

SYG2000 – Principle of Sociology Summer A 2024 Syllabus

This class is an asynchronous course. The class will be entirely online, and all work will be completed using Canvas.

Instructor Information

Rosario Fernández-Romero (she/her) **Zoom Office Hours:** Fridays 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

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Preferred Communication Method: Canvas messaging

INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge that the University of Florida rests on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the Potano (Timucua) and the Seminole people. I extend my respect and acknowledge the historical and ongoing impact of colonization on Indigenous communities. I also recognize the enslaved peoples, primarily of African descent, whose labor was used to build much of this university.

TEXTBOOK

We will be using an open-source textbook that is available for free online.

OpenStax. *Introduction to Sociology 3e*. OpenStax CNX, 2021.

The textbook can be found [here](#).

Additional readings can be found on Canvas.

GENERAL EDUCATION SUBJECT AREA OBJECTIVES

Social and behavioral science courses, like SYG2000, provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and underlying theories or methodologies used in the social and behavioral sciences. Students will learn to identify, describe, and explain social institutions, structures, or processes. These courses emphasize 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.

COURSE OBJECTIVES FOR SYG2000 PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY

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

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 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.

STUDENT 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 develop reasoned solutions to problems.

COURSE COMPONENTS

Your grade will be based on discussion **board posts**, an **object of study**, **quizzes**, and exams. Please note that I will not round up final grades. If you would like to discuss your grade at any point during the semester, please see me during office hours. You must do this within a week of your grade being posted.

Discussion board: 30% of final grade

Initial responses are due on Wednesdays, and responses to two students are due on Friday of the same week. Initial responses must be at least 300 words, and each response to a classmate must be at least 100 words.

Object of study: 20% of final grade

I will be randomly assigning students to different weeks/chapters. Based on the week you're assigned, you will create or find an item that reflects the material for that given week. To receive full credit, you will submit a picture or a digital copy of the chosen item and a three-paragraph discussion/reflection.

Quizzes: 20% of final grade

There are a total of 7 quizzes; each quiz is worth 4% of your final grade. I will be dropping your two lowest quiz grades, meaning only 5 quizzes will count towards your grade. Each quiz is composed of 5 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and you will have 8 minutes to complete it. Quizzes are due Friday at 11:59 PM.

Final Exam: 30% of final grade

The final will cover material from Chapters TBD and any material we watched or discussed in class. The exam will consist of 30 multiple-choice and true/false questions.

Grades will be calculated on the following components:

Discussion Board	30%
Object of study	20%
Quizzes	20%
Final Exam	30%
TOTAL	100%

Accordingly, final course grades will be based on the following grading scale:

A	90 – 100%
B+	84 – 89%
B	83 – 80%
C+	74 – 79%
C	73 – 70%
D	69 – 60%
E	59 – 0%

ATTENDANCE, MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, AND MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS/EXAMS

I understand you have other obligations outside of my class. If you know you will need an extension, reach out to me at least 12 hours before an assignment is due.

In certain situations, students with legitimate excuses (court-imposed legal obligations, university-sponsored activities, religious holidays, etc.) or accommodations through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) may be allowed to take an exam early at my discretion. These situations may also excuse students from in-class assignments they miss on those days. Students who will miss an exam for these reasons must notify me at least one week in advance, and appropriate documentation must be provided.

Regardless of the reason for missing an exam, all students who take a make-up will have an all-written test (no true/false or multiple-choice questions).

Accessibility Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center.](#) Students registered with the DRC who wish to use their accommodations in this class must send me a current accommodation letter through the DRC portal. Accommodations cannot be utilized until proper documentation is submitted.

Gator Evals

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 [here](#).

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 [here](#).

Academic Misconduct

The University of Florida holds its students to the highest standards, and we encourage students to read the University of Florida Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code (Regulation 4.040), so they are aware of our standards. Any violation of the Student Honor Code will result in a referral to the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution and may result in academic sanctions and further student conduct action. The two greatest threats to the academic integrity of the University of Florida are cheating and plagiarism. Students should be aware of their faculty's policy on collaboration, should understand how to properly cite sources, and should not give nor receive an improper academic advantage in any manner through any medium.

All UF students are bound by the UF honor code:
<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

TENTATIVE SUMMER A CLASS SCHEDULE*

Week	Topic	Required Readings	Assignments Due
1	Introduction & Sociological Research	Chapter 1, Chapter 2	Discussion 1 Chapter 2 Quiz
2	Culture & Socialization and Social Control	Chapter 3, Chapter 5, and Chapter 7.1 <i>Body Ritual Among the Nacirema</i> – Miner 1956	Discussion 2 Chapter 3 and Chapter 5 & 7.1 quiz
3	Society & Social Groups and Organization	Chapter 4, Chapter 6	Discussion 3 Chapter 6 and Chapter 9 quiz
4	Social Stratification in the U.S. & Gender, Sex, and Sexuality	Chapter 9, Chapter 12	
5	Race and Ethnicity & Social Movements	Chapter 11, Chapter 21	Discussion 5 Chapter 11 and Chapter 21 quiz
6			Final Exam