GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
SOC 101 -- ONLINE
Spring 2009
Section No: 22489

Professor: Ms. Barbara L. Romero, M.A.Ed.
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Office Hours: Virtual
Availability: Best way to reach me is email

Teaching Philosophy/Method:

This course will be facilitated on a **weekly basis. You must complete assignments and participate in the discussion in the current week; you cannot go back to previous weeks or skip ahead to future weeks.** Students are expected to read chapters prior to class in order to answer the discussion questions and participate in class discussions. Since readings and discussions are designed to complement one another your active participation is critical. We will also discuss current events, utilize summary learning journals and there will be two projects required during the semester.

Required Text: **Sociology**
John J. Macionis
2008, 12th Edition
Prentice Hall

Official Course Description:

Fundamental concepts of social organization, culture, socialization, social institutions and social change.
Pre-requisites:
None

MCCD Official Course Competencies: Introduction to Sociology

We will cover the Maricopa County Community College Official Course Competencies as described below. This information was taken from the MCCCD website- www.maricopa.edu.

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)

Course Objectives:

1. To develop a sociological perspective on social behavior that is based on the scientific method rather than common sense.
2. To identify fundamental patterns of conflict that are present in our society as well as social order and integration.
3. To understand some of the underlying causes of what we call social problems and to see how sociological data enter into policy decisions.
4. To become a more informed consumer of social science data.
5. To gain insight into the social behavior of other people in other cultures and adopt a position of cultural relativism.
6. To understand the process of socialization and how we become social beings.
7. To become aware of the different ways in which people act, feel, think, and define their situations based on their “sex, class, age, ethnic group, geographic region and nationality.”
8. To become aware of the impact of social institutions.
9. To improve writing skills in terms of content and ideas: structure (sentence and paragraphal development) and mechanics through assignments and sociological exercises.
Special Needs/Disabilities:

If you have special needs that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, you need to notify The Disability Services and Resources Center located in TDS 118. Their phone number is 623-845-3080.

Student Withdrawal:

Each student is responsible for withdrawing in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the current year GCC student handbook. If you do not officially withdraw, it can result in a letter grade in this course.

Incompletes

I do not offer incompletes.

Extra Credit:

I do not offer extra credit.

Student Policies/College Information:

College Academic Policies, Student Life Policies, Course Schedules, Calendars and other information are available at the GCC website: http://www.gc.maricopa.edu.

Plagiarism/Cheating:

Each student is expected to produce his/her original independent work. Any student whose work indicates a violation of the MCCC Academic Misconduct Policy (cheating, plagiarism) can expect penalties as specified in the Student Handbook.

Disclaimer

Course content may vary from this outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Civility Policy

The language of any communication between students and instructors or among students meeting electronically or in person shall maintain the level of formality appropriate to any college teaching/learning situation. Be polite. Dialogue on a friendly basis. Remember this is a class not a chat room; make sure that your content is appropriate.

Netiquette

Practice good Netiquette by not using ALL CAPITALS, all bold letters and punctuate appropriately. Be cautious with irony, humor and satire. Do not jump to conclusions about others’ communications.

Font and miscellaneous items

Please use a 12pt font; I am not too particular on the script that you use as long as I can read it. I would stay away from cursive, as it is difficult to read. I do recommend Tahoma, Arial, Arial Narrow, or Times New Roman. Please use only BLACK font color in all of your communications in the classroom (discussion board).
The Online Weekly Schedule

Day 1  Saturday
Day 2  Sunday
Day 3  Monday
Day 4  Tuesday
Day 5  Wednesday
Day 6  Thursday
Day 7  Friday

Testing and Grading (Evaluation Procedures):

1. **Exams:**
   a. There will be three exams @ 100 points each, this includes the final exam. Exams will be taken online. You will not need to come to the campus.
   b. Exams will be composed of any combination of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the blank and/or short answer/essay questions covering the course material: including the textbook and class discussions.
   c. Exams will be on Day 7
   d. You will have one attempt to complete the exam
   e. You will have 60 minutes to complete the exam
   f. There will not be make-up exams

2. **Quizzes:**
   a. Quizzes are worth 20 points
   b. Quizzes will be on Day 7
   c. You will have one attempt to complete the quiz
   d. You will have 20 minutes to complete the quiz
   e. There will not be make-up quizzes

3. **Biography:** Students will post their biography, by day 5 (Wednesday) of Week 1. I am looking forward to reading your bios and getting to know you.

