

SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology. W01.

Three Credit Hours.

Fall, 2021

Department of Sociology and Social Work

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Dr. Kay Mann

Monday-Wednesday: 12:30-1:45 pm

Wausau Campus

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 11:00 am -12:00 pm, by appointment. Zoom meetings are possible as well.

Required book: *Introduction to Sociology*, Conerly, et al.

<https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-sociology-3e>

Supplementary readings provided by instructor.

Last day to add or drop course without a grade: Sept. 14.

Last day to drop to course: Nov. 5

Evaluation

10% Paper #1

10% Paper #2

30% Quizzes (6x 5%)

20% Midterm Exam

20% Final Exam

10% Class Participation and Attendance

* Quiz with lowest score not counted as part of final grade.

Grading Scale

A 93-100

A- 90-92

B+ 87-89

B 83-86

B- 80-82

C+ 77-79

C 73-76

C- 70-72

D+ 67-69

D 60-66

F 59 & below

Course description: Introduction to Sociology Context is designed to help students understand what twentieth century sociologist C. Wright Mills called the "sociological imagination." A sociological imagination allows us to think beyond ourselves and place ourselves in a larger ever-changing globalized world.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Recognize sociology as a social science 2. Explain the sociological perspective 3. Identify the major concepts used by sociologists to investigate human behaviors and social phenomena, including theory, social interaction, social organization, and social inequality 4. Examine how personal life chances and choices are influenced by the larger social context including social, cultural, and/or political institutions 5. Recognize and appreciate the diversity of human groupings based on race/ethnicity, gender, class, national origin, religion, family status, etc. 6. Describe the various kinds of inequality and marginalization in human society; 7. Develop critical thinking skills to explain and predict various aspects of social phenomena.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point occupies lands of Ho—Chunk and Menominee land and sacred land of all indigenous peoples.

Course Policies

Attendance Policy

Attendance at all classes is mandatory.

Attendance penalties begin with the second absence. *A seventh absence will lead to being dropped from the course or a failing grade.*

If you must be absent for personal or professional reasons it is your responsibility to make up missed work. Missed exams may only be made up in case of emergencies reported *before* the exam.

Late papers may be penalized 3% of assignment grade per day late.

Disability Services

Consistent with the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, section 504, and the ADA act of 1990, any person enrolling in this course who may require alternative instructional and/or evaluative procedures due to a handicapping condition should feel free to contact Disability Services and Assistive Technology at 715-346-3365 in Room 609 Learning Resource Center at 900 Reserve Street. Staff will work to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Please let me know if I can assist in any way.

Academic Integrity

All students are subject to university regulations concerning cheating and plagiarism. To ensure that the highest level of academic and personal integrity is upheld, it is important that you understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UWSP (see Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students). For a complete overview of UWSP academic standards and disciplinary procedures, please visit: the following website:
<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Academic-Misconduct.aspx>

Face covering requirement:

Under the [chancellor's order](#), and in an August 9, 2021 email sent by Chancellor Gibson that summarizes the order, “[A]ll students, employees and visitors to any UW-Stevens Point campus or facility will be required to wear face coverings when inside campus buildings and enclosed spaces with others outside of your household (e.g., in a UWSP vehicle). This policy is in effect until further notice.”

Mandatory Reporting

We are deeply committed to finding ways to effectively prevent, reduce and respond to discrimination and harassment, including sexual misconduct and interpersonal violence. By asking all employees to report, we will be able to respond more effectively when a member of our community experiences such misconduct.

Class Etiquette

Cell phones, laptop computers, and other electronic devices are very disruptive so please turn them off before coming to class. **Texting is particularly disruptive.** If you use your laptop to take notes or you need your phone for an emergency, please inform me in advance.

Themes and Readings

Week I: Introduction: What is Sociology?

Readings: Conerly, chapter 1,4.

Week II: What is Sociology, cont'd; Basic Sociological Concepts, Theory, Research.

Readings: Conerly, chapter 2, 5.

Week III: Culture.

Readings: Conerly, chapter 3; *The Nacirema*, Horace Miner. On Canvas or download this essay at: http://personal-pages.lvc.edu/sayers/miner_nacirema.pdf

Week IV: Groups, Organizations, Work

Readings: Conerly, chapter 6, On Canvas: excerpts from *McDonaldization*, by George Ritzer.

Paper #1. Nacirema and social theory paper due Wednesday, September 29.

Week V: Social Inequality and Power

Readings: Conerly, chapter 9; C. Wright Mills, "The Sociology of Stratification," on canvas.

Quiz #1. Friday, Oct. 8

Week VI: Social and Global Inequality

Readings: Conerly, chapter 10, On Canvas; Documentary *Nike Sweatshops: Behind the Swoosh*.

Quiz #1. Friday, October 15.

Week VII: The Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

Readings: Conerly, chapter 11.

Quiz #3. Friday, October 22.

Week VIII: The Sociology of Race and Ethnicity cont'd. Readings: "My Invisible Backpack" by Peggy McIntosh, On Canvas.

Midterm Exam, Week of October 25.

Week IX: The Sociology of Gender

Readings: Conerly, Chapter 12.

Quiz, #4. Friday, October 29.

Week X: The Sociology of Gender, cont'd; Social Control, Crime, and Deviance.

Readings on Canvas

Paper # 2. Due, Friday, November 5.

Week XI: The Sociology of Health and Health Care

Readings: Conerly, chapter 19.

Film: *Sicko*

Quiz # 5. Friday, November 12.

Week XII: *The Sociology of Health and Health Care cont'd*

Week XIII: Social Change and Social Movements

Readings: Conerly, chapter 21

Quiz #6. Tuesday November 23.

Week XIV: Environmental Sociology

Quiz #7. Friday, December 10.

Final Exam: Monday, December 13. 10:15 am-12:15 pm.

Papers

Paper #1: *Social Theory and the Nacirema*. 15% of course grade.

Write a 3-4-page paper analyzing how sociologists from all three theoretical perspectives (conflict, functionalist, and symbolic interaction) would interpret Nacirema society. Illustrate your essay with specific examples from the text.

Paper #2. Analysis of New York Times article on inequality

Locate and analyze an article from *The New York Times* or *Washington Post* that discusses any aspect of stratification and inequality and global inequality. Then,

Write a 3-5-page paper that

- Briefly sums up article
- Discusses how information in the article can be analyzed with three concepts drawn from course material on stratification and inequality and/or global inequality. This includes readings from weeks 5 and 6, power points on Stratification and Inequality and Global Inequality, and corresponding class discussions.
- Provides a citation page using APA, or MLA style.
 - Here is a link to the UWSP library website page on citations:
<https://libraryguides.uwsp.edu/citation>