

Introduction to Sociology 101

Spring 2016

Instructor: Maryann Touitou, MA Human Relations

Course: Sociology 101 meets for 3 weekends in room 2533
Friday, February 12 through Saturday February 27
3 credit hour course

Email: maryann.touitou@rrcc.edu, 303.914.6571

Office hours: My working hours are Monday – Friday. I am on campus until 7:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please call or email me if you need to set up an appointment.

Required Text: “Introduction to Sociology: A Collaborative Approach”, 4th edition. If you do not have a text, please order through the bookstore ASAP.

What is Introduction to Sociology?

*This Introduction to Sociology course provides students an opportunity to explore the working of U.S. society and other cultures. Some of the topics we will study are: poverty, stereotypes, gender inequality, racial discrimination and criminal behavior. **Sociology is the scientific study of society. Sociology provides an explanation of how we live, why we live a particular way and what difference does culture and stratification (inequality) make to people.***

How will we study Sociology? By “doing Sociology” we investigate how social issues go beyond the lives of individuals; issues that individuals cannot resolve without the combined efforts of others. For example, homelessness is an individual issue for the person that is homeless, but the homeless situation is a public or community issue when large numbers of homeless people exist. The job of Sociology is to explain how homelessness is created due to an insufficient supply of low income housing, periodic unemployment, changing job opportunities, and many other social factors. Wandering sadhus in India lead solitary lives believing that the shortest way to enlightenment is the life of a mendicant. But even the sadhu is dependent on who puts anything in their begging bowl on any given day.

Course Description: Examines the basic concepts, theories, and principles of sociology as well as human culture, social groups, and social issues of age, gender, class, and race.

Course Content and Objectives: Ultimately, sociology is more than the sum of its theoretical and research parts. Sociology is a perspective from which to view human behavior. Central to this perspective is the assumption that human beings are essentially social. In other words, we can only understand human behavior by examining the nature of an individual’s relationship to others and the larger structural and historical contexts within which people act and think.

The major objectives of this course, therefore, are to stimulate your sociological imaginations, acquaint you with the discipline, and help you gain insight into the nature and operation of societies.

Course Work:

Attendance: Regular attendance at all class meetings is required. We meet for a short time, it is very important to be at all class meetings

.Reading Assignments:

Please stay on top of the reading assignments. We will be discussing the reading material in most classes and I expect you to actively participate in the class discussions and activities. Any reading outside of the book, I will provide.

Class Participation and Homework:

I expect everyone to participate in class discussion. We will often do group work and group exercises. Class participation and group exercises will be worth 200 points of your final grade. **The out of class assignments are Chapters 1-10 in the text. Please note, all work must be typed. I will not accept hand written work.**

Exams: There will be two exams in this class. These exams will be take home exams and are worth 100 points of your final grade (50 points each). We will discuss these the first night.

Written Work: There will be one final project. This assignment will be worth 150 points. I will discuss this assignment in class and hand out specific directions the first night of class.

You will be expected to read, think, write and contribute to class discussions; analyze, evaluate, and draw conclusions from readings and other course material; to do introductory research using sociological methods and language; to contribute ideas and effort; and to compare and contrast facts, concepts, perspectives, language and theories related to the course.

Breakdown on Grades	
Attendance	150 points
Class participation/Group exercises	200 points
Exams, including final project	250 points
	600 points

Total Point Breakdown	
540-600	A
480-539	B
420-479	C
360-478	D
Under 360	F

Final Comments/Course Policies: **I will not accept late work.**

Texting, using social media, playing games and other miscellaneous use of technology that is not in accordance with class work will not be condoned. You will be given ample breaks to use social media and technology for purposes other than classroom activities.

Respect of others is expected and essential for creating a positive learning experience. We don't all have to agree on everything, but we do need to express ourselves in a positive manner.

RRCC Policies and Procedures: Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity; admission to Red Rocks Community College implies that you agree to respect the rights of others and observe moral and civil laws. Interference with the normal process of education in the classroom or elsewhere on campus will be regarded as unacceptable conduct, warranting suspension or dismissal. Complete Student Code of Conduct is at this website:
<http://www.rrcc.edu/handbook/codeofconduct.pdf>

Our College is committed to preserving a safe and welcoming educational environment for all students. As part of this effort, I have an obligation to report certain issues relating to the health and safety of campus community members. I must report to the appropriate College officials any allegation of discrimination or harassment. Sexual misconduct, which includes sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, non-consensual sexual intercourse, and sexual exploitation, is considered a form of discrimination.

In addition to reporting all discrimination and harassment claims, I must report all allegations of dating violence or domestic violence, child abuse or neglect, and/or credible threats of harm to yourself or others. Such reports may trigger contact from a College official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In almost all cases, it will be your decision whether you wish to speak with that individual. If you would like more information, you may reach the Title IX/EO Coordinator: **Deborah Houser, Assistant Director of Human Resources/Deputy Title IX Coordinator, 303-914-6224 or Deborah.houser@rrcc.edu**

Reports to law enforcement can be made at the Red Rocks Campus Police Department behind the Welcome Desk at the Main Entrance or rrpd.dispatch@rrcc.edu at 303-914-6394.

If you would like a confidential resource, please contact **Deborah Houser, Assistant Director of Human Resources/Deputy Title IX Coordinator, 303-914-6224 or Deborah.houser@rrcc.edu**

Further information may be found on the College web site: <http://www.rrcc.edu/human-resources/sexual-misconduct>

RRCC Disability Statement: ADAAA (Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973: Red Rocks Community College is committed to access for students with disabilities. If you are a student with a disability and need assistance or are interested in requesting accommodations, please contact the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS). Faculty are not obligated to provide accommodations without proper notification by the OAS and accommodations are not retroactive. Students may contact the OAS staff by telephone or email to make an intake appointment at 303-914-6733. The OAS office is located in Suite 1182 at the Lakewood campus.

Plagiarism is grounds for failing an assignment or course and/or disciplinary action from RRCC. **DO NOT PLAGIARIZE.** Plagiarism means copying passages directly from the text or any other source, without quotation marks and citations. Summarize or paraphrase the information. If you paraphrase by rearranging the order of a sentence or words, then give credit for the source. No credit will be given for plagiarized papers and may be grounds for failure of the class.

***** **IMPORTANT** *****

This syllabus is the essential road map and cornerstone for this course. Because you are responsible for the requirements of this syllabus please clarify any information, which you do not understand, with the instructor as soon as possible.

Sociology 101: Anticipated Calendar of Events

This is a broad outline of class construction and may be subject to change due to: speaker availability, class questions/comments and the need of the instructor to adapt to the social construct of the class.

Fridays: 5pm – 10pm

Saturdays: 8am – 5:00pm

WEEK 1 Chapters 1 through 4: “An Introduction to Sociology” Our Class Norms, Society and Culture, Socialization, What is culture? What happens when norms are challenged: to individuals, groups and society? Rules among Classes, Application of Theories, Exam 1

WEEK 2 Chapters 5 through 7: “Social Structure and Social Interaction”, “Groups and Organizations”, “Deviance and Social Control”, return Exam 1, Our Class Norms revisited, Group dynamics and discrimination, Merton’s 5 Modes of Adaption, Exam 2

WEEK 3 Chapters 8 through 10: “Social Stratification in the United States and the World: Race and Ethnicity”, return Exam 2, Gender, Our Class Norms: how have they changed or evolved? Putting it all together: with the presentation of final projects.