   1) Introduce yourself, please include your name, and document the path you took to where you are right now in this class.
   2) What are the contributing factors to your life ex: family, church, military etc.
   3) Are you a traditional student, non-traditional student or 1st generation student or a combination of a couple.
      **Traditional student** is someone who attends college right out of high school.
      **Non-traditional student** is someone who takes a break after high school then attends college at a later time.
      **1st Generation student** if you are the first one in your family to attend college.
   4) What is your motivation to attend college ex: family, work, other courses etc.
   5) What are your future goals
   6) What are your hobbies, what do you do for fun
   7) **Respond to at least 4 of your classmates**

   The biography is worth 100 points.
   These will be posted to the Discussion Board under the appropriate thread.

4. **Culture Presentation:** Students will prepare a PowerPoint Presentation for the class about their culture. This may be Cultural traditions including but not limited to: religious/spiritual traditions, ethnic traditions, coming of age traditions. Be creative with this assignment and have fun with it.
The PowerPoint Presentation should be at least 8 slides but no more than 12 slides. The Culture Presentation is worth a total of 100 points. This will be posted to the Discussion Board under the appropriate thread.

5. **Summary Learning Journals**: Are the equivalent of personal responses to the topics studied. Your summary should be organized according to the following three categories:
   1. **Summary of Learning** - This includes the major areas of content from your reading, discussion questions and class discussions.
   2. **Personal Learning** - What are the learning that have personally impacted your thinking and practice.
   3. **Applications to everyday life** - What and how are you applying what you are learning to your everyday life.

   **Your Response should be 200 - 250 words**

   **Checking the length of responses:**
   If you use MS Word, select tools, options, spelling & grammar, check show readability statistics, this will provide a work count at the end of the spell check.

   **Summary of Learning Journals are worth 75 points each. These will be posted to the Discussion Board under the appropriate thread.**

6. **2 Projects** - Instructions will be given at a later time.
   - Socialization Project is worth 100 points
   - Media Project is worth 100 points

7. **Discussion Questions**
You will have at least two discussion questions to answer throughout the week. **Include 150 - 200 words** in your response to each discussion question. Points will be deducted for short responses.

   **Checking the length of responses:**
   If you use MS Word, select tools, options, spelling & grammar, check show readability statistics, this will provide a work count at the end of the spell check.

Please do not start a new thread for the weekly discussion questions, make sure you click on “Reply to Group.”

You will need to respond to the discussion questions by midnight Arizona Time on Day 3 (Monday). This will give others the opportunity to respond to your comments.

***If Monday is a school Holiday discussion questions will be due by midnight Arizona Time on Day 4 (Tuesday).***

I expect your discussion question responses and participation to reflect critical thought. Whenever possible, please try to relate the course content to real-world applications from your life/work experiences.

Unlike your formal written assignments, I do not require that your discussion question responses adhere to specific formatting requirements. There is a word requirement for both Discussion Questions and responding to your classmates (participation). These responses will count as your participation (see below) in the class. Remember to provide responses that encourage discussion.
within the class. Please make sure to proofread carefully, use grammar and spell check before submitting your work. Grammar and spelling errors may impact the grading.

