Course: Human Societies (Soc 1301:002) Semester: Fall 2016
Instructor: Dr. Bilaye Benibo Office: B. H. 346
Time: TR 11-12:15 p.m. Office Hrs: MW 1-2 p.m.
                      TR 10-11 a.m.
                      T 3-4 p.m.
Classroom: C.I.126 Phone: (361) 825-5980
E-mail: bilaye.benibo@tamucc.edu


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 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.

Course Format
The first 60 minutes of each class will be spent on straight lectures. The remainder of the time 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.
Learning Outcomes
At the end of this course all students should:
• be able to describe the basic concepts and theories in sociology;
• understand the relationship between technology and social change;
• Recognize the reciprocal relations between individuals and society.

Course Requirement
Your final grade for this course will be based on five exams (weighted 20% each), and two written assignments (weighted 10% each). All exams will take the form of a combination of essay and multiple choice questions. Essay question will be answered in Blue (Examination) books only. 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
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a Federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe that you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816.

Returning Veterans
If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

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. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA
Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information, please contact (361) 825-3466.

**Grade Appeal Process**

Students who feel that they have 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. 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, [http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html](http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

**Course Outline**

08/25 An introduction to "Introduction To Sociology"
What is Sociology? Chap.1

08/30-09-01 Theoretical Perspectives in Sociology Chap.1
Research Methods in Sociology Chap.2

09/06 **First Exam.**

09/08-22 Culture Chap. 3
Society Chap.4
Socialization Chap.5

09/27 **Second Exam**

09/29-10/13 Social Structure and organizations Chap 6&7
Deviance chap. 8

10/18 **Third Exam**

10/20-11/10 Social Stratification: Class - chap 11
Social Stratification: Gender – Chap.13
Race/Ethnicity chap. 14

11/15 Fourth Exam

11/17-12/06 Social Institutions:
Family Institution chap 18
Educational Institution chap 20

Dec.08 Final Exam. 11-1 p.m.

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