

## SV 1010: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

CRN 32591 – Spring 2015  
10:30–11:20 AM in SS109  
Dr. Marjukka Ollilainen

### Contact information

Office: SS116/ Office hours: MW 11:30AM-12:15PM, TH 9-10AM or by appointment  
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### Course description

Welcome to Sociology! This course introduces you to the study of the social world. You will learn the basic concepts used in sociology as well as the main theories and methods of sociological research. In addition, we explore some key questions that continue to intrigue sociologists universally, for example: How does society influence our daily lives? What is "normal"? Why do we care what others think of us? Why do so many people live in poverty? Is it possible to change society? The goal is to encourage you to develop a *sociological imagination* so that you will be able to look at the familiar world through new eyes. In the beginning, we will study the "basics"—the core concepts, theories, and methods—that sociologists use, but soon you will be able to see afresh many aspects our social world that we often take for granted. In other words, you will learn to examine the society through a sociological lens.

**Course web site** is <http://canvas.weber.edu>. This course will be taught with accompanying online resources on Canvas. In addition to class announcements, syllabi, and the study guide, you will find on the course web page occasional assignments and class discussions on topics covered in class. *In case of a disruption to the course (instructor's illness, campus closing, etc.), all instruction will take place through the Canvas page. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to check course page for any assignments or announcements you may have missed.*

### Required Texts

- David M. Newman (2014) *Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life, 10th edition*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. ISBN: 978-1-4522-7594-9
- Selected articles on Canvas (listed in the class schedule) <http://canvas.weber.edu>.

### Course Objectives and Diversity Learning Outcomes

After taking *SOC 1010*, students should be able to:

1. Describe what sociology is; what particular phenomena and behaviors it studies; and how it is different from other disciplines that study human behavior.
2. Define and use main sociological concepts, levels of analysis, theories, and research methods both in discussion and in writing assignments.
3. Apply the "sociological imagination" in discussing and explaining contemporary sociological issues, including class, race, and gender diversity and inequality, globalization, and demographic changes.

A student who successfully completes a *General Education Diversity Course* will:

1. Describe his/her own perspective as one among many.
2. Identify values and biases that inform the perspectives of oneself and others.
3. Recognize and articulate the rights, perspectives, and experiences of others.

### Note on Special Needs

A student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities, located in the Student Service Center [http://www.weber.edu/ssd/ssd\\_services.html](http://www.weber.edu/ssd/ssd_services.html)

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### Course Format

The course consists of lectures, assigned readings, classroom discussions, written and oral assignments both in- and out of class or posted on the WSU Online course web site. In general, discussion will be open, and everyone's views will be respected. Our goal is to critically consider different viewpoints without offending anyone. For the exams, students are expected to be familiar with the substantive contents of all class materials, including assigned readings, lectures, guest lectures, films, and discussions.

### Evaluation and instructions

Exams (4 x 20%)                      80% of final grade                      [\*Course learning outcomes 1-3]

There will be four non-cumulative exams, each worth 20% of the final grade. Exams can be taken in any secure WSU testing center using Chi-Tester software. The class does not meet on exam days. Exams consist of a combination of multiple choice and true/false questions that test your knowledge of material covered in lectures and the text. You must take ALL four exams to pass the course (see class policy).

Article Quizzes                      15% of final grade                      [\*Course learning outcome 2]

Students will be quizzed on the assigned articles on dates marked in the syllabus. Students should read the assigned article/s for quiz before coming to class. Quizzes will be administered in various formats, including short essays, multiple choice questions, discussions, debate, group work, and other types of written or oral assignments. All quizzes will be graded. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.

Class participation                      5% of final grade                      [\*Course learning outcome 3]

Class participation is essential in a sociology class. This grade will include unannounced class participation opportunities, such as group work, in- or out-of-class writing assignments for which you will receive participation credit. Thoughtful comments and questions about all class materials and topics are encouraged and rewarded. All discussions and participation assignments—whether in class or online—will count as part of your participation grade. Note that missed class participation assignments cannot be made up.

#### Grading scale for course performance:

A	= 100-93%	A-	= 92-90%		
B+	= 89-87%	B	= 86-83%	B-	= 82-80%
C+	= 79-77%	C	= 76-73%	C-	= 72-70%
D+	= 69-67%	D	= 66-63%	D-	= 62-60%
E	< 59%				

### CLASS POLICY (important!)

#### **Making up a missed exam**

You may make-up an exam without penalty only in case of serious illness or emergency for which you are to provide official documentation (see "Late exam penalty" below). Please inform me about any known problems before an exam. In case of an emergency on the morning of the exam, call or e-mail me *immediately* to let me know. All exams must be taken in order to complete the course and receive a final course grade. Students who do not take Exam 4 will receive "unofficial withdrawal" or UW.