This is the spell check icon in the discussion board – please use it accordingly. ☺

**Discussion Questions must be answered in the week in which they are assigned. They cannot be made up.**

8. **Participation**

Participation means posting notes to the week’s discussion questions. It also means you should read, analyze, and respond to the questions and comments from your classmates and me. Please send in messages that demonstrate your regular reading of others’ notes. Your comments will add significantly to the discussion by building on others’ comments suggesting alternative solutions, pointing out problems and even at times, constructively disagreeing. Just saying “I agree” is not enough to add to a discussion and will not be counted as participation, thus resulting in zero points.

We retain our personal or professional experiences and use them to analyze each situation that we encounter. Our interpretation of a situation may result in a different conclusion or the same conclusion as another person, but the rationale that we used was our rationale. When we share that rationale with others they are exposed to a different evaluation technique that may be beneficial to them in the future, that is the greatest benefit of the class discussion.

You are expected to contribute to the class discussions in a substantive way; **You should have a total of six substantial notes per week** including the discussion questions. Basically after you have responded to the DQ’s for the week you will need to post 4 substantial notes for the week to earn all of the participation points. **Your responses should be 100 - 150 words per response.**

You are expected to contribute to the class discussions in meaningful ways, such as:

- Contributing new and relevant information to the course discussion from the textbook, any articles or current events;
- Commenting in a positive manner;
- Building on the remarks of your fellow students;
- Posing questions of your fellow students; and
- Sharing quotes, websites, current news events, newspaper/magazine articles and other supplementary information.

**Participation points may not be made up. You must post your participation weekly to receive points.**

**Note: I do check word counts ☺**
Tentative Schedule:

Unit I

Week 1:  Introductions and Biographies
Jan 17 - 23
Day 5:  Biography Due
Day 7:  Quiz - Syllabus

Week 2:  Chapter 1 -- The Sociological Perspective
Martin Luther King Day - January 19 - NO CLASS
Jan 24 -- 30
Day 4:  DQ's Due
Day 7:  Quiz

Week 3:  Chapter 3 -- Culture
Jan. 31 – Feb 6
Day 3:  DQ's Due
Day 3:  Culture Presentation
Day 7:  Quiz

Week 4:  Chapter 5 -- Socialization
Feb. 7 – 13
Day 3:  DQ's Due
Day 7:  Quiz

Week 5:  Socialization Project
Presidents Day - February 16 - NO CLASS
Feb 14 – 20
Day 7:  Socialization Project Due

Week 6:  Chapter 9 -- Deviance
Feb 21 -- 27
Day 4:  DQ's Due
Day 7:  Quiz

Week 7:  Feb 28 - March 6
Day 3:  Summary Learning Journal
Day 7:  Exam #1
Unit II.

Week 8: **Chapter 10 -- Social Stratification**  
March 7 – 13  
Day 3: DQ’s Due  
Day 7: Quiz  

Week 9:  
Week 10: **Chapter 14 -- Race and Ethnicity**  
**Spring Break: March 16 – March 22 -- NO CLASS**  
March 14, 15; 23 -- 27  
Day 3: DQ’s Due  
Day 7: Quiz  

Week 11: **Chapter 8 -- Sexuality and Society**  
March 28 – April 3  
Day 3: DQ’s Due  
Day 7: Quiz  

Week 12: **April 4 – April 10**  
Day 3: Summary Learning Journal  
Day 7: Exam #2  

Unit III.

Week 13: **Media Project**  
April 11 -- 17  
Day 7: Media Project Due  

Week 14: **Chapter 18 & 19 -- Families and Religion**  
April 18 -- 24  
Day 3: DQ’s Due  
Day 7: Quiz  

Week 15: **Chapter 12 -- Global Stratification**  
April 25 – May 1  
Day 3: DQ’s Due  
Day 7: Quiz  

Week 16: **Chapter 13 -- Gender Stratification**  
May 2 – May 8  
Day 3: DQ’s Due  
Day 7: Quiz  

Finals Week:  
**Exam #3**  
May 11  
Day 3: Final Exam  

**Note:** This is a tentative schedule subject to change. I will inform you about any changes that will be made.
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<th>Assignments</th>
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