Instructor: Scott Thompson BA, MAT, MPA
E-mail: scott.thompson@gcmail.maricopa.edu
Message: Social Science Secretary; Brigida Banfelder @ (623) 845-3685

Class Meeting Days and Time: S: 9:00 A.M.-12: P.M.
Room Number: CL-12

Required Book(s):


Course Objectives: This course is designed to examine the fundamental concepts of social organization, culture, socialization, social institutions and social change. The goal of this class is to help students learn about social issues beyond the scope of popular culture and mass media reporting with the aim of achieving deeper personal understanding regarding today’s world and what the future might hold. My expectation is that you will be able to develop and utilize critical thinking skills which challenge common assumptions and be able to demonstrate sound reasoning for your conclusions. For more information regarding the goals and content of this class go to http://www.dist.maricopa.edu/cgi-bin/cpr.pl?trm=20036&crs=soc101&inst=99.

Course Requirements: Attendance is mandatory. I do not teach or test solely from the textbook. Therefore, attendance is vital to your ability to achieve success in this course. The instructor therefore reserves the right to withdraw a student from the course at my discretion after two absences. It is vital that your attendance remains in good standing in order to pass the course. My policy regarding attendance requires that you miss no more than four classes without an official excuse (such as school athletic events or a medical excuse; see student handbook) Note that the instructor in most cases is the judge of what is a valid and legitimate excuse; personal, family and/or work problems are not a valid excuse. In a nutshell, if you miss five classes or more you will need to see me. You will also need to see me if you miss two consecutive weeks of class. Failure to see me regarding excessive absences will result in the grade of an F for the course. It is the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. This class is a college level course that fulfills a general university requirement in social/behavioral sciences. Therefore, it is important that you take the class seriously and show up attentive and eager to learn. I look forward to working with you and learning more about social issues. If you are having problems with the course please see me so we can determine a course of action. Your assignments for the semester are listed on the next page.

Assignments:                                                                                                   Points
• 3 midterm tests 200 pts
  (Note: lowest test score will be dropped) (100 pts each)

• 5 Quizzes 50 pts
  (10 points per quiz.)

• Critical Writing Assignment 50 pts

• Ethnic Timeline Presentation (We will discuss this in detail later) 100 pts

• Mandatory Cumulative Final Exam 200 pts

Total Points Possible: 600 pts

Grade scale:
- 89.5 - 100% A
- 79.5 - 89.4% B
- 69.5 - 79.4% C
- 59.5 - 69.4% D
- 59.4% or Below F

Class Format: The class will be mostly a mix of lecture material and group discussions regarding social issues. My hope is that you all are eager to participate in class discussions. Many of the issues we will be discussing will challenge common perspectives and should arouse a great deal of interest.

Course Expectations: You are responsible for all course material. Anything being discussed in the course can be used for testing purposes. This includes lectures, class discussions, and student presentations. As previously mentioned, I do not teach just from the textbook. It is my expectation you will attend a vast majority, if not all classes during this course. It is mandatory that you be present for the tests. I will not give a make up test without an extremely valid explanation for not being able to take the test when scheduled. (A doctors written order is such an example). If you have a time conflict with the tests please let me know in advance so the matter can be dealt with.

Late Assignment Policy: My policy is to grade any late work down one letter grade per class period from the grade that would normally receive. I generally will not accept late work after one week when it was normally due without valid mitigating circumstances. Note: the instructor reserves the right to refuse any late work. Exceptions to this policy require a written statement from a doctor or a very valid exception. Do not E-mail me assignments late or not. Assignments are due in paper form at the beginning of class on the date due unless otherwise stated. Students will also be penalized one letter grade if papers are not stapled or held together by a paper clip.

Attendance: I take attendance everyday. As mentioned above, if you are absent for more than two class the instructor reserves the right to withdraw you from the class. If
you miss nine classes or more you will need to see me. You will also need to see me if you miss two consecutive weeks of class. Failure to see me regarding excessive absences will result in the grade of an F for the course. It is the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Please refer to your student handbook concerning withdraw dates. If you are having difficulties with the course please see me.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** In a nutshell: **DON’T DO IT.** I will spend some time defining plagiarism and how to avoid it. Regarding my policy for cheating and plagiarism: any student caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive an “F” for the course, be expelled from the class, and will be referred to the Dean of Students.

