

Course Title: General Sociology

Course Prefix: SOCG

Course No.: 1013

Section No.: P06

Department of

Division of Social Work,
Behavioral and Political
Sciences

College of

**Brailsford College of Arts and
Sciences**

Instructor Name:

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**Office Hours and Virtual
Hours:**

TR 11:00am – 3:00pm and by appt.

Course Location:

NSCI 101

**Class Meeting Days &
Times:**

MWF 100-150pm

Catalog Description:

The course is designed as an introduction to the discipline. It focuses on why and how sociologists study social and cultural phenomena such as inequality, race and ethnicity, gender, populations, family, political behavior, deviance and social change.

Prerequisites:

N/A

Co-requisites:

N/A

Required Text:

Croteau & Hoynes. 2013. Experiencing Sociology (Prairie View) ISBN:
1259155358

Required Readings:

Anderson, Elijah. "Code of the Streets"

Access to Learning

PVAMU Library:

Resources:

phone: (936) 261-1500;

web: <http://www.tamu.edu/pvamu/library/>

University Bookstore:

phone: (936) 261-1990;

web: <https://www.bkstr.com/Home/10001-10734-1?demoKey=d>

Course Goals or Overview:

The goal of this course is to provide students from across the University with an introduction to the fundamentals concepts, principles and processes of Sociology.

Learning Outcomes/Objectives

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

Course learning outcome aligns with . . .	Program Learning Objective	Core Objective
Demonstrate knowledge of basic sociological concepts used in the study of social phenomena and apply these concepts to local and broader social contexts	SLO#1: identify and apply basic sociological concepts used in micro and macro sociological theory	CO #4: Social responsibility
Develop an awareness of how social institutions shape and constrain individuals' choices and experiences.	SLO #4: examine social institutions and processes across cultures	CO #4: Social responsibility

Be able to analyze and critique social processes using sociological concepts and theories.	SLO #4: examine social institutions and processes across cultures	CO #1: Critical thinking
Write a critical essay discussing the influence of social institutions upon social processes.	SLO #4: examine social institutions and processes across cultures	CO#2:Communication CO#1:Critical Thinking CO#4:Social Responsibility
Examine, evaluate and interpret graphically displayed data showing trends in social phenomena.	SLO #4: examine social institutions and processes across cultures	CO: #3: Empirical and Quantitative Skills

Course Requirements & Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the instruments listed in the following grading matrix to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course:

Quizzes – There will be 10 quizzes consisting of 10 points each covering specific course material; these quizzes are designed to assess students’ basic knowledge of sociological concepts and will be used to assist in preparation for broader analysis and synthesis of material. One quiz will specifically address students’ ability to examine, analyze and interpret numerical data associated with emerging social trends.

Exams – There will be two multiple choice exams – a Midterm and Final Exam – consisting of 50 questions each. Critical thinking and social responsibility and core objectives will be stressed on these exams to assess students’ ability to critically evaluate information and apply the information across cultures.

Essay/Writing Assignment – There will be one writing assignment designed to assess students’ comprehension and application of Elijah Anderson’s, “Code of the Streets” article. The critical thinking, communication and personal responsibility core objectives will be emphasized in this assignment to assess students’ ability to effectively apply basic sociological concepts to discuss the impact of social institutions upon social processes and describe alternative explanatory theories and methods that social scientists use to investigate the human condition.

Grading Matrix

Instrument	Value (in points)	Percent of Course grade
Quizzes	10 quizzes at 10 points each	100
Exams	2 Exams at 100 points each	200
Essay – Writing Assignment	1 at 100 points	100
Total:		400

Grade determination:

- A = 400 – 350pts;
- B = 349 – 300pts;
- C = 299 – 250pts;
- D = 249 – 200pts;
- F = 199pts or below

Course Procedures

Quiz/Exam Policy: Quizzes will be administered in class, at the beginning of class at the start of each new chapter, so please come to class prepared having read the chapter and bring scantron form for all quizzes. Exams will also be administered in-class according to Midterm and Final Examination periods. Once an exam or quiz begins, you may not leave the room. Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except under documented emergencies (See Student Handbook and description below). Students must bring their own scantron and pencil on exam days. No hats—for women or men—are allowed on exam days. I will not grade your exam unless all these policies are followed. **Quiz #2 over chapter 2 – Sociological Research – will entail examination, evaluation and interpretation of empirical data illustrating emerging social trends.**

