Monday/Wednesday/Friday  8-9:20 AM

Instructor: Bret J. Lathwell

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Office Hours: Before and after class, and as scheduled.

Section Information: SOCI 1311.003 – Introduction to Sociology

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Monday/Wednesday/Friday  8-9:20 AM.

UH 10
A. Description of Course Content:
Sociology is the scientific study of human interaction. We will examine the intersection of culture, social organization and personality. We will also explore the natural process of cultural development, dissemination, assimilation, and the institutions of the group. Lastly, we will focus on the theoretical and methodological foundations of sociology, as well as the substantive areas.

B. Student Learning Outcomes:
✓ Understand the concept of the sociological imagination.
✓ Become familiar with the basic sociological perspectives: symbolic interactionism, structural functionalism, and conflict theory.
✓ Be able to explain how sociologists go about studying society (i.e., quantitative and qualitative research methods).
✓ Be able to distinguish between primary and secondary groups, role conflict and role strain, and ascribed vs. achieved status.
✓ Be able to define and apply the basic terms and concepts used in analyzing cultures.
✓ Understand the meaning and implications of socialization as the process of creating the person.
✓ Be able to apply the concepts of group structure and interaction to the study of formal organizations.
✓ Understand the central concepts of social stratification: class, caste, ascribed and achieved status, open and closed societies, and social mobility.
✓ Understand deviance as well as classical and contemporary perspectives on deviance.
✓ Be able to discuss the variety of family structures, using the concepts of kinship, family norms and the family life cycle.
✓ Understand the dynamics of domestic and global poverty.
✓ Understand key concepts in demography and urban sociology.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:
Society: The Basics, 13/E
John J. Macionis, Kenyon College
©2015 • Pearson • Paper, 648 pp
Published 01/02/2014 •


C. Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:
This course will consist of three scantron multiple choice exams. Each exam is worth 100 points. Your final grade will be calculated by simply dividing your point total by 300.

Students are also encouraged to participate in class discussions.
D. Attendance:
Attending class is highly recommended (Exam questions will be based on lectures, discussions, and films), and your attendance and participation will be reflected in your final grade.

E. Grading:
Final Grading Scale
A= 90 to 100%
B= 80 to 89%
C= 70 to 79%
D= 60 to 69%
F= 0 to 59%

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see “Student Support Services,” below.

F. Make-up Exams and in class assignments:
I will allow make ups for scheduled exams and any in class or credit assignments only with a legitimate justification (documentation may be required) for your absence and only if you contact me prior to the exam time. Make-up exams may be taken within one week of the test date and are your responsibility to schedule.

G. Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:
Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

H. Drop Policy:
Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do
not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/).

I. **Americans with Disabilities Act:**

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

J. **Title IX:**

The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

K. **Academic Integrity:**

Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.
L. **Electronic Communication:**

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at [http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php](http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php).

M. **Student Feedback Survey:**

At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," “seminar,” or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit [http://www.uta.edu/sfs](http://www.uta.edu/sfs).

N. **Final Review Week:**

A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

O. **Emergency Exit Procedures:**

Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and follow the sign to the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

P. **Student Support Services:**

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and
information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

**Q. The English Writing Center (411LIBR):**

Hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mondays-Thursdays, 9 am to 3 pm Fridays and Noon to 5 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Walk In *Quick Hits* sessions during all open hours Mon-Thurs. Register and make appointments online at http://uta.mywconline.com.

Classroom Visits, Workshops, and advanced services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information.

**R. Course Schedule/**

**Emergency Phone Numbers:** In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

Useful Links:

- Library Home Page http://www.uta.edu/library
- Subject Guides http://libguides.uta.edu
- Subject Librarians http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php
- Database List http://www.uta.edu/library/databases/index.php
- Course Reserves http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do
- Connecting from Off- Campus http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus
- Ask A Librarian http://ask.uta.edu

**S. Important Dates:**

*Students are encouraged to check all dates at the following link:*

Academic Calendar: https://www.uta.edu/uta/acadcal.php?session=20161

Exam 1: Wednesday, February 26, 2016
Spring Break March 14-March 19

Exam 2: Monday, March 28, 2016

Last Day to Drop April 1, 2016 by 4 PM.

Last Day of Classes: May 6, 2016

Final Exam/ Exam Three: **May 13: 8-10:30 AM** AM but please check the following link:

[http://www.uta.edu/records/_downloads/Records/Final%20Exam%20Schedule%20Spring%20202016dlw.pdf](http://www.uta.edu/records/_downloads/Records/Final%20Exam%20Schedule%20Spring%20202016dlw.pdf)

**T. Tentative Calendar of Classes and Assignments**

"As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. –BJL“

*Please check all dates for finals and holidays at:* [http://www.uta.edu/uta/acadcal.php](http://www.uta.edu/uta/acadcal.php)

- Jan 18: Introduction: Discussion of the historical background of sociology and its contemporary significance. Discussion of the macro theoretical perspectives in sociology: structural functionalism and conflict theory.
- Jan 25: Chapter 1: Discussion of the micro theoretical perspective: symbolic interactionism. Discussion of the foundations of social research. Qualitative research.
- Feb 1: Chapter 1: Quantitative Research: discussion of independent and dependent variables and the logic of hypothesis testing. Elements of culture. Discussion of norms, mores, folkways. Importance of language. Discussion of ethnocentrism.
- Feb 8: Chapter 3: Socialization: Theories from Psychology. Discussion of sociology's agents of socialization. Discussion of Michael Apted's *7-Up* series.
- Feb 15: Chapter 4: What is a role? What is a status? Social construction of reality and life as a play (dramaturgy).
- Feb 22: Chapter 5: Discussion of primary and secondary groups. Reference groups. Social organizations.
  - **February 26: Exam One: Chapters 1-5**
• **SPRING BREAK March 14-March 19**
  
  
  
• **March 28: Exam 2: Chapters 7-10**
  
  
  o **Last Day to Drop April 1 by 4 PM CST.**
  
  
• April 18: Chapter 15: Discussion of the demographic transition.
  
• April 25: Chapter 16: Social change, collective behavior and the post modern society.
  
• **MAY 6 2016 LAST DAY OF CLASSES**
  
• May 13: (8-10:30 AM) -- FINAL EXAM, Chapters 10 & 11; 13; 15-16. CONFIRM at the following link for the 2016 Final Exam Schedule:
  
  • [http://www.uta.edu/records/_downloads/Records/Final%20Exam%20Schedule%20Spring%202016dlw.pdf](http://www.uta.edu/records/_downloads/Records/Final%20Exam%20Schedule%20Spring%202016dlw.pdf)