | 67-69             |
| D             | = 252-267     | 63-66             |
| D-            | = 240-251     | 60-62             |
| F             | ≤ 239         | ≤ 59              |

Grades will be posted on the course CROPS site.

**COURSE GUIDELINES AND POLICIES:**

***Student Conduct:***

- You must follow the student code of conduct. If you plagiarize, or otherwise cheat, on any exam or assignment, you will fail this course and your transcript will note your violation of the academic honesty policy. Plagiarism involves intentionally representing someone else's words or ideas as your own. If you use outside sources—either in the form of quotes or ideas—you must cite them to indicate where they come from.
- It is important that everyone in the class treat each other with respect. Students should feel free to express their viewpoint during class discussions without fear of incivility or rudeness from other students.
- Arriving to class late, leaving to use the restroom (unless due to medical necessity), talking or reading during lectures or movies, and allowing a cell phone to ring all disrupt the class and interfere with the ability of other students to learn and must be avoided.
- You may not send text messages during class because it is distracting both to me and other students.
- You may not use your computer to take notes as too many students abuse this privilege and distract other students by surfing the internet. I will allow exceptions to this rule when use of the computer is recommended by the Disability Services Center or the student's doctor.

***Make-ups:*** Makeup exams and reading quizzes will not be given. The only exceptions to this policy are for extreme and unusual circumstances (which MUST be documented) and religious observances (which require notification at the *beginning* of the semester).

***Students with Disabilities:*** Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and may need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please visit the Disability Services Center. All accommodations MUST be approved through Disability Services (Kolligian Library, West Wing Suite 109). Please stop by or call 209-228-6996 to make an appointment with a disability specialist.

**CLASS SCHEDULE:**

*Note: This is a tentative schedule. Readings and topics may be adjusted based on how quickly we cover material. If there are changes to this schedule, you will receive adequate notice. **Exam dates will not change.** You will be expected to read the assigned material **by the beginning of class on the date listed.** Readings are from the required text unless marked with a bold **Online** after the title. These marked readings can be accessed on CROPS. **Exams are BOLD and listed on the date on which they occur.***

| <b>UNIT</b>                                       | <b>DATE</b> | <b>READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS</b>   |
|---|-------------|---|
| Sociological Perspectives and How to do Sociology | T 8/24      | Introduction to the class   |
|   | Th 8/26     | 1) Mills: <i>The Promise</i> 1-7<br>2) Romero: <i>An Intersection of Biography and History</i> 19-33                          |
|   | T 8/31      | 3) Schwalbe: <i>Finding out How the Social World Works</i> 33-43<br>4) Gaines: <i>Teenage Wasteland</i> 7-19                  |
| Socialization                                     | Th 9/02     | 5) Lorber: <i>Night to His Day</i> 96-108<br>6) Dyer: <i>Anybody's Son Will Do</i> 135-146                                    |
|   | T 9/07      | 7) Granfield: <i>Making It by Faking It</i> 123-135   |
| Culture   | Th 9/09     | 8) Glassner: <i>The Culture of Fear</i> 61-68<br>9) Sandhu: <i>Instant Karma</i> 78-87  |
|   | T 9/14      | 10) Boswell & Spade: <i>Fraternities and Collegiate Rape Culture</i> 234-246  |
| Mystery Unit                                      | Th 9/16     | NO READING  |
| Deviance and Social Control                       | T 9/21      | 13) Rosenhan: <i>On Being Sane in Insane Places</i> 197-207<br>14) McLorg & Taub: <i>Anorexia Nervosa and Bulimia</i> 207-218 |
|   | Th 9/23     | 15) Draus and Carlson: <i>Down on Main Street</i> 218-234   |
| <b>EXAM 1</b>                                     | T 9/28      | <b>Exam 1</b>   |
| Stratification                                    | Th 9/30     | 1) Davis & Moore: <i>Some Principles of Stratification</i> 247-256  |

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| Social Class         | T  | 10/05 | 2) Domhoff: <i>Who Rules America</i> 257-270<br>3) Shapiro: <i>The Hidden Cost of Being African American</i> 270-281               |
|                      | Th | 10/07 | 4) Ehrenreich: <i>Nickel-and-Dimed</i> 282-295   |
| Race and Ethnicity   | T  | 10/12 | 5) Bonilla-Silva: <i>New Racism</i> 345-361<br>6) Kim: <i>Out of Sorts</i> 371-384   |
|                      | Th | 10/14 | 7) LeDuff: <i>At the Slaughterhouse</i> 361-371<br>8) Anderson: <i>The Cosmopolitan Canopy</i> 384-398                             |
| Gender               | T  | 10/19 | 9) Risman: <i>Gender as Structure</i> 295-304<br>10) Crittenden: <i>The Mommy Tax</i> 601-611                                      |
|                      | Th | 10/21 | 11) Hamilton & Armstrong: <i>Gendered Sexuality in Young Adulthood</i> <b>Online</b><br>12) Loe: <i>Working at Bazooms</i> 330-345 |
| Sexuality            | T  | 10/26 | 13) Pascoe: <i>“Dude, You’re a Fag”</i> 305-313<br>14) Hamilton: <i>Trading on Heterosexuality</i> <b>Online</b>                   |
| <b>EXAM 2</b>        | Th | 10/28 | <b>Exam 2</b>  |
| Power and Politics   | T  | 11/02 | 1) Mills: <i>The Power Elite</i> 399-406<br>2) Clawson et al.: <i>Dollars and Votes</i> 406-419                                    |
| The Economy and Work | Th | 11/04 | 3) Leidner: <i>Over the Counter</i> 474-488<br>4) Hochschild: <i>The Time Bind</i> 489-498   |
| Health and Medicine  | T  | 11/09 | 5) Rubin: <i>Sand Castles and Snake Pits</i> 527-534<br>6) Klinenberg: <i>Dying Alone</i> 534-537                                  |
| <b>NO CLASS</b>      | Th | 11/11 | <i>Class Cancelled – Veteran’s Day</i>   |
| Religion             | T  | 11/16 | 7) Dandaneau: <i>Religion and Society</i> 506-515<br>8) Shorto: <i>Faith at Work</i> 516-526                                       |
| Family               | Th | 11/18 | 9) <b>READING REMOVED</b><br>10) Lareau: <i>Invisible Inequality</i> 611-626   |
| Technology and Media | T  | 11/23 | 11) Mantsios: <i>Media Magic</i> 433-441<br>12) Eitzen: <i>The Atrophy of Social Life</i> 641-648                                  |
| <b>NO CLASS</b>      | Th | 11/25 | <i>Class Cancelled – Thanksgiving Break</i>  |

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| Education | T 11/30 | 13) Dog and Erdoes: <i>Civilize Them with a Stick</i><br>561-568<br>14) Kozol: <i>Still Separate, Still Unequal</i> 568-580 |
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| Social Change | Th 12/02 | 15) Johnson: <i>What Can We Do?</i> 649-660 |
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| <b>EXAM 3</b> | Th 12/07 | <b>Exam 3</b> |
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