

S100: Introduction to Sociology

Section: 10795

Fall 2014

Monday/Wednesday 4:00-5:15 PM

Ballantine Hall 228

Instructor: Emma Cohen

Office: Weatherly Hall W002

Office Hours: Wednesdays from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, or by appointment

Email: emdcohen@indiana.edu (*Please email me directly at this address; do not use Oncourse*)

Mailbox: Ballantine Hall 747

The Sociology office is open Monday-Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

*****Reading the syllabus carefully will help you succeed in this class!*****

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of this course is to introduce students to a sociological perspective from which they can think about society. As an introduction to the field of sociology, we will begin by learning the theories and methods that sociologists use in their research. Next, we will apply these tools as we explore a range of specific topics, including culture, education, race, class, gender, family, sexuality, and health. Students will learn to think critically about how their own circumstances and choices are influenced by society and also shape our society in return. The class format will combine lectures, readings, and other media presentations in order to expand our analytical skills as we examine and challenge our assumptions about individuals and society.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Read, write, and think sociologically.
2. Think critically, creating your own informed perspective on social structure and human agency, with the capability to support your arguments.
3. Discern the patterns, rules, and logic that undergird a social system and the consequences of these for those who are part of such systems.
4. Learn basic sociological concepts and how to use them in everyday life, introducing ideas that will be elaborated on in additional sociology courses.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. *Introduction to Sociology* (Seagull 9th edition), by Anthony Giddens, Mitchell Duneier, Richard P. Appelbaum, and Deborah Carr. Available at the IU Bookstore.
2. Additional required readings are posted on Oncourse in the “Resources” section. To access these readings, go to <http://oncourse.iu.edu>. Click on “Login” in the upper right corner of the page. Enter your IU username and password. Select “FA14 BL SOC S100 10795” from your list of courses. Select “Resources” from the list on the left side of the page.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Readings: You will usually be assigned 40 – 60 pages of reading per week. You are expected to read before the start of class. Lectures will cover material relevant to the readings, but we may not discuss the readings specifically in class. However, you are still responsible for reading material that we do not discuss, as it may appear on exams. Please note that all readings from the textbook are simply labeled “Giddens” below. All other readings can be found on Oncourse (<http://oncourse.iu.edu>) under the “Resources” tab (articles are listed by the author’s last name). These are labeled “Oncourse” below and will consist of articles or book chapters from sources other than the textbook. All readings should be completed BEFORE the class meeting for which they are listed.

Classroom Discussion: Classroom discussion provides an opportunity for students to learn from one another and to engage more deeply with the course material. Therefore, it will be a crucial component of this course. The best way to prepare for class discussion is to complete all of the required reading assignments prior to the day they are due.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period, and the attendance roster will be posted on Oncourse. Students are expected to verify that the attendance record is correct, and to notify the instructor within one week if there is an incorrect notation in the record. After one week, the attendance record for a given class period is considered accurate and final. Students who miss class are expected to get notes from a classmate and may meet with the instructor to review missed material. The instructor’s notes are not available under any circumstances. Students may miss up to four classes for any reason, and do not need to provide documentation justifying their absence. Each additional absence (regardless of the reason) will result in a 3% (30 point) reduction in the student’s final grade for the course. Exceptions apply only to university-sanctioned events such as religious holidays, which must be discussed with the instructor during the first two weeks of class.

Reading Quizzes (100 points, 10% of final grade): There will be at least 12 quizzes worth 10 points each. These will be unannounced short quizzes on assigned readings. Quizzes may include multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. If you leave class after completing a quiz, and there is still class time remaining, the quiz will not count. Occasionally an in-class activity may be counted as a reading quiz. Only your 10 highest quiz grades will be included in your final grade. No make-up quizzes will be given.

