

**SOCIOLOGY 101, Section R1**  
**Introduction to Sociology**  
01:920:101:R1  
Fall 2015

**Monday 6:25-9:00 pm** Scott Hall 101  
**Wednesday 7:40-9:00 pm** Scott Hall 103  
College Avenue Campus

**Jorie Hofstra**

**Contact:** [jhofstra@sociology.rutgers.edu](mailto:jhofstra@sociology.rutgers.edu)

- *Always use “Intro” in your subject line, or your message may be missed.*
- *Send another message if you haven’t received a reply in 48 hours.*

**Office Hour:** Wednesday 6:30-7:30 pm in our classroom, or by appointment

**Site:** <https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal/site/6d11b394-6d36-4025-85ae-cea4b94f92bb>

- *You will need to use your Rutgers email account and your NetID regularly. Ask the staff at a campus computer lab if you need either of these things.*

**Course Overview**

**Goals:** If you commit yourself to the work in this course, you will discover a new way of looking at your own life—past, present, and future—and at the world around you.

We will explore the fundamentals of sociology: a set of concepts, perspectives, and methods for understanding the social world. You will learn to use sociological tools to see how humans and groups act and interact within particular social and historical contexts. In contrast to common American assumptions of individuality and free will, we will study the ways in which we are shaped by our group memberships, culture, interpersonal relationships, and interactions with major social institutions including the family, educational system, media, the economy, and the state.

I have designed the course to help you develop your college-level skills in critical thinking, discussion and argumentation, and academic reading and writing. The course is also an excellent opportunity to practice the good study habits that will carry you through your college career.

**Sources:** There are two equally important, required sources for this course: the textbook and the online collection of articles, links, and movies I will post for you. The textbook is available at Barnes & Noble on the College Ave. campus.

- Textbook: Newman, David M. 2015. *Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life, Brief Edition*. Sage Publications, Inc. Fourth edition, ISBN 978-1-4522-7587-1
- Site: <https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal/site/6d11b394-6d36-4025-85ae-cea4b94f92bb>
- Optional: Join SocFeed on Facebook; this is a page where students in my courses share links, articles, videos, and their own commentary. If I offer extra credit, it will be based on your use of this site.

## Expectations

Each of these elements is a significant part of your class experience and final grade.

All assignments are required; a student who does not turn in all assignments will fail the course.

Overall, you will earn good grades (a) by showing that you paid attention to the material, (b) by taking the time to engage with the reading and produce thoughtful insights, and (c) by showing your progress as a sociological thinker. Your opinions and life experiences can have a place in your arguments, but they should not take center stage. Try to let our authors and our discussions show you new, sociological ways of seeing things, and show me that you are practicing your new skills of sociological thinking.

Since this is a Gateway course, your work must be edited to represent your best writing.

**1. Memos:** Memos are a chance to demonstrate your understanding of the material, to connect it to what you already know, and to think about how it might change your view of yourself and the world around you. The format I will teach you is a good introduction to a style of academic writing that will serve you well in other classes and any time you need to make a formal argument.

**2. Reflective discussions** will vary from week to week. A different discussion thread will be posted each week. You will be assigned a group; you will post at least once in that group and then visit and comment on one other group's posts.

**3. Participation:** Attendance of the full class period and active participation are required. I will help you earn your participation points by calling on you if I haven't noticed you volunteering. Do your part to keep a supportive and open-minded atmosphere by listening to others, considering their ideas, and responding to them in our discussions; some of the best class experiences are discussions among the group rather than back-and-forth with the instructor. If you are reluctant to speak in a class setting, let me know and we will work out another way for you to be involved in the ongoing conversation (through additional written or online contributions).

**4. Quizzes:** Each Monday, during class time, we will take a short quiz. Quizzes begin exactly 5 minutes after the start of class, and makeup quizzes will not be given in cases of unexcused lateness.

All readings you completed up through the day of the quiz, and anything we have previously discussed may be on the quiz. The chapters will *a/ways* be on the quiz.

