



University of International Business and Economics International Summer School

SOC 110 Introduction to Sociology

Term: May 29 – June 29, 2017

Instructor: DR. HUNG CAM THAI (Ph.D. from University of California, Berkeley)

Home Institution: Pomona College

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Class Hours: Monday through Thursday, 120 minutes each day (2,400 minutes in total)

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from noon to 1:00 pm.

Teaching Assistant: TBD

Email: TBD

Discussion session: 2 hours each week

Total Contact Hours: 64 contact hours (45 minutes each, 48 hours in total)

Credit: 4 units

Course Description

This course focuses on the basic assumptions, research topics, theories and methodologies of sociology. Students will examine the ways in which social norms, values, roles and social structure impact the world around people and their positions in society. Topics include power, submission, conflict, social structure, socialization, social change, and social inequality.

No Prerequisite

Course Overview

We begin this course with the premise that sociology is not just simply a pure academic pursuit, but it is an entire way of seeing and thinking about the world. This course, therefore, introduces you to the possibilities of sociology as a field of scholarship, and as a mode of inquiry. You will develop a sociological imagination and refine your ability to think about and use evidence in order to appreciate the complexity of social life. The course is organized around central analytical concepts such as power, submission, conflict, social structure, socialization, social change, and social inequality. The overarching goal is to acquaint you with prominent methods and theories in order to cultivate your ability to reason sociologically.

Course Goals

A student who satisfactorily completes this course should be able to accomplish the following:

- ✧ Compare and contrast the three major schools of sociology and apply the sociological imagination
- ✧ Describe and analyze how social groups affect individual behaviors
- ✧ Distinguish between sociology and other social science disciplines
- ✧ Analyze social behaviors through a sociological lens
- ✧ Understand major sociological methods



- ✧ Explain the relationship between social institutions, social processes, and social change

Prepare dness for Readings

- ✧ Identify the author's main argument
- ✧ Identify the methods and theories used by the author in constructing the argument
- ✧ Identify the key strengths and weaknesses of a specific readings
- ✧ Articulate your analysis in your own words about the readings
- ✧ Compare and contrast the reading to the Chinese experience

Required Text

This course uses one prominent textbook that introduces students to the major areas within the discipline of sociology. We will only read selected chapters from the textbook. Your mastery of materials will be supplemented by the lectures in class. Each week, we will read several chapters that speak to some common thread or theme such as "inequality" or "the family." The readings supplement the lectures; you are expected to engage with both the lectures and readings accordingly on your exams. Please purchase the e-version of this textbook:

Sociology, 14th edition. (2012) by John J. Macionis. Published by Pearson Publishers.

*Please note to get the 14th edition, published in 2012. You can buy the online e-version on amazon with a kindle app. You can also buy the hard copy, which is the exact version as the online version.

Course Hours

The course has 20 class sessions in total. Each class session is 120 minutes in length. The course meets from Monday to Thursday for five weeks.

Attendance

Summer school is very intense and to be successful, students need to attend every class. Occasionally, due to illness or other unavoidable circumstance, a student may need to miss a class. UIBE policy requires a medical certificate to be excused. Any unexcused absence may affect the student's grade. Moreover, UIBE policy is that a student who has more than 1/3 of the class in unexcused absences will fail the course.

Grading Policy

Assignments and examinations will be graded according to the following grade scale:

- A 90-100
- A- 85-89
- B+ 82-84
- B 78-81
- B- 75-77
- C+ 72-74
- C 68-71
- C- 64-67
- D 60-63
- F below 60



In this course, grading will be based on the following:

- ◇ 10% attendance and participation
 - ◇ 60% Two Midterms
 - ◇ 30% Final
 - *Total: 100%*
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- Students are required to attend and participate in discussions.
 - You will gain writing skills through periodic in-class writing assignments, which will measure your mastery of the readings and comprehension of the lectures, and which will be the basis for our classroom discussions.
 - No make-up exams will be given, unless you have a medical documentation.

General expectations

Students are expected to:

- ◇ Attend all classes and be responsible for all material covered in class and otherwise assigned. Any unexcused absence may impact a student's grade.
- ◇ Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class
- ◇ Review the previous day's notes before class; make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading
- ◇ Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to class during class (不要用手机)
- ◇ Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time

Course Schedule

The planned schedule sketched out below may be modified to suit the interests or abilities of the enrolled students or to take advantage of special opportunities or events that may arise during the term.

WEEK ONE (May 29– June 1): Introducing Key Ideas to the Fundamentals of Sociology

Mon, 5/29: Introductions to this class and to the members of the course, Introductory Lecture on the fundamentals of sociology
Tues, 5/30: Chapter 1, The Sociological Perspective
Wed, 5/31: Chapter 2, Sociological Investigation
Thurs, 6/1: Chapter 3, Culture

WEEK TWO (June 5-8): Understanding Social Differences through Sociology

Mon, 6/5: Chapter 8, Sexuality & Society
Tues, 6/6: Chapter 9, Deviance
Wed, 6/7: **Exam #1**
Thurs: 6/8: Chapter 10, Social Stratification

WEEK THREE (June 12-15): Key Social Institutions

Mon, 6/12: Chapter 11, Social Class
Tues, 6/13: Chapter 12, Global Stratification
Wed, 6/14: Chapter 13, Gender Stratification

Thurs, 6/15: Chapter 14, Race and Ethnicity



WEEK FOUR (June 19-22): Key Institutions

Mon, 6/19: **Exam #2**
Tues, 6/20: Chapter 16, The Economy and Work
Wed, 6/21: Chapter 18, Families
Thurs, 6/22: Chapter 20, Education

WEEK FIVE (June 26-29): The Dynamics of Social Change

Mon, 6/26: Chapter 22, Population, Urbanization, and the Environment
Tues, 6/27: Chapter 24, Traditional to Postmodern Societies
Wed, 6/28: **Review for Final Examinations**
Thurs, 6/29: **Final Examinations**

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty. Specifically, unless otherwise directed by the professor, students may not consult other students, books, notes, electronic devices or any other source, on examinations. Failure to abide by this may result in a zero on the examination, or even failure in the course.

Students are also expected to adhere to appropriate scholarly conventions in essays and research papers. This class includes writing assignment(s) in which students must give credit to all outside sources used by means of citations and a bibliography. Failure to do so may result in a zero on the paper assignment, or even failure in the course.