

Soc 1001 Introduction to Sociology
Spring 2004
4 credits
Lecture Tuesday 5:45-8:15pm
Sec 21
West Bank Auditorium

I Am Sociology, by Scott Magnuson-Martinson, Ph.D.

"I am more than simply common sense; I am NOT the study of the obvious by the incompetent-NOR am I the study of those who don't need to be studied by those who do! I am the scientific study of human groups and their social interactions. I am perhaps, the broadest of the social sciences"

"I am the view from the 20th floor- more interested and able in articulating the movement of the aggregate than the individual. I attempt to explain the tacit rules that govern everyday life. I strive to describe the patterns and regularities in the human system, understanding that no individual's, organization's, or institution's are without impact on others-and vice-versa."

"I am an examination of culture-a society's way of life. I explore how people learn their society's culture and about themselves as individuals. I study the building blocks of society and how these contribute to the functioning of organizations."

"I examine the social inequalities of age, class, ethnicity, gender, and race. I explore social institutions of family, religion, governments, economy, and education-as well as sport, medicine, and the media. I may study the past to understand the future and to prepare for the future."

"I am research, theory and teaching. I am a perspective on the world that has contributed to school integration, educational and welfare reform, as well as workplace restructuring. I am a field that uses face-to-face interaction as well as Census statistics to understand everyday life."

"I am general education. I am a major that enables people to work as sociologists, or that lays the foundation for jobs or graduate study in criminal justices, evaluation research, human services, law, market research, training and development, social work and much, much more! I am a major fulfilled by such diverse types as Ronald Regan, Martin Luther King, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Mike "Meathad" Stivec, and Raisa Borbachev. I am what the people who teach me, study me, and utilize my essence make of me." (Sociograph, fall 2002, vol. 20, n.3, p.7)

Instructor: Trina Smith

Office: 1152 Social Sciences Tower

Office Hours: Tuesday 3:00-4:00pm and by appointment. I will usually be available to answer questions a half hour before or after lecture. Check my office or the lecture hall.

Email: smit1603@umn.edu

(email is the best way to contact me, and I generally check it once a day)

Website: www.soc.umn.edu/~tsmith (click on Courses, then under Spring 2004, click on Soc 1001)

Office Phone: 612-624-5021 (I do not have voice mail, so if it's an emergency leave a message with the Sociology Main office)

Sociology Main office: 909 Social Sciences Tower

Sociology Main Office Phone: 612-624-4300

Sociology Fax Number: 612-624-7020

TA Information:

Tim Clark (sec 23, 25)
952 Social Sciences Tower
612-624-0051
clar0515@umn.edu
Office hours:

Qinlei Huang (Sec 22, 24)
1078 Social Sciences Tower
612-624-1039
huan0275@umn.edu
Office Hours:

Discussion Sections (Also referred to as Labs):

Sec 22 Tuesday 4:40-5:30 pm Bleg 225

Sec 23 Tuesday 4:40-5:30 pm Bleg 140

Sec 24 Tuesday 8:30-9:20 pm Bleg 335

Sec 25 Tuesday 8:30-9:20 pm Bleg 330

Required Books:

Text: Henslin, James M. 2004. *Essentials of Sociology: A Down to Earth Approach*. Fifth Edition. Allyn and Bacon: Boston.

Reader: Macionis, John J. and Nijole V. Benokraitis, Eds. 2004. *Seeing Ourselves: Classic, Contemporary, and Cross-Cultural Readings in Sociology*. Sixth Edition. Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, NJ.

Henslin will mainly be used for lecture, while the Macionis & Benokraitis is mainly for discussion sections. However, both can be discussed and utilized in lecture and discussion sections.

All reading materials are available at the University Bookstore in the basement of Coffman Union on the East Bank. A copy of both books is also on reserve in Wilson library.

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this class.

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the field of sociology. We will examine the tools sociologists use, theory and methods, to study society and examine a variety of subject matter using a sociological framework. These include culture, socialization, groups, organizations, stratification, race and ethnicity, gender, age, human sexuality, medical sociology, politics, economy, marriage and family, education, religion, population, urbanization, and social change. The objective of the course is to help students develop critical thinking skills in relation to understanding society. This includes questioning common sense ideas about the world and being able to view the familiar in a different way with a sociological understanding

This class is split into two parts: lecture and discussion sections (labs). During lecture, I will do a majority of the talking. We will break up lectures with films, guest speakers, in-class activities and participation from you, the students, during class. Every student in this class also must register for a discussion section. Since the lecture is so big, the discussion sections are places where you will do activities, and have small and large group discussions.

