

# SYG2000 Principles of Sociology Syllabus

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## Instructor

Julya McCoy

## Email

julyamccoy@ufl.edu

## Office Hours

Turlington Hall

Room 3349

9:30 AM to 10:30 AM

Mondays & Fridays

## Classroom

ARCH 213

## Course Overview

SYG 2000 introduces sociology as a social science and analysis of American society. Culture, socialization, deviance, bureaucracy, population, urbanization, social stratification, minorities, and other topics. 3 credit hours; fulfills Social and Behavioral Sciences (S) general education requirements.

## Required Text

Terrible Magnificent Sociology (*1<sup>st</sup> edition*), Lisa Wade

## Class Meeting Time

12:30 PM – 1:45 PM      Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri.

## Important Dates

- First Class: May 9<sup>th</sup> 2022
- Last Class: June 17<sup>th</sup> 2022
- Final Exam: June 17<sup>th</sup> 2022 during regular class time

## Overview

### Course Objectives for SYG 2000 Principles of Sociology

1. Introduce students to the basic concepts, theories, and methods that sociologists use. Course materials and activities provide students opportunities to see how social scientist use varied methods to collect information about specific social issues. Moreover, students will critically assess how that information can be used to frame understanding about why social patterns exist and what might be the possible consequences of those patterns.

## **Student Learning Objectives**

2. Provide students with a brief overview of sociology as a discipline within the social sciences that exposes students to strategies to identify, study, and address 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 the evidence needed to address the issues.
3. Help students to develop the ability to understand how various social processes and structures affect one another.
4. Encourage students to develop a better understanding of how their own lives and significant relationships are shaped by larger social forces.
5. Provide students with insights about how individuals' interactions with others can affect the larger society

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 develop reasoned solutions to problems.

## **Course Policies**

### **Attendance**

Daily attendance is necessary. Please do not schedule appointments, meetings, trips, or other activities that would require you to miss some or all of class. That said, I understand that you do not have complete control over what happens in your life. If a situation emerges that will require you to miss class, you (or your proxy) must contact me immediately. Please keep in mind that not all absences are excused, even with

## **Classroom Conduct**

prior notification. Students cannot reschedule or make-up any course assignments without an excused absence approved by the Professor.

If a student does not participate in at least one of the first two class meetings and they have not contacted the Professor to indicate their intent, the student can be dropped from the course. The complete University policies regarding absences and make-up work can be found online (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/#absencestext>).

You are expected to come to class prepared and on time. Active, professional, and respectful participation during class time is expected. I will make every effort to end class and dismiss you on-time, but if I begin to run over, you may raise your hand and remind me of the time.

Computers and cell phones are distracting, but they also allow students to access important information during class. If you need to use your devices for non-academic reasons, please avoid distracting other students by stepping out of the classroom.

Our classroom is a call-out-free space where learning new sociological concepts together requires respect and compassion. Call-outs work to socially shame members of a group into conforming and will not be tolerated in our classroom. You will be working with your classmates often throughout the course, so it is important that you get to know each other and be able to trust one another. Your success in this class will partly depend on the success of your peers, so it is in everyone's best interest to work together.

## **Teacher Evaluations**

The University expects students to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on a variety of criteria. These evaluations, called GatorEvals, are typically open during the last two weeks of the semester, and students will be notified via email and Canvas notifications when they are open. GatorEvals can also be accessed directly at <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summary results of these evaluations are available to students at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## How to Get Help

### Office Hours

Meeting with students during office hours gives me a chance to get to know you better as a student and as a human being. Office hours are ideal for clarifying confusing subjects and exploring topics that interest you. I am also available to discuss broader issues that college students face, such as balancing school and a social life, personal issues affecting your performance (I may refer you to campus-based services if necessary), and post-college plans.

### Accessibility Accommodations

There are a number of circumstances, whether temporary or long-term, that can make completing the course requirements unduly difficult for some students. The University has a process for identifying students in need of accommodations, and there are a wide variety of accommodations available (<https://disability.ufl.edu/faculty/academic-accommodations/>). If you need accommodations for successfully completing this course, you must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will then provide you with the appropriate documentation, and you must provide this documentation to the Professor in order to receive your accommodations.