Submission of Writing Assignments Policy: *Writing assignments are to be submitted online via eCourses on assigned due date and a hard copy brought to class for discussion as directed. No late assignments will be taken under any circumstances. All essays must be typed, double-spaced, in 12 point font. Your essay should be about two pages of text; it will include a critical analysis of Elijah Anderson's article, "The Code of the Streets" and will address the impact of social institutions upon crime in the urban communities described in Anderson's article.*

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious academic crime and policy for students who commit plagiarism will be enforced. In general, plagiarism is using another person's words, statistics, and/or ideas as if they were your own. Plagiarism, which is formally defined in the University Rules and Procedures section of this syllabus, can come in many forms, such as directly quoting a source without quotation marks, directly quoting a source without giving a reference citation, paraphrasing a source without giving a reference citation and so forth. It is incumbent on students to seek help from the instructor or other University resources to avoid even the appearance of plagiarism in their work. Any student caught committing ANY type of plagiarism can receive one OR MORE of the following punishments, depending on the severity of the offense and in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct:

1. Grade Penalty (an F for the assignment and/or an F for the course);
2. Letter of Reprimand
3. Probation
4. Suspension
5. Dismissal
6. Expulsion

Students must consult the University's Code of Conduct for other forms of academic dishonesty and the punishments.

Electronic Communication: Notes and other course materials may be posted on Moodle/Ecourses, which is available at <http://ecourses.pvamu.edu>. Note the frequently asked questions links in the left margin of this link. You are expected to use this website as a resource for the class. The University also maintains an email account for you. Periodically, I may send you class notices or other information. **I expect you to check your Prairie View A&M email account at least once a week.** If you have problems accessing your account, please call (936) 261-2525. Not having access to your Panther Email is not an excuse for missing important information. The new Moodle/Ecourses is heavily reliant on your PVAMU email..

Make-up Policy: You will only be allowed to make up an exam or assignment if you have a valid excuse. Valid excuses include *documented* illness, school or business trips, or family crises. Without proper documentation, there will be no makeup assignments. **If granted a make-up, you have a period of three (3) class days to schedule your make-up assignment or exam. After that point, the grade becomes a zero.** Please provide written documentation for why you need to make up an assignment from a university official, doctor, police officer, or coach. Student athletes must notify me **BEFORE** they attend an event to represent the school and **MUST** be proactive in getting their assignments completed. **Email will not be accepted as notification.** Make up exams may be an essay/short answer test or a modified version of the original exam. Any assigned extra credit cannot be made up.

Grade Groveling Policy: Students concerned about their grades should endeavor to attend all class sessions and complete all work to the best of their ability. Students **earn** high grades, based on demonstrating mastery of the subject matter and not based on what they want or need for their overall GPA. Therefore, no grade groveling will be entertained and no "do-overs" allowed.

Formatting Documents: Microsoft Word is the standard word processing tool used at PVAMU. If you're using other word processors, be sure to use the "save as" tool and save the document in either the Microsoft Word, Rich-Text, or plain text format. All writing assignments must use acceptable citation style and document all sources. **No assignments will be accepted via email under any circumstances.**