#### **Late exam penalty**

There will be a penalty of - 5 points from the make-up exam score for a student who has missed an exam and does not present an official note (e.g., a physician's note, note about jury duty or court appearance, a dated obituary). This is non-negotiable.

#### **Missing an article quiz or a class participation assignment**

Class participation assignments and the article quizzes are geared toward enhancing student *class participation* and cannot be made up individually. However, missing one will not significantly hurt your final grade.

### Professionalism and soft skills

Taking this course comes with a set of expectations for both the students and the professor:

- **Timeliness** – Class will start and end on time. You are expected to come to class on time and submit all assignments on time. If you absolutely must leave before the class is over, please inform me before class starts and then leave discreetly from the back of the room (be discreet and sit in the back also if you are entering the class late).
- **Technology** – You may use a laptop for note-taking, but should you misuse this privilege (facebook, chats, movies, etc.), you will be asked to put away the computer and continue taking notes by hand. There will be designated hand-written note days during which laptops are not allowed. Check out the recent research findings on note-taking [here](#) and [here](#). Cell phones (incl. texting) and earphones do not belong in class. You will be asked to take ear phones off/put cell phone away or leave the classroom. Students may record lectures, but must notify the professor every time they do so.

### WSU Student Code

Students should be familiar with the WSU Student Code and abide by it. The Code may be reviewed on line at [http://www.weber.edu/ppm/Policies/6-22\\_StudentCode.html](http://www.weber.edu/ppm/Policies/6-22_StudentCode.html) – pay specific attention to Section IV.D.2b on “plagiarism, which is the unacknowledged (uncited) use of another person’s or group’s ideas or work.” This includes purchased or borrowed papers, copying from any source, including the internet. Any type of cheating is a serious offense and will result in, at minimum, failing the assignment and reporting the student’s name to the WSU Dean of Students. All necessary steps will be taken to enforce the Student Code to guarantee fairness to all.

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## TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

### The “Basics”: Study of society and social interaction

M 1/12	What the heck did I sign up to study?! Welcome to Sociology
W 1/14	Making the familiar strange: “The sociological imagination” <u>Read</u> : Syllabus, Ch. 1
F 1/16	From an individual to social structure: Levels of sociological analysis <u>Read</u> : Ch. 2
...	
M 1/19	MLK Jr. Holiday, no class
W 1/21	“How does society ‘hold’ together”? Theorizing the social order No reading
F 1/23	More sociological theories No reading
...	
M 1/26	<i>Class discussion</i> on seeing and thinking sociologically (article quiz) <u>Read</u> : Article #1 (Berger: “An Invitation to Sociology”) <a href="http://canvas.weber.edu">http://canvas.weber.edu</a>
W 1/28	How do we know what we know about society and how can we find out more? <u>Read</u> : Ch.3
F 1/30	Culture and history <u>Read</u> : Ch. 4

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M 2/2	<p><i>Class discussion</i> on culture (article quiz)  <u>Read:</u> Article #2 (Miner: “Body Ritual among the Nacirema”) <a href="http://canvas.weber.edu">http://canvas.weber.edu</a>  <i>Exam review of Chs. 1-4</i></p>
W 2/4	<p><b>Exam 1: Available in all WSU testing centers from Wed 2/4 through Thu 2/5</b>  <b>— Chapters 1-4 (no class on Wednesday)</b></p>
<b>How do we become who we are? Learning about our social selves</b>	
F 2/6	<p>Me, myself and I: Socialization and identity  <u>Read:</u> Ch. 5</p>
...	
M 2/9	<p>“Also starring”: On and off the stage in the theater of everyday life  <u>Read:</u> Ch. 6</p>
W 2/11	<p><i>Class discussion</i> on socialization and the presentation of self (article quiz)  <u>Read:</u> Article #3 (Cahill et al.: “Meanwhile Backstage ...”) and #4 (Hall &amp; Hall: “The Sounds of Silence”) <a href="http://canvas.weber.edu">http://canvas.weber.edu</a></p>
F 2/13	<p>Gender socialization and presentation  No reading</p>
...	
M 2/16	<p><i>Presidents’ Day Holiday, no class</i></p>
<b>Families and relationships: A closer look</b>	
W 2/18	<p>Changing society, changing families  <u>Read:</u> Ch. 7 (pp. 191-213)</p>
F 2/20	<p>Changing society, changing families, cont.  No reading</p>
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M 2/23	<p>Families and challenges  <u>Read:</u> Ch. 7 (pp. 214-230)</p>
<b>Deviance and Social Control</b>	
W 2/25	<p><i>Class discussion</i> on the variety of family relationships (article quiz)  <u>Read:</u> Article #5 (Coontz: “The Radical Idea of Marrying for Love”) <a href="http://canvas.weber.edu">http://canvas.weber.edu</a></p>
F 2/27	<p>What is “normal” and what is “deviant”? And who decides?  <u>Read:</u> Ch. 8</p>
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M 3/2	<p>Deviance and social control, cont.</p>
W 3/4	<p><i>Exam review of Chs. 5-8</i></p>
F 3/6	<p><b>Exam 2: Available in all WSU testing centers from Thu 3/5 through Fri 3/6— Chapters 5-8</b>  <b>(no class on Friday)</b></p>
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M-F 3/9-13	<p>S P R I N G   B R E A K</p>