### How Excused Absences & Assignment Extensions Work

When life gets in the way of school, you're not alone.

The **Instructor Notification** process was created to assist students who have or will miss class and assignment due date because of extenuating circumstances (examples below). An Instructor Notification provides documentation from the Dean of Students Office on a student's behalf to request instructors accommodate the student to experiencing extenuating circumstances.

**To do this, visit** <https://care.dso.ufl.edu/instructor-notifications/>

Examples of extenuating circumstances:

- I. Death of a family member
- II. Death of a friend
- III. Emergency

## Social Services

- IV. Family emergency
- V. Hospitalization - Psychological
- VI. Hospitalization – physical
- VII. Medical emergency/illness
- VIII. Significant weather

It is very common for students to struggle with the rigors of schoolwork, the demands of work and student organizations, and/or relationships with friends and family. Everyone's circumstances are different. Here are some options that have helped some of my students in the past:

- U Matter, We Care is a student resource center that works with **students facing all kinds of problems** like death of a family member, emotional distress, or financial insecurity, to name a few. <https://umatter.ufl.edu/>
- The Student **Health Care** Center is located on campus and is available to all students. Call (352) 392 – 1161 to ask a medical question or schedule an appointment. <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- Alachua County Crisis Center offers a **crisis and Suicide intervention** help line 24 hours a day. Call (352) 264 – 6789  
<https://alachuacounty.us/depts/css/crisiscenter/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx>
- The National **Suicide Prevention** Lifeline is 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)
- The Trevor Project is a crisis helpline specializing in **LGBTQ youth suicide prevention**, 24 hours a day.

Text: 678678

Call: 1-866-488-7386

Chat online: <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/get-help/>

- If you are experiencing **Dating Abuse or Violence**, you can call the National Network to End Domestic Violence 24 hour Help Line, call 1-800-799-7233 or visit <https://nnedv.org/> for more information about dating abuse, domestic violence, and coercive controlling abuse
- If you or a friend have been forced or coerced into having sex, have been **sexually assaulted**, you have the right to a Victim Advocate who will help you learn your rights, and if you choose to use services available to you, the advocate can coordinate any medical, mental health, and legal assistance. UFPD Office of Victim Services is confidential and available 24 hours a day at (352) 392 – 5648. For more information on **what to do if someone is raped**, visit:  
<https://police.ufl.edu/services/victim-services/sexual-violence-assault/>

The National Sexual Assault Hotline is 1-800-656-4673. You can call to coordinate a medical or forensic exam, or to find free specialized counseling services near you. The National website has more information here <https://www.rainn.org/>

- The Counseling and Wellness Center (CWC) offers a wide variety of services at no cost, including **mental health counseling** for individuals, couples, and group counseling (<https://counseling.ufl.edu/services/>). To make an appointment, call 352-392-1575 or visit the CWC in-person at 3190 Radio Road (M-F, 8AM-5PM).  
If you or a fellow student are in a crisis situation, you can drop-in without an appointment M-F, 9AM-4PM, at either CWC location (3190 Radio Road or the 4th floor of Peabody Hall). You can also call the CWC at 352-392-1575 or the Alachua County Crisis Center at 352-264-6789.
- 211 United Way is a **free social services** referral service. You can call 211 and tell the operator what social problem you're experiencing, and they can find all the local social service agencies that may be able to help you.
- 911 is the **emergency** number you can call if there is an immediate threat to you or another person's physical safety. 911 operators can send paramedics and/or law enforcement to you.