Writing Assignments (150 points, 15% of final grade): There will be 3 short writing assignments, each worth 50 points (5% of the final grade). Although you will not have to write any full-length papers in this class, being able to write a well-reasoned argument is one of the most important skills for success in many fields. Furthermore, writing about the ideas you learn in this class will help you come to a deeper understanding of sociological concepts and research. Therefore, throughout the semester I will assign small writing tasks that will help you practice the basic steps involved in crafting a full-length written argument. For example, we will practice writing introductory paragraphs and thesis statements, as well as selecting appropriate evidence

to support your argument. These assignments are designed to strengthen your basic writing skills so that you can apply them to a variety of topics in different settings. In total, these assignments will be worth 150 points (15% of the final grade).

Exams (750 points, 75% of final grade): There will be three (3) exams in this course. Exam #1 is given on Wednesday, October 1 and Exam #2 is given on Wednesday October 29, both during the regular class period. Exam #3 is scheduled for Friday 12/19 from 5:00 PM-7:00 PM. Exams may consist of any combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and essay questions. These questions are designed to measure your knowledge of course materials and your ability to use course concepts. Exam questions will cover class lectures, readings, discussions, activities, films shown in class, and video clips. Exams are not cumulative—in other words, each exam will cover the material covered since the last exam—but you will need to apply some core concepts throughout the course. Exam #1 is worth 200 points (20% of final grade), Exam #2 is worth 250 points (25% of final grade), and Exam #3 is worth 300 points (30% of final grade). In total, exams are worth 750 points (75% of final grade). By university policy, I must give the final exam on Friday, December 19 from 5:00 PM-7:00 PM. If you know that you cannot take the final exam during this time, you should not take this class.

GRADING

The final course grade will be computed from the following:

Reading Quizzes	100 points
Short Writing Assignments	150 points
Exam 1 (Wednesday, October 1)	200 points
Exam 2 (Wednesday, October 29)	250 points
Exam 3 (Friday, December 19, 5 PM)	300 points
Total	1,000

The grading scale for the final grade is as follows:

A+	97-100% (970-1000 points)	C	73-76.9% (730-769 points)
A	93-96.9% (930-969 points)	C-	70-72.9% (700-729 points)
A-	90-92.9% (900-929 points)	D+	67-69.9% (670-699 points)
B+	87-89.9% (870-899 points)	D	63-66.9% (630-669 points)
B	83-86.9% (830-869 points)	D-	60-62.9% (600-629 points)
B-	80-82.9% (800-829 points)	F	59.9% and below (0-599 points)
C+	77-79.9% (770-799 points)		

GUIDELINES, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty of any type (including, but not limited to plagiarism, sharing, copying, or cheating on exams and assignments) will not be tolerated. In accordance with the Indiana University Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct, misconduct may result in a failing grade for the course, suspension, or in some cases, expulsion. For more

information, see: <http://studentaffairs.iub.edu/ethics/academic-misconduct/>.

Classroom Etiquette: We will be discussing a variety of sensitive social issues in this class, including race, class, gender, sexuality, and politics. Each person comes to class with a unique background and perspective; I encourage students to draw on that perspective when discussing sociological issues in class. Please keep in mind that sharing opinions and experiences is a valuable but sometimes uncomfortable experience, and everyone must make the commitment to create an atmosphere of respect for each person's contribution. Various points of view are welcome and expected. Please be as respectful and open-minded as possible when listening to viewpoints different from your own. If you disagree, criticize the evidence that supports a stance, or the negative implications of a viewpoint, but do not criticize the person who holds that view. A lack of courtesy will not be tolerated in class, and may result in a student being asked to leave and counted absent for the day at the instructors' discretion.

Cell Phones, MP3 Players, and Laptops: Cell phones and MP3 players should be turned off and not in use during class. Text messaging is not permitted because it is distracting and disrespectful to others in the class. In addition, students should not video or audio record class lectures. Failure to follow this policy will result in an absence for the day. If you need to leave your cell phone on due to extenuating circumstances (e.g., childcare, family emergencies, etc.), please arrange this with me in advance. Laptops are not allowed during this class. While I understand their usefulness and convenience for taking notes, their potential for distraction is substantial, and active participation is an important part of the classroom experience. If you have a disability, a medical condition, or another compelling reason that requires you to use a laptop or record lectures, you must make arrangements with me during the first week of class.

