

Principles of Sociology Soc 107

M-F Farrell Hall 105 9am to 9:50am & 1pm to 1:50pm

Instructor: Keri Bailey-Gregerich

Class Time/Room: Farrell Hall Room 105, 9am and 1pm Daily

Office: Farrell Hall Room 427.

Office hours: Monday thru Thursday 10am to 11am or by appointment

Contact Info: My phone number 963-2204. My email baileygk@cwu.edu

Teaching Assistant: Kevin DeVries devriesk@cwu.edu FH #424 For 9am class

Teaching Assistant: Brian Novotne novotneb@cwu.edu FH #424 For 1pm class

Texts:

1. McIntire, Lisa J. The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology 3rd Edition
2. McIntire, Lisa J. The Practical Skeptic: Readings in Sociology 3rd edition
3. Manhard, Stephen J. The Goof Proofer

This course is designed to introduce you to the discipline of sociology. The intention is to provide you with opportunities to learn the basic concepts and perspectives that sociologists use in their work. More specifically, we will examine the nature of human society, social behavior and the roles played by groups, organizations, institutions and cultures. Ultimately, the goal of the course is to share with you the *power* of sociological thought. Attention will be given to various types of social differences (e.g. cultural and social class differences and race, ethnicity and gender); how these have developed and the impact they have on people in society. So, what's in it for you? The best thing about the study of sociology is that it can benefit any student—regardless of intended major and career.

! First, one of the important lessons of sociology is that “things are not always what they seem to be.” Sociological training encourages people to look beyond the surface; to be suspicious of what “everybody” knows. Again, it hardly matters what sort of career you are working toward: Learning to be skeptical and to think analytically will help you to understand and resolve complex problems on the job and in life.

! Second, understanding how social institutions work, how power is used in organizations and how social inequality comes about (and its impact on people), will give you a head start on success in the “real world.”

! Finally, there will be opportunities for you not only to actively listen and read, but to speak and write about complex issues. Because of this, your experiences in this course will help develop skills that will be useful to you throughout college, in your career and life!

“People who like to avoid shocking discoveries, who prefer to believe that society is just what they were taught in Sunday School, who like the safety of the rules and maxims of world taken for granted should stay away from sociology...”

- Peter Berger, 1963

Required Stuff

☐ *The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology*, by Lisa J. McIntyre

The chapters in this book will introduce you to the concepts that are most important in the sociological study of society.

☐ *The Practical Skeptic: Readings in Sociology*, Lisa J. McIntyre (ed.)

This is the course reader—it's a collection of articles written by sociologists and other social observers. We will be reading from this book throughout the Quarter.

☐ A good dictionary & The Goof Proofer

Sociologists have great vocabularies. Owning a dictionary will not only help you to understand the readings, but to acquire an equally impressive linguistic repertoire. If you didn't bring one to college, buy one!

☐ An Open Mind!

"Sociology owns a proper place not only among the sciences, but also among the arts that liberate the human mind." Robert Bierstedt, "Sociology and Humane Learning," *American Sociological Review*, 1960, xxv:3

Course Requirements

Your instructor expects you to do well in this class. I want you to learn the material (because I think it's important!), plus, I want you to earn good grades. I will do what I can to provide you with opportunities to succeed, but you will have to cooperate. Please make your decision early in the Quarter and *choose success!*

[Lecture] Attendance will be to your advantage if you wish to succeed in Sociology 107. Generally Monday thru Friday sessions will be devoted to lectures, discussion, videos etc. You should note that lectures generally contain information not found in course readings. The value of lectures to you will be enhanced if you read the assigned materials prior to class meetings. Keep this in mind: *Even should you choose not to attend, you will be accountable for knowing materials covered in lectures.* Your lecture notes will be invaluable when it comes time to study for and write papers, assignments or exams.

10% Participation & Attendance. Your participation through active listening, watching videos and discussion or questions will provide you with opportunities to explore the nature of sociological concepts and perspectives and, in the process, increase your fluency in the language of sociology. Remember you can't participate if you are not in class!

20% Group & Other Class Exercises: Again these simply are designed to enhance your understanding and develop your sociological imagination. Group is generally scheduled for Fridays and cannot be made up.

50% Exams. There are two exams a midterm and a final. Exams will provide you with opportunities to integrate materials from lectures, readings, videos and discussion and to show off your knowledge and understanding of sociological materials. The format for these exams are take home essays.

If you encounter some emergency, contact the instructor as soon as possible except for extreme emergencies or through prior arrangements no late exams will be accepted

20% Writing and Critical Thinking Assignments. These assignments will help you learn to read, understand and write at a "college level." and enhance your understanding of the readings & lectures. They are to be typed, double spaced, 12 point font, 1 inch margins

Be sure to keep a copy of all assignments you turn in until you get back your graded copy, as papers do sometimes get "lost." You should also keep all your graded assignments until you receive your final grade for the course. Should you feel I made a mistake in grading you it will help to have these graded papers to make your case! No late or make-up work will be accepted after the last day of class.

Warning: Always Read the Fine Print

RESPECT: I will ask that you cooperate with my attempts to make things pleasant for everyone. In my experience, the key to a positive class experience is respect: for other students, the instructors, and for the academic process. What does respect mean in practical terms?

