COURSE DESCRIPTION
The basic aim of the course is to increase your understanding of the modern world and your place in it by increasing your knowledge of the sociological perspective. The sociological perspective allows us to see the general patterns of society in the lives of particular people. The sociological perspective also allows us to gain a better understanding of people by examining their social situations and cultural heritage.

Sociologists use many theories as lenses for examining social phenomena. The three main theories are symbolic interactionism, social conflict theory and structural functionalism. Each theoretical perspective is different and, like a prism, provides different views of our social world. This course is designed to introduce you to the main sociological theories, basic sociological concepts, social research methods and findings. The goal is to enhance your own Sociological Imagination.

“...the individual can understand his own experience and gauge his own fate only by locating himself within his period, that he can know his own chances in life only by becoming aware of those individuals in his circumstances.”

--- C. Wright Mills

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES
By the end of the semester students should be able to:

- To describe the basic concepts, methods, and theories used in sociology
- To understand the relationship between technology and social change
- To recognize the reciprocal relations between individuals and society

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will apply interdisciplinary knowledge to address and analyze real-world issues
- Students will interpret and evaluate various research materials and/or perspectives

TEXTBOOKS
The following required text is available in the bookstore.
Course Requirements (Weight for Grade)

Exams (50% of your final grade)
There are a total of three exams. Exam I covers Chapters 1 and 2 and is worth 15% of your grade. Exam II covers Chapters 10 and 11 and is worth 15% of your grade. Exam III covers 7, 5, and 6 and is worth 20% of your grade.

Each exam consists of two parts; the format is the same for each exam. Part I is worth 50% of your grade and comprised of six short answer questions; you will be expected to answer five of them. If you answer all six question, the five highest scoring answers will be used to calculate this portion of your grade. Part II is worth 50% of your grade and is comprised of two essay prompts. You MUST answer one prompt. If you answer both prompts only the first answer will be graded. Each portion of your grade will be scored on a 100-point scale.

You are responsible for all material presented in class and all assigned readings.

Written Assignments (20% of your final grade)
There are a total of four papers—one addressing culture, one addressing education, one addressing social class, and one addressing race/ethnicity. Each paper is worth 5% of your grade. A hard copy of your paper is due within the FIRST ten minutes of class on the assigned due date. ELECTRONIC COPIES OF PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED! If you are not going to be in class, you will need to submit a hard copy of your paper early if you wish to avoid late-paper penalties.

If you submit a paper late, for the first 24-hour period it is late, a ten-point penalty will be assigned to your final grad. For the second 24-hour period the paper is late, an additional ten-point penalty will be assigned. Papers more than 48 hours late WILL NOT be accepted. Late-paper penalties are NON-NEGOTIABLE.

The assignments will be based upon performing, listening, viewing/observing, or reading assignments relevant to a particular section/chapter of the textbook. These are formal papers. You will be required to cite from the text and discuss the links between the text and the assignment using proper grammar and citation protocols. If you are unsure about how to do so, you can visit the writing center (located in the Glasscock building) for assistance.

The format requirements are as follows: Each paper must be three to five pages in length; 12 pitch font; Times New Roman; 1” margins; and double spaced. Failure to comply with these formatting requirements WILL compromise the points you earn for this assignment. I will deduct up to TEN points off your overall grade for not following format requirements.

Quizzes (15% of your final grade)
There are a total of 14 reading quizzes. Reading quizzes will take place during the first ten minutes of class on the day an article is listed on the reading calendar. You will need to get 60% of the answers correct to receive full credit on the quiz. You will receive either a zero, a 50, or a 100 on each quiz. The three lowest grades will be dropped. There are NO MAKE UPS for this portion of the grade.

Midterm Reflection (5% of your final grade)
Detailed instructions will be provided to you as the assignment deadline nears.

Final Portfolio (10% of your final grade)
Detailed instructions will be provided to you as the assignment deadline nears.

Grading Scale:  
A = 89.5+  
79.5-89.4=B  
69.5-79.4=C  
59.5-69.4=D  
<59.5=F
COURSE POLICIES

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Class attendance records are not maintained daily, but daily class attendance is important. Many class sessions incorporate materials that are not in the textbook and would be difficult to get outside of class. In addition, group activities and quizzes take place during class times. There are no make-ups for missed in-class assignments and quizzes. It is the responsibility of the student to keep up with the work. It is also the responsibility of the student to personally withdraw from the course if necessary.

ACADEMIC ETIQUETTE AND HONESTY

Academic etiquette is required in universities to insure an atmosphere conducive to learning. Universities expect students to demonstrate a high level of maturity, self-direction and acceptable social behavior in and out of the classroom. In any class, an individual can feel anonymous and his/her behavior may seem irrelevant. As a result, an individual may feel that his/her talking with a neighbor, using a cell phone, leaving early or arriving late will not matter. Such actions, however, are distracting for both other students and the instructor. My job is to provide the best learning environment possible. If a student's behavior interferes with others' learning in the classroom, the student may be asked to leave the classroom.

As discussed in the college catalog, students are expected to demonstrate academic honesty. All forms of cheating, forgery, or plagiarism (presentation of the work of another as one's own) are grounds for disciplinary action. Any student caught cheating will be reported to the Department Chair and Vice President of Student Affairs.

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. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities at (361) 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

GRADE APPEAL PROCESS

Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website at http://cla.tamucc.edu/students/images/Grade%20Appeal%20Guidelines.pdf. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.
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<td>SOCI 1301 FINAL EXAM&lt;br&gt;All make-up/optional exams given on this day</td>
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<td>That’s All Folks!&lt;br&gt;Keep Learning!</td>
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