Make-up Exams: Make-up exams will not be given. The only exceptions to this policy are extreme and unusual circumstances, which **MUST** be documented, and religious observances, which require notification at the beginning of the semester. If you cannot take an exam you must contact me prior to the class period. You will not be eligible to take a make-up if you fail to follow these procedures. No exceptions will be made for the final exam. Make-up exams may be modified to reflect the extra time that you have to prepare for the test.

Contacting the Instructor: Email is the best way to contact me outside of class time or office hours. Please email me directly at emdcohen@indiana.edu. I check my email daily Monday through Friday, and most often I will be able to respond quickly to your message. However, there may be times when it will take me a little longer to get back to you. If I do not respond within two days, please email me again. Do not email me through the Oncourse messaging system, as I do not check these messages frequently! Scheduled office hours are Wednesdays from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM in Weatherly Hall (Room #W002). I encourage all students to come to my office hours with any questions about course materials, readings, exams, etc. If you cannot make the scheduled office hours, see me after class or email me so we can schedule a time to meet.

Oncourse: All of your supplemental readings, grades, assignments, attendance rosters, and other course materials will be posted on the course website through Oncourse. If you miss class or have a question about an assignment, Oncourse is a good place to check first. Additionally, I

will send course updates, announcements, etc. through Oncourse and indiana.edu email accounts. It is your responsibility to regularly check Oncourse and email.

Special Needs: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), IU seeks to provide reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor and to contact the Disability Student Services Office (812-855-7578; <http://studentaffairs.iub.edu/dss>) about any special learning or study needs relating to a documented disability. If you need individual accommodations to meet course objectives, please see me as soon as possible so that we can ensure your full participation in class and a fair assessment of your work.

Religious Observations: In accordance with the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, any student who wishes to receive an excused absence from class must submit a request form available at the link below for each day s/he will be absent. This form must be presented to the course instructor by the end of the second week of the semester. A separate form must be submitted for each day. The form must be signed by the instructor, a copy retained by the instructor, and the original returned to the student. Information about the policy on religious observation can be found at <http://www.indiana.edu/~vpfaa/welcome/forms.shtml#Forms>.

Student Resources: Indiana University provides a number of academic resources and support services that many students find helpful when they encounter difficulties in a course. These include the Student Academic Center (SAC), Academic Support Centers (ASC), Writing Tutorial Services (WTS), and Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). These offices are available for your benefit. For more information, see <http://studentaffairs.iub.edu/academic-resources-and-support>. You should also visit the webpage for the Student Affairs office (<http://studentaffairs.iub.edu>) to learn about additional support services that are available on campus.

COURSE SCHEDULE

“Giddens” refers to your textbook *Introduction to Sociology*. “Oncourse” refers to any readings posted on the Oncourse website for this course. Readings are to be completed before class on the day they are listed. I reserve the right to change the syllabus if necessary during the semester. Changes will be announced in class and on Oncourse.

Week 1: The Sociological Imagination and Sociological Theory

Mon 8/25: No readings

Wed 8/27: *Giddens*: Chap. 1, pp.3-27
Oncourse: Best, “Sociologists as Outliers,” pp.47-50

Week 2: Research Methods

Mon 9/1: NO CLASS (LABOR DAY)

