Introductory Sociology

SOCI-1301

Full Term Fall 2017  Section 005.18073  3-3-0 Credits  08/28/2017 to 12/16/2017  Modified 08/22/2017

Contact Information

Faculty: Assistant Professor Terri Slonaker Mrs.

Email: tslonaker@alamo.edu
Office: MLC 608
Phone: 210.486.1333 or 486.1319
Website: http://www.alamo.edu/sac/soc/ (http://www.alamo.edu/sac/soc/)

Materials

Discover Sociology

Author: William J. Chambliss, Diana S. Eglitis
Publisher: Sage
Edition: 2nd
ISBN: 9781506396095
Availability: custom from on campus bookstore

Students may purchase or rent the book from vendors such as Amazon. See email from your professor about book and first week of class expectations.

Description

Introduction to the concepts and principles used in the study of group life, social institutions, and social processes. This course fulfills the Social and Behavioral Sciences foundational component area of the core and addresses the following required objectives: Critical Thinking, Communication, Empirical Quantitative Skills, and Social Responsibility.

Prerequisite(s)

INRW 0420

Outcomes

1 Demonstrate understanding of basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.
2 Demonstrate understanding of various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.
3 Demonstrate understanding of key concepts in sociology.
4 Demonstrate understanding of empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.
5 Demonstrate understanding of the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.
Means of assessment & measures will include: exams, projects, applied assignments/pop quizzes and class participation/attendance.

test 1  50 - 100 points

test 2  50 - 100 points

test 3  50 - 100 points

final (comprehensive)  50 - 100 points

Assignments (specific details provided during the semester) Attendance / Participation (discussions etc)  100 points each

90-100 A | 80-89 B | 70 - 79 C | 60 - 69 D | below 60 F

Points deducted for the following to include but not limited to:

leaving early, arriving late to class or not logging in to the on line learning platform; non-participation of discussion boards for on line classes and on campus classes; any behavior that violates the student code of conduct

(on campus students are required to participate and attend class; on line students are required to read and participate in discussion board topics; see specifics at end of course outline)

Refer to the college catalog for incomplete; for an I to be assigned, students must complete a certain percentage of work. Grades will not be changed once posted on your transcript. If you register for a class and do not do the work, you will receive an F; don't assume you will be dropped.

Internet classes: students must have RELIABLE internet access. Trouble tickets/help desk are required documentation for technical issues.

Be mindful of the W date.

Communicate with your professor.

Any late work will have points deducted.

All due dates, times etc are Central Time

Scores are NOT rounded up

Attendance is monitored via a sign up sheet for on campus courses and student activity report/ tracking for internet courses. Points are deducted for absences or non-participation.

Late arrivals to class are not tolerated. If a student is habitually late, the student will be dropped from the class regardless of current grade average.

Active participation is required for all Prof Slonaker's classes.

Accommodation letters must be received in a timely manner. Accommodations are not retroactive.

Students may be given consideration for the following circumstances: birth or death of a first degree relative (occurring during the semester) -- this includes partners; deployment of a first degree relative/partner. Documentation is required for consideration.

Students are responsible for: student conduct, knowledge of the academic calendar and being prepared for college level material

Make-up Exams for on campus students: . Make-up exams will be essay format and must be taken within one week from the original
exam date. Failure to take the make-up exam at that time will result in a grade of zero for that exam. No exceptions. It is your responsibility to get with your instructor for a make up exam appointment.

INTERNET students: due dates are posted for exams and assignments. If an exam is submitted after the due date, but before the cut off date, points are deducted. Once the cut-off date has expired, exams will not be re-opened.

Late assignments—will be accepted with a 30-50% penalty for next day submission. After the cut-off date, the assignment expires. No exceptions.

Schedule

Refer to the online platform calendar for due dates. Assignments submitted via CANVAS, exams are on campus/in class.

