

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY-220-601
Red Rocks Community College
Fall 2014

INSTRUCTORS: Sally Stablein, M.A., Sociology & Kelli Gilbert, M.S., Human Development & Family Studies

COURSE: Sociology 220, Section 601, meets 11/07/14 – 11/22/14

3 credit hours, room: West 2531

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OFFICE HOURS (Sally's office 2638), Tuesdays 12PM-2PM & Wednesdays 3PM-6PM and on; Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays I am available by appointment. I will be happy to meet with you anytime, just email me and we can arrange something or just come by during office hours. I will check class emails daily (except Saturday & Sunday☺). You will most likely get a quick response from me when emailing. If D2L is down you may email me at sally.stablein@rrcc.edu.

Communication: Please get in the habit of checking D2L while we are in this class. It's the fastest way for us to communicate any possible changes to you.

BOOKS:

All required readings will be posted in D2L

Recommended: Writing @ Red Rocks 3rd Edition

IMPORTANT DATE:

Last day to withdraw for a refund November 7

WHAT IS Sociology of Religion?

In sociology of religion, we will examine world religions by focusing on sociological interpretation and explanation of the role of religion in human culture. In addition to culture, we will examine the interaction between society and religion, and a wide variety of religious beliefs and practices.

HOW WILL WE STUDY Sociology of Religion?

We will study the sociology of religion by laying the groundwork for understanding religion from a sociological perspective, taking several field trips, documenting our experiences, as well as through lecture, videos, and other thought-provoking assignments.

COURSE CONTENT, OBJECTIVES, & OUTCOMES

- Examine what sociology can tell us about religion.
- Identify types of religious beliefs among humans, including the origins of religion.
- Define terms related to religion from a sociological perspective.
- Analyze classical theories of religion.

- Explore the reasons that religious practices vary so greatly.
- Understand the difference between churches, sects, and cults.
- Articulate the way that religion interacts with politics.
- Critique the resurgence of fundamentalism worldwide.
- Differentiate the variables that promote secularization in some societies more than others.
- Discuss the role of religion in social control including behavior, thinking, and beliefs.
- Evaluate the role of religion in the distribution of power and inequality in society.
- Analyze how race, class, and gender are crucial variables in the consideration of religious practices.
- Examine the role of religion in the development of mores, norms, folkways, and values.
- Explore the convergence of religion and ethics.

The major objectives of this course, therefore, are to stimulate your sociological imagination, acquaint you with the discipline, and help you gain insight into the nature and operation of societies. In order to accomplish this task, we will examine many of the fundamental concepts, principles, and issues of concern to sociologists.

IV. COURSE WORK

Attendance

Regular attendance at all class meetings is required. We meet for a very 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 you will be expected to actively participate in class discussion. All readings will be posted in D2L.

Class Participation, Homework, & Exams

We expect everyone to participate in class discussions. There will be one final exam that will be handed out weekend 2 and will be due on Saturday, November 22. There will be other homework or in class assignments that will be discussed.

Written Work/Oral Presentation

There will be one assignment that requires you to present with a group. This will be discussed the first night in 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; do introductory research using sociological methods and language; contribute ideas and effort; and compare and contrast facts, concepts, perspectives, language, and theories related to the course.

Grade Breakdown

Exam	100 points
Presentation	100 points
Attendance	100 points
Homework	100 points
Reflection papers on field trips	100 points

450-500	A
400-449	B
350-399	C
300-349	D
Under 300	F

V. FINAL COMMENTS

RRCC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity: Admission to the Red Rocks Community College implies that you agree to respect the rights of others and observe moral and civil laws. Interference with the normal processes of education in the classroom or elsewhere on the campus will be regarded as unacceptable conduct, warranting suspension or dismissal. Complete Student Code of Conduct is at this web site:

<http://www.rrcc.edu/handbook/codeofconduct.pdf>.

Special Needs Notification: Red Rocks Community College, in compliance with federal guidelines, is committed to equal educational opportunity by assuring otherwise qualified students with disabilities equal access to RRCC programs and activities that are provided to students without disabilities. An otherwise qualified person with a disability is a student who meets the academic and technical standards required for admission or participation in all educational programs and activities.

Eligibility

To ensure the provision of reasonable and appropriate services at Red Rocks, students with disabilities must identify themselves in a timely manner to the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Room 1182, Learning Commons, 303-914-6733, in order to be eligible for the requested accommodation(s). Current and comprehensive documentation must be on file with the office prior to approval of the accommodation.

This Accommodation Certificate identifies the services that you are authorized for this semester, for this class. It is your responsibility to maintain your status as a student to be sure your services are in place. Accommodations are re-authorized every semester for every class.

It is strongly encouraged that students self-disclose their need for accommodations at the beginning of their academic experience because accommodations are not retroactive.

RRCC will provide accommodations for qualified students with disabilities through communication with your instructor(s) via an Accommodation Certificate. To request accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at your earliest convenience

Grade of Incomplete: An "I" indicates that the course objectives are not yet fulfilled. It is the responsibility of the student to request, if needed, the assignment of an incomplete grade. The instructor's decision to authorize or not authorize an incomplete grade is final. The student must have completed 75% of the class with a C or better, and must complete the rest of the work with the same instructor. Arrangement for the completion of the course must be made with the instructor prior to the assignment of the "I" grade. This agreement must be written on a Contract for Incomplete Grade Form. The instructor may allow up to one full semester for the student to complete missing requirements. "I" grades not changed by the end of the following semester will automatically become failing grades (F). **We rarely give incompletes.**

Plagiarism: 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.**

LATE WORK

Late work will not be accepted.

VI. ANTICIPATED READING CALENDAR

WEEKEND 1: We will meet Friday from 5PM-10PM and Saturday from 8AM-5:30 PM

11/07/14

- Introductions; review of syllabus, class assignments, & class field trips.
- Introduction to Sociology and to the Sociology of Religion.
- How sociologists study religion.

- Do reading in D2L on basic sociological concepts on Religion (The Sociology of Religion & Soc Perspectives)
- Conceptual and theoretical basics (see list of topics under “Course Content, Objectives, & Outcomes,” above)

11/08/14

- Lecture and discussion of readings
- Lunch from 12:30-1:15

WEEKEND 2: We will meet Friday from 5PM-10PM and Saturday from 8AM-5:30 PM

11/14/14

We will meet from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Colorado Muslim Society, 2071 S. Parker Road Denver, CO 80231.

Please do not be late and dress appropriately. This will be discussed in class.

11/15/14

- Lecture and discussion of readings
- Lunch from 12:30-1:15

WEEKEND 3: We will meet Friday from 5PM-10PM and Saturday from 8AM to 5:30 PM.

11/21/14

We will meet Friday, November 14, at 6:45 pm at Denver Temple Sinai 3509 S. Glencoe Street, Denver, CO 80237 – please dress appropriately.

11/22/14

We will meet Saturday, November 22, at 10:30 am at Scientology of Denver, 2340 Blake St. Denver, CO 80205.

Afterward, we will return to campus for:

- Lunch
- Final Presentations