Course Syllabus: Fall, 2014
Introduction to Sociology: Soc 100, Section Q21
Mondays & Wednesdays: 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm

Instructor: Tammy Werner                Telephone: 762-9481 (extension 62315)
Office: Quad Cities Complex # 2205     Email: tl-werner@wiu.edu

Office Hours: Mondays, 1-3 p.m.; Wednesdays, 5-6 p.m., Fridays, 12-1 p.m., or by appointment

Catalog Description:
100 Introduction to Sociology. (3) (General Education/Social Sciences) Basic sociological concepts and studies in such areas as culture, social organization, personality, family, and community. IAI: S7 900.

Course Overview:
Sociology is the systematic study of social behavior and human societies. This course will provide an overview of a wide range of topics covered in sociology. Sociologists examine not only how social structures shape our daily interactions but also how society constructs social categories and social meaning. Because it is impossible to expose you to the entire discipline of sociology in one semester, this course will introduce you to key sociological theories and concepts. Through readings, short assignments and discussions, you will begin to develop the “sociological imagination” necessary to understand both self and society.

Learning Objectives:
Each student who successfully completes the course will be able to:
1. Recognize differences between personal concerns and social issues.
2. Understand how each of the major theoretical perspectives in sociology views society differently.
3. Understand, at a basic level, the methods which sociologists use to gather data.
4. Use sociological concepts to understand the social influences in day-to-day life.
5. Develop and utilize critical thinking skills

Required Text:

Additional Resources:
Student Website (designed to accompany the text) is available at:

1 Correspondence with the instructor is encouraged. Feel free to stop by my office during office hours or make an appointment at a time that is more convenient for you. In addition, please use my zimbra email account (tl-werner@wiu.edu) for all email communication.
Course Requirements:

1. **Exams** (65% of course grade)
   There will be four exams this semester. The first exam is worth 5% of the final grade; The 2\(^{nd}\), 3\(^{rd}\), and 4\(^{th}\) exams are each worth 20% of the final grade. The 4\(^{th}\) exam will not be a comprehensive final exam. Exams may consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Students are encouraged to use the student website that accompanies the textbook.

2. **Course Activities** (20% of course grade)
   Students are expected to complete eight of the total twelve assigned short activities over the course of the semester. Activities may be assigned for completion in class or outside of class, individually or in small groups, and may involve a short response to a question, a news item, an application or example of a concept we are studying, or a brief response to a topic or film. A hard copy of the assignment must be submitted at the beginning of the class period noted on the calendar (see course website for specific instructions and due dates). *Late papers will not be accepted for this portion of the course grade.*

3. **Breaching Experiment** (15% of course grade)
   You are to conduct a “breaching experiment.” This project will require you to violate a social norm and to describe and analyze what happens in response to your norm violation. This experiment will involve collecting data, describing the data collection process, discussing your findings/relating the findings to course material, and reflecting on the experience. Detailed instructions will be made available the first day of class and are also available on the course website.
Grading.

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94% - 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>90% - 93%</td>
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<td>87% - 89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>84% - 86%</td>
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<td>80% - 83%</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<td>77% - 79%</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>74% - 76%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>70% - 73%</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>67% - 69%</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>64% - 66%</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>60% - 63%</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<tr>
<td>LESS than 60%</td>
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</tbody>
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Point Distribution

- Exam 1 (5% of course grade) 20 points
- Exam 2 (20% of course grade) 80 points
- Exam 3 (20% of course grade) 80 points
- Exam 4 (20% of course grade) 80 points
- Course Activities (20% of course grade) 80 points
- Breaching Experiment (15% of course grade) 60 points

Total: 400 points

Extra Credit:

I do allow students to submit short assignments for extra credit. In general, the extra credit points are earned through a) attendance at campus or community events, documented by a brief written summary. See the extra credit module on the course website. Student can submit a maximum of two extra credit assignments, each worth 5 points (for a total of 10 extra credit points).
Ground Rules and Policies:

It is expected that students will have completed the assigned readings prior to class. I will begin each class period with the assumption that all students are prepared.

You are expected to attend class regularly. The success of this course depends upon your active participation. I expect students to arrive on time, and to be in attendance during the entire class period. If you need to arrive late or leave early for a particular class period and have a valid reason (such as a job interview that can’t be rescheduled), please alert the instructor in advance. Students who are late for more than two classes should refrain from entering the classroom, as it is disruptive to the entire class.

Hard copies of the short activities responses must be submitted at the beginning of the class period in which they are due. Late assignments for this component of the course grade are not accepted.

A hard copy of the paper for the breaching experiment is due at the beginning of the class period noted in the course syllabus. Late papers are generally not accepted.

