INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Sociology 100H: Sections: 0101
Fall 2014

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is designed to be a broad introduction to the field of sociology. We will encounter some of the most influential theories used by sociologists to think about the social world, and many of the methods sociologists employ to investigate it. We will discuss and acquire a familiarity with the concepts sociologists typically use in their work. For instance, students will gain an understanding of what sociologists mean when they talk about culture and social structure. Finally, the class will pay particular attention to the broad sociological concern of social inequality as it pertains to race, class, gender, and sexuality.

This is a CORE Distributive Studies course (Area D: Social and Behavioral Sciences). Distributive Studies courses are designed to ensure you will take a look at several different academic disciplines and the ways they create and analyze knowledge about the world (see the CORE website at http://www.ugst.umd.edu/core/).

Instructor – Contact Information and Schedule

**Instructor:** Lester Andrist

**Email:** Canvas

**Office Location:** 1108 ASY

**Office Hours:** Mondays 12:00 pm- 2:00 pm, or by appointment

**Lecture:** MWF: 10:00 am – 10:50 am (3203 ASY)

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS, SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS, AND VIDEOS

*Textbook Readings.* We will be using selected chapters from *The Sociology Project: Introducing the Sociological Imagination* by Jeff Manza, Richard Arum and Lynne Haney (2012). Readings from the textbook are designated by a “[T]” on this syllabus. Note that the textbook is written collaboratively by twenty different sociologists at the New York University. You can purchase a copy of the book from the University of Maryland Campus Bookstore.

*Supplementary Materials.* Note that by purchasing the textbook you will also have access to the publisher's site (http://www.mysoclab.com/), which features a number of supplementary materials. You will need access to the supplementary materials from www.mysoclab.com for this course. Note that when registering on mysoclab, the course ID you should enter is "andrist91177"

Supplementary readings are designated by an “[S]” or [O], which indicates that they can either be accessed directly online or through Canvas.
Video and Readings. In this course we will also watch a number of short video clips. Many of these clips can be accessed on *The Sociological Cinema*, which is a site I have developed in collaboration with two other sociologists ([http://www.thesociologicalcinema.com](http://www.thesociologicalcinema.com)). In most cases, the link I provide you will direct you to a page on *The Sociological Cinema* where you will be able to find another link that takes you to the video. Note that if the link I give you directs you to *The Sociological Cinema*, this is because I would like you to read the text on that page before watching the video. On this syllabus, the videos I am requiring you to watch and the readings that accompany those videos are designated by an “[V]”.

**Using Canvas**

[http://www.elms.umd.edu](http://www.elms.umd.edu)

The website for this course is hosted by Canvas, an online course development tool that is used in classes throughout the University of Maryland. Logging onto Canvas will give you access to the course syllabus and all supplemental readings. You may check your grades and your progress in the course, and you may use Canvas to communicate with other students in the class. Any student who cannot successfully log onto Canvas should contact me as early as possible.

**Assignment Abbreviations**

- [S] = Supplemental Reading
- [O] = Online Reading
- [V] = Video
# Schedule of Readings and Assignments

**Wed, 9/3**

**Introduction to the Course**

**Fri, 9/5**

**Developing a Sociological Imagination**


[V] “The Decline: The Geography of a Recession by LaToya Egwuekwe” 0:29 min [http://goo.gl/hFk3e](http://goo.gl/hFk3e)

[V] “What the Classroom Didn't Teach Me about American Empire” 8:35 min [http://goo.gl/lebQM](http://goo.gl/lebQM)

**Mon, 9/8**

**Sociological Theory**


**Wed, 9/10**

**Sociological Theory**


[V] “Food Inc.: Alienation and Rationalization” 4:47 min [http://goo.gl/AZ5u0](http://goo.gl/AZ5u0)

