

Syllabus:

SOCIOLOGY 100
(Introduction to Sociology)

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Term 2, 2004-2005
MWF 1—1:50

Text: Essentials of Sociology (5th Ed.) by James Henslin.

OVERVIEW:

The purpose of this course is to gain an appreciation of the sociological perspective, that is, an awareness of how we all are shaped by the societal/cultural forces that surround us. IN addition, we will focus of the basic terms and theories that have been developed by sociologist to discuss and research various social forces.

The content of the course will parallel closely the content of the textbook. However, there is more scholarly material in the text than can be covered in one semester. Chapters will be selected and assigned in accordance with the interests and needs of the class; some chapters may be skipped altogether, others dealt with in greater depth. Some chapters may be taken “out of order.” Specific reading assignments will be made as we progress through the course. Class sessions will be used to: highlight those sections of each chapter that are most important, to develop discussions of those issues in each chapter that are of most interest to the class as a whole, to clarify and reinforce the understanding of the more technical concepts, and to apply the material to whatever current events may be relevant.

GRADING

Grading will be based on a series of quizzes during the semester and the final exam. During the semester, there will be from 3 to 5 quizzes. The mean score on these quizzes will count 60% of the student’s grade. A final exam, scheduled for the week of April 25 will count the remaining 40% of the grade.

MISSED QUIZ POLICY: Quizzes will normally be returned during the next class session. Any student who misses a quiz must make up that quiz before the start of the next class session. This can normally be accomplished by coming to the professor’s office in the morning prior to the next class (if not during the intervening day). ONE quiz may be taken late without penalty; any subsequent late quiz will be penalized 10%. NO quiz may be taken once the tests have been returned to the class. IF a quiz is totally missed, then the grade earned on the final exam will be used for this quiz score.

CONTENT OF QUIZZES: Students are responsible for all material in the assigned chapters, unless sections or concepts were specifically excluded, Students are also responsible for all content that arises from class discussion and lecture, whether or not that material is in the text as such.

ATTENDANCE

I do not “take attendance”. While there are no points to be gained (or lost) simply based on attendance, the student is responsible for knowing what was discussed in class. This includes such basic things as scheduling of quizzes as well as concepts and ideas not covered in the text. If a student needs to miss a class, it is recommended that they have one or more reliable people from whom they can “get the notes”. Tape recording is permitted (though not usually necessary). Also, students generally find note taking much easier and class discussion much more interesting if they have done the assigned reading prior to class.

Course Outline:

Text: Essentials of Sociology: A Down To Earth Approach (5th Ed.), James M. Henslin

PART I THE SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

Chapter One: The Sociological Perspective
Chapter Two: Culture
Chapter Three: Socialization
Chapter Four: Social Structure and Social Interaction

PART II SOCIAL GROUPS AND SOCIAL CONTROL.

Chapter Six: Deviance and Social Control

PART III SOCIAL INEQUALITY

Chapter Seven: Global Stratification
Chapter Eight: Social Class in the United States
Chapter Nine: Inequalities of Race and Ethnicity
Chapter Ten: Inequalities of Gender and Age

PART IV SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Chapter 12: Marriage and Family

PART V SOCIAL CHANGE

Chapter 14: Population and Urbanization