Course Goals: My goals in this course are for you to be able to use the sociological imagination, formulate sociological questions, think critically about the social world, and to understand the patterns, yet complexities in our social world. Often, this might mean questioning common sense and things you take for granted, which is not always an easy task. However, the ability to think critically will help you in your future paths. In order to accomplish the task of critical thinking, you will engage in many activities examining our social world, including your own lives, our culture, and social institutions. These goals will be met through weekly reaction papers and a final paper where you observe the social world.

Corresponding with Instructor and TAs: The best way to reach us is through email. We are committed to meeting with students inside and outside of class. All of us have set office hours, which are the best times to reach us in person. We are open to setting up alternative times by appointment to meet with you. But please do not assume that we sit in our office all day. Thus, if you do need to set up a time to meet with us, we request you email us in advance to set up a

There are some students who like to talk more than others and others who do not like to talk much. As the instructional team, we ask that all students gauge their own participation. We love to hear what you have to say, but if you talk frequently, please remember to allow your fellow students a chance to speak. And if you are a person who does not like to talk, we would appreciate it if you would share your thoughts.

Respect: Sociology is a discipline that fosters discussions on many heated issues. During discussions in lecture and discussion sections, it is crucial that you respect others' ideas and opinions, even if you do think they are absurd. All ideas are welcome, including both the majority and the minority. We want to create a safe space to think about all sides of the issues. By no means does this mean we all have to agree with each other, but if you do disagree, do it in a respectful way. The instructor and the TAs will also follow this expectation.

Classroom Etiquette: In general, this means be respectful of your fellow students, TAs, and Instructor. Things that we will not tolerate in this class are: 1) reading the paper during class; 2) noise makers going off (i.e. turn off your cell phones, PDAs, etc.); 3) and talking/whispering to your neighbors when the instructor, TA, or another student is speaking. These behaviors are distracting and again will not be tolerated in this class.

Missed Midterm Exam: Midterm Examination make ups will only be granted if you have written documentation for an excused absence (for example, funerals, school activities, or illness.). Please e-mail both the instructor and your TA explaining the situation **no later than one day after the midterm exam**. If possible, please make arrangements in advance. For more information see:

<http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/policies/semclasses.html>

No other make ups will be allowed. See Trina if you have questions.

Scholastic Misconduct/Cheating: By being a student at the University of Minnesota, you have agreed to the University's Student Code of Conduct. Thus, you have agreed not to participate in scholastic misconduct. Scholastic misconduct can include: collaborating on assignments without the instructor's permission, cheating on tests, essays, or papers, plagiarizing (misrepresenting someone else's work as your own), or interfering with another student's ability to complete course work. If you engage in scholastic misconduct, you can receive an F for the course and actions at the University level can be taken. This is a serious matter and the TAs and I will take it seriously.

More information can be found at:

<http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/policies/grades&acadwork.html> (last paragraph)

Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment is prohibited at this University and is a crime. The University's policy and definition of sexual harassment can be found at:

<http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/scfa/sexualharassment.html>

Workload for this Class: This is a 4 credit hour class. For an average student to receive an average grade (defined as a C) in this class, you should expect approximately 12 hours of work per week for this class, which includes the approximate 3.5 hours you will spend in class per week. Thus, in order to receive an A or B, you may need to spend additional time studying for this class.

CLA and Sociology Department Policies: Please see attachment at end of syllabus for information on these policies.

Support Services:

Disabilities:

I encourage students with disabilities to contact me at the beginning of the semester (preferably before the first assignment). I am committed to making this class accessible to everyone. Along with disability services (listed below) we can arrange to make this class work for you.

Physical or Learning Disabilities: Disability Services, 30 Nicholson Hall, (612) 626-1333

Test Taking:

Skill Building, test-anxiety, counseling, etc: Learning and Academic Skills Center
104 Eddy Hall, (612) 624-7546

Writing: As there is a paper for this course, I strongly encourage you to utilize the following writing services.

General College Writing Center, www.gen.umn.edu/resources/arc/writing_center.html
Located in Academic Resource Center, 11 Appleby Hall, walk-in hours Monday-Thursday 9-4 and Friday 9-3

Student Writing Center, Located in the English Department, 306B Lind Hall, Monday-Thursday 9-4, Friday 9-2. (612) 625-1893

The Writing Support Network Website

<http://cisw.cla.umn.edu/wsn.html>

MISA: The Minnesota International Student Association,

<http://www.tc.umn.edu/nlhome/g031/misa/>,

Provides writing tutors to undergraduate international students.

Quick Check Grammar Guide. Provides a helpful guide for grammar problems often encountered by non-native English speakers in their writing.

http://composition.cla.umn.edu/CourseWeb/-QkCk/QC_Contents

Grading:

This class is based on a point system, which means you can easily keep track of your grade throughout the semester. I highly advise you to check with your TA throughout the semester to check your grade.

