

Principles of Sociology

SOC 107 online

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Online
5 units

COURSE INFORMATION

Welcome to Principles of Sociology. Sociology is the study of social interaction and human society. This course provides foundational concepts and tools that are vital for understanding and exploring the social world from a sociological perspective. In our day-to-day lives, we often experience the social world from a limited vantage point that is based on our own personal experiences, or the experiences of those with whom we are associated. We also often believe that our experiences accurately reflect reality as others experience it. This small-scale view is personally significant, but often does not capture the broader social reality, which is only evident in large-scale patterns. These broader patterns are only visible by moving beyond our individual lives and examining the ways that society shapes our lives differently depending on how we fit into the puzzle. Sociology thus seeks to understand how social forces shape individual and group experiences. These social forces include, for example, social institutions such as family, education, law, gender, race, and media, among others. Throughout this course, students will develop the ability to think like sociologists by questioning their taken-for-granted realities, and recognizing the powerful influence of social forces. Students will also gain exposure to the theories and research methods that sociologists use to study the social world scientifically—a process that reveals broad social patterns and illuminates the relationship between individuals and society.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Catalog Description

An introduction to the basic concepts and theories of sociology with an emphasis on the group aspects of human behavior.

Writing Designation

This course is designated as writing-focused. This means that students participate in writing opportunities that are assessed for content and mechanics (grammar, spelling, punctuation, organization). Additional writing assistance is available at the Writing Center (<http://www.cwu.edu/learning-commons/university-writing-center>).

COURSEWORK HOURS

Every credit hour of coursework carries an expectation of 3 hours of work (i.e., class time, reading, assignments, studying, etc.) per week.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the core elements of sociological study, including:

- The “sociological imagination” as a tool for uncovering how personal experiences are shaped by social forces within a given historical context, and the ways in which individuals and social forces shape, reinforce, and change on another
- Socialization and its sources
- The ways in which society constructs taken-for-granted realities
- The history of sociology, including its major social theorists and theories
- The research methods used by sociologists to study the social world
- Major social institutions and their influences on social life
- Patterns of inequality, including those shaped by race, gender, social class, and other statuses

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Learning Outcome

Identify and describe various theoretical perspectives on society and individuals.

Identify and describe various methodological approaches used in sociology.

Demonstrate knowledge about how social conditions shape individual behavior.

Apply the sociological perspective in analyzing social reality.

Recognize similarities and differences between sociology and other social science disciplines.

Assessment

Students take online quizzes, demonstrating ability to discuss basic sociological concepts and theories.

Students explore methodologies via readings, lecture, and videos.

Students participate in class discussions and complete written assignments that explore connections between individual life and social forces.

Students discuss the contributions of sociology to the understanding of social phenomena. They also use the sociological imagination to analyze and discuss their own life by using the sociological imagination.

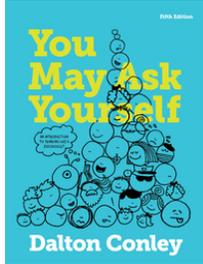
Students compare and contrast the sociological approach and other disciplines’ approaches to particular topics.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

REQUIRED READING

Reading course materials is vital for success. You are responsible for thoroughly reading the assigned materials, integrating the information into assignments and discussions, and studying the materials in preparation of quizzes and exams. Taking notes on readings is highly recommended. Your notes will help to remind you of important points and allow you to locate information quickly.

The required textbook for this course is:



Author	Dalton Conley
Title	You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking Like a Sociologist
Edition	5 th edition
Year	2017
ISBN	978-0-393-61427-5
Publisher	W.W. Norton
Web page	http://books.wwnorton.com/books/webad.aspx?id=4294992874

Additional required readings are available online via Canvas.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities to practice and test their knowledge of the readings by utilizing the resources available online via the textbook publisher. The Digital Resources link accompanies the required textbook and provides study tools for students. The Everyday Sociology Blog offers opportunities to see how Sociology can be used to understand the world on a day-to-day basis.