**Fri, 9/12**

**Sociological Theory**


**Mon, 9/15**

**Sociological Theory**

**Wed, 9/17**

**Social Structure**


**Fri, 9/19**

**Social Structure**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[V] “Conformity and Breaching: Experimenting with Social Norms” 2:14 min</td>
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<td><a href="http://goo.gl/2Y5oWu">http://goo.gl/2Y5oWu</a></td>
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<td>[V] “Hamsters, Depression, and Methodological Validity“ 2:22 min</td>
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<td><a href="http://goo.gl/x7PwE">http://goo.gl/x7PwE</a></td>
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<td>[V] “Learning Ethnography from a ‘Rogue Sociologist’” 4:10 min</td>
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<td><a href="http://goo.gl/LaLVjr">http://goo.gl/LaLVjr</a></td>
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<td>[V] “You Will: The Interplay of Material and Symbolic Culture” 3:32 min</td>
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<td><a href="http://goo.gl/cqNsm">http://goo.gl/cqNsm</a></td>
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<td>[V] “Thick Description: Contextualizing Social Interaction” 5:32 min</td>
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<td><a href="http://goo.gl/XM2ao">http://goo.gl/XM2ao</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed, 10/8</td>
<td>Media and Representation</td>
<td>Assignment 1 due</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“Developing a Sociological Imagination”</td>
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</table>
[V] “Miss Representation” 8:52 min http://goo.gl/mgfVX

Fri, 10/10  Media and Representation
[V] “Reel Injun” 88:00 min http://goo.gl/MlaCpY

Mon, 10/13  Power and Politics

Wed, 10/15  Power and Politics

Fri, 10/17  Midterm

Mon, 10/20  Social Stratification, Inequality, and Poverty

Wed, 10/22  Social Stratification, Inequality, and Poverty
[V] “People Like Us: Tammy’s Story” 7:50 min http://goo.gl/QA4dk

Fri, 10/24  Social Stratification, Inequality, and Poverty
[V] “Relationship between Class Inequality and Health” 10:29 min http://goo.gl/WKzi3N

Mon, 10/27  Race and Ethnicity
[V] “Social Inequalities: Race and Ethnicity” 4:00 min http://goo.gl/AmT1cy
Wed, 10/29  Race and Ethnicity
[V] “Racial Projects and the Wizardry of Oz” 2:36 min http://goo.gl/3V24o

Fri, 10/31  Race and Ethnicity

Mon, 11/3  Race and Ethnicity

Assignment 2 proposal due

Wed, 11/5  Immigration
[V] “Rinku Sen: "Illegal" Word is a Gateway to Racism and Exploitation” 1:13 min http://goo.gl/kO1KM2

Fri, 11/7  Immigration
[V] “Assimilation and 30 Years of Immigration Policy” 18:56 min http://goo.gl/RLuODU

Mon, 11/10  Immigration

Wed, 11/12  Gender

Fri, 11/14  Gender
[V] “Gender Binary, Gender Baggage” 4:37 min http://goo.gl/JKGWhV

Mon, 11/17  Gender

[V] “Katie Makkai – Pretty” 3:29 min http://goo.gl/cOa74


**Wed, 11/19 Gender**


[V] "What Do You Do to Protect Yourself from Sexual Violence?" 4:42 min http://goo.gl/uG1vG

[V] "Stating Allstate's Sexism" 0:30 min http://goo.gl/tY4W6


**Fri, 11/21 Sexuality**


**Mon, 11/24 Sexuality**


**Wed, 11/26 Sexuality**


[V] “When Did You Decide to become Straight?” 3:00 min http://goo.gl/i9jos8

Assignment 2 due.
“Rated R for Racism: The Motion Picture Rating Assignment”

**Fri, 11/28 No class! Thanksgiving Break!**

**COURSEEVALUM FALL 2014**

Your participation in the evaluation of courses through CourseEvalUM is a responsibility you hold as a student member of our academic community. Your feedback is confidential and important to the improvement of teaching and learning at the university as well as to the tenure and promotion process. The dates CourseEvalUM will be open for you to complete your evaluations will be announced in class. Once announced, please go directly to the website (www.courseevalum.umd.edu) to complete your evaluations. By completing all of your evaluations each semester, you will have the privilege of being able to access the evaluation reports on Testudo for the thousands of courses for which 70% or more students submitted their evaluations.
Mon, 12/1  Families and Family Life

