

SCA 1110 Introduction to Sociology
Online Delivery
06/01/2015 – 07/10/2015
Instructor: Ms. Ché Wilson, M.A.
Che.Wilson@westminster-mo.edu

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental theories, methodological approaches and basic principles used in Sociology. The course examines the systematic study of social relationships and interactions, including a detailed study of socialization, social structures, social institutions, inequality, social control, gender, race and ethnicity, the economy and globalization.

This is a Tier II class in the “Human Behavior and Social Institutions Context.” All courses in the human behavior and social institutions context will, among other things:

1. explore the goals and methods of a discipline within the social sciences
2. analyze and evaluate the discoveries of important social and behavioral scientists
3. systematically explore major questions about human behavior, societies and/or cultures
4. utilize critical thinking skills to examine issues facing individuals or society

Course Objectives

Students will gain the following skills upon completion of the course:

- Identify and define major theorists and the perspectives to which they are aligned
- Apply learned theories to social problems in an attempt to both justify their existence and propose solutions to such problems
- Develop critical thinking skills to be applied to the understanding of social issues
- Develop and apply an awareness of the social context in which we live on a community, national and global level and how these contexts influence the framing of social issues and the social institutions that are employed to resolve them

Required Text

Kendall, D. (2014). *Sociology in our times: The essentials* (10th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Coursework

Each week, students will turn in a writing assignment that covers a topic found within that week’s required reading. The writing assignment should be two typed pages (12 pt. font, Times New Roman) in length and have at least three referenced citations. Should you need to go over the two page minimum to complete your thoughts, by all means do. Please see the link below for examples of APA citations: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

This assignment is worth 10pts and will be graded based upon providing a direct response to the question posed and providing three references formatted to APA style. Due to the subject of the course, the response provided may be purely opinion or a combination of fact from the text and outside sources and one’s personal interpretation and/or application of such. In other words, I am interested in receiving a well thought, well written response that tells me how you would address or react to a social issue. The assignment will be posted on Monday and due, at the latest, Friday at 11:59pm.

An additional weekly assignment will be posting to the “Things that make you go hmmm...” forum. You must post to the forum and respond to two of your classmates. Your post is worth five points and each response is worth five points for a total of 15 points each week. Your post should be at least ten sentences long and address the question posed. Your response should be at least five sentences long and must include a comment that is specific to what was originally posted by your classmate. The question will be posted on Monday and due, at the latest, Wednesday at 11:59pm. As we are a small group, please post in a timely manner so as not to impede fellow students in their submissions.

You will be further divided into small groups within the class and will have your own discussion group to discuss questions that I pose to you and to serve as a way to collaborate on a group questions that will be due at the end of every other week. The purpose of these group activities is to reinforce objectives learned as well as provide an opportunity for practical application.

Grading

Weekly Writing Assignments	10pts
Weekly Posts and Responses	15pts
Weekly Group Posts	10pts
Group Assignments (3)	25pts each

A	93% or higher
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	63-66%
D-	60-62%
F	less than 60%

Attendance and Participation

As with any class, attendance is crucial to learn and understand presented material. Attendance will be measured by timely posting of writing assignments and forum responses. Participation will be measured by group discussion postings as well. While it is required that you respond to two of your classmates each week, please feel free to interact with as many of your classmates as you would like. Such participation will create a more rich dialogue and a better understanding of the text.

Academic Honesty

Each student must fulfill his or her academic obligation by an honest, independent effort. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students who are found to be guilty of academic dishonesty, such as cheating and plagiarism, are subject to the policies and procedures outlined in the Undergraduate Bulletin.

ADA Policy

Students seeking assistance regarding disabled accessibility, including persons with impaired vision or hearing, should contact the Director of the Learning Opportunities located in Rm. 34 Westminster Hall, telephone number 573-592-5304.