WEEK 1: intro and chapter 1—what is Soc?
WEEK 2: chapter 2 research
WEEK 3: culture and media
WEEK 4: socialization
WEEK 5: wrap up TEST 1
WEEK 6: chapter 5 groups and organizations
WEEK 7: chapter 6 deviance and crime
WEEK 8: chapter 11 family
WEEK 9: wrap up TEST 2
WEEK 10: chapter 7 social class
WEEK 11: chapter 9 race and ethnicity
WEEK 12: chapter 10 gender and sexuality and aging
WEEK 13/14: TEST 3
WEEK 14: presentations/reflections/bookend activities
WEEK 15: finish presentations get ready for final
WEEK 16: FINALS exam; begins promptly @ beginning of class; see final exam schedule or CANVAS for due date.

Honors section, Fall 2017.

Schedule is subject to change. Students will be notified of any changes. Your faculty may be called away from campus to include but not limited to: professional, civic or personal leave.

Additional Items

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Videos etc will supplement instruction, which will include be not limited to feature films, documentaries or internet videos. Some videos will contain mature adult content.

Class participation is measured via activity on discussion boards, logging in, class attendance and discussions for all classes.

Respect is paramount while dealing with sensitive topics.

Attendance: it is your responsibility to manage your enrollment status. YOU must officially withdraw yourself from the course. A sign up sheet will be distributed at the BEGINNING of class to verify attendance.

Module exams and a comprehensive final will be given during the semester. The exams will cover material in your text, outside readings, videos, class discussions and lectures. All topics covered in the chapters may not be discussed in class.

DUE DATES and times are Central Time (TEXAS time)
Make-up Exams for on campus students: Make-up exams will be essay format and must be taken within one week from the original exam date. Failure to take the make-up exam at that time will result in a grade of zero for that exam. No exceptions. It is your responsibility to get with your instructor for a make up exam appointment.

INTERNET students: due dates are posted for exams and assignments. If an exam is submitted after the due date, but before the cut off date, points are deducted. Once the cut-off date has expired, exams will not be re-opened.

Late assignments—will be accepted with a 30-50% penalty for next day submission. After the cut-off date, the assignment expires. No exceptions.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: Students may be subject to disciplinary proceedings resulting in an academic penalty for academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism and collusion. For additional information refer to the Student Code of Conduct in the San Antonio College Bulletin. Work cut and pasted from the internet will result in a zero for that activity. No exceptions.

ADA Statement for Students Requiring Special Accommodations: As per Section 504 on the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, if an accommodation is needed, students must make the request through the Disability Services office, 486.0020. Accommodations are not retroactive.

Absence from Final Exam: A student absent without permission from a final examination is graded “F.” (San Antonio College Bulletin, Faculty Handbook – January 1995). Under no circumstances will a grade of W or F or an I which has become an F be changed at a later date.

Student Responsibilities: The student is responsible for ensuring that she/he is familiar with school regulations and procedures as described in the San Antonio College Bulletin and must abide by the policies, procedures, and rules set forth in the “Student Code of Conduct”. The student is also responsible for punctuality in attendance, proper conduct, and academic integrity. It is the student's responsibility to contact their professor regarding absences and any other problems that may affect class performance. If you decide to drop the course, you must do so officially with the proper forms processed through Admissions and Records.

Electronic Devices: Students are required to silence all electronic devices when in classrooms, laboratories and the Library (College Academic Council).

Global Awareness: This class will encourage an understanding of the importance of diversity and differences that exist between individuals and groups through global and cultural awareness.

Department Retention Policy: The faculty members of the Sociology Department are committed to your successful completion of our classes without lowering the college's academic standards. As faculty (and former college student), we have discussed the many pressures that our students must face. Certainly, some of these issues are beyond your control. Although this syllabus is full of requirements and policies, I am not inflexible. Please do not stop coming to my class or drop the class without first talking with me. Be aware that dropping may impact your grade point average, financial aid, etc. I am here to help you, but you must be willing to help yourself. Do not wait until the end of the semester to ask for advice. When you are a successful student, I am successful as your instructor.

