

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

01:920: 101:R2 (Gateway)

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2016

TUESDAY/FRIDAY: 12-1:20pm

BECK HALL, 221, LIVINGSTON

Lecturer: Shruti Devgan

Email: sdevgan@rci.rutgers.edu

Please make sure you write "Intro to Soc" in the subject line and include your name in the email.

Office: 108, Davison Hall, Douglass Campus

Office hours (held at Au Bon Pain, CAC): Mondays 2:30-3:30pm and by appointment

"One becomes hooked on being a sociologist...You can turn on your sociological eye no matter where you are or what you are doing...Walking down the street, or out for a run, you can scan the class and ethnic pattern of the neighborhood, look for lines of age segregation, or for little pockets of solidarity...Caught in a traffic jam, you can study the correlation of car models with bumper stickers or with the types of music blaring from radios...Being a sociologist means never having to be bored"
(Collins, 1998).

Course Description

Sociology gives us tools to critically examine familiar, taken-for-granted and routine social relationships and structures. Sociologists make visible socially and culturally constructed experiences, behaviors, practices and ideas which are always changing, evolving and contextual. This course will provide a broad orientation to the discipline, enabling you to become keen observers of the social fabric within which you are situated: how does it define you and how do you shape it in turn? An important aim of this course is to ignite your "sociological imagination," the connection between individual biographies and larger structures. Toward this end we will study themes including culture; socialization; social interaction in everyday life; media; social control and deviance; stratification including class, gender, race and ethnicity; family; religion; health; globalization and social change.

Classes will consist of lectures, film, group work and regular writing assignments. You will need to do the reading *before* each class period. Exams will draw from lectures and class discussions.

Our course has a SAKAI website that will contain any extra readings I assign during the semester. I post announcements on the website and will expect you to check these updates regularly.

Core Curriculum Learning Goals



This course meets the SAS core curriculum requirements:

- (1) Understanding the bases and development of human and societal endeavors across time and place.
- (2) Explaining and being able to assess the relationship among assumptions, method, evidence, arguments, and theory in social and historical analysis.
- (3) Identifying and critically assessing ethical issues in social science and history.

Required Texts & Materials

Giddens, Anthony, Mitchell Duneier, Richard P. Appelbaum and Deborah Carr. 2014. *Introduction to Sociology, 9th edition*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. ISBN: 978-0-393-92219-6 (pbk.)

Available at Rutgers University Bookstores.

Some additional required readings/articles will be available via SAKAI under the "resources" tab.

Attendance and Grading

Midterm exam 1: 70 points

Midterm exam 2: 70 points

Final exam: 70 points

Writing Assignments: 70 points (10 points each)

Attendance and Participation: 20 points

Total: 300 points

Mid term and final exams will consist of multiple-choice questions.

You will do a mix of in-class and take-home writing assignments throughout the semester based on materials discussed during the week.

Participation comprises of speaking up in class, but also exhibiting a general awareness and interest in the course material.

You're allowed to miss two classes without any effect on your final grade. Excused absences (verified by your dean, doctor, etc.) will give you the opportunity to make up any work you have missed without penalty. Late assignments, due to unexcused absences or failure to turn in work on time, will have points taken off. Your final grade will be assigned in accordance with the Rutgers grading system, shown below.

Grade	Percent Range	Point Range
A	90-100%	270-300
B+	85-89	258-267
B	80-84	240-257
C+	75-79	227-239
C	70-74	210-226
D	60-69	180-209
F	< 59	<180

Student Conduct

My aim is to facilitate a classroom environment that encourages the free exchange of ideas in a safe, supportive, and productive manner. To create such an environment, we must act with mutual respect and common courtesy. Thus, behavior that distracts fellow students and me is not acceptable. Such behavior includes cell phone use, surfing the internet, checking email, text messaging, listening to music, reading newspapers, leaving and returning, leaving early without permission and, discourteous remarks. Courteous and lawful expression of disagreement with fellow students or me is, of course, permitted.

If a student engages in disruptive behavior, following the University Code of Student Conduct, I may direct the student to leave class for the remainder of the class period. Serious verbal assaults, harassment, or defamation of the instructor or other students can lead to university disciplinary proceedings.

I expect you to follow the University Code of Student Conduct, which can be found here: <http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/university-code-of-student-conduct>

Diversity Statement

The Department of Sociology strives to create an environment that supports and affirms diversity in all manifestations, including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, social class, disability status, region/country of origin, and political orientation. We also celebrate diversity of theoretical and methodological perspectives

among our faculty and students and seek to create an atmosphere of respect and mutual dialogue. We have zero tolerance for violations of these principles and have instituted clear and respectful procedures for responding to such grievances.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious issue and I will follow University policy if I suspect plagiarism.

“Plagiarism is the use of another person’s words, ideas, or results without giving that person appropriate credit. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or appropriate indentation and both direct quotation and paraphrasing must be cited properly according to the accepted format for the particular discipline or as required by the instructor in a course.