****All faculty and students are required to follow the College's Honor Code, the ADA policy statement, college-wide policies prohibiting harassment and discrimination, the College Duty policy and the Emergency Procedures. These policies and procedures can be found in the *Student Life Handbook*.**

Netiquette

Understanding netiquette guidelines when communicating on the World Wide Web with friends, family and business associates can be extremely important. With such a diverse subsection of the population using email applications such as Yahoo mail or Microsoft Outlook, it is important you conduct yourself appropriately when communicating by email. Composing text messages via email is the most common form of communication you can use on the web. Netiquette parameters need to be followed so the intended recipient does not misinterpret your communications sent by email correspondence. Even more important for you to consider is that the person on the receiving end has feelings more or less like you.

Proper netiquette guidelines will ensure you do not offend or infringe on the rights of the recipients of your emails. Most individuals consider themselves to be fairly law-abiding citizens, but seem to take more chances when working on the Internet because they feel they are untraceable. However, most people forget to consider there is always someone watching, whether it is the intended recipient of the email, your Internet Service Provider or the government. Another useful suggestion for you to consider when using email is to remember to be ethical in cyberspace. If you are tempted to commit an illegal act while using email, chances are it's also bad netiquette.

Several netiquette guidelines are listed below:

Sentence Capitalization:

- Typing in all caps is considered screaming.
- Example: **SUNDAY WILL BE A LONG DAY!**
- Various studies have concluded that typing in all caps takes longer and is more difficult to read.
- Recipient may think you are overly excited

Leaving the subject field blank:

- Always fill in the subject with a concise statement describing the email.
- Do not use all caps or put in phrases such as Help or Hi.

- Failure to follow netiquette guidelines when filling in the subject line of an email may result in your correspondence being discarded as spam.

Colored text and background colors:

- Use colors sparingly in your emails – whether it is text or fill colors
- Certain colors can make emails difficult to read.

Forwarding emails or jokes:

- Send out an email to a group using the blind carbon copy field – BCC does not allow your recipients to view who was sent the email. Mainly a privacy issue for other people in your address book.
- Do not forward offensive or racially insensitive jokes or comments.
- Do not forward every email you think is funny or is a chain letter – be selective.

Return receipt request:

- Allows you to track when the recipient opens your email – you should use this email feature sparingly.
- Can be very annoying to the recipient of the email.

Grammar and spelling check:

- Proofread emails for errors
- Capitalize your sentences and use appropriate punctuation
- Refrain from using multiple !!!!!!! or ????????

These netiquette guidelines will help to ensure you are courteous and use proper manners while corresponding with your friends, family and business associates.

Footsteps

While you may contact me at any time with questions you may have, I will also require you to send an e-mail to me with the subject line of “Footsteps” that will provide me with progress that you feel you are making in the course as well as any questions or concerns you may have. With this being an online class, I am very much interested in your understanding of course material from *your* perspective and how that relates to the work that you submit. My teaching philosophy for this course is likened to that of the great Maria Montessori in that I will guide you in your understanding of Sociology as a discipline, but want to see you independently discover all of the riches within the discipline and choose which gems are relatable to you personally and to society as you view it.

Course Schedule

06/01	Chapter One: The Sociological Perspective and Research Process Getting to Know You Things That Make You Go Hmmm...
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- 06/08 Chapter Two: Culture
Chapter Three: Socialization
Things That Make You Go Hmmm...
Group Assignment One
- 06/15 Chapter Four: Social Structure and Interaction in Everyday Life
Chapter Seven: Class and Stratification
Things That Make You Go Hmmm...
- 06/22 Chapter Nine: Race and Ethnicity
Chapter Ten: Sex, Gender and Equality
Things That Make You Go Hmmm...
Group Assignment Two
- 06/29 Chapter Eleven: Families and Intimate Relationships
Chapter Twelve: Education and Religion
Things That Make You Go Hmmm...
- 07/06 Chapter Six: Deviance and Crime
Things That Make You Go Hmmm...
Group Assignment Three