**5. Presentations:** In small groups, you will prepare a presentation that covers one of our class topics. I will assign topics and groups toward the end of the semester. Any topic we cover, and any discussion thread that is posted, may be assigned to your

group, so it is important not to miss classes or readings. Guidelines will be posted on Sakai later in the semester.

**6. Final test:** On the final day of class, you will take a short-answer test covering what you learned over the semester.

**7. Office visits:** If you receive a grade below the C level for any assignment, you must visit my next office hour.

I also require that each student visit my office hour once during the semester. Whether you are struggling with the work or acing the course, an office visit gives us the chance to discuss what you're learning and see if we can make your coursework a better fit with your life. I will circulate a sign-up sheet; the required visits will begin in Week 3.

**Grading Structure:**

- Memos 20%
- Discussions on Sakai 20%
- Participation in class 20%
- Quizzes 20%
- Final presentation 10%
- Final short-answer test 10%

Final grades are non-negotiable and will be assigned according to the following scale:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Average</b>
A	90 to 100
B+	85 to 89
B	80 to 84
C+	75 to 79
C	70 to 74
D	60 to 69
F	< 59

**Late work and absences:** Late work will not receive a grade. However, you must complete all assignments in order to pass the class.

Approved absences or lateness include a medical excuse or family emergency that can be properly documented (e.g., doctor's note, police report, funeral program), and religious holidays (of which you will notify me in advance). In such cases, make-up work will be provided. It is in all cases your responsibility to connect with another student and find out what you have missed.

**Extra credit:** I will offer up to three extra credit opportunities. One point will be given just for making your required office visit. Two other points will be offered if student performance warrants.

## **General Business**

**Academic Integrity:** Do your own work, do it well, and let others do the same. Violations include copying others' work (classmates' work, internet sources, etc.) without proper attribution, cheating on quizzes and assignments or allowing others to cheat, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, denying others access to information or material. Any instances of academic misconduct will be reported to your dean. Check <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/resources-for-students/> for more detail.

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. This even includes people with whom you may discuss your ideas, such as your roommate, friends, family members, and classmates. They deserve credit for their contributions, too!

**Class Conduct:** The Sociology Department encourages the free exchange of ideas in a safe and productive classroom environment. As such, students and faculty must act with mutual respect and courtesy. Behaviors that distract students and faculty are 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, discourteous remarks, and other behaviors specified by the instructor. Courteous expression of disagreement with the ideas of the instructor or fellow students is, of course, permitted. If a student engages in disruptive behavior, the instructor, following the University Code of Student Conduct, may direct the student to leave class for the remainder of the class period. Serious verbal assaults, harassment, or defamation of the instructor or students can lead to university disciplinary proceedings. The University Code of Student Conduct is at <http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~polcomp/judaff/ucsc.shtml>.

**In case of cyberattack:** In the event of an outage of University systems, I will post all necessary course information and materials on a Facebook page called "Intro to Sociology ICE page". If University systems are down, it's your responsibility to find internet access (off-campus if necessary) and use this page to keep up with coursework.

**Laptops and other electronics:** No use of laptops, phones, iPads, or other electronics is permitted during class time.

Research shows that students who use traditional pen-and-paper notetaking learn more and perform better on tests than those who use laptops, iPads, etc. in class. As laptops can also cause you to be absent from our shared discussion even while bodily present, and may also be a distraction to those around you, laptops will not be allowed during class meetings.

First violation of the no-electronics rule results in the loss of that day's participation credit. Second violation results in the loss of half your participation credit for the entire course, and a mandatory 5-page paper on the research that has been done on multitasking.

If English is not your first language, I will allow electronic translators if you notify me in advance. If you need an accommodation for reasons of disability, please follow the procedure below.

**Accommodations:** In accordance with University policy, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please contact me at the beginning of the semester or when given an assignment for which an accommodation is required. Students with disabilities must verify eligibility through the Office of Student Disability Services (<http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/>).

**Diversity:** The Rutgers Sociology Department strives to create an environment that supports and affirms diversity in all manifestations, including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, social class, dis/ability 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.



This course satisfies Rutgers' School of Arts and Sciences' core curriculum requirements of 21st century challenges and social and historical analysis.

