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

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Office Hours: By Appointment*
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*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, however because when you need to see me, you can call the number above, speak with Brenda Wiggins, the Honors College Administrative Specialist and schedule an appointment at a time conducive to your schedule.

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 social forces that influence both yourself and others, forces that shape your beliefs, values, emotions and behaviors. 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. This course is also a civic leadership intensive course and is designed to arm you with knowledge of the principles and competencies of civic leadership so that you will be empowered to engage with others and make progress on some of the important social problems of the day.

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, 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.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students will learn the basic concepts and theories of the discipline as well as the phenomena that it explores. Detailed attention will be directed towards helping students acquire the “sociological imagination.” This objective corresponds with Goal 3 of the University’s General Education Program.
2. Students will learn to make connections between sociology and other academic disciplines that include history, biology and psychology. This will allow students to appreciate the relevance of various academic disciplines for sociology. This objective corresponds with Goal 4 of the University’s General Education Program.

3. Students will learn the principles and competencies of civil leadership, a skill set that will empower them to engage with others to make progress on challenges in their relationships and their communities. Particular focus will be placed on Competency 1: Diagnosing the Situation. This objective corresponds with Goal 6 of the University’s General Education Program.

Required Text

The following text will be read in its entirety and used extensively in class. A thorough understanding of the material presented in the text will be essential for understanding course material and completing the requirements.


Policies and Procedures

You are required to attend class, participate in class activities, and complete assignments and tests. Attendance is required and a sign in sheet will be distributed during each class session. It’s each student’s responsibility to ensure that they sign in. Because of my administrative duties, I will be off campus from time-to-time. On those occasions, coursework will be posted on Canvas for you to complete. I will inform you of these dates well in advance.

Grading

There will be 4 examinations and 4 written/research assignments. Each examination will be worth 100 points and each assignment will be worth 25 points. The assignments will be posted and submitted on Canvas. Due dates for the assignments and scheduled dates for the tests are posted under tentative schedule below. Your final grade will be as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>465-500</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>450-464</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>3.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>435-449</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>3.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>415-434</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
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<td>400-414</td>
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<td>80-82</td>
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<td>385-399</td>
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<td>350-384</td>
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<td>300-349</td>
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<td>299 or less</td>
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Tentative Schedule

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

2. Culture—Text: Chapter 2
3. Assignment 1 Due Sept 9
4. Test 1 Sept 11
5. Socialization—Text: Chapter 3
6. Social Structure and Social Interaction—Text: Chapter 4
7. Societies to Social Networks—Text: Chapter 5
8. Assign 2 due October 2
9. Test 2 Oct 5
10. Deviance and Social Control—Text: Chapter 6
11. Social Stratification—Text: Chapter 7
12. Sex and Gender—Text: Chapter 8
13. Assign 3 due October 30
14. Test 3 Nov 2
15. Race and Ethnicity—Text: Chapter 9,
16. Marriage and Family—Text: Chapter 10
17. Assign 4 due Dec 8
18. Test 4 Dec 8.

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.