Students who miss an exam may make up the test if they provide documentation of a legitimate excuse. For purposes of this course, a legitimate excuse includes things like a death in the family, a mandatory court appearance, illness, or a religious observance. The make up exam will be taken at the WIU-QC Testing Center. It is the student’s responsibility to make the arrangements and notify the instructor.

I encourage a diversity of perspectives. However, I also expect students to be courteous and respectful of all members of the group. In addition, all students should be given the opportunity to participate. In other words, each student needs to monitor her/his level of participation to give other members of the group the opportunity to participate in the discussion.

Students are required to use the Western Online system for this course. Please check the course site frequently. Announcements and any notifications concerning the cancellation of a class will be posted on the course site.

Please turn your cell phone ringer off (with the exception of extenuating circumstances, such as a gravely ill family member). Cell phones, lap top computers, and other electronic devices are not necessary, thus not allowed on your desk during class.
Students with Disabilities should note the following WIU policy: “In accordance with University policy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. For the instructor to provide the proper accommodation(s) you must obtain documentation of the need for an accommodation through Disability Resource Center (DRC) and provide it to the instructor. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire about such particular needs of students. Students who may require special assistance in emergency evacuations (i.e. fire, tornado, etc.) should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow in such an emergency. Contact Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 298-2512 for additional services.”

Anti - Harassment Policy
Western Illinois University strives to provide an educational and working environment that is free from harassment for faculty, staff, and students. Harassment is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Incidents of harassment will be met with appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including separation or dismissal from the University. Any action taken as a result of a violation of this policy will be in accordance with the relevant collective bargaining agreements or University policies. The University’s policy on Harassment is available at: http://www.wiu.edu/policies/harassment.php

Academic dishonesty will be treated seriously. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited, to plagiarizing the worth of others, cheating on an exam, or purchasing an essay or term paper. Students are expected to review the University’s policies on academic dishonesty by the end of the first week of classes, available at: http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.shtml

Students’ Rights and Responsibilities. Students are expected to review the Rights and Responsibilities information by the end of the first week of classes, available at: http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students.php

A note about extra credit. I often allow undergraduate students to earn extra credit points. However, extra credit points cannot be earned unless all of the required assignments have been turned in. In other words, students cannot substitute extra credit for any of the required assignments.
Tentative Course Schedule
Soc 100: Q21

Week 1:
August 25
Introduction and overview of the course

August 27
The Sociological Perspective
READ: Chapter 1, pages 2-15

Week 2:
September 1
Labor Day – No Class!!

September 3
The Sociological Perspective
READ: Chapter 1, pages 15-40

Week 3:
September 8
How we know what we know
READ: Chapter 2, pages 42-67

September 10
Ethics in research
READ: Chapter 2, pages 67-72
ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES: Wrap Up and Review for Exam 1

Week 4:
September 15
EXAM 1

September 17
Society and culture
READ: Chapter 3, pages 74-94

Week 5:
September 22
Culture & media
READ: Chapter 3, pages 94-114

September 24
Becoming a social being
READ: Chapter 4, pages 116-132
Idea for breaching experiment is due

Week 6:
September 29
Becoming a social being
READ: Chapter 4, pages 132-150

October 1
Making connections
READ: Chapter 5, pages 152-165
Week 7:
October 6
Making connections
   READ: Chapter 5, pages 165-184

October 8
Mapping our social networks

Week 8:
October 13
Social control and deviance
   READ: Chapter 6, pages 187-214

October 15
Crime
   READ: Chapter 6, pages 214-234
   Breaching Assignment paper is Due at the beginning of class

Week 9:
October 20
EXAM II

October 22
Social stratification
   READ: Chapter 7

Week 10:
October 27
Gender stratification
   READ: Chapter 8, pages 279-309

October 29
Gender stratification
   READ: Chapter 8, pages 309-322

Week 11:
November 3
Racial stratification
   READ: Chapter 9, pages 325-347

November 5
Racial Stratification
   READ: Chapter 9, pages 348-371

Week 12:
November 10
Poverty
   READ: Chapter 10

November 12
EXAM III
**Week 13:**

**November 17**  
*The family*  
READ: Chapter 12

**November 19**  
*Education*  
READ: Chapter 13, pages 495-519

**Week 14:**

**November 24 & 26**  
*No Class – Fall Break!*

**Week 15:**

**December 1**  
*Education*  
READ: Chapter 13, pages 519-534

**December 3**  
*Capitalism and the economy*  
READ: Chapter 14, pages 537-542 AND pages 560-570

**Week 16:**

**December 8**  
*Authority and the state*  
READ: Chapter 15

**December 10**  
*Religion*  
READ: Chapter 16, pages 611-617 AND 641-656

**Week 17: Final Exam**

**December 17**  
The final exam for this course is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17th, 2014, 3:00 pm – 4:50 pm

**Have a Great Semester Break!**