- Wed 9/3: *Giddens*: Chap. 2, pp. 29-47
Oncourse: Wheelan, *Naked Statistics*, Chap. 1, pp.1-14
- Week 3: Self and Society**
- Mon 9/8: *Giddens*: Chap. 4, pp.83-92
Oncourse: Lareau, “Concerted Cultivation and the Accomplishment of Natural Growth,” pp.153-162
- Wed 9/10: *Giddens*: Chap. 5, pp.107-110, 118-126
Oncourse: Grazian, “The Girl Hunt,” pp.221-243
- Week 4: Groups, Networks, and Organizations**
- Mon 9/15: *Giddens*: Chap. 6, pp.133-153
Oncourse: Erickson, “Social networks: the value of variety,” pp.25-31
- Wed 9/17: *Oncourse*: Hochschild, from *The Managed Heart*, pp.95-114
- Week 5: Culture / Conformity, Deviance, and Crime**
- Mon 9/22: *Giddens*: Chap. 3, pp.51-59, 65-73
Oncourse: Watson, “McDonald’s in Hong Kong,” pp.97-108
- Wed 9/24: *Giddens*: Chap. 7, pp.161-175
Oncourse: Chambliss, “The Saints and the Roughnecks,” pp.24-31
- Week 6: Exam #1**
- Mon 9/29: TBA (no readings)
- Wed 10/1: EXAM #1
- Week 7: Inequality: Race and Ethnicity**
- Mon 10/6: *Oncourse*: Goffman, “On the Run,” pp.339-357
- Wed 10/8: *Giddens*: Chap. 11, pp.293-310
Oncourse: Lee and Bean, “Beyond Black and White,” pp.26-33
- Week 8: Inequality: Stratification and Social Class**
- Mon 10/13: *Giddens*: Chap. 8, pp.193-201; 210-219
Oncourse: Reardon, “No Rich Child Left Behind,” (~7 pages)
- Wed 10/15: *Giddens*: Chap. 8, pp.219-227

Oncourse: Rank, "As American as Apple Pie," pp.41-49
Oncourse: Walsh, "It's Not Just Genetics," (~6 pages)

Week 9: Inequality: Gender

Mon 10/20: *Giddens*: Chap. 10, pp.255-270
Oncourse: Pascoe, from *Dude, You're a Fag*, pp.52-59

Wed 10/22: *Giddens*: Chap. 10, pp.270-281
Oncourse: Armstrong et al., "Is hooking up bad for young women?" pp.22-27.

Week 10: Sexuality / Exam #2

Mon 10/27: *Giddens*: Chap. 18, pp.554-556, 561-562, 571-576, 583-585
Oncourse: Miceli, "Schools and the social control of sexuality," pp.438-445

Wed 10/29: EXAM #2

Week 11: Education

Mon 11/3: *Giddens*: Chap. 16, pp.471-486
Oncourse: Lopez, from *Hopeful Girls, Troubled Boys*, pp.72-88

Wed 11/5: *Oncourse*: Armstrong and Hamilton, from *Paying for the Party*, pp.118-149

Week 12: Politics / Economy

Mon 11/10: *Giddens*: Chap. 13, pp.353-372
Oncourse: Nyhan, "The Role of Elites in Holocaust Denial," (~2 pages)

Wed 11/12: *Giddens*: Chap. 14, pp.400-416
Oncourse: Carruthers, "A Sociology of Bubbles," pp.22-26
Oncourse: King, "When Markets Become Contentious," pp.34-39

Week 13: Work / Family

Mon 11/17: *Giddens*: Chap. 14, pp.395-400, 416-424
Oncourse: Greenhouse, "A Part-Time Life," (~7 pages)

Wed 11/19: *Giddens*: Chap. 15, pp.435-444
Oncourse: Hull et al., "The Changing Landscape of Love and Marriage," pp.32-37
Oncourse: Stone, "The Rhetoric and Reality of 'Opting Out,'" pp.14-19

NO CLASS MONDAY 11/24 AND WEDNESDAY 11/26—HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Week 14: Medicine / Globalization

Mon 12/1: *Giddens*: Chap. 18, pp. 547-554, 556-561, 562-571
Oncourse: Rafalovich, "ADHD as the Medicalization of Childhood," pp.343-354

Wed 12/3: *Giddens*: Chap. 20, pp.635-652, 655-660
Oncourse: Goldman and Longhofer, "Making World Cities," pp.32-36

Week 15: Social Movement and Social Change

Mon 12/8: *Giddens*: Chap. 13, pp.372-382
Oncourse: Blow, "Occupy Wall Street Legacy," (~2 pages)
Oncourse: Meyer, "How Social Movements Matter," pp.30-35

Wed 12/10: Course wrap-up (no readings)

**FINAL EXAM: FRIDAY, DEC. 19TH FROM 5:00-7:00 PM. YOU MUST TAKE THE
FINAL EXAM AT THIS TIME.**