Class behavior (internet and on campus if applicable)
Do not engage in side conversations during the instructor’s lecture OR during input from fellow students—there will ONLY be one person speaking at a time

DO NOT TYPE IN ALL CAPS ON THE DISCUSSION BOARDS. THIS IS CONSIDERED YELLING : -)

Topics may be controversial; we can agree to disagree without being disrespectful

Your language and tone should be respectful

Turn all electronic devices to vibrate, silent alert, or OFF. Place all electronic devices in your book bag/backpack. Do not text during class, this behavior is distracting and will not be tolerated.

Use common sense and common courtesy with food and drink

Leave the classroom cleaner than you found it
If you violate class polices or the student code of conduct you may be asked to leave the class and/or withdraw from the course.

Evacuation: Leave in an orderly but efficient manner, taking all of your possessions with you. The building may not be cleared for occupancy for several hours. Do not use cell phones during the evacuation.

Administration, Faculty and Staff of San Antonio College are aware that our students face many challenges while pursuing a college degree. Some struggle to meet basic needs of food, shelter and clothing. Any student who believes this may affect his or her performance in the course is urged to contact the SAC Student Advocacy Center, which provides assistance to local resources and ongoing support. SAC has a one-of-a-kind food pantry called The Store, located in Chance Academic Center, Rm 323. Hours: Mon-Thurs 8am-7pm and Fri 8am-5pm Phone: 210-486-1003.

Institutional Policies

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. Attendance:

SmartStart. Student absences will be recorded from the first day the class meets, and beginning Fall 2014, students who do not attend the first scheduled class meeting or contact the instructor will be dropped. Students should verify the drop is completed.

For fully online courses, an attendance verification activity is assigned and must be completed by the 3rd class day.

Effective Spring Term 2010, student absences will be recorded from the first day the class meets. Regular and punctual attendance in all classes and laboratories, day and evening, is required. Students who are absent for any reason should always consult with their instructors. Course syllabi must provide specific information regarding attendance, including, for courses involving the internet, online activity that constitutes “attendance.” Also, both tardiness and early departure from class may be considered forms of absenteeism. In all cases, students will be held responsible for completion of course requirements covered in their absence.

Additionally, it is the student’s responsibility to drop a course for nonattendance. Course instructors establish policy with regard to attendance in their respective syllabi and may drop a student for excessive absences. Absences are considered excessive when more than 12.5 percent of the total contact hours of instruction in a semester, including lecture and lab, are missed. For example, in a three-credit-hour lecture class, students may be dropped after more than six contact hours of absences. In a four-credit-hour lecture/lab class, students may be dropped after more than eight contact hours of absences. Absences are counted regardless of whether they occur consecutively.

In special programs with additional accreditation or certification standards, additional attendance requirements may be enforced but faculty must clearly explain these policies in their syllabi. Students who stop attending class for any reason should contact the instructor and the college registrar to officially withdraw from the class. Students may be required to consult with an advisor or designee before dropping.

Failure to officially withdraw may result in a failing grade for the course. It is the student’s responsibility to withdraw officially from a class by submitting a completed Withdrawal Form to the Admissions and Records Office.

B. Early Alert and Intervention

Alamo College instructors care about students’ success in every course. During the semester, students may receive alert emails through the ACES account regarding their progress and ultimate success in a course. Upon receipt of the email, students are to contact the course instructor to discuss specific tasks or actions to improve success in this course. In addition, students will also need to meet with their Certified Advisor. Discussions with faculty and Certified Advisors allows the student to identify actions that will help to successfully complete course requirements at the colleges of the Alamo Colleges District.