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### **Work and consumption in the global economy**

M 3/16 Who does what and where ... and why there? Social—and global—organization of work  
Read: Ch. 9

W 3/18 *Class discussion* on work in America (article quiz)  
Read: Article #6 (Ritzer: “The McDonald’s System”) <http://canvas.weber.edu>

F 3/20 Never Enough: Life in a consumer society  
No reading

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### **Social Inequality: Class, Race, and Gender**

M 3/23 Why inequality? Introduction to theories of inequality  
Read: Ch. 10 (pp. 315- 325)

W 3/25 Up and down the U.S. class structure  
Read: Ch. 10 (pp. 326-357)

F 3/27 Who are the poor and why are the poor poor? Theories of poverty  
No reading

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M 3/30 People Like Us—Explorations in social class  
No reading

W 4/1 Do we live in an “us and them” society? Racial-ethnic inequality in America  
Read: Ch. 11

F 4/3 Institutional racism in the U.S. history  
No reading (recommended *re-reading*: Ch. 11, pp. 385-397)

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M 4/6 *Class discussion* on racial-ethnic inequality (article quiz)  
Read: Article #7 (McIntosh: “White Privilege”) <http://canvas.weber.edu>;  
*Exam review of Chs. 9-11*

W 4/8 **Exam 3: Available in all WSU testing centers from Wed 4/8 through Thu 4/9 – Chapters 9-11  
(no class on Wednesday)**

F 4/10 Gender inequality: Progress and challenges  
Read: Ch. 12 (pp. 409-422)

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M 4/13 Gendered institutions and institutional sexism  
Read: Ch. 12 (pp. 423-442)

W 4/15 Gender and the media  
No reading

### **Population processes**

F 4/17 From Baby Boomers to Millennials: The influence of birth cohorts  
Read: Ch. 13 (pp. 443-449)

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M 4/20 Warning: The global population has exploded!  
Read: Ch. 13 (pp. 450-479)

W 4/22 Sociology and Anthropology Annual Student Research Conference  
No reading, Class participation assignment TBA

**Social Change**

F 4/24 And now for the uplifting news: We can change society!

Read: Ch. 14

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M 4/27 *Exam review of Chapters 12-14*

**Tue 4/28 – Exam 4: Available in all WSU testing centers from Tue 4/28 through Thu 4/30 – Chs 12-14**

**Thu 4/30** Exam 4 is not cumulative and it will be available in the testing center for three days to accommodate your schedules during the finals week.

**Recycling at WSU**

Did you know that nearly 90% of the waste generated at WSU can be recycled, but only 20% actually is recycled? This means that WSU sends over 600 tons of trash to the landfill each year unnecessarily. Please help WSU increase recycling rates by placing all of the following items in the purple and blue recycling bins:

- Plastics #1 - #7
- Aluminum
- Steel
- Tin cans
- Paper/Newspaper/Junkmail/Magazines
- Cardboard/Paperboard (i.e. cereal boxes)
- File Folders and Card Stock
- Phone books
- Paper egg cartons
- Brown paper bags
- Milk cartons and juice boxes

**No food or liquids may be placed in the recycling bin!** Food and beverages will contaminate the recycling and will result in the entire can of recycling being sent to the landfill so please empty or rinse containers prior to recycling. For additional information on recycling and other sustainability-related topics please visit [www.weber.edu/sustainability](http://www.weber.edu/sustainability)