16 WEEK CALENDAR

Week One: Chapter(s): Assignment(s):	Introduction N/A N/A
Week Two: Chapter (s): Assignment (s):	Sociological Imagination Ch 1 <i>Quiz #1</i>
Week Three: 01/28/13 – 02/01/13 Chapter (s): Assignment (s):	Sociological Research Ch 2 <u>Quiz #2 – empirical research data</u>
Week Four: 02/04/13 – 02/08/13 Chapter (s): Assignment (s):	Culture Ch 3 <i>Quiz #3</i>
Week Five: 02/11/13 – 02/15/13 Chapter (s): Assignment (s):	Socialization Ch 4 <i>Quiz #4</i>
Week Six: 02/18/13 – 2/22/13 Chapter (s): Assignment (s):	Social Structure and Interaction Ch 5 <i>Quiz #5</i>
Week Seven: 02/25/13 – 03/01/13	Practical Application of Chapter(s) Material
Week Eight: 03/04/13 – 03/08/13 Chapter (s): Assignment (s):	Review and Examination Chs 1 - 5 <i>Exam #1</i>
Week Nine: 03/11/13 – 03/15/13 Assignment (s):	<i>CODE OF THE STREETS, Elijah Anderson</i> <i>Quiz #6</i>
Week Ten: 03/18/13 – 03/22/13 Chapter (s): Assignment (s):	<i>CODE OF THE STREETS, Elijah Anderson</i> <u>Article Analysis, Code of the Streets</u>
Week Eleven: 03/25/13 – 03/29/13 Chapter Assignment	Deviance & Families Harrison Chapter 25 (your professor may Ch 6 & Ch 7 <i>Quiz #7</i>
Week Twelve: 04/01/13 – 04/05/13 Chapter (s): Assignment (s):	Education & Religion Ch 8 <i>Quiz #8</i>
Week Thirteen: Topic Chapter (s): Assignment (s):	Government and Economy /THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS Ch 9 <i>QUIZ #9</i>
Week Fourteen: Chapter (s): Assignment (s):	Social Class Ch 10 <i>Quiz #10</i>
Week Fifteen: Chapter (s): Assignment(s):	FINAL EXAM Review
Week Sixteen:	Final Examination Period:

University Rules and Procedures

Disability statement (See Student Handbook):

Students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in class should register with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal laws, a student requesting special accommodations must provide documentation of their disability to the SSD coordinator.

Academic misconduct (See Student Handbook):

You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures.

Forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.
2. Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.
3. Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.
4. Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else's words, ideas, or data as one's own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one's own work also constitutes plagiarism.

Nonacademic misconduct (See Student Handbook)

The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor's ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under nonacademic procedures.

Sexual misconduct (See Student Handbook):

Sexual harassment of students and employers at Prairie View A&M University is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Attendance Policy:

Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance. Excessive absences will result in lowered grades. Excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may result in a student's course grade being reduced or in assignment of a grade of "F". Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class.

Student Academic Appeals Process

Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to students rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the Undergraduate Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

Technical Considerations for Online and Web-Assist Courses

Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements:

- Pentium with Windows XP or PowerMac with OS 9
- 56K modem or network access
- Internet provider with SLIP or PPP
- 8X or greater CD-ROM
- 64MB RAM
- Hard drive with 40MB available space
- 15" monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit
- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Netscape Communicator ver. 4.61 or Microsoft Internet Explorer ver. 5.0 /plug-ins
- Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:
 - Sending and receiving email
 - A working knowledge of the Internet
 - Proficiency in Microsoft Word
 - Proficiency in the Acrobat PDF Reader
 - Basic knowledge of Windows or Mac O.S.

Netiquette (online etiquette): students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats when directed to do so. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others in the discussions. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated. When referring to information from books, websites or articles, please use APA standards to reference sources.

Technical Support: Students should call the Prairie View A&M University Helpdesk at 936-261-2525 for technical issues with accessing your online course. The helpdesk is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. For other technical questions regarding your online course, call the Office of Distance Learning at 936-261-3290 or 936-261-3282

Communication Expectations and Standards:

All emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor within 48 hours.

You can send email anytime that is convenient to you, but I check my email messages continuously during the day throughout the work-week (Monday through Friday). I will respond to email messages during the work-week by the close of business (5:00 pm) on the day following ***my receipt*** of them. Emails that I receive on Friday will be responded to by the close of business on the following Monday.

Submission of Assignments:

Some Assignments, Papers, Exercises, and Projects will distributed and submitted through your online course. Directions for accessing your online course will be provided. Additional assistance can be obtained from the Office of Distance Learning.

Discussion Requirement:

Because this is an online course, there will be no required face to face meetings on campus. However, we will participate in conversations about the readings, lectures, materials, and other aspects of the course in a true seminar fashion. We will accomplish this by use of the discussion board.

Students are required to log-on to the course website often to participate in discussion. It is strongly advised that you check the discussion area daily to keep abreast of discussions. When a topic is posted, everyone is required to participate. The exact use of discussion will be determined by the instructor.

It is strongly suggested that students type their discussion postings in a word processing application and save it to their PC or a removable drive before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons: 1) If for some reason your discussion responses are lost in your online course, you will have another copy; 2) Grammatical errors can be greatly minimized by the use of the spell-and-grammar check functions in word processing applications. Once the post(s) have been typed and corrected in the word processing application, it should be copied and pasted to the discussion board.