C. Student Responsibility for Success (Alamo Colleges District Policy F.6.2):

As members of the Alamo Colleges District learning community, students, faculty, staff and administrators all share the responsibility to create an atmosphere where knowledge, integrity, truth, and academic honesty are valued and expected. A clear acknowledgment of the mutual obligations of all members of the academic community emphasizes this implicit partnership in fostering the conditions necessary for student success.
In this relationship, the Alamo Colleges District provides institutional policies, procedures, and opportunities to facilitate student learning that encourage interaction, involvement and responsible participation. Inherent in the academic climate is the expectation that students will assume responsibility for contributing to their own development and learning. Academic success is directly tied to the effort students put into their studies, the degree to which they interact with faculty and peers, and the extent to which students integrate into the campus life.

1. Engagement

1. Create connections and build relationships with faculty, staff and students (visit during office hours, join clubs and organizations, participate in student activities, etc.);
2. Stay informed of policies, procedures, deadlines and events for academic and co-curricular activities;
3. Complete all requirements for admission, registration, and payment by deadlines;
4. Apply for financial assistance, if needed, complying with all federal, state and local regulations and procedures;
5. Meet all federal, state and local health care regulations.

2. Communication

1. Seek guidance from faculty, advisors or counselors for questions and concerns in regards to degree plans, major selection, academic status, grades, and issues impacting college success;
2. Develop a peer support system to identify student contacts for questions, group assignments, etc. regarding academic and co-curricular activities;
3. Communicate with College personnel promptly regarding academic or co-curricular concerns and assistance requests;
4. Carefully consider the information provided by College personnel and make decisions using that information;
5. Check the Alamo Colleges District’s Web Services regularly for emails, holds, student records, financial aid status and announcements;
6. Submit disability documentation if seeking services and request academic accommodations in advance of each semester.

3. Academic Success

1. Complete courses with passing grades and maintain good academic standing (2.0 GPA) status;
2. Read and follow all syllabi;
3. Purchase textbooks and required supplies in a timely manner;
4. Attend classes regularly and on time, with as few absences, late arrivals, and early exits as possible;
5. Arrive to class with all needed materials and completed assignments for that class period;
6. Be attentive in class and actively participate as appropriate;
7. Devote sufficient time for studying;
8. Ensure integrity in all aspects of academic and career development;
9. Accurately represent one’s own work and that of others used in creating academic assignments. Use information ethically and exercise appropriate caution to avoid plagiarism on all assignments;
10. Notify faculty in advance or as soon as possible about absences and provide documentation as appropriate;
11. Consult faculty members in advance when unable to complete projects, assignments, or take examinations as scheduled.

4. Self-Responsibility and Responsibility to Others

1. Maintain accurate and complete degree/certificate major selection and contact information including name, address, phone number and emergency contact;
2. Balance personal obligations and educational pursuits. Work with a counselor / advisor to design a realistic schedule that dedicates adequate effort to be successful in college studies;
3. Know and follow the regulations and guidelines outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook;
4. Maintain respectful and appropriate behavior within and outside the classroom;
5. Ask for help when needed. Use all available resources and facilities provided by the College to enhance the learning experience;
6. Attend scheduled advising sessions, tutorials, and other appointments. Cancel or reschedule only with good reasons as early as possible;
7. Arrive prepared for tutorial sessions, bringing all needed materials (books, syllabi, rough drafts, calculators, assignment sheets, etc.).

D. Textbook Availability
A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

E. Licensed Concealed Campus Carry

No open carry of firearms is allowed on all property owned, controlled, or leased by the College District, including vehicles operated by the Alamo Colleges District. Concealed carry of a handgun by persons licensed to carry may not be restricted except in locations signed as prohibited areas.

- Special testing locations requiring a complete surrender of personal effects during testing will be signed as prohibited areas.
- Persons may be required to place their purse, backpack or briefcase away from their person, but within their view during tests at the direction of their instructor or test administrator.
- License holders carrying on campus intending to access prohibited areas must leave their weapons locked in their vehicles. College lockers are not authorized for storage of handguns by license holders.

Disciplinary Sanctions

Open carry, intentional display, unlicensed carry, and carry in spite of signed prohibition are subject to employee and student discipline, as well as possible prosecution. Unintentional display of a weapon by a license holder must be avoided. Police will exercise their enforcement discretion.

