Course: Human Societies (Soc 1301:004) Semester: Fall 2013
Instructor: Dr. Bilaye Benibo Office: BH 346
Time: MW 2-3:15 p.m. Office Hrs: MW 1-2 p.m.
Classroom: BH. 207 Phone: (361) 825-5980
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Meyer, Pamela; Ramirez, Micheal; Araiza, Isabel and Benibo, Bilaye. Introduction to Sociology Reader, Kendall Hunt Publishing Company 2011

Course Description
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).

This course will systematically introduce students to the key concepts as well as the theoretical, methodological and substantive issues that have engaged both levels of inquiry since the latter half of the 19th Century. A related but equally important objective is to develop in students the 'sociological imagination': an intellectual appreciation for the complexity in explaining the behaviors of human beings in social interaction. Since this is an introductory course my approach will be panoramic: some depth will be sacrificed for comprehensiveness.

Learning Objectives
➤ To define and understand basic concepts in sociology
➤ To differentiate among competing theoretical perspectives in sociology.
➤ To explore complementary social research methods and understand their strengths and limitations.
➤ To appreciate the contributions of sociology to our understanding of social phenomena.
➤ To recognize the reciprocal relations between individuals and society.

Course Format
The first one hour of each class will be spent on straight lectures. The remaining 15 minutes 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.

**Grade Appeal Process**

As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he/she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2 Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeals Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

**Course Outline**

Sep. 04-11 An introduction to "Introduction To Sociology"
What is Sociology? JM Chap.1; Reading 1

Sep. 16-25
Theoretical Perspectives in Sociology JM Chap.1
Research Methods in Sociology JM Chap.2
Reading 2

Sep. 30
First Exam.

Oct. 02-23
Culture JM Chap. 3; Reading 3
Society JM Chap.4
Socialization Chap.5

Oct. 28
Second Exam

Oct. 30-Nov 20
Social Structure and organizations JM chaps. 6&7
Deviance chap. 8; Reading 4
Social Stratification: Class-JM chaps.11-14

Nov. 25-
Third Exam

Nov.27-Dec 09
Social Institutions:
Family Institution JM chap 18
Educational Institution JM chap 20
Social Change JM chap. 24

Dec 16
Final Exam. 11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

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