Grading Components:

Quizzes = 55 points; 22% final grade

Midterm= 30 points; 12% final grade

Lab Attendance = 24points; 10% final grade

Reaction Papers= 36 points; 14% final grade

Final Paper=105 points; 42% final grade

(this includes all components of final paper; see below for specifics)

Total Points: 250

Grading Scale :

232-250 points	A	(93-100%)
224-231 points	A-	(90-92%)
214-223 points	B+	(86-89%)
207-213 points	B	(83-85%)
199-206 points	B-	(80-82%)
189-198 points	C+	(76-79%)
182-188 points	C	(73-75%)
174-181 points	C-	(70-72%)
164-173 points	D+	(66-69%)
157-163 points	D	(63-65%)
149-156 points	D-	(60-62%)
148 and below	F	(59% and below)

I do not grade on a curve, so you will not be graded against each other. Thus, every student has the possibility of getting an A, if they perform at an A level.

If you fall in between the point ranges, your grade will be rounded. For example, if you have a 231.5 at the end of the semester, your grade would be rounded to 232. If you would have a 231.25, your grade would be rounded to a 231.

Late Work: The only assignments you can turn in late are ones related to the final paper (see assignments section on syllabus for more detail). You can turn these in up to one week late. However, you lose 2 points each day it is late. Full credit for late work on these assignments will only be earned if you have excused documentation (e.g. funeral, sickness, or school activity).

If you have a documented excuse, you may turn in your reaction papers late for full credit. But you must contact your TA and show him/her documentation as soon as possible. Depending on the circumstances, the TA, the student, and the instructor will make a new deadline for when the work will be due. Without the proper documentation, late reaction papers will not be accepted.

If you know you are going to be gone, you may turn in work early.

Incompletes: Except under extreme and documented circumstances, such as a prolonged illness or death in the family, I do not give out incompletes. If circumstances arise in which you think you will not be able to complete the course, you need to speak with me as soon as possible. An incomplete requires a written contract between the student and the instructor.

Assignments

Quizzes: (55 points) I do not take attendance in lecture. However, there will be a quiz each week (excluding Week 1, Week 8- the midterm, & Week 15- last day of class) for a total of 12 quizzes. No make-ups will be given. However, your lowest score will be dropped. Hence, you can either take all the quizzes and drop your lowest score, or miss 1 quiz without penalty. The quizzes will each have five multiple choice questions. The quiz questions can be based off of the previous week's lecture, the reading from the text or the reader for the current week. Most of the

questions will come from the text and lecture, however general questions from the reader are possible. These quizzes are to assess if you have read and if you are attending lecture.

11 quizzes x 5 points = 55 possible points

Midterm: (30 points) We will have a short midterm the week before Spring Break. This will include multiple choice questions along with a few short answer questions. More details will be discussed closer to the midterm.

1 midterm = 30 possible points

Discussion Section Attendance: (24 points) Each week in your discussion section, attendance will be taken. We will have 13 labs this semester. You can miss one lab without penalty, as the attendance grade will be based on 12 labs. *If you attend all 13 labs, you will receive 2 points of extra credit at the end of the semester.* You will have labs Week 2-14.

12 counted labs x 2 points = 24 points
2 points extra credit available.

Reaction Papers: (36 points) Each week for lab you will write a short reaction paper based on the readings from the reader. You have 13 discussion sections over the semester and are only required to write 12 reaction papers. Hence, you have one week off or can write all 13 for extra credit (see below for details). This should be at least 1 page, 12 point font, double spaced and should not exceed 2 pages double spaced. No late reaction papers will be accepted without a documented excuse. **These are due in your discussion section each week.**

These papers are a way for you to express your ideas, thoughts, and feelings about the readings. Furthermore, they also will serve as a basis for discussions in labs. These papers are also meant to help you work with and understand the material, apply it to your own life, major, or career plans. You might want to think of these as a journal. **However, we want you to begin to use your sociological imagination in these papers. Do not just base your thoughts on pre-conceived opinions or ideas. Think outside of the box. Use ideas you have learned in this class or other classes. You can discuss your personal experiences, but please remember that our own experiences may not be true for everyone. Be sociological! Make your thoughts, ideas, and arguments clear.**

Each week, pick one of the following questions to respond to based on the readings:

- 1) Do you agree or disagree with the articles? Why?
- 2) Can you relate the articles to something in your own life? Explain how it applies.
- 3) Do the articles relate to an event you have seen in the news? Explain how it relates.
- 4) How can you apply the articles to your major or future career plans? Explain.