Some common examples of plagiarism are:

- Copying word for word (i.e. quoting directly) from an oral, printed, or electronic source without proper attribution.
- Paraphrasing without proper attribution, i.e. presenting in one’s own words another person’s written words or ideas as if they were one’s own.
- Submitting a purchased or downloaded term paper or other materials to satisfy a course requirement.
- Incorporating into one’s work graphs, drawings, photographs, diagrams, tables, spreadsheets, computer programs, or other nontextual material from other sources without proper attribution” (Source: Rutgers University Academic Integrity Policy, Effective July 2012).

A SPECIAL NOTE: Students often assume that because information is available on the Web it is public information, does not need to be formally referenced, and can be used without attribution. This is a mistake. **All** information and ideas that you derive from other sources, whether written, spoken, or electronic, must be attributed to their original source. Such sources include not just written or electronic materials, but people with whom you may discuss your ideas, such as your roommate, friends, or family members. They deserve credit for their contributions too!

Judgments about plagiarism can be subtle. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask me.

All students must review the complete policy on plagiarism. Please consult:

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>

Student-Wellness Services:

Please be aware of several student wellness services available at school.

Just In Case Web App

<http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/

www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / www.vpva.rutgers.edu/

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

Scarlet Listeners

(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.

Academic Support

The Learning Centers at Rutgers can provide additional help with all aspects of coursework. I recommend them particularly to help with writing skills.

<https://rlc.rutgers.edu/>

Schedule and Reading Assignment (subject to revision)

Chapters from textbook

Assigned Readings on SAKAI: (*)

Week One

Tuesday, January 19

Introduction

Friday, January 22

Orientation to Sociology and Sociological Imagination

Chapter 1

Week Two

Tuesday, January 26

Orientation and Sociological Imagination

Chapter 1 (contd.)

Friday, January 29

Sociological Methods

Chapter 2

Week Three

Tuesday, February 2

Sociological Methods

Chapter 2 (contd.)

(Writing Assignment 1)

Friday, February 5

Culture and Media

Chapter 3

Week Four

Tuesday, February 9

New Media

Turkle, Sherry. "The Flight from Conversation." *The New York Times*, April 21, 2012.

Available online:

http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/22/opinion/sunday/the-flight-from-conversation.html?_r=0

Tufekci, Zeynep, "Social Media's Small, Positive Role in Human Relationships." *The Atlantic*, April 25, 2012.

Available online:

<http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2012/04/social-medias-small-positive-role-in-human-relationships/256346/>

Friday, February 12

Socialization and Social Interaction

Chapter 4 (pp. 67-76, 82-5)

Chapter 5 (pp. 89-98, 104-7)

Week Five

Tuesday, February 16

Socialization and Social Interaction

Chapters 4 and 5 (contd.)

(Writing Assignment 2)

Friday, February 19

Midterm Exam 1 Review (Online via SAKAI)

Week Six

Tuesday, February 23

Midterm Exam 1

Friday, February 26

Social Control

Chapter 7

Week Seven

Tuesday, March 1

Social Control

Rios, Victor. 2012. "Stealing a Bag of Potato Chips and Other Crimes of Resistance." *Contexts*: 49-53.

(*)

(Writing Assignment 3)

Friday, March 4

Social Stratification and Inequality

Chapter 8 (pp. 161-9, 175-87)

Chapter 9 (pp. 191-4, 205-9)

Week Eight

Tuesday, March 8

Social Stratification and Inequality

Chapters 8 and 9 (contd.)

(Writing Assignment 4)

Friday, March 11

Gender Disparity

Chapter 10

SPRING RECESS

Week Nine

Tuesday, March 22

Film: Miss Representation
(Take-home assignment 5)

Friday, March 25

Ethnicity and Race
Chapter 11

Week Ten

Tuesday, March 29

Ethnicity and Race
Chapter 11 (contd.)
Film: Race: The Power of an Illusion, Episode 2:
The Story We Tell (watch on your own, available
through RUL)
(Take-home assignment 6)

Friday, April 1

Midterm Exam 2 Review (Online via SAKAI)

Week Eleven

Tuesday, April 5

Midterm Exam 2

Friday, April 8

Family
Chapter 15

Week Twelve

Tuesday, April 12

Family
Clawson, Dan and Naomi Gerstel. 2002. "Caring for
our Young." *Contexts*, pp. 28-35 (*)
(Writing Assignment 7)

Friday, April 15

Religion
Chapter 17

Week Thirteen

Tuesday, April 19

Religion
Chapter 17 (contd.)
(Writing Assignment 8)

Friday, April 22

Health and Society
(pp. 457-64, 470-87)
(Writing Assignment 9)

Week Fourteen

Tuesday, April 26

Globalization and the Environment

Chapter 20

(Take-home assignment 10)

Friday, April 29

Final Exam Review

FINAL EXAM: May 5: 12pm-3pm (same classroom)

<https://finalexams.rutgers.edu/>

YOU'RE DONE!! EXHALE 😊