

THIS SYLLABUS IS ONLY A DRAFT!!!

**Texas A&M University-Texarkana
Criminal Justice/Sociology Program
SOCI 1301 (Introduction to Sociology)
Spring Semester, 2011**

I. Locator Information:

Professor: Dr. Godpower O. Okereke
Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice
Office: 130N South Campus (Old Site)

Office Hours: Tuesdays: 8:00 to 11 am and 5:00 to 6:30 pm
Wednesdays: 5:00 to 6:30 pm
Thursdays: 8:00 to 11:00 am and 5:00 to 6:30 pm
Also available by appointment

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II. Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the basics of sociological thinking. It will help them better understand the social world in which they live as well as the social forces that shape human behavior. It provides an overview of major sociological concepts and principles including theory and method, culture and socialization, social structure and institutions, social stratification of race, gender and class, and deviance and social control.

III. Course Objectives:

The objectives of this course are as follows:

1. Define "Sociology".
2. Discuss the concepts of "society" and culture and how they influence human behavior.
3. Discuss the processes of socialization and how people become who they are.
4. Discuss the agents of socialization.
5. Identify the institutions of society and their respective functions.
6. Discuss the problems faced by these institutions in contemporary American society.
7. Discuss issues that affect groups and individuals in contemporary American society.

IV. Student Learner Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will have acquired the ability to:

1. Define sociology
2. Summarize the “Sociological Perspective”.
3. Summarize the methods of sociological investigation.
4. Define the concept of culture and state how it influences human behavior.
5. Understand the processes and agents of socialization and how society influences individual personality and behavior.
6. Summarize the functions of specific institutions of society.
7. Identify the problems faced by contemporary social institutions.

V. Textbook:

The required text for this course is:

Sociology (13th Edition) by John J. Macionis. ISBN: 0-205-73574-6 Published by Prentice Hall: 2010.

VI. Course Evaluation:

First Exam	35 points
Final Exam	35 points
Term Paper	20 points
Class Attendance/Participation and Presentation	10 points
Total points possible	100 points

VII. Disability Accommodation:

Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.

VIII. Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:

Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and undocumented use of materials from any source, constitute academic dishonesty, and may be grounds for a grade of "F" in the course and/or disciplinary actions." For additional information see the university policy manual.

IX. A&M-Texarkana Email Address:

Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.

X. Classroom Courtesy:

Cell phone and beepers: Students are required to ***turn off*** cell phones or beepers while in the classroom. If an emergency situation exists which requires you to be contacted immediately, you are expected to discuss the situation with the professor prior to the beginning of class presentation.

Talking to fellow students: Students are expected to refrain from talking while formal instruction is being presented. This should be observed both during presentations by the professor and/or students.

XI. Schedule of Activities and Reading List:

Week 1: Chapter One: Introduction to the field of Sociology and the Sociological Perspective

Week 2: Chapter Two: Methods of Sociological Investigation.

Week 3: Chapter Three: Culture.

Chapter Four: Society.

Week 4: Chapter Five: Socialization.

Week 5: Chapter Six: Social Interaction in Everyday Life.

Week 6: Chapter Seven: Groups and Organizations.

Chapter Eight: Sexuality and Society.

Week 7: Chapter Nine: Deviance.

Review and First Test

Week 8: Chapter Ten: Social Stratification.

Chapter Twelve: Global Stratification.

Week 9: Chapter Eleven: Social Class in the United States.

Week 10: Chapter Thirteen: Gender Stratification.

Week 11: Chapter Fourteen: Race and Ethnicity.

Chapter Fifteen: Aging and the Elderly

Week 12: Chapter Sixteen: The Economy and Work.

Chapter Seventeen: Politics and Government in the United States

Week 13: Chapter Eighteen: Families.

Chapter Nineteen: Religion.

Week 14: Chapter Twenty: Education.

Chapter Twenty-One: Health, Medicine, and Health Care.

Review and Final Examination

XII. Methods of Instruction:

- A. Lectures
- B. Guest Speaker Presentations (If possible)
- C. Audio and Visual Materials

XIII. Term Paper:

Students are required to choose a topic of research from the general area of sociology. Topics in areas such as Attitudes; Personalities; Behaviors; Perceptions; Aggression and Violence; Groups and Group Behavior; Belief and Practices; Social Stratification; Norms and Values; Social Institutions; Crime and Deviance are fine.

Upon approval of topic by the professor, each student will research the chosen topic and then write a 3-5 page term paper (typed) which will show an understanding of the subject matter. All non-common sense information and data used to write the paper must be properly referenced in the text. A list of references (sources cited in the text) must also be provided at the end of the paper. Papers are due on April 21st, 2011. Late papers will be assessed 1 point off each day after the due date and will not be accepted after April 28th, 2011.