Sociology 1001

Introduction to Sociology

Fall 2021

Lectures: Tu & Th 2:20 – 3:20 via Zoom

(recitation section also required)

Professor: Liam Downey, Ph.D.

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TA: Austin Fitzgerald, Austin.Fitzgerald@colorado.edu

**Office Hours**: Thursdays 3:20-4:00 p.m., via zoom, and by appointment

**\*\*You are responsible for knowing the information in this syllabus\*\***

**Recitation Sections**: You must be enrolled in a recitation section to be enrolled in this course. Recitation requirements and your TA’s office location and office hours will be announced in your first recitation section class.

**Course Description and Goals**: This course is an introduction to sociology as a way of understanding the world. Sociology is a field of study that explains social, political, and economic phenomena in terms of social structures, social forces, and group relations. I will introduce you to the field by focusing on several important sociological topics, including socialization, culture, the social construction of knowledge, inequality, race and ethnic relations, and poverty. You will leave this course with:

1. An understanding of the three main sociological perspectives;
2. An understanding of several important sociological theories;
3. The ability to apply these perspectives and theories to contemporary social issues and problems;
4. Insight into the critical link between social structures, social forces and individual circumstances;
5. Insight into how you shape society and how society shapes you.

**Required Readings:** The readings for this semester include an OPTIONAL electronic (or paperback) textbook and a set of readings accessible through Canvas. You can get the textbook at the bookstore or from the publisher at: https://digital.wwnorton.com/realworld7. **I would not purchase the textbook if I were you. But some students feel more comfortable doing so.**

**Canvas**

You can find on-line readings, an electronic copy of the syllabus, and important handouts on Canvas: https://fedauth.colorado.edu/idp/profile/SAML2/Redirect/SSO?execution=e1s1.

**Adobe Acrobat:** In order to read most of the on-line readings, you need to have Adobe Acrobat installed on your computer. If it is not installed, you can download it from: https://get.adobe.com/reader/.

**Lecture outlines:** Lecture outlines and important definitions are also accessible through Canvas.

**Lecture Hall Expectations and Behavior:** You are responsible for knowing the material and announcements presented during lectures ***and*** recitations whether or not you attend class or recitation. Please arrange with another student to get missed notes and announcements. Please do not disrupt other students’ ability to hear lectures (e.g., do not join the class late or leave early, remain quiet during lectures (mute your audio), do not behave in distracting ways, be prepared to take notes before lectures begin, do not read or talk during lecture, etc.).

**\*\*I expect all students to use their video feed during lecture.**

The University has a **classroom behavior** **policy**, which can be found at the following website: https://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-classroom-course-related-behavior. Students are required to adhere to the behavior standards listed in this policy document and to refrain from disrupting class.

Both students and faculty are expected to abide by the University’s honor code, which can be found at the following website: <https://www.colorado.edu/sccr/honor-code>. **Cheating and plagiarism are taken very seriously and are grounds for failure in this course.** To plagiarize is to use another’s words as your own, without proper attribution given to the original author.

Students and faculty are also responsible for adhering to the University’s **discrimination and harassment policies** which can be found at the following website: https://www.colorado.edu/oiec/policies.

**Course Assignments:** In addition to your reading assignments, you will take a midterm exam and a final exam, complete six assignments in recitation, and write five short assignments outside of class.

**Your final course grade will be calculated as follows:**

ASSIGNMENT EXAM DATE/DUE DATE TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS

Midterm exam Thur., Oct. 21 100 points

Final Exam Wed., Dec. 15 100 points

Recitation Assignments Throughout the semester 60 points (10 per assign.)

1-2 page Assignments Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Oct. 29 50 points (10 per assign.)

Nov. 19, Dec. 3

**\*\*The final exam will be held from 4:30pm – 7:00pm on Wednesday, Dec. 15th\*\***

Calculating your final grade

279-310 points = A- – A

248-279 points = B- – B+

217-248 points = C- – C+

186-217 points = D- – D+

0-186 points = F

\*Please note that the recitation assignments are worth 18.75% of your final grade. Some of the material covered in your recitation classes will also appear on the exams. SO TAKE THE RECITATIONS SERIOUSLY.

