SOCI 1510D

Introduction to Sociology

Spring 2016

Instructor: James Harris
Phone: 214-860-8869
Office Hrs: MW 2:30 to 3:00
Division: Liberal Arts and Life Science
E-mail: Ayre.Harris@unt.edu
Course Number: SOCI 1510
Section Number: 001
Class Meeting Times: MW 1:00 to 2:20pm
Class Location: Building 2, 336-UNTD
Credit Hours: (3)

Required Materials:

Text: Introduction to Sociology
Author: Giddens, Duneier, Applebaum, Carr 9th edition
ISBN# 978-0-393-92219

Course Description:

This course is a sociological study of social behavior and social structures, emphasizing the importance, knowledge, and appreciation of the multi-cultural, and multi-dimensions of society. Topics include cultural elements such as values, norms, beliefs, language, roles, group processes, social conflict and social change. Topics are examined through several sociological perspectives, encouraging critical thinking and personal responsibility towards both current and controversial issues. In essence, to question how you think not what you think about your social world.

Course Objectives:

Students should illustrate a general understanding of sociology, sociological theorist, their contributions (theories), and how their theoretical perspectives attempt to explain society and social behavior.
Students should be able to generate conclusions and opinions toward current and controversial issues, while being socially and culturally sensitive and respectful to other’s ideas, beliefs, customs, and attitudes.

**Intellectual Competencies**

1. **Reading** – the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials (books, documents, and articles) above 12th grade level.

2. **Writing** – the ability to produce clear, correct, and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion, and audience above 12th grade level.

3. **Critical Thinking** – The ability to analyze information, both qualitative and quantitative. Identifying key components, examining each and synthesizing one’s own thoughts in written and spoken languages.

4. **Speaking** – Demonstrate the ability to speak to communicate orally in a clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience - above the 12th grade level.

5. **Listening** – Exhibit the ability to analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication - above the 12th grade level.

6. **Computer Literacy** – Demonstrate the ability to understand our technical society and use computer based technology in communicating, problem solving, and information acquisition.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. To examining social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures and cultures.

2. Identify and discuss the field of Sociology, it’s methods, theories, key sociologist who have made significant contributions.

3. To use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories

4. To recognize and assume one’s responsibility as a citizen in a democratic society by learning to think for oneself, by engaging in public discourse, and obtaining information through news mediums, textbooks, and other appropriate sources about public policy

**Course Format**

1. Introduction to class
2. Understanding sociology. Using sociological perspectives to understand social phenomena
3. Analyzing society from theoretical perspectives
4. Class discussions/debate
5. Writing exercises
6. Testing and Evaluations
Course Calendar

A detailed course calendar will be provided on Blackboard

Test 1 (covering chapters 1 and 2)
Test 2 (covering chapters 3 and 4)
1st Written Assignment (individual) due________, no exceptions. Students cannot submit written assignments via email or by another student!
Test 3 (covering chapters 6 and 7)
Test 4 (covering chapters 8 and 11)
2nd Written Assignment (group) due ____________, no exceptions
Final Exam/Test (comprehensive)

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend each class period and be prepared to discuss the topic for that day. Please do not contact the instructor to request notes for missed lectures.

Grading Scale:

Final grades are based on total points. The following is the grade breakdown

400=A 350=B 300=C 250=D 249 and below= F

Evaluation Procedures:

Testing:

Grade assessment will consist of 5 tests, in which the lowest grade will be dropped. The test will be worth 100 points each. If a student miss a test, that will be the dropped grade. If a student misses 2 exams, they will be allowed to make up one of the test with a verifiable excuse. No exceptions. Exams will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions.

Written Assignments:

Student will have 2 required written assignments, one individual and one group project. The assignment will be worth up to 25 points each. Parameters for the assignment will be discussed in class.

Extra Credit:

Students will have a chance to earn extra credit during the semester by completing various class and individual interactive assignments. If missed, extra credit assignments cannot be made up. Students will forfeit any and all extra credit if they fail to submit all required assignments, or have too many absences. Students can only use extra credit to earn the next highest grade.
Reminder: The instructor has the exclusive right to amend, modify, or change the syllabus, if they believe it serves the best interest of the students, or to improve the learning experience for the entire class.

Withdrawal Policy:

If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar’s.

Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an "F." If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a "W". Please use the following dates to determine when, if you decide to, drop a class:

Important Dates

Spring 2016 - Full Term
Classes Begin.... January 19
Last Day to Add... Friday, January 22
Census Day Wednesday, February 3
Last Day to Drop a Class without a W .... Wednesday, February 3
Last Day to Request Pass/No Pass Course Status.... Friday, February 26
Drop and Withdrawal Deadlines
Last day to withdraw from a course with a grade of W... Friday, April 8
(Written Consent of Instructor Required)
Last day a student may withdraw from all classes for the semester Friday, April 22
Midterm Exams ...Monday, March 7 – Friday, March 11
Midterm Grades Due/Viewable Online-Midterm grades are submitted online.. Saturday, March
Last Day of Classes...... Thursday, May 5
Reading Day (Study day prior to final exams).... Friday, May 6
Final Exams... Monday, May 9 – Friday, May 13

University Closings/No Classes
Martin Luther King Day ... Monday, January 18
Spring Break ... Monday, March 14 – Sunday, March 20

Financial Aid:

If you are receiving financial aid grants or loans, you must begin attendance in all classes. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid Office. Changes in your enrollment level and failing grades may require that you repay financial aid funds.

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a statewide program designed to ensure that students enrolled in Texas public colleges and universities have the basic academic skills needed to be successful in college-level course work. The TSI requires assessment, remediation (if
necessary), and advising of students who attend a public college or university in the state of Texas. The program assesses a student's basic academic skills in reading, writing, and math. Passing the assessment is a prerequisite for enrollment in many college level classes. Students who do not meet assessment standards may complete prerequisite requirements by taking developmental courses in the deficient area and passing them with a grade of C or higher.

**Academic Honesty:**

Academic honesty is expected, and integrity is valued in the North Texas University System. Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the UNT-Dallas Code of Student Conduct.

**ADA Statement:**

If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the college Disability Services Office.

**Religious Holidays:**

Absences for observance of a religious holiday are excused. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holiday is allowed to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within a reasonable time before or after the absence.

**6 Drop Rule:**

For students who enrolled for the first time Fall 2007, The Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. Students may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exception. Please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas institution of higher education.

**Other Classroom Policies**

Please turn off all electronic devices

Please submit all written assignments on time (This included the due date and time)

**Inclement Weather:**
Bad weather can occur at any time during the school year. In the event of inclement weather, tune in to local television or radio stations for a report of possible closings or delays of UNT locations, or check the UNT website for possible early or late opening and closing.