Digital Resources for Students: <https://digital.wwnorton.com/youmayask4>

Everyday Sociology Blog: <http://nortonbooks.typepad.com/everydaysociology>

NOTE-TAKING

Students are expected to take notes on all class lectures, discussions, activities, readings, and videos. All information encountered in the course, in any form, may be represented on any form of evaluation. Students benefit by developing a thorough understanding of each topic and by incorporating detailed information into any discussion. Your goal is to be able to discuss topics in the most informed and developed ways possible.

ATTENDANCE and PARTICIPATION

Regular attendance and participation (via virtual presence in the online class) greatly enhance student performance. Students who regularly engage with course materials perform much better on assignments and quizzes than students who participate less frequently.

ASSIGNMENTS

Discussion participation

Throughout the course, students participate in discussions about course topics. Guidelines for discussion participation are posted in Canvas. Discussion participation must be completed and submitted in Canvas by 11:59 p.m. on the specified due date. Late discussion participation is not accepted. **Note:** Because discussion participation partially depends on the contributions of others, you should check the discussion thread regularly and post as needed and as required by the guidelines. **Note:** There are usually multiple discussions (i.e., unique prompts) required for each week of material.

Reflections

Throughout the course, students participate in reflection writing. The specific kind of reflection assignment will vary. For example, some reflections may involve watching a film, exploring a website, reading a chapter or article that we do not formally cover in class, or other activities. All reflections involve a written component in addition to any specific materials that are assigned.

Guidelines for reflections are posted in Canvas. Reflections must be completed and submitted in Canvas by 11:59 p.m. on the specified due date. Late reflections are accepted but penalized by 25% on the earned grade. Late reflections must be submitted within one week of the original due date in order to earn credit; beyond one week, no credit can be earned.

Chapter Reflections (“Choose your own chapter”)

During two weeks, students choose another chapter from the textbook to read and reflect upon. The chosen chapters must **not** be formally covered during any other week in the course (check the course schedule to see what chapters are covered). Students write both a summary of the chapter and a reflection on the content of the chapter.

Guidelines for chapter reflections are posted in Canvas. Reflections must be completed and submitted in Canvas by 11:59 p.m. on the specified due date. Late reflections are accepted but penalized by 25% on the earned grade. Late reflections must be submitted within one week of the original due date in order to earn credit; beyond one week, no credit can be earned.

Course Paper

An important component of learning about the sociological perspective is the ability to apply your knowledge to topics beyond course materials. Throughout the quarter, students will analyze their own social locations and life experiences from a sociological perspective. Your professor will provide a detailed outline of the project and requirements.

All required portions of the paper must be completed and submitted in Canvas by 11:59 p.m. on the scheduled due date. Late papers are not accepted.

QUIZZES

Quizzes are designed to help you demonstrate that you have carefully studied course materials and are able to answer questions concerning their content. Quizzes are not cumulative in terms of specific questions being repeated on more than one quiz. However, the course materials build on each other. Thus, information that you learn early on will be necessary for understanding information that you learn later. Learning is cumulative.

Each assigned chapter is associated with a required quiz in Canvas. The questions include standard types of questions (e.g., multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, matching). Each quiz includes a random subset of questions from a larger pool of questions. Because the set of questions is randomly chosen, each student will not necessarily answer the exact same questions as every other student, although there will likely be some overlap as well, and all questions will draw on the same topics. Students have 25 minutes to take the quiz; at the end of this time allotment, the quiz will automatically submit, unless the student has already submitted the quiz.

You may reference class materials, but may not work with others. In order to do well, you must read and study *before the quiz*. Do not assume that you will do well simply because you can use class materials.

You will not have time to look up every answer, so you must know most of the information beforehand. Use class materials only as a resource.

You may complete each quiz two times before the due date. Each attempt presents a new set of questions, and thus additional practice with the material and an opportunity to improve your score. Your highest score out of both attempts (before the due date) will represent your final score.