**\*\*NO EXTRA CREDIT IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS COURSE. NO EXCEPTIONS.\*\***

The recitation assignments: These assignments will be based on the course readings and/or activities that you do in recitation. **They cannot be completed early or late.** **There is no make up for any of them.**

The Midterm Exam: The midterm exam will be taken via Canvas and must be taken on the day and time that it is scheduled. **The midterm exam cannot be taken early or late.** **There is no make-up exam for the midterm.** The midterm will be a multiple choice, short answer, and essay exam. The material on the exam will be drawn from lectures, recitations, and the required readings. Since you will be taking the exam via Canvas, the exam will be open-note and open-book.

The Final Exam: The final exam is **REQUIRED** and must be taken via Canvas on the day and time that it is scheduled. **The final exam cannot be taken early or late. There is no make-up exam for the final.** The final exam will be a multiple choice, short answer, and essay exam. Since you will be taking the exam via Canvas, the exam will be open-note and open-book. **\*\*\*Students who do not take the final exam will fail the course. NO EXCEPTIONS.\*\*\***

The 1-2 page assignments: These assignments will be discussed in detail in your recitation section.

The Recitations: Recitation requirements will be discussed in detail in your recitation section.

**The only times I (or your TA) will make exceptions to my late assignment and exam policies are if you provide me with written proof of a death in your family, a medical emergency (this does not include having a cold or the flu), a court date, a religious conflict, or your participation in a university-supported activity. FOR A DEATH IN THE FAMILY OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY, YOU MUST PROVIDE THIS PROOF WITHIN 1 WEEK OF THE MISSED EXAM OR ASSIGNMENT. FOR THE OTHER EXCEPTIONS, YOU NEED TO PROVIDE PROOF AT LEAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE MISSED EXAM OR ASSIGNMENT.**

**Questions about course grades:** Questions about grades should first be addressed to your TA since she/he determines your grade and has your records. Please contact Professor Downey if, after talking with your TA, you still have any questions about your grades. **For any other issues, you can contact Professor Downey or your TA.**

**Doing well in this class:** In order to do well in this class, it is important that you (a) attend all the lectures and recitations and (b) take thorough and detailed lecture and recitation notes. It is also critical that you do the reading. Doing the reading will help you to better understand lectures and recitations and will help you do well on the exams.

**I WILL NOT NEGOTIATE GRADES AND YOUR TA WILL NOT NEGOTIATE GRADES.**

**Additional Information**

1. Lectures and recitations may not follow the topics in the readings.
2. Not all reading topics will be covered in the lectures and recitations.

**Disability Accommodation Letter**

Disability Services (N200 Center for Community: 303-492-8671 or [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu).) is charged with the responsibility of determining accommodations for students with disabilities. Please contact that office **NOW** if you wish to request accommodations. You are expected to discuss arrangements for accommodations (and provide a letter of determination from DS) with Professor Downey at least two weeks before the accommodation is needed, e.g., two weeks before an examination. Professor Downey **cannot** make disability accommodations without a letter from DS.

### \*\*COURSE TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS\*\*

**The course textbook is OPTIONAL.** If you want to purchase it, it isKerry Ferris and Jill Stein. *The Real World: An Introduction to Sociology,* ***7th Edition***. **I would not purchase this if I were you.**

**\*\*YOU MUST complete each week’s readings before that week’s recitation!!!!**

WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY?

Week 1 (Aug. 23): -(**optional**) Ferris and Stein, pages (pp.) 9-30.

Week 2 (Aug. 30): -On-line: Neubeck, pages 22-66 (**The page numbers for the on-line Neubeck**

**readings refer to the numbers in the top left and right-hand corners of the page**).

Week 3 (Sept. 6): -(**optional**) Ferris and Stein, Chapter 2.

THE THREE SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

Week 4 (Sept. 13): -On-line: “Three Sociological Perspectives.”

-(**optional**) Ferris and Stein, Chapter 3.

(Sept. 17) \*\*(**Your first 1-2 page assignment is due in Canvas at 3:00 p.m.**)

Week 5 (Sept. 20): -On-line: “What is Culture and What Does It Do for Us?”

-(**optional**) Ferris and Stein, Chapter 4.