### Schedule of Readings and Assignments

- I reserve the right to alter the schedule of readings and assignments.
- Bring your own pen/pencil and paper to class for the quizzes and for notes. It will also be helpful to have the textbook and other readings with you.

<b>WEEK ONE CHAPTER 1</b>	
	<p><b>Wednesday 9/2</b>  <u>In class:</u> Syllabus, introductions, "What is sociology?"</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read Chapters 1 and 2. Know the material for Monday's quiz.</p> <p>After reading Chapter 1, join your</p>

	<p>assigned discussion thread and one other on Sakai. Threads will close on Saturday at midnight. (Sakai&gt;Forums&gt;Week 1).</p> <p>Watch the video on Cognitive Principles for Learning (Sakai&gt;Resources).</p>
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**WEEK TWO**

<p><b>***TUESDAY*** 9/8</b>  <u>In class:</u> Quiz, "What is sociology?" (continued), Chapters 1 &amp; 2, Social Structure and College Rape assignment.</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Part I of the Social Structure and College Rape assignment: think of different groups, roles, and organizations, institutions, and cultures that may influence the rate of college rapes. (Bring ideas to class on Wednesday for your participation point.)</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 9/9</b>  <u>In class:</u> Chapter 2 (continued), Social Structure and College Rape assignment (continued), memo practice, Mintz and Furstenburg preview.</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read Mintz and Furstenburg's articles. Write a Graff-style memo as described on Sakai (Sakai&gt;Resources&gt;Adulthood Assignment folder). Submit online by 5pm Sunday at (Sakai&gt;Resources&gt;Assignments 2&gt; Adulthood).</p> <p>Start reading Chapter 3; the quiz will cover material up to the end of page 35.</p>
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**WEEK THREE**

<p><b>Monday 9/14</b>  <u>In class:</u> Quiz, Chapter 3 (social construction of reality), adulthood discussion</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read your group's article (Sakai&gt;Resources&gt;Flag Assignment.) Read the Flag Assignment sheet for your instructions.</p> <p>Contribute to your discussion thread before Wednesday 5pm.</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 9/16</b>  <u>In class:</u> Chapter 3 (social construction of a problem), Framing assignment preview</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read/watch the materials on school shootings and write a memo as described on Sakai (Framing assignment). Submit online by 5pm Sunday.</p> <p>(There are two articles and a video, so no chapter assignment for today. Monday's quiz will test your</p>
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	understanding of the Week 3 Powerpoints. (Sakai>Resources)
<b>WEEK FOUR</b>	
<p><b>Monday 9/21</b>  <u>In class:</u> Quiz, school shooting discussion, Chapter 3 (moral entrepreneurs, asking sociological questions, methods)</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.</p>	<p><u>In class:</u> Chapter 3 (asking sociological questions, methods), Methods assignment preview</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read/watch the materials on methods and write a memo as described on Sakai (Methods assignment). Submit online by 5pm Sunday.</p> <p>Start reading Chapter 4; the quiz will cover material up to the top paragraph on page 52.</p>
<b>WEEK FIVE</b>	
<p><b>Monday 9/21</b>  <u>In class:</u> Quiz, school shooting discussion, Chapter 4 (culture)</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Finish reading Chapter 4.</p> <p>Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 9/23</b>  <u>In class:</u> Chapter 4 (culture), Veiling assignment preview</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read/watch the materials on veiling and write a memo as described on Sakai (Veiling assignment). Submit online by 5pm Sunday.</p> <p>Start reading Chapter 5; the quiz will cover material up to the top paragraph on page 70.</p>
<b>WEEK SIX</b>	
<p><b>Monday 9/28</b>  <u>In class:</u> Quiz, veiling discussion, Chapter 5</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Finish reading Chapter 5.</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 9/30</b>  <u>In class:</u> Chapter 5, Unequal Childhoods assignment preview</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read the Lareau article and write a memo as described on Sakai</p>

Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.	(Unequal Childhoods assignment). Submit online by 5pm Sunday.  Start reading Chapter 6; the quiz will cover material up to page 87.
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**WEEK SEVEN**

