

COURSE SYLLABUS

SOCIOLOGY 131.05
PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY
3 CREDIT HOURS
FALL, 2007
AB1, room 302
9:00 – 10:00 a.m. M – W – F

PROFESSOR: Walter H. Bennett
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OFFICE HOURS: 7:00-9:00 & 10:00-11:00 MWF
Other times by appointment (including TTH)

I. **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S) AND/OR REFERENCE(S)/READING LIST**

Society The Basics, 9th edition, Macionis, John, ISBN 0132284901 (Pearson)

II. **COURSE DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVES**

This course may be described as an introduction to Sociology as an academic discipline with a distinctive point of view in the study of society and human behavior. The course has the following objectives:

1. To introduce students to the distinctive subject matter of sociology.
2. To enable students to learn fundamental concepts and general principles used in the study of social interaction and human society.
3. To enable students to identify and examine the underlying assumptions related to basic theoretical orientations and methodological approaches in the study of social reality.
4. To encourage students to think critically and to use the Sociological Imagination in the study of the reciprocal relationship between individuals and society.

III. **SEMESTER COURSE GRADE**

The semester grade will be based upon four components of equal value. Three of these components are exams as formally scheduled in this syllabus. Each exam will consist of both essay and multiple choice or true/false questions. Class activities and exercises make-up the fourth component used in the determination of the semester grade.

Students will be graded on the following scale:

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

D = 60 – 69

F = below a 60 average

Specific and detailed information will be provided during the first class meeting including policy regarding any missed class work.

IV. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. ATTENDANCE POLICY

SHSU policy is that attendance is mandatory. Attendance is recorded at the beginning of class. Students who arrive once class is underway, or leaves early, may be counted absent unless the late arrival/early departure has been negotiated with the professor prior to the class meeting. A student is not only expected to show appropriate cause for both absences and tardiness, but he/she is also expected to initiate action to satisfy all missed class work, whether assigned or not.

2. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of

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academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

3. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. ***This meeting should take place within the first two weeks of the semester.*** <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

4. RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911(a)(2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20..." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent him/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

5. VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM

Unannounced visitors to classes must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office. <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

6. CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT

Each student is expected to be fully acquainted and comply with all published policies, rules, and regulations of the component, copies of which shall be available to each student for review online and/or at various locations on each campus. Students are also expected to comply with all federal and state laws. The Code of Student Conduct and Discipline is found at the following link: <http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>

a. Students are to treat faculty and other students with respect.

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- b. Students are not allowed to use cell phones, I-Pods, MP3, etc., they should be stowed and **turned off** during class.
- c. Computers may be used to take notes ONLY.

7. INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS

Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form towards the end of the semester.

V. **COURSE OUTLINE/ASSIGNMENTS**

		Page(s)
8/20/07 – 9/12/07	PART I – Sociology the Study of Human Society	
	Ch. 1 Perspective, Theory and Method	1
	Ch. 2 Culture	39
	Ch. 3 Socialization	69
9/14/07	TEST #1	
9/17/07 – 10/19/07	PART II – Social Structure, Group Relationships and Social Order	
	Ch. 4 Social Interaction	95
	Ch. 5 Groups and Organizations	119
	Ch. 6 Sexuality and Society	145
	Ch. 7 Deviance	173
10/22/07 – 11/7/07	PART III – Social Inequality	
	Ch. 8 Social Stratification	205
	Ch. 9 Global Stratification	243
	Ch. 10 Gender Stratification	271
	Ch. 11 Race and Ethnicity	299
11/9/07	TEST #2	
11/12/07 – 12/6/07	PART IV – Social Institutions	
	Ch. 12 Economics and Politics	333
	Ch. 13 Family and Religion	371
	Ch. 14 Education, Health and Medicine	409
	PART V – Population, Environment and Social Change	
	Ch. 15 Population, Urbanization and Environment	449
	Ch. 16 Social Change: Modern and Post-modern Societies	481
12/12/07	FINAL EXAM (As determined by the University schedule)	