### DEVIANCE

Week 6 (Sept. 27): -On-line: “Before the Law: 3 Years in Prison Without a Trial.”

-(**optional**) Ferris and Stein, Chapter 6.

Week 7 (Oct. 4): -On-line: “The Saints and the Roughnecks.”

(Oct. 8) \*\*(**Your second 1-2 page assignment is due in Canvas at 3:00 p.m.**)

Week 8 (Oct. 11): -On-line: “A Crime by Any Other Name.”

Week 9 (Oct. 18): EXAM WEEK (No Reading).

(Oct. 21) **Midterm** **Exam, 2:20-3:35 p.m.**

### BUREAUCRACY AND GLOBAL INTERDEPENDENCE

Week 10 (Oct. 25): -On-line: “Human Costs are Built Into iPads.”

-On-line: “Selection from Underground America.”

-On-line: “Selections from Invisible Hands.”

-On-line: “Biden’s Plan for Central America is a Smokescreen.”

-(OPTIONAL) On-line: Anderson, pp. 110-117.

-(OPTIONAL) On-line: Neubeck, pp. 71-80.

(Oct. 29): \*\*(**Your third 1-2 page assignment is due in Canvas at 3:00 p.m.**)

### STRATIFICATION (INEQUALITY)

Week 11 (Nov. 1): -On-line: “Economic Apartheid in America,” chapter 1.

-(**optional**) Ferris and Stein, Chapter 7.

Week 12 (Nov. 8): -On-line: “Sociology in the Underground,” pp. 88-103 (this refers to the page

numbers on the top of the pages).

-On-line: “I Was a Warehouse Wage Slave.”

-On-line: “Serving Up Fries, for a Living Wage.”

-On-line: “A Part Time Life, As Hours Shrink and Shift.”

-On-line: “We’re Being Worked to Death by Capital,” pages 1-3.

### POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Week 13 (Nov. 15): -On-line: Neubeck, pp. 111-137.

-On-line: “Amazing Grace.”

-(**optional**): Re-read Ferris and Stein, pp. 193-201.

(Nov. 19) \*\*(**Your fourth 1-2 page assignment is due in Canvas at 3:00 p.m.**)

**Week 14: (**Nov. 22): **Fall Break & Thanksgiving Break, No Classes**

### RACE AND ETHNICITY

Week 15 (Nov 29): -On-line: “How School Segregation Divides Ferguson.”

-(**optional**) Ferris and Stein, Chapter 8.

(Dec. 3): \*\*(**Your fifth 1-2 page assignment is due in Canvas at 3:00 p.m.**)

Week 16 (Dec. 6): -On-line: “Ain’t No Makin’ It,” selected pages.

-On-line: American Apartheid,” chapter 1.

Professor Downey’s Expectations

1. Attend class every day.
2. Come to class on time every day.
3. Do not leave in the middle of class to go to the bathroom or for any other reason.
4. No talking, reading, playing on a computer, surfing the web, etc., or sleeping in class.
5. Stop talking and reading as soon as class begins.
6. Class begins on time.
7. Take complete and thorough lecture notes.
8. If you miss class, get lecture notes from another student (then talk to me if you do not understand the notes).
9. Treat everyone in the class with respect.
10. Participate in class discussions.
11. DO ALL THE ASSIGNED READINGS BEFORE THE RECITATION ON WHICH THEY ARE DUE.

**University Policies**

# Classroom Behavior

Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-classroom-and-course-related-behavior) and the [Student Code of Conduct](https://www.colorado.edu/sccr/sites/default/files/attached-files/2019-2020_student_code_of_conduct_0.pdf).

# Accommodation for Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](https://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students/temporary-medical-conditions) on the Disability Services website.

# Preferred Student Names and Pronouns

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

# Honor Code

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu)); 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](https://www.colorado.edu/osccr/honor-code).

# Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, or protected-class discrimination or harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](https://cuboulder.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0PnqVK4kkIJIZnf), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](http://www.colorado.edu/institutionalequity/).

Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, dating and domestic violence, stalking, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

# Religious Holidays

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Y**ou need to let Professor Downey know of religious obligations that interfere with exams and assignments at least two weeks before the exam or assignment is due.** See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/observance-religious-holidays-and-absences-classes-andor-exams) for full details.