**** *We will not tolerate any degrading or disrespectful language in your papers. If you are not clear what this means, ask*

Grading of the Reaction Papers:

These papers are worth three points each. **I expect you to cover at least 2 of the readings in each paper.** Here is how we will grade the reaction papers:

0	Did not do assignment
1	Poor Analysis; Covered only one of the readings
1.5	Average analysis; covered only one of the readings
2	Poor analysis; Covered two of the readings
2.5	Average analysis; covered at least two readings
3	Excellent Analysis; covered at least two readings

Definitions of Poor, Average, and Excellent Analysis	
Poor	Does not completely answer one of the questions posed. Does not refer back to readings and/or only uses personal opinions in answer.
Average	Completely answers one of questions posed. Refers back to readings and provides own thoughts/interpretations that are not solely based on personal opinion. Average insight.
Excellent	Completely answers one of the questions posed. Refers back to readings and provides own thoughts/interpretation that are not solely based on personal opinion. Excellent insight.

Though we are not grading grammar as a separate category for the reaction papers, keep in mind that when you write using good grammar, it is easier to read your paper and make sense of what you are saying. If your grammar is poor, it is harder to understand what you are trying to say and your analysis might not seem as good. If we have problems, understanding your writing due to poor grammar, we may request that you see the writing center.

If you have questions about the grading of the reaction papers, please ask.

Like the grading for lab attendance, you get a week off. Thus you will turn in 12 reaction papers over the semester. But you have the option of doing all 13 reaction papers for extra credit.

12 reaction papers x 3 points = 36 points
3 extra credit points available

Final Paper: (105 points for all components) You will be required to do a final paper in this class based on observations in a public setting. You will have to do approximately five hours of observation throughout the semester in your setting. The final paper will be 5-7 pages, doubled spaced, 12 point font. *Grammar will be graded in the draft and final paper.* More detailed information will be handed out in the first few weeks of class. **Your research question is due in discussion sections. Your draft and final paper are due in lecture.**

The final paper has four different stages and grades. You must do all 4 stages in order to hand in and receive credit for your final paper. They are as follows:

1.	Due Week 4 (2/10/04)	Your Research Question <i>Due in Discussion Section</i>	10 points
1a.	Due Week 6 (2/24/04)	Rewrite of Research Question if needed <i>Due in Discussion Section</i>	
2.	Due Week 10 (3/30/04)	By this week, you will need to meet with your TA or Trina regarding your paper.	15 points
3.	Due Week 12 (4/13/04)	Draft of your paper <i>Due in Lecture</i>	30 points
4.	Due Week 15 (5/4/04)	Final paper- turn in draft with final paper <i>Due in Lecture</i>	50 points

**** An important note... Just as you as students are very busy, so are the TAs and the instructor, who are also students. Thus, if you would like us to read to read a draft of your paper before it is due, be respectful about this. Please allow the TAs and myself at least a week to read paper drafts and offer you comments. The Writing Center is also a great resource.

Email Policy: Per Sociology department policy, we cannot accept papers via email. Hence, if you are not able to turn in your assignment directly to the TA or instructor, please drop off in the Sociology main office, 909 SST, for your TA.

Extra Credit : (Can earn up to 10 points)

1) As already described above, you can earn up to 5 points of extra credit by attending lab 13 times throughout the semester (2 points) and/or doing 13 reaction papers (3 points) instead of 12.

2) You can also earn up to 2 points of extra credit by writing a one to two page analysis of any video we watch during the course up to Week 13. This paper should be typed, double spaced, using 12 point font. This is due one week after we watch the video in lecture. Use the same questions as posed for your reaction papers. Grading Scale: 1=Average Analysis; 2=Excellent Analysis. You can do this only once. ***This is due by Week 13. Trina will grade this. Please hand in to her. Make sure to include your name, email, discussion section number, and TA's name!!!***

3) You can pick one article from the list of readings, which follows on the next page, that are not assigned from the reader. You can write a one to two page reaction paper this using the questions posed for your weekly reaction papers. You can earn up to 3 points. Grading Scale: 1= Poor analysis; 2=Average Analysis; 3= Excellent Analysis. ***This is due by week 13. You can only do this once. Trina will grade this. Please hand in to her. Make sure to include your name, email, discussion section number, and TA's name!!!***

Thompson	pp. 37-45
Horrigan	pp. 61-68
De Mente	pp.124-135
Carrier	pp. 173-183
Joe	pp.251-259
Wilson	pp. 283-292
Karatnycky	pp. 314-323
Flavin	pp.431-442
Freeman	pp. 451-463

Course Schedule Follows on Next Page!