Quiz questions are graded for correctness. Quizzes must be completed and submitted in Canvas by 11:59 p.m. on the scheduled due date. Late quizzes are accepted but penalized by 25% on the earned grade. Late quizzes must be submitted within one week of the original due date in order to earn credit; beyond one week, no credit can be earned.

Reviewing Quiz Performance

Students are able to review their specific performances on weekly quizzes (question by question) online in Canvas, after the quiz is submitted.

CANVAS

Canvas is required for this course. You will use this online resource to access the syllabus (and any updated schedules), announcements, readings, handouts, assignments, videos, discussions, grades, and to submit work (<https://canvas.cwu.edu>). Students are expected to check Canvas on a daily basis in order to remain apprised of announcements, due dates, and other important information. Please review the information available at <http://www.cwu.edu/online-learning> > Online Student Support, in order to familiarize yourself with Canvas.

It is each student's responsibility to ensure that they have uploaded the correct file when submitting an assignment in Canvas; please double-check that you have submitted the correct file in Canvas. If you experience an issue with Canvas that potentially hinders your ability to complete work (e.g., online quiz) by the listed due date, contact your instructor immediately via email and describe the issue(s). If you are unable to submit an assignment via Canvas, or are unsure about whether a submission was successful, email your professor with a copy of your assignment as a back-up. Students who do not successfully submit work via Canvas, and who fail to send a copy via email, will not be granted leniency; the submission will not be counted and/or will be considered late (if re-submitted later).

If you experience ongoing problems with Canvas, please use any of the following technical support resources to find a solution.

Canvas Technical Support 24/7

- Toll Free Support Line: (877) 399-8897
- Email Canvas Support: support@instructure.com
- Finding Help with Canvas:
 - <http://www.cwu.edu/online-learning/canvas-help-and-support-students>
 - <http://www.cwu.edu/online-learning/finding-help-canvas-0>

LockDown Browser

LockDown Browser is required for all online quizzes. Campus lab computers are already equipped, but follow these steps to set up the browser on a personal computer:

1. Download LockDown Browser

- a. <http://www.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=715433924>
 - b. Be sure to do this well in advance, as download and installation times may vary.
2. Launch the browser.
 3. Sign in to your CWU account.
 4. Navigate to the course in Canvas.
 5. Select the quiz you wish to take and begin.

GRADING

Grades can be accessed by logging in to Canvas and clicking Grades in the navigation.

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage Range	GPA Credit	Transcript Explanation	Definition of letter grade / Policy statement
A	94-100%	4.0	Excellent	Meets all objectives of the course and fulfills all requirements; performs at a level that reflects excellence
A-	90-93%	3.7		
B+	87-89%	3.3	Good	Meets all objectives of the course and fulfills all requirements; performs at a high level
B	84-86%	3.0		
B-	80-83%	2.7		
C+	77-79%	2.3	Satisfactory	Meets all objectives of the course and fulfills all requirements; performs at a satisfactory level
C	74-76%	2.0		
C-	70-73%	1.7		
D+	67-69%	1.3	Marginal Pass	Makes progress toward meeting the course objectives; fulfills course requirements at a substandard level
D	64-66%	1.0		
D-	61-63%	0.7		
F	0-60%	0	Failure	Fails to meet the course objectives; does not fulfill course requirements

Grade Breakdown

Chapter Reflections (2 total)	<u>Percent</u>
Reflections (6 total)	8%
Discussion participation	22%
Quizzes (7 total; 15 points each)	30%
Course paper	30%
TOTAL	100%

COURSE POLICIES

SYLLABUS

Remaining enrolled in this course indicates consent to the guidelines, policies, and requirements outlined in this syllabus. Periodic changes to the course schedule may be necessary. Students will be

given sufficient notice of such changes. Students are responsible for following any current or revised schedules. Learning is flexible, and so is our academic itinerary.

