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.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course students are expected to:

1. define and explain basic concepts in sociology;
2. differentiate among competing theoretical perspectives;
3. explore complementary social research methods and understand their strengths and limitations;
4. explain the effects of factors such as migration technology and social conflict on social change;
5. recognize the reciprocal relationships between the Individual and society.
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 and class assignments. The first three exams are each weighted 20 percent and the final exam is weighted 30 percent. Class assignments are weighted 10 percent of the final grade. 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 are personally responsible for recovering material taught during their absence from class.

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.23-Feb.6 An Introduction to "Introduction To Sociology"
  What is Sociology? Chap.1
  Theoretical Perspectives in Sociology Chap.1
  Research Methods in Sociology Chap.2

Feb. 11   First Exam. 2:00-3:55 p.m.

Feb.13-Mar.06 Culture Chap. 3
  Society Chap.4
  Socialization Chap.5

Mar. 18   Second Exam 2:30-3:45 p.m.

Mar. 20- Apr.03 Social Structure and organizations Chap 6&7
  Deviance chap. 8
  Social Stratification: Class - chap.11

Apr.08   Third Exam 2:30-3:45 p.m.

Apr.10-May 06 Social Stratification:
  Gender - chap 13
  Race/Ethnicity chap. 14

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

May 13   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.**