

PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY SYG 2000

University of Florida – Spring 2022

Instructor

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Office Hours

Online Tuesdays 11am-12pm

Online by appointment

Course Description and Objectives

This course is designed to provide you with a broad overview of the sociological perspective and its application to historical and contemporary social issues. Students will learn to identify, describe, and explain social institutions, structures, and processes. The course emphasizes the effective application of accepted problem-solving techniques. Students will apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis to examine the processes and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions, as well as the evaluation of opinions, outcomes, or human behavior. Students are expected to assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions. This course will cover:

- *Basic sociological concepts, theories, and methods.* Course materials and activities will provide students opportunities to see how social scientists use varied methods to collect information about specific social issues.
- *A brief overview of sociology as a social science discipline.* Course materials will expose students to strategies for identifying, studying, and addressing social issues and research questions. Course activities will provide students with opportunities to apply critical thinking skills to evaluate debates about contemporary social issues and to identify the evidence needed to address such issues.
- *The relationship between social processes and structures.*
- *Insights into how individuals' lives and significant relationships can be shaped or impacted by larger social forces.*

Required Materials

Dalton Conley. *You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking Like a Sociologist*. 7th Edition. W.W. Norton.

Additional Assorted Readings or Media Material Available Via E-Learning Website

Each week you are responsible to do the assigned readings from the textbook (see the table below) and the videos made available through e-learning. You will also have available an audio file (in which I provide guideline to navigate the readings) and chapter outline.

Learning Objectives

The general education student learning outcomes (SLOs) describe the knowledge, skills and attitudes that students are expected to acquire while completing a general education course at the University of Florida. The SLOs fall into three categories: content, communication, and critical thinking:

- *Content* is knowledge of the concepts, principles, terminology and methodologies used within the discipline. Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies, and theories used within the discipline.
- *Communication* is the development and expression of ideas in written and oral forms. Students communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline.
- *Critical thinking* is characterized by the comprehensive analysis of issues, ideas, and evidence before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion. Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives using discipline-specific methods, and thereby develop reasoned solutions to problems.

Performance Indicators of Mastery of SLOs

Student Learning Objective (SLO)	SLO Description	Indicator of Mastery	%
Content	Knowledge of the concepts, principles, terminology and methodologies used within the discipline	Quizzes /final exam	62.5%
Communication	Development and expression of ideas in written and oral forms	Reflections & Introduction Post	17.5%
Critical Thinking	Comprehensive analysis of issues, ideas, and evidence before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion	Analytical Essay	20%

Course Requirements

Introduction post – 2.5%

Instructions will be provided in canvas

Reflections – 15%

There will be a total of 6 reflection panels in which the student will be asked to participate using relevant sociological concepts. Students are expected to participate in all reflections, additional participation such as commenting on another post will not count toward your grade. Every reflection post will have specific instructions posted in the post, make sure to

follow the instructions. **No late assignments will be accepted at full credit.** The reflections are due Sundays at 11.59pm. The reflections will only be open for the specific week they are listed on the outline so make sure to be aware of the deadlines!

Analytical Essays – 20%

See instructions in separate document on canvas.

Quizzes – 48.75%

Each week students will complete one online quiz on Canvas by Sunday at 11:59 pm **(except for the final week)**. There will be a total of 14 timed quizzes. You will have **20 minutes** to complete the quiz once you start it. Typically, quizzes will have around 20 multiple-choice questions. The quizzes will only be open for the specific week they are listed on the outline so make sure to be aware of the deadlines!

No make-ups are permitted; however, students will drop their (1) lowest quiz grade at the end of the semester. Students who fail to take the quiz before the deadline will receive a zero.

Final Exam – 13.75

The exam will be a multiple-choice exam that is distributed on canvas and will be using Lockdown Browser.

The final exam will exist of questions that are related to the key concepts and arguments that have been mentioned in the book in the chapter that have been discussed. You will only be tested on chapter 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 16 No other chapters that are listed in the book.

ALWAYS SUBMIT YOUR ASSIGNMENTS ON TIME. All work must be submitted through the appropriate assignment link *on or before* the due date. I will not accept late assignments for full credit.

Grade Breakdown

Assignment	Points	Total Points	%
Intro Post	10 pts	10	2.5%
6 Reflections	10 pts each	60	15%
13 Quizzes	15 pts each	195	48.75%
2 Analytical Essay	40 pts each	80	20%
Final Exam	55 pts	55	13.75%
Total grade		400	100%

Grading scale

A = 93-100 %	B- = 80-82 %	D+ = 67-69 %
A- = 90-92 %	C+ = 77-79 %	D = 63-66 %
B+ = 87-89 %	C = 73-76 %	D- = 60-62 %
B = 83-86 %	C- = 70-72 %	E = Below 60 %

Your final grade is based solely on your, your performance on the assignments, tests, and class participation. Your final point total, and the letter grade associated with it, are FINAL.

Incomplete grades

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has a specific policy and proceed regarding incomplete grades. Please see the following documents:

<http://www.clas.ufl.edu/forms/incomplete-grade-policy-clas.pdf>

<http://www.clas.ufl.edu/forms/incomplete-grade-contract.pdf>

Student Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Communication

Preferred methods of communication about class and grade related questions are through canvas messages or during a scheduled office hours.

If you have questions regarding technical issues with canvas please contact the help desk (e.g. [visit the helpdesk website](#) or call 352-392-4357).

University Policies and Services

Academic Honesty: On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA HONOR CODE

Found at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcode.php>

Preamble: In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University Community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the

Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. Student and faculty support are crucial to the success of the Honor Code. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon the community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code.

The Honor Code: We, the members of the University of Florida, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

(1) All students are required to abide by the Student Honor Code.

(2) The conduct set forth hereinafter constitutes a violation of the Student Honor Code. Those adjudged to have committed such conduct shall be subject to sanctions provided in Rule 6C1-4.016, F.A.C.

Students are not permitted to sell class notes or tapes of lectures, presentations, or discussions. Any form of "paper sharing," electronic paper purchasing, or plagiarism will not be tolerated. I will fail students for the entire COURSE for any form of academic misconduct regarding the preparation of their paper. Please do your own work semester. All exams are the property of this course. Students are not permitted to write down exam questions--failure to comply will result in an "E" since non-compliance is, in effect, cheating. Cheating or copying during an exam also results in an "E" for the exam and the entire course.

Accommodation for students with disabilities: Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

I encourage students who have arranged a special needs accommodation letter through the Office of Student Disability Services (SDS) to contact me immediately to present their paperwork and to figure out a plan of action.

The SDS office is located in 001 Reid Hall, phone: 392-8565. Students interested in seeking writing assistance should consider visiting the UF Reading & Writing Center (RWC). It provides 30-minute consultations. The RWC is located in SW Broward Hall, phone: 392-6420 <http://www.at.ufl.edu/rwcenter>

UF Counseling Services: Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking a clear career and academic goals which interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an

appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

[Writing Studio](#): 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information](#).

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).

Additional Information

Some of the topics covered in this class might be especially difficult to discuss because of personal experiences or the experiences of loved ones. I encourage anybody who is struggling as a result of the topics covered to approach me directly via email or in person, or reach out to the counseling and wellness center.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Course Schedule & Important Dates

Is posted in a separate document on the canvas course page

*Note: I reserve the right to alter this schedule as I see fit, and will give advance notice should I do so.