SOCY 1001: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

SPRING 2019

Location: Muenzinger Hall E050

**Instructor:** Matthew Brown (he, him, his)

**Office:** 159 Ketchum Hall

**Office Hours:** Monday and Wednesday 11 – 12 p.m.

**Email:** brownmc@colorado.edu

**You are responsible for everything in this syllabus, the text, articles, the registration handbook, and material covered in lecture.**

# course Description

Sociology is a unique way of looking at the world that tackles the idea that there are social forces beyond our control and awareness that influence our choices and life outcomes. In this class we will explore how individual decisions are more than an individual choice but reveal how decisions are influenced by the group and society. In other words, we are not as unique as we think we are. For example, the college you attended reflects more than just your personal decision, but reflects societal forces steer you into a particular choice. Why did you choose CU instead of Metro State or Harvard? How will this affect your life outcomes? We will explore how aspects of personal identity (e.g. sexual identity, race, gender) are systems for how a society distributes resources (e.g. status, health, money) similar to other social institutions (e.g. Religion, Education, Medicine).

In this class, you will begin to think like a sociologist. You will learn how sociologists theorize social phenomena and gather data to test these theories. Sociology is one way to explore and understand the world. As a paradigm sociology emphasizes the social and minimizes the natural. Sociology is a critical, but optimistic, discipline and as such this course will have a heavy emphasis on social inequality. Ultimately, this course will trouble taken-for-granted assumptions about society to reveal the influence of societal structures or systems or institutions on the individual and the influence of the individual on these societal structures.

**COURSE OBJECTIVIES**

1. To develop a sociological perspective regarding the world in which we live.
2. To gain an understanding of the theories and methods of sociology.
3. To develop a critical understanding of how social structures shape our life choices and outcomes.
4. To develop a critical understanding that the social institutions used for the distribution of societal resources not inherent personal traits.

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

# 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](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students/temporary-medical-conditions) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

# Classroom Behavior

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. 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. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. 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](http://www.colorado.edu/osccr/).

# 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); 303-492-5550). Students who are 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 a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, exploitation, harassment, dating or domestic violence, and stalking), discrimination, and 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. 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, 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. In this class, alternative arrangements will be made on exams and other assignments (e.g. different format or altered deadlines).

See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/observance-religious-holidays-and-absences-classes-andor-exams) for full details.

## REQUIRED READINGS

Korgen, Kathleen and Maxine P. Atkinson. 2019. *Sociology In Action*. Sage Publications.

More specifically:

**Title:** *CUSTOM BUNDLE: University of Colorado – Boulder SOCY 1001 Introduction to Sociology (Brown)*

**Exclusive\* ISBN**: 9781544368757

Additional readings will be made available throughout the semester on Canvas.

**Evaluation Components**

## Exams: Three 40-question multiple-choice exams will be given during lecture throughout the semester. Each exam is worth 50 points. Rescheduling an exam will incur a 10% deduction from your exam score. You will have three days to make-up the exam. Please plan your travel and ski days accordingly.

**Essays:** Two three-page essays. The first essay will be worth 10 points. The second essay will be worth 20 points. These will be opportunities to explore and apply class material to a specific contemporary example not discussed in class. Instructions will be discussed during lecture and recitation and posted on Canvas. Due dates are listed in the syllabus. Any late papers will incur a 10% deduction from your paper score and no paper will be accepted three days after it is due (e.g. if a paper is due on Wednesday you will have until Saturday to turn it in). Again, plan your travel and ski days accordingly.

**Recitation activity:** There are twelve 2 -point recitation activities. Your two lowest scores will be dropped. In other words, there will be ten. Consequently, you can earn 20 points in recitation. These activities cannot be finished outside of recitation; since you have two activities that will be dropped these cannot be made up. Again, plan your travel and ski days accordingly.

**Extra Credit:** There are two extra credit opportunities. However, you will only be allowed to submit one for points. Each opportunity will be worth 5 points each. These will be discussed in recitation and instructions will be posted on Canvas. Due dates are listed in the syllabus. Once a due date has passed you cannot turn in that extra credit opportunity. Again, plan your travel and ski days accordingly.

**TOTAL COURSE POINTS = 200**

**Save all graded work for this course. If you do not have the original graded copy of you work, you cannot challenge your final course grade after the semester is over.**

**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE**

WEEK 1

1/14 Topic – Sociological Perspective

 Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 1 and Miner

1/16 Topic – Sociological Perspective

 Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 2

WEEK 2

1/21 **NO CLASS**

1/23 Topic – Research Methods

Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 3

**Due – Paper 1**

WEEK 3

1/28 Topic – Research Methods

1/30 Topic – Culture

 Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 4

View – *Cultural Criticism and Transformation*

WEEK 4

2/4 Topic – Culture

 **Due – Extra Credit 1**

2/6 Topic – Culture

WEEK 5

2/11 **EXAM ONE**

2/13 Topic – Socialization & Self

 Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 5

WEEK 6

2/18 Topic – Socialization & Self

2/20 Topic – Social Control & Deviance

Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 6

WEEK 7

2/25 Topic – Social Control & Deviance

2/27 Topic – Inequality

 Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 7

WEEK 8

3/4 Topic – Inequality

3/6 Topic – Race & Ethnicity

 Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 9

WEEK 9

3/11 Topic – Race & Ethnicity

 View – *Ethnic Notions*

3/13 Topic – Race & Ethnicity

WEEK 10

3/18 **EXAM TWO**

3/20 Topic – Gender

 Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 8

WEEK 11 SPRING BREAK

WEEK 12

4/1 Topic – Gender

4/3 Topic – Sexuality

Read – Lancaster “In the Beginning: Nature” and Seidman *Social Construction of Sexuality*

WEEK 13

4/8 Topic – Sexuality

4/10 Topic - Family

 Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 10

WEEK 14

4/15 Topic – Family

4/17 Topic – Religion

 Read - Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 12

 **Due – Extra Credit 2**

WEEK 15: LAST RECITATION

4/22 Topic – Religion

4/24 Topic – Social Change

 Read – Korgen and Atkinson Ch. 14

 **Due – Paper 2**

WEEK 16

4/29 Topic – Social Change

5/1 Topic – Social Change

**FINAL Date not available at time of posting. The syllabus will be updated once the final exam schedule is published.**

**STUDENT RESOURCES**

Cultural Unity and Engagement Center

(Formerly Women’s Resource Center, Gender and Sexuality Resource Center)

**Location:** C4C, Suite N320

**Phone:** 303-492-5667

**Website:** <https://www.colorado.edu/cue>

Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance

**Location:** 3100 Marine Street (2nd floor)

**Phone:** (303) 492-2127

**Website:** <https://www.colorado.edu/institutionalequity>

Office of Victim Assistance (confidential)

**Location:** C4C, Suite N352

**Phone:** (303) 492-8855

**Website:** [www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/victimassistance](http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/victimassistance)

Ombuds Office (confidential & informal)

**Location:** C4C, Suite N440

**Phone:** 303) 492-5077

**Website:** <https://www.colorado.edu/ombuds>

Writing Center

**Location:** Norlin E111

**Phone:** (303) 735-6906

**Website:** <https://www.colorado.edu/pwr/writing-center>

MESA (Moving to End Sexual Assault)

**Phone: (**303) 443-7300

**Website:** <https://www.mhpcolorado.org/about/services/specialty-moving-to-end-sexual-assault/>