ABSENCES and MAKE-UP WORK

There is **no make-up work** unless an absence reflects a legitimate reason (see below) and you provide documentation for the absence(s). You **must** either 1) contact me *before* the scheduled due date with documentation of the reason that will prohibit you from completing the work by or on the scheduled due-date, or 2) provide documentation of the extreme circumstances that prohibited you from completing the work by or on the scheduled due-date.

If you know in advance that you will need to miss work that has an associated due date, contact me at least one week in advance to provide documentation and to schedule a time to turn in the work. If you miss coursework unexpectedly, you must contact me within **one week** explaining the reason for the absence, providing documentation or stating your intention to do so, and making arrangements for how/when the work will be made up. Failure to make this contact within one week (barring extreme circumstances) will forfeit any associated grade points.

Legitimate reasons for missing due dates for coursework **only** include extreme illness, injury, surgery, hospitalization, death of someone close to you, accidents, other unpreventable and unpredictable rare events, disability-related concerns, military service, court appearances, religious observance, or participation in university-approved activities. You **must** have written documentation for all absences for which you wish to be able to make up work (e.g., medical release form, funeral program, court document, etc.). **Do not** ask to be excused or to make up work for coursework that you miss due to vacations, “personal days,” missing your alarm, getting lost, or any other reason. You cannot make up work for (potential) full credit in these cases.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

In order to foster an environment that maximizes learning and prioritizes basic respect for others, students are required to uphold the following codes and practices:

- The Student Conduct Code in its entirety.
 - <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=106-125>
 - https://www.cwu.edu/trustees/sites/cts.cwu.edu.trustees/files/OTS-7344.2_1.pdf
- Treat the course and all classroom participants with courtesy and respect.
 - Abstain from the following:
 - Dominating conversations. Make space for others to contribute.
 - Derogatory or sarcastic comments or devaluation aimed at others (students, professor, guests) in any way or form
 - Derogatory or sarcastic comments or devaluation of the course, class structure, and other course-related components in any way or form

Students who fail to practice appropriate classroom etiquette will face disciplinary action at the professor’s discretion. The first violation is subject to a verbal or written warning directed to the student. In the event of a second violation (or a severe first violation), any of the following actions (in isolation or in combination) are taken at the professor’s discretion:

- 1) An official university report is filed.
- 2) The student is asked to leave the classroom (or is removed by authorities). Students who are removed from the class are not permitted to return to any future class sessions until they meet with the professor and/or chair of the department and/or a representative from Student Success, at the professor's discretion. During the period of removal from the classroom, the student is not welcome to attend class sessions and forfeits any associated grade points that might otherwise have been earned during the period of removal from the classroom.
- 3) The student is officially dropped from the course.
- 4) The student is subject to university-authorized disciplinary measures, including probation, suspension, or expulsion.

COMMUNICATION ETIQUETTE

Students may use their official CWU email account to correspond with the professor about course-related questions. Email messages from non-CWU accounts will not be addressed. Please abide by the following guidelines when using email to correspond about a course:

- Identify your full name and the course in which you are enrolled.
- Allow at least 24 hours for a response during the week.
 - During weekends, I am often able to provide a response; in the event that I am unable, you will receive a response on the next day on which the university is open. Do not necessarily expect responses during holidays; I will provide responses as I am able.

If your question is easily answered by information contained in the syllabus, I will refer you to the syllabus.

When communicating with any college/university instructors, the proper title is "Professor." You may also refer to me as "Dr." Please do not use titles such as Ms., Miss, or Mrs. My last name is pronounced *Sam-blah-nay*.

Please exhibit courtesy and respect when interacting and communicating with everyone who is a member of the CWU campus (as well as people in all social situations and contexts outside of CWU).

GRADE BOOK

Students must retain all written and printed work (including the original computer document/file) throughout the quarter. In the rare event that a grade for completed work is not saved in the Canvas grade book, a student must be able to produce the physical copy of the work in order to receive credit. For printed (typed) work, the physical copy must include your professor's original written feedback; re-printed copies will not be accepted. For online submissions, the computer document/file must be provided.