Wed, 12/3  Families and Family Life
[V] “Concerted Cultivation and Slow Parenting” 11:26 min http://goo.gl/kPbGe2

Fri, 12/5  Crime, Deviance, and Social Control
[V] “Norms, Laws, and Driving while Deviant” 1:14 min http://goo.gl/LT3t5

Mon, 12/8  Crime, Deviance, and Social Control

Wed, 12/10 Crime, Deviance, and Social Control

Fri, 12/12 Final Review

Thur, 12/18 Final Exam, 8 a.m. – 10 a.m., location TBA
**Grading**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Points</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter Quizzes &amp; Pop Quizzes</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Developing a Sociological Imagination</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Rated R for Racism</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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Final Grades will be based on the total points received out of 1,000 possible points. Letter grades will be determined based on the following distributions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Points Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>970+ points</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>930-969 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>900-929 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>870-899 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>830-869 points</td>
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<td>B-</td>
<td>800-829 points</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>630-669 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>600-629 points</td>
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<td>599 points or less</td>
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**Course Requirements**

**Class Participation (20%)**
In order to encourage you to get the most out of this class, I have designed the class so that 20% of your grade is based on how well you participate in class discussions. For those of you who do not have an opportunity to respond to the readings during lecture, you can participate in other ways. Examples include meeting with me outside of class, submitting your thoughts to the class discussion board, emailing me your thoughts about a topic, and tweeting me a link to an article that relates to a relevant topic.

**Reading Quizzes and Pop Quizzes (20%)**
After completing many of your assigned readings, you will be expected to log on to Canvas to complete a short reading quiz. In addition to the reading quizzes, teaching assistants will occasionally administer an unannounced quiz during the regular time your discussion section meets on Friday. There will be a total of 7 unannounced quizzes given during the semester.

**Assignment 1 — Developing a Sociological Imagination (20%)**
Details are posted on Canvas.

**Assignment 2 — Rated R for Racism: The Motion Picture Rating Assignment (20%)**
Details are posted on Canvas

Midterm Exam (10%)

Final Exam (10%)

CLASS CONDUCT

Electronic Devices:
- **handheld devices.** Please turn off all cell phones and handheld devices before you enter the classroom. If you use a handheld device to take notes for class, please request permission from me and your TA before class begins.

- **laptops/tablets.** You may use a laptop or tablet to take notes and display class-related content only. Note that content related to this class is not available on Facebook, Twitter, or Tumblr. If you are caught on a site that does not have class-related content, you will be asked to leave the classroom.

**Be respectful:** We will be talking about topics that are often hotly debated and controversial. It is important to me that our classroom remains a place where each of us is able to comfortably express ideas. Please be respectful toward other people and their viewpoints.

**Be responsible:** Please come to class on time, bring a copy of the assigned readings with you, and be prepared to discuss the readings.

**Absences:** Multiple absences will reflect negatively on your classroom participation grade. Any assignment due on the day of an absence from class must be turned in to me by email or by another classmate before the start of class. A late assignment will be marked down one letter for each day it is late. Exams cannot be made up so make sure you are here and on time.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**
If you have a university documented disability (or suspect that you might), please inform me of such by the second class meeting so I can make any appropriate and necessary arrangements.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**
As a student at the University of Maryland, you are expected to adhere to the University’s honor code. I will not tolerate academic dishonesty of any kind. Your work in this course should be your own, and if I suspect any form of academic dishonesty, I will refer you to the University’s Student Honor Council. One consequence of academic dishonesty is that you will receive a grade of ‘XF’ (failure due to Academic Dishonesty). The following constitute the violations of the University’s Code of Academic Dishonesty:

- Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise.
• Plagiarism: Intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one’s own in any academic exercise. Cite everything!
• Fabrication: Intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in any academic exercise.
• Facilitating Academic Dishonesty: Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate any provision of this Code (http://bit.ly/9YAtDB).