INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY  
Sociology 101A, Spring 2015, MWF 8:00AM-8:50AM  
Brighton Lecture Hall 189  
Dr. Gary Wyatt

Office: PH 205  
Office Hours: By Appointment*  
Office Phone: 341-5899 (Honors Office)  
Email: gwyatt@emporia.edu

*Because I am both a professor of sociology and the Associate Provost and Director the Honors College, my schedule is such that I’m not able to schedule regular office hours. This reality can work to your advantage because when you need to see me, you can call the number above and schedule an appointment at a time conducive to your schedule. Please fill free to call 341-5899 and schedule an appointment with Brenda to visit with me.”

Introduction

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the fascinating study of society and social behavior, an academic discipline known as sociology. Through course participation and careful study, you will develop an understanding of how societies work and why people behave in the ways that they do. Once you learn to view the world through the “sociological perspective” it will not be the same for you again. As Peter Berger wrote, “The first wisdom of sociology is this: things are not what they seem.” As you explore the social world, you will discover hidden forces that influence yourself and others; influences that shape the attitudes, beliefs, feelings, values, perspectives, and behaviors of humans. Once armed with the insights that sociology provides, you will be able to understand yourself and the world around you in new and important ways.

This is a general education course as well as a course required of sociology majors. General education courses like this one are a critical component of a quality education. They provide a once in a life time chance to learn about a variety of academic disciplines and help students understand the best our culture has to offer. A well-educated person is better equipped to live as a pro-active citizen and has a higher quality of life.

A bachelor’s degree in sociology prepares students for a variety of careers including law enforcement, corrections, human service-related work, and positions in government, business and industry. It also prepares student for graduate school and the careers associated with advanced degrees including social work, community counseling, law, sociology, business, and other social and behavioral science graduate degrees. A sociology degree is for students fascinated by human behavior and who desire to work with people in a variety of settings.

Course Objectives:

1. Introduce students to the basic concepts and theories of the discipline as well as the phenomena that sociologists explore. Detailed attention will be directed toward socialization, culture, deviance, social stratification, race, gender, education and family. This objective corresponds with Goal 3 of the University’s General Education Program.
2. Provide an educational experience that will facilitate making connections from sociology to other
disciplines including history, biology and psychology, and to students’ personal lives. This will allow students to see not only the “big picture” but help them uncover the relevance of various academic disciplines for each other. This objective corresponds with Goal 4 of the University’s General Education Program.

3. To empower students with a skill set that will allow them to engage with others to address problems in their relationships, their communities, and society. This objective corresponds with Goal 6 of the University’s General Education Program.

4. Prepare interested students for further study in sociology and other behavioral sciences.

**Required Text**


**Policies and Procedures**

You are required to attend class, complete assignments and quizzes. The course will require you to read, discuss, think, and speak. It is critical that you attend class faithfully. An attendance sheet will be distributed each day. The course will also make use of Canvas. Because of my administrative duties I will be off campus from time-to-time. On those occasions, coursework will be posted online for you to complete. I will inform you of these dates well in advance.

**Grading**

There will be three examinations and a combination of 12 quizzes and assignments. Each examination will be worth 100 points and each quiz or assignment will be worth 10 points (your 2 lowest quiz or assignment scores will be dropped). Quizzes and assignments are unannounced and may not be made up. Information about the exams is listed under tentative schedule. Your final grade will be as follows:

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<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tr>
<td>372-400</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>360-371</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
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<tr>
<td>348-359</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>332-347</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
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<td>320-331</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82%</td>
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<td>308-319</td>
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**Tentative Schedule of Topics**

1. Introduction Theories and Method--Text: Chapter 1

2. Culture—Text: Chapter 2

3. Socialization—Text: Chapter 3
4. Societies and Social Networks – Text: Chapter 5

5. Test 1—February 27

6. Deviance and Social Control—Text: Chapter 6

7. Social Stratification—Text: Chapter 7

8. Race and Ethnicity—Text: Chapter 9,

9. Test 2—April 3

10. Education and Religion—Online Material

11. Sex and Gender—Text: Chapter 8, Reader: 24

12. Marriage and Family—Text: Chapter 10, supplemental reading material.

Final Exam: Friday, May 15, 10:10-Noon, Brighton 189.

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Course Related Information

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty, a basis for disciplinary action, includes but is not limited to activities such as cheating and plagiarism (presenting as one’s own the intellectual or creative accomplishments of another without giving credit to the source or sources).

The faculty member in whose course or under whose tutelage an act of academic dishonesty occurs has the option of failing the student for the academic hours in question. The department chair should be advised of any action taken by the faculty member regarding academic dishonesty.

The faculty member may consent to refer the case to other academic personnel for further action. Departments, schools and colleges may have provisions for more severe penalties than set forth above. Emporia State University may impose penalties for academic dishonesty up to and including expulsion from the university.

The student has the right to appeal the charge of academic dishonesty in accordance with the university’s Academic Appeals policy and procedure as set forth in section 9A-04 of the Faculty Handbook.

Disability Services: Emporia State University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to contact the Director of Disability Services and the professor as early in the semester as possible to ensure that classroom and academic accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. All communication between students, the Office of Disability Services, and the professor will be strictly confidential.

Faculty Initiated Student Withdrawal: If a student’s absences from class or disruptive behavior become detrimental to the student’s progress or that of the other students in the class, the faculty member shall attempt to contact the student in writing about withdrawing from the class and shall seek the aid of the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs to help insure contacting the student. The office of the Vice President of Student Affairs shall provide the student information about the existing appeals procedures. Upon receiving a written report from the faculty member, the Vice President of Student Affairs may initiate a student withdrawal from the class. None of the above implies or states that faculty members are required to initiate
the student withdrawals for excessive absence.

_A statement of the class grading system:_ Refer to faculty syllabus

_A statement of the attendance policy for the course:_ Refer to faculty syllabus