Course: Human Societies (Soc 1301:003) Semester: Spring 2012
Instructor: Dr. Bilaye Benibo Office: B. H. 346
Time: MW 2:30-3:45 p.m. Office Hrs: MW 1-2p.m.
Classroom: B. H. 205 Phone: (361) 825-5980
E-mail: bilaye.benibo@tamucc.edu


Student Learning Objectives

By the end of the semester students should be able to:
1. To describe the basic concepts and theories used in sociology
2. To understand the relationship between technology and social change
3. To recognize the reciprocal relations between individuals and society

Course Objective

Sociological inquiries operate at macro and micro levels. At the macro level sociologists study "institutions of advanced or industrialized societies and ... the conditions of transformation of these institutions" (Giddens, 1992:11). At the micro level, the focus is, primarily, with more immediate and intense levels of everyday interactions (Boden, 1986).

The principal objective of this course is to expose students to the theoretical, methodological and substantive issues that have engaged both levels of inquiry since the latter half of the 19th Century. Since this is an introductory course my approach will be panoramic: some depth will be sacrificed for comprehensiveness.

Course Format

The first 50 minutes of each class will be spent on straight lectures. The remaining 25 will be spent on questions and/or discussion. The reason for this format is to ensure that students are sufficiently exposed to the topic of day before they ask questions. When appropriate and possible, films and/or slides will be used to buttress
class lectures. I will also invite some guest lecturers to share with us some of their expertise on specific social issues.

Course Requirement
Your final grade for this course will be based on four exams. The first three exams are each weighted 20 percent and the final exam is weighted 40 percent. All four exams will take the form a combination of essay and multiple choice questions. Exams must be taken at the scheduled times and place. Make-up exams are allowed only for validly supported medical and/or personal emergencies. The instructor reserves the right to determine the merits of each request for a make-up examination. Extra credit is not allowed.

Students with Disabilities
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, at 825-5816 for further instruction and/or guidance.

Academic Advising
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Additionally, students are encouraged to speak to the instructor before dropping the class.

Course Outline
Jan. 11-25 An Introduction to "Introduction To Sociology"
What is Sociology? Chap.1
Theoretical Perspectives in Sociology Chap.1
Research Methods in Sociology Chap.2

Feb. 06 First Exam 2:30-3:45 p.m.

Feb. 08-29 Culture Chap. 3
Society Chap.4
Socialization Chap.5

Mar. 05 Second Exam 2:30-3:45 p.m.

Mar. 07-28 Social Structure and organizations Chap 6&7
Deviance chap. 8
Social Stratification: Class - chap.11

Apr.02  Third Exam 2:30-3:45 p.m.

Apr.04-30 Social Stratification: Gender - chap 13
Race/Ethnicity chap. 14

Social Institutions:
Family Institution chap 18
Educational Institution chap 20
Social Change chap. 24

May 09  Final Exam. 1:45- 3:45 p.m.

** This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate students' and/or instructional needs.**