

Introduction to Sociology (SOC 101)
Spring 2017
Section 1
T,Th 10:35-11:50 AM
SLOAN 7

Instructor:

Liz Dzialo
elizabeth.dzialo@wsu.edu

Office: Wilson-Short 253

Hours: Tues. 12-2
and by appt.

Welcome to Sociology 101! This course is designed to introduce you to Sociology — an interesting and exciting discipline that, no matter your major, will be beneficial to your advancement as both a student and a citizen. The goal of our meetings is to provide you with the knowledge and tools necessary to gain fluency in the discipline of Sociology, a space to engage in intellectual discussion with your peers, and to foster your ‘sociological imagination.’ In this course, you will learn to use your sociological imagination to understand phenomena like a sociologist and to question taken-for-granted assumptions about the social world.

Discussing sociological concepts is not easy! Sociology requires one to think critically. While this can be difficult at times, the outcomes are truly rewarding, interesting, and pertinent to your life.

Required Materials (available at the Bookie):

- The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology (6th edition) by Lisa J. McIntyre (“Core Concepts”)
- The Practical Skeptic: Readings in Sociology (6th edition) by Lisa J. McIntyre (“the Reader”)

Course Objectives:

- A deep understanding of and ability to apply the sociological imagination.
- Enhancement of skills in communication as well as critical reading and thinking.
- Collaborative learning.

Course Requirements:

Class Participation 10%

- Because this is a relatively large course, participation will typically not involve class discussion (though it will sometimes involve small group discussion). Most often, your participation will involve handing in note paper with reflections and/or answers to questions posed during class. These will NOT be handed back to you. However, your participation grade will be regularly updated on Blackboard. Points awarded will vary depending on what is asked of you.

Quizzes 30%

- Over the course of the semester, you will be required to take 7 short, in-class quizzes. Quizzes will assess your comprehension of course material. They will be announced one class period prior to the date they are taken. Quizzes are NOT meant to trick you, but to make sure you are taking adequate notes and keeping up with course readings. Quizzes will be grade IN CLASS the day they are taken and your grades will be updated on Blackboard. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Take-Home Assignments 20%

- Over the course of the semester, you will be required to complete FOUR take-home assignments. The nature of these assignments will vary. Examples include: journal entry, research report, or response to a reading or movie. These assignments will be a minimum of 2-3 pages (depending on assignment), 12 pt. font, double-spaced. You will turn these assignments in on Blackboard on the assigned due date. Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day late. After three days late, you will receive a grade of zero.

Exams 40%

- There will be TWO exams in this course — a midterm and final exam. The final exam is *not* cumulative. Exams will be a mix of multiple-choice and short answer. The questions will be based on course material including core concepts, the readings, lectures, and movies. **You may bring a 3x5 index card with notes (front and back) to the exam.** We will do trivia the class period before each exam to prepare.

Classroom Expectations

- First and foremost, it is expected that students will be respectful of myself and one another. We are all responsible for fostering a comfortable environment. No disruptive or disrespectful behavior will be tolerated.
- Come to class prepared and on time. You **MUST** take detailed notes during class in order to succeed.
- Please do not use any electronic devices during class. If I see you using them, your participation grade will be negatively affected.

Showing improvement throughout the semester will positively affect your grade.

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity will be strongly enforced in this course. Any student caught cheating on any assignment will be given an F grade for the course and will be reported to the Office of Student Standards and Accountability. Cheating is defined in the Standards for Student Conduct WAC 504-26-010 (3). It is strongly suggested that you read and understand these definitions.

Students with Disabilities: Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please either visit or call the Access Center (Washington Building 217; 509-335-3417) to schedule an appointment with an Access Advisor. All accommodations must be approved through the Access Center.

Campus Safety: WSU has asked that faculty and instructors share safety information with our students in the event of an emergency. Please visit <http://safetyplan.wsu.edu> and <http://oem.wsu.edu/emergencies> to familiarize yourself with WSU's emergency plans. In the case of an emergency, details about the nature of the emergency can be found at <http://alert.wsu.edu>. Also, WSU is encouraging every student to provide their emergency contact information so the university can inform you of emergencies through their Crisis Communication System. This can be done at <http://my.wsu.edu>.

I reserve the right to make any changes to the syllabus throughout the semester.