## Assessment Overview

Assessment	Description	% Final Grade
Exams	Exams will evaluate student competence in terminology, concepts, methodologies and theories used in sociology ( <i>Content</i> )	35%
Weekly Quizzes	Quizzes will evaluate student competence in terminology, concepts, methodologies and theories used in sociology ( <i>Content</i> ) (lowest grade automatically dropped)	20%
Reading Reflections	Reflection Assignments will evaluate students' ability to develop connections between topics from lecture and readings regarding current events ( <i>Critical Thinking</i> ) (lowest 3 grades automatically dropped)	15%
Group Projects	Group assignments will evaluate students' ability to communicate and apply concepts from lecture to real-world situations ( <i>Communication</i> )	15%
In-Class Assignments	In-class assignments will evaluate student competence in effectively communicating sociological knowledge, ideas and reasoning individually and with peers (lowest 3 grades automatically dropped)	15%
Total Grade		100%

## Grading Scale

Score	Percent	Grade	Grade Points
934-1000	93.4-100	A	4.00
900-933	90.0-93.3	A-	3.67
867-899	86.7-89.9	B+	3.33
834-866	83.4-86.6	B	3.00
800-833	80.0-83.3	B-	2.67
767-799	76.7-79.9	C+	2.33
734-766	73.4-76.6	C	2.00
700-733	70.0-73.3	C-	1.67
667-699	66.7-69.9	D+	1.33
634-666	63.4-66.6	D	1.00
600-633	60.0-63.3	D-	0.67
0-599	0-59.9	E	0.00

## Exam Schedule

Exam	Date	Content on Exam
Exam 1	Friday, May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Module 1 & Module 2
Exam 2	Tuesday, June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Module 3 & Module 4
Exam 3	Friday, June 17 <sup>th</sup>	Module 5 & Module 6

## Course Schedule

Week	Class Meeting	Readings & Assignments
Module 1: Introduction to Sociology		
Week 1	Monday, May 9, 2022	First Day of Class, Review Syllabus, Brené Brown Reading
	Tuesday, May 10, 2022	Introduction Chapter (pp. 3 – 11) of Textbook, & Appendix A (pp. A-1 – A-10) A Short History of Sociology
	Wednesday, May 11, 2022	Chapter 1 (pp. 13 – 33) The Self
	Thursday, May 12, 2022	Reflection 1
	Friday, May 13, 2022	Chapter 2 (pp. 34 – 59) Culture & Construction
Week 2	Monday, May 16, 2022	Reflection 2
Module 2: Core Concepts in Sociology		

Tuesday, May 17, 2022	Chapter 3 (pp. 60 – 85) Our Identities
Wednesday, May 18, 2022	Reflection 3
Thursday, May 19, 2022	Chapter 4 (pp. 86 – 113) People in Interaction
Friday, May 20, 2022	Reflection 4, Exam 1

### Module 3: Theory & Methods for Sociological Research

Week 3	Monday, May 23, 2022	Chapter 5 (pp. 114 – 143) Deviance and Defiance
	Tuesday, May 24, 2022	Reflection 5
	Wednesday, May 25, 2022	Chapter 6 (pp. 144 – 169) Organizations, Institutions, & Structures
	Thursday, May 26, 2022	Reflection 6
	Friday, May 27, 2022	Read Appendix-B (pp. A-11 – A-22) A Guide to Sociological Research, Complete Sociology Research Methods Practice 1 & 2 (both in canvas)
Week 4	Monday, May 30, 2022	Reflection 7

### Module 4: Class, Race, & Gender in Society

Week 5	Tuesday, May 31, 2022	Chapter 7 Economic Inequality
	Wednesday, June 1, 2022	Reflection 8, Group Project on Economic Inequality Presentations
	Thursday, June 2, 2022	Chapter 8 Institutional Racism
	Friday, June 3, 2022	Reflection 9, Group Project on Institutional Racism Presentations
	Monday, June 6, 2022	Chapter 9 Gendered Oppression
Tuesday, June 7, 2022	Reflection 10, Group Project on Gender Oppression Presentations, Exam 2	

### Module 5: Social Power & Capital

Week 6	Wednesday, June 8, 2022	Chapter 10 Elite Power
	Thursday, June 9, 2022	Reflection 11
	Friday, June 10, 2022	Chapter 11 The Power of the People
	Monday, June 13, 2022	Reflection 12

### Module 6: The family & Medical Disparities

Tuesday, June 14, 2022	Supplementary Chapter on Marriage & Family (in canvas)
Wednesday, June 15, 2022	Supplementary Chapter on Health Disparities (in canvas)
Thursday, June 16, 2022	Reflection 13
Friday, June 17, 2022	Exam 3