Course: Human Societies (Soci-1301.003) Semester: Spring 2020
Instructor: Dr. Bilaye Benibo   Office: B. H. 346
Time: MW 2:00-3:15 p.m.    Phone: (361) 825-5980
Classroom: CI 128                   O/Hrs: MW.1-1:45 p.m.
                                      TR.1-1:45 p.m.
                                      TR.5-6 p.m.
                                      bilaye.benibo@tamucc.edu

Required Text:
John Macionis. Sociology (current Edition)

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.

Student Learning Objectives
At the end of this course students are expected to:
1. describe the basic concepts, methods and theories in sociology;
2. understand the relationship between technology and social change;
3. recognize the reciprocal relationship between 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 the following.

First Examination........................................................................................................20%
Second Examination...................................................................................................20%
Third Examination......................................................................................................20%
Final Examination......................................................................................................20%
Critique of “The promise.”................................................................. 5%
Civic participation/Report............................................................... 5%
Inequality Table Interpretation..................................................... 10%
Total..............................................................................................................................100%

Letter Equivalents
90-100% = A
80-89 = B
70-79 = C
60-69 = D
<60 = F

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.

Class Attendance
Class attendance is important and required. There is, however, a maximum of three penalty-free absences allowed for personal/family emergencies. Every other non-officially excused absence will be penalized with a three percentage-point deduction from final grade. Regardless of the reason(s) for one’s absence, students are personally responsible for recovering materials taught during their
absence from class. It is recommended, therefore that students develop responsible, professional relationships with two or more other students for class lecture notes taken on the day(s) that they are absent.

**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 call 361-825 3466.

**Disability Services**

The American 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 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

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.

**Grade Appeals Process**

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C0.03, Student Grade Appeals Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has 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. 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
Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeal Procedures.
For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process,
students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in
which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.
These documents are accessible through the University Rules
Web site at:
http://academicaffairs.tamu.cc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/1
3.02.99.C0.03_students_grade_appeals.pdf

Dropping a Class
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any
other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make
dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with
your academic advisor, the Financial Aid office and me,
before you decide to drop this course. Should dropping the
course be the best course of action, you must initiate the
process to drop the course by going to the Student Services
Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping
attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result
in your being dropped from the class. LAST DAY TO DROP

Course Outline
Jan.22-Feb.05 An Introduction to "Introduction To Sociology"
What is Sociology? Chap.1
Theoretical Perspectives in Sociology Chap.1
Research Methods in Sociology Chap.2
Feb. 12 First Exam.
Feb.19-Mar.08 Culture Chap. 3
Society Chap.4
Socialization Chap.5
Mar. 09-13 Spring Break
Mar. 18 Second Exam
Mar. 23- Apr. 08 Social Structure and organizations Chap 6&7
    Deviance chap. 8
    Social Stratification – Chap. 10
    Social Class in the United States Chap. 11

Apr. 15       Third Exam

Apr. 20-May 11 Social Stratification:
    Gender/Sex Stratification – Chap 13
    Race/Ethnicity Stratification Chap. 14
Social Institutions:
    Family Institution Chap 18

May 13       Final Exam

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