**Pagers and Phones:** Please turn these items off to minimize disruptions. Repeated violations will result in removal from the class.

**Audio Taping:** Please ask permission to audio tape class lectures and discussions. No video taping is allowed.

**Text Messaging:** **Do not text message during class.** Students who text messaging in class will be asked to leave for the remainder of the class.

**Ipods and Music Devices:** Do not listen to music or wear headphones during class. Violations will result in removal from the class.

**Disruptive Students:** Students who are disruptive, rude, and/or display a bad attitude toward the instructor or other students will be removed from the class and may be subject to student misconduct disciplinary action.

**Failing Students:** Students who are failing the course may be withdrawn from the class at any time at the discretion of the instructor.

**Food and Beverages:** In general, I do not mind if people bring a water as long as it is not disruptive and students do not make a mess. No food or other drinks other than water are allowed.

**Readings:** Please plan on having your readings completed before the class session in which it will be discussed.

**Special Needs:** It is a college policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request accommodations due to a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the Disability Resources & Services office at (623) 845-3080. If you require special learning needs because of a disability, please speak with me as soon as possible. **Note:** This is a tentative schedule subject to change. I will inform you about any changes that will be made.

**Tentative Course Schedule:** Instructor reserves the right to alter this schedule and assignments for the course.

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<th>Assignments/Tests</th>
<th>Chapter(s)</th>
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<td>Presentation</td>
<td>11/22</td>
<td>Critical Thinking Paper Due</td>
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<td>Presentations</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving - No Class</td>
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<td>19th test</td>
<td>12/6</td>
<td>Cumulative Final Exam</td>
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Official Course Description: MCCCDD Approval: 06/27/95

SOC101 19956-99999 Introduction to Sociology
1. Define sociology and explain how it differs from other social sciences. (I)

2. Explain the sociological imagination and how it operates in everyday life. (I)

3. Describe the basic theoretical perspectives sociologists use to analyze social phenomena. (II)

4. Name and briefly describe the importance of selected major theorists to the field of sociology. (II)

5. List and explain the stages in a basic research design. (III)

6. Describe and differentiate between qualitative and quantitative research methods. (III)

7. Define the basic sociological concepts: culture, society, socialization, social structure, groups, and institutions. (IV)

8. Describe values and norms, including mores, folkways, and laws. (IV)

9. Describe societal and structural factors that can influence individual behavior. (V)

10. Describe sociological/psychological theories as they relate to the development of the self. (V)

11. Describe the influence of selected institutions on society and the individual. (VI)

12. Describe the effect of race/ethnicity, sex/gender, and age on social inequality. (VII)

13. Explain major sociological perspectives on social class. (VII)

14. Explain how conflict, functionalist, and symbolic interactionist theoretical perspectives view deviance and conformity. (VIII)

15. Describe and explain social change, including the influence of collective behavior, social movements, and demographic factors. (IX)

I. Sociology as a discipline
   A. Definition
   B. Relationship to other disciplines
   C. Application of the sociological imagination
   D. Application to everyday life

II. Theoretical perspectives
A. Definitions
B. Theoretical perspectives
   1. Structural/functional
   2. Conflict
   3. Symbolic interaction
C. Major theorists
III. Methodology
   A. Research design
   B. Qualitative methods
   C. Quantitative methods
   D. Terminology
IV. Basic concepts
   A. Culture
   B. Society
   C. Socialization
   D. Groups
   E. Social structure
   F. Social institutions
V. Development of self/socialization
   A. Role theory
   B. Psychological foundations
VI. Culture/social structures
   A. Definitions
   B. Macro-sociology
   C. Micro-sociology
VII. Stratification
   A. Social class and caste
   B. Other means of stratifying
      1. Gender
      2. Race/ethnicity
      3. Age
VIII. Deviance and conformity
   A. Definitions
   B. Theories
IX. Social change
   A. Collective behavior
   B. Social movements
   C. Demography
   D. Global perspective
I have read the Syllabus for Sociology 101, Course # 34406 for Fall 2008 at Glendale Community College. I affirm that I understand and accept the conditions of the course.

Name: (Please Print)______________________________
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