UNIVERSITY CLOSINGS and CLASS CANCELLATIONS

In the event of an official university closing, students will be notified via an announcement in Canvas. Official university closings waive all student responsibilities for online work that is due through Canvas. Due dates will automatically be shifted to the next day that the university is open.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

REGISTRATION

University policy requires all students to be officially registered in each class they are attending. Students who are not officially registered for a course by published deadlines should not be attending classes and will not receive credit or a grade for the course. For information about registration and withdrawal dates, access the Academic Calendar (<https://www.cwu.edu/registrar/course-information>).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to maintain academic integrity by avoiding dishonesty, cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication, and by reporting any violations to their professor. Academic honesty will not be tolerated in any form. Students identified as having violated academic honesty will fail the specific course requirement and be referred to the appropriate academic authorities. A list of prohibited student conduct, including academic dishonesty, is available at the Washington State Legislature website, WAC 106-125-020 (<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=106-125-020>)

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with what constitutes academic dishonesty. Regarding plagiarism, specifically, students are responsible for asking any questions *before* submitting written work. Use the following resource to understand plagiarism: <http://libguides.lib.cwu.edu/content.php?pid=644922>.

Consequences of academic dishonesty may include a warning, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion (WAC 106-125-030, <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=106-125-030>).

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITIES

Central Washington University is committed to creating a learning environment that meets the needs of its diverse student body. If you anticipate or experience any barriers to learning, discuss your concerns with your professor. Students with disabilities should contact Student Disability Services to discuss a range of options to removing barriers in the course, including accommodations. Student Disability Services is located in Hogue 126. Call (509) 963-2214 or email ds@cwu.edu for more information.

SCHEDULE

Our course schedule is subject to changes. Any necessary changes to the schedule that affect due dates will be announced and an updated schedule will be provided on Canvas.

All materials relevant to each week of material are available in Canvas. Materials include readings, lecture slides, videos, discussions, reflections, and quizzes.

All assignments must be completed and submitted in Canvas by 11:59 p.m. on the scheduled due date. Each new section of material begins on a Monday, and the assignments for each section are due on a Sunday (except for the last week, when they are due on Friday).

Schedule					
Week	Dates	Days	Topic	Reading	Assignment
1	Jan 3-6	W-Su	Chapter 1: The Sociological Imagination	Invitation to... The Promise Keepin' it Cool Chapter 1	Introduction The Promise Questions (not graded) Discussion
2	Jan 7-13	M-Su	Chapter 1 (continued)	Chapter 1	Discussion Quiz Ch. 1 Reflection
3	Jan 14-20	M-Su	Chapter 2: Methods	Chapter 2	Worksheet (optional) Quiz Ch. 2
4	Jan 21-27	M-Su	Chapter 3: Culture and Media	Chapter 3	Discussion x2 Quiz Ch. 3 Reflection
5	Jan 28-Feb 3	M-Su	Chapter 4: Socialization and ...	Chapter 4	Discussion x2 Quiz Ch. 4 Reflection
6	Feb 4-10	M-Su	<i>Choose your own Chapter</i> Course paper: review guidelines		Chapter reflection
7	Feb 11-17	M-Su	Chapter 7: Stratification	Chapter 7	Discussion x2 Quiz Ch. 7 Reflection
8	Feb 18-24	M-Su	Chapter 8: Sex and Gender	Chapter 8	Discussion x2 Quiz Ch. 8 Reflection
9	Feb 25-Mar 3	M-Su	Chapter 9: Race and Ethnicity Course paper: begin work	Chapter 9	Discussion x2 Quiz Ch. 9 Reflection
10	Mar 4-10	M-Su	<i>Choose your own Chapter</i> Course paper: continue working		Chapter reflection
11	Mar 11 Mar 12 Mar 13 Mar 14 Mar 15	M T W Th F	Study day FINAL EXAM WEEK		Course paper

