
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

SOCY 1001, Fall Semester 2015

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Background: <http://www.colorado.edu/ibs/es/hunter/>
Office Hours: IBS 1B33, Tuesdays 10:00-12:00

Graduate Teaching Assistants (see course D2L site for office hours and locations):

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OVERVIEW: This course provides an introduction to Sociology as a social science. During the semester, we make use of various sociological perspectives to examine social patterns, processes, institutions, as well as social problems. We will use Sociology to help us make sense of our world and a variety of social issues. The Teaching Assistants and myself especially hope that after this course, you can apply your “Sociological Imagination” to better understand the social forces that shape all of our lives.

SPECIFIC AIMS: You should leave this course with:

- ◆ an understanding of several different Sociological perspectives, particularly the *Sociological Imagination*;
- ◆ the ability to apply Sociological perspectives to understand society generally, as well as to understand the causes and consequences of various social problems;
- ◆ insight into the critical link between societal and individual circumstances;
- ◆ appreciation of the myriad components of society and the influence these components have on societal members.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Witt, Jon. 2014 (Edition 3, updated) *SOC*. McGraw-Hill: New York, NY.

- ◆ Please note the ISBN for the book at the CU bookstore is different than you may find online since the publisher gave us a bookstore discount. A different price necessitates a different ISBN. Still, if you buy the book elsewhere, be sure that it's Edition 3, updated.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

A registered clicker is required for this class -- we will use clickers in this class to add your 'voice' to lectures and to give you credit for lecture attendance.

Also, in a large class of this nature, it is imperative that procedures and expectations be clearly outlined. The information below is designed to clearly specify the structure of this course. In order to be fair to all students, this structure is not flexible except for particularly extenuating circumstances. Unless this is the case, **please do not request “bending” of the rules**. It’s just not fair.

FORMAT:

The course is composed of lectures and recitation sections. Lectures take place in Math 100, Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00-2:50 pm. In addition, you **must** be enrolled in a recitation section, otherwise you are not enrolled in the general course. Recitations meet weekly and are primarily led by one of the course’s Teaching Assistants (TAs). For most weeks, you will read one chapter of the textbook (Witt 2014) as well as supplementary material posted on the course website.

Lectures will focus on textbook material, while weekly recitation discussions will center on the supplementary readings as related to textbook material. Most weeks, a short writing assignment is also due in recitations. And in many weeks, you'll do in-class exercises in recitation aimed to bring Sociology to life.

For recitations, **the material due in recitation sessions will be posted on the course D2L site at least 4 days before your recitation session.**

Professor Hunter and the TAs meet weekly to standardize material covered in recitation sections. As such, although each TA has a unique perspective and teaching style, the core material covered within recitations is very similar.

EVALUATION: Many different components, from both lecture and recitation sections, will make up your course grade. This makes the course far more complicated to manage – but offers you a variety of pathways for you to demonstrate your Sociological skills! We trust this is preferable to having most of the class evaluation bundled into one or two exams.

Please note, too, the graduated valuation for exams --- more weight is placed on exams as the semester progresses – as your Sociological foundation becomes more firm and your familiarity with the exam format increases. Over the years, I have found this to be most fair.

Exam 1 (<u>Wed, Sept 23</u> , during lecture session)	10%
Exam 2 (<u>Mon, Oct 19</u> , during lecture session).....	15%
Exam 3 (<u>Wed, Nov 11</u> , during lecture session)	15%
Final (Exam 4) (<u>Sun, Dec 13, 4:30 pm</u>)	20%
Lecture attendance (clickers)	10%
Recitation attendance	5%
Recitation participation	5%
Recitation assignments.....	20%

Questions about grades should first be addressed to your TA since he/she has your records. Contact Prof. Hunter if questions remain.

Lecture Attendance (10%): Your participation in iClicker questions during lectures (Mon and Wed) will reflect your lecture attendance.

You may miss up to six lecture sessions (of the 24 lecture sessions that follow the first week of classes – therefore, you can miss, without penalty, 1/4 of lecture sessions -- that's generous!). If you attend class but forgot your clicker, that is counted as a “missed” lecture session. If your clicker runs out of batteries or otherwise malfunctions, that's also a "missed" lecture session (so be sure to have a spare battery!) Again, you will **not** be penalized for missing up to six lecture sessions. Still, these six absences need to cover both your excused and unexcused absences, as well as forgotten or broken clickers. Of course, unusual cases of extended and well-documented illnesses, lengthy jury duty, or similar situations will be considered (contact Dr. Hunter **immediately** upon learning of these situations).

Any absences or forgotten clickers beyond the “free” six will lower your overall attendance grade by 0.5 percentage points of your final grade per additional absence. To be clear, as an example, two additional absences from lecture would reduce a final grade of 90% to a final grade of 89%.

There are no opportunities for “make-up points” for absences beyond the six “free” misses.

Please keep track of your lecture attendance in lieu of asking your TA to do so for you!

Recitation assignments (20%): During 8 weeks in the semester, a typed, printed assignment is due at the beginning of your recitation session. These are to be double-spaced, no less than 0.75” margins and no longer than 1 full page. *Your TA will not read past the first page.*

Weekly recitation assignments are due prior to the **beginning** of your recitation session meeting and are to be submitted via D2L. The deadline for timing is firm, **these assignments must be handed in via D2L prior to the start of your recitation.**

All required information for these assignments can be found on the D2L site 4 days before recitation sessions in which they are due.

Recitation Attendance (5%): Recitation attendance is another important part of this course. Students are allowed **three excused absences** from recitation. An excused absence requires **prior notification** of your TA (an email sent *prior to start of class* is considered appropriate prior notification; an email after the start of class, even if by 2 minutes, is not prior notification).

For recitation, excused absences authorize a student to turn in class assignments without penalty *within 4 days* of the missed class and these makeup assignments. These are also to be turned in via D2L.

Again, there can be no more than three excused absences from recitation in the semester, so try not to use them up early (unless you must!) This policy is quite generous but requires that you think ahead and plan appropriately.

Other absences will be considered unexcused and will affect your recitation attendance/participation grade. In addition, as mentioned above, **no make-ups** will be allowed for assignments due during a recitation session for which the student has an unexcused absence.

Recitation participation (5%): In addition to simply being present in recitation, your TA will keep track of, and evaluate, your contribution to recitation discussion. This is also worth 5% of your overall course grade – these are easy points so speak up, participate and stretch that *Sociological Imagination!*

EXPECTATIONS: You are responsible for the material and announcements presented during all lectures, therefore it is your responsibility to get missed notes and announcements from fellow students.

Also, Professor Hunter makes “housekeeping” announcements detailing administrative information at the **beginning** of each lecture. It is your responsibility to get this information if missed.

Finally, please try to not disrupt the ability of other students to learn from the lectures; **try not to** arrive late, leave early, read the paper, talk during class, or forget to turn your cell phone off. These behaviors are distracting and disrespectful.

MAKE-UPS: On missed recitation sessions, again, there can be no more than three excused absences from recitations, so try not to use them up early (unless you must!). This policy is quite generous but requires that you think ahead and plan appropriately. Other absences will be considered unexcused and will affect your recitation attendance