If you see a person openly carrying or deliberately displaying a firearm:

- Call the Alamo Colleges District Police 210-485-0911
- Do not confront the person or ask if the person has a permit

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS:

While other exams are given at the discretion of the instructor, a final assessment is given at the end of each semester for each course. The Final Exam Schedule changes with each term and differs from normal class meeting dates and times. See the Final Exam Schedule in the Catalog/Schedule of Classes in the left hand navigation bar.

A student who must be absent from a final evaluation should petition that instructor for permission to postpone the evaluation. A student absent without permission from a final evaluation is graded “0” on the exam.

Incomplete Grades. The conditional grade of “I” may be issued to a student having a passing average on all completed coursework but for a justified reason, such as illness or death in the family or by providential hindrance, has been prevented from taking the final examination or completing other required coursework. The “I” becomes an “F” in one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the end of the term unless the student completes the balance of the coursework with a performance grade of “D” or higher. Re-enrollment in the course will not resolve the “I.” The student and faculty must fill out an Incomplete Contract, clearly defining the work remaining to be finished.

COLLEGE POLICIES:

A. San Antonio College is a smoke free campus.

B. Alamo Colleges District Police Department Emergency Phone Numbers:

   Emergency Phone (210) 485-0911
   General Phone (210) 485-0099
   Weather Phone (210) 485-0189 (For information on college closures)

C. A Rapid Response Team exists for the purpose of responding to emergencies. If you have a disability that will require assistance in the event of a building evacuation, notify San Antonio College disABILITY Support Services, Chance Academic Center 124C, (210) 486-0020.
D. Students are required to silence all electronic devices (e.g., pagers, cellular phones, etc.) when in classrooms, laboratories and the library.

E. Students must abide by the policies, procedures and rules set forth in the "Student Code of Conduct" and all other policies set forth in the San Antonio E-Catalog.

F. Academic Integrity Policy: College personnel with administrative authority may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. "Scholastic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. See Student Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook for more details.

G. Children in the Classroom: Students should not bring children to a classroom or lab. Faculty members have the right to prohibit children from entering the classroom for safety reasons. Minors under the age of 12 must not be left unattended on campus, including the library. DPS will be notified that unattended children are in the library.

H. Mental Health Services: Free, confidential mental health counseling is available on campus from Melissa Sutherland-Hunt in Moody Learning Center 114. Mrs. Sutherland-Hunt can be reached by phone at 210-486-0397 or by email at msutherland7@alamo.edu.

I. Student Success Policy:

Disability Access Statement – In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, it is the responsibility of the student to self-identify with the campus Disability Services office. Only those students with appropriate documentation will receive a letter of accommodation from the Disability Services office. Instructors are required to follow only those accommodation and/or services outlined in the letter of accommodation. For further information, please contact the San Antonio College disABILITY Support Services office at (210) 486-0020 or visit the office located on the first floor of the Moody Learning Center. If you have specific needs, please discuss them privately with your instructor.

Marketable Skills—A student, through coursework at San Antonio College and attainment of a degree, will obtain the following marketable skills:

COMMUNICATION: A student will effectively convey and understand information verbally, in writing, and/or visually.

CRITICAL THINKING: A student will explore, identify, analyze, and evaluate issues, documents, and circumstances before teaching a conclusion.

EMPIRICAL AND QUANTITATIVE SKILLS: A student will generate, frame, and analyze data to make informed conclusions.

TEAMWORK: A student will be a flexible and resourceful team member who looks at different points of view and works with others to support a shared purpose or goal.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY: A student will connect personal choices, actions and consequences, with a commitment to excellence and success.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: A student will build rapport and establish competence within diverse multicultural settings.

PERFORMANCE: A student will create artistic or technical demonstrations through the means of self-expression, language, technology, and/or learned skills.

LEADERSHIP: A student will maintain a productive work environment and confidently motivate others to meet high performance standards.