! Timely arrival and departure: Class will begin promptly at 9:00 and conclude at 9:50. At 9:00 we expect you to be in your seat, ready to begin and prepared to stay until the end of class. Coming late and leaving early are disruptive behaviors and will not be tolerated. So, do not arrive late and do not leave early. If, for some extraordinary reason, you must leave early, please notify the instructor *before* class begins. *If you have class, job or child care conflicts and expect that getting to class on time or staying for the entire session is going to be a problem for you, please let me know. I will make arrangements with you.*

! Peace and Quiet: Please do not attempt to carry on conversations with other students during class. Even whispering creates a distracting buzz. We will be pleased to remind you of this **norm** as necessary.

! Please turn off your cell phones and beepers!

! No personal attacks or interruptions during discussion or when another person is speaking

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: If you have a documented disability or If you require some special assistance during class and/or exams, let me know as soon as possible so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: In addition to, but *not instead of* assigned readings, you may wish to consult other sources (including discussing assignments with other students). This is acceptable but is not required. However, in all instances, you must do your own work and credit must be given where credit is due. There is no excuse for plagiarism, for submitting another's work, ideas, or wording as your own. *If you plagiarize, or otherwise cheat, on any assignment, you will receive a failing grade for the course.*

Finally, I promise to try to make every effort to offer lively lectures, to stimulate engaging debate and provide you with thought-provoking assignments. In return, I ask only that you stay awake, make an effort to appear interested in what's going on, and submit your best work.

Welcome to Sociology! Have fun learning to be a sociological detective.

Grades for assignments, exams, and the course itself follow a fairly standard break-down.

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 95 – 100% A | 77 – 79% C+ |
| 90 – 94% A- | 74 – 76% C |
| 87 – 89% B+ | 70 – 73% C- |
| 84 – 86% B | 66 – 69% D+ |
| 80 – 83% B- | 60 – 65% D |

Soc 107 Very Tentative Schedule subject to extreme makeover!!!!

Week One

Part One: Introducing Sociology Initial Reading Assignments

Before the second class meeting, carefully read & study:

Sociology 107 class syllabus

Preface & Reading #1, *The Practical Skeptic—Readings in Sociology*

Preface, Introduction & Ch 1 *The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology*

Lecture topic: What is Sociology?

Brief History of Sociology

Assignments: Citing exercise due Monday

Week Two

Monday Citing Exercise is Due

By the end of the second week: You should have Read, understood, & prepared questions for;

The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology

Chapter 1: Responding to Chaos: A Brief History of Sociology

Chapter 2: The Sociological eye

Chapter 3: Science and Fuzzy Objects

Chapter 4: Who's *Afraid* of Sociology?

The Practical Skeptic: Readings in Sociology

Reading 1: Mills, "The Promise"

Reading 2: Coontz, "How History and Sociology Can Help Today's Families"

Reading 3: McIntyre, "Hernando Washington"

Lecture Topics: Finish History

Social Facts

Sociological Imagination/ Skepticism

Levels of analysis, Paradigms & Theory

Assignments: Group Ex Tech

Writing & Critical Thinking #1

Week Three:

The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology

Chapters 5 & 6

The Practical Skeptic: Readings in Sociology

Readings # 4, 5, 6, & 7

Lecture Topics: Science, Terms & Methods of Research

Issues & ethics

Video "Quiet Rage"

Assignments: Writing & Critical Thinking #2

Group Ex & Discussion

Week Four & Five:*The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology*

Chapter 7

The Practical Skeptic: Readings in Sociology

Readings # 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13

Lecture Topic: Culture

Language

Humor/Jokes

Assignments: Writing & Critical thinking #3

Midterm after Culture is done!!!!**Week Six:***The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology*

Chapter 8

The Practical Skeptic: Readings in Sociology

Readings # 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, & 19

Lecture Topic: Social Structure

Assignments: Writing & Critical Thinking #4

Week Seven & Eight:*The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology*

Chapter 9 & 10

The Practical Skeptic: Readings in Sociology

Readings # 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, & 26

Video "Wild Child"

Lecture Topic: Society, Social Institutions & Socialization

Assignments: Status paper

Writing & critical thinking #5

Week Nine:*The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology*

Chapter 12, 13, & 14

The Practical Skeptic: Readings in Sociology

Readings # 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, & 40

Video "Savage Inequalities"

Week Ten:*The Practical Skeptic: Core Concepts in Sociology*

Chapter 11

The Practical Skeptic: Readings in Sociology

Readings # 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, & 32

Video "War on Drugs"

Lecture Topic: Deviance & Social Control

Assignments: Drug Policy Ex.

Mandatory Syllabus Acceptance

This form must be detached from your syllabus, filled out, and submitted to the instructor before any of your assignments will be graded and given course credit.

Please print clearly.

Name: _____

Student ID: _____

Email: _____

I have read the syllabus & writing materials provided for Sociology 107. I understand the information and policies contained therein. If I don't currently understand, I have already scheduled time to meet with my instructor for clarification.

Signature: _____