<p><b>Monday 10/5</b> <u>In class:</u> Quiz, Unequal Childhoods discussion, Chapter 6</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Finish reading Chapter 6.</p> <p>Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 10/7</b> <u>In class:</u> Chapter 6, stigma assignment preview</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read the stigma articles and write a memo as described on Sakai (Stigma assignment). Submit online by 5pm Sunday.</p> <p>Start reading Chapter 8; the quiz will cover material up to page 122. <i>Note that we are skipping Chapter 7.</i></p>
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**WEEK EIGHT**

<p><b>Monday 10/19</b> <u>In class:</u> Quiz, families discussion, Chapter 8</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Finish reading Chapter 8.</p> <p>Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 10/21</b> <u>In class:</u> Chapter 8, Deviance assignment preview</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read/watch the deviance material and write a memo as described on Sakai (Deviance assignment). Submit online by 5pm Sunday.</p> <p>Start reading Chapter 10; the quiz will cover material up to page 165. <i>Note that we are skipping Chapter 9.</i></p>
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**WEEK NINE**

<p><b>Monday 10/26</b> <u>In class:</u> Quiz, deviance discussion, Chapter 10</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 10/28</b> <u>In class:</u> Chapter 10, Inequality assignment preview</p>
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<p><u>Homework:</u> Finish reading Chapter 10.</p> <p>Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.</p>	<p><u>Homework:</u> Read the Ehrenreich chapters and write a memo as described on Sakai (Inequality assignment). Submit online by 5pm Sunday.</p> <p>Start reading Chapter 11; the quiz will cover material up to page 190.</p>
<p><b>WEEK TEN</b></p>	
<p><b>Monday 11/2</b></p> <p><u>In class:</u> Quiz, inequality discussion, Chapter 11 (race and ethnicity)</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Finish reading Chapter 11.</p> <p>Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 11/4</b></p> <p><u>In class:</u> Chapter 11, Race and Ethnicity assignment preview</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read/watch the race and ethnicity material and write a memo as described on Sakai (Race/Ethnicity assignment). Submit online by 5pm Sunday.</p> <p>Start reading Chapter 12; the quiz will cover material up to page 208.</p>
<p><b>WEEK ELEVEN</b></p>	
<p><b>Monday 11/9</b></p> <p><u>In class:</u> Quiz, race/ethnicity assignment discussion, Chapter 12 (sex and gender)</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Finish reading Chapter 12.</p> <p>Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 11/11</b></p> <p><u>In class:</u> Chapter 12, Sex and Gender assignment preview</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Read/watch the sex and gender material and write a memo as described on Sakai (Sex/Gender assignment). Submit online by 5pm Sunday.</p> <p>Start reading Med Soc Chapter; the quiz will cover material up to page 422.</p> <p>Start working on your presentation with your group.</p>

**WEEK TWELVE**

**Monday 11/16**

In class: Quiz, sex and gender assignment discussion, Med Soc Chapter

Homework: Finish reading Med Soc Chapter.

Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.

Start working on your presentation with your group.

**Wednesday 11/18**

In class: Chapter 12, Med Soc assignment preview

Homework: Read/watch the medical sociology material and write a memo as described on Sakai (Med Soc assignment). Submit online by 5pm Sunday.

Start reading Chapter 14; the quiz will cover material up to page 245.

Start working on your presentation with your group.

**WEEK THIRTEEN**

**Monday 11/23**

In class: Quiz, medical sociology assignment discussion, chapter 14

Homework: [Topic to be determined by students' interests]

Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.

Continue working on your presentation with your group.

**Wednesday 11/25**

*No class today—enjoy the break!*

**WEEK FOURTEEN**

**Monday 11/30**

In class: Quiz, [Topic to be determined by students' interests]

Homework: [Topic to be determined by students' interests]

**Wednesday 12/2**

Presentations

Join your discussion thread and one other. Threads will close on Tuesday at midnight.  Continue working on your presentation with your group.	
<b>WEEK FIFTEEN</b>	
<b>Monday 12/7</b>  Presentations	<b>Wednesday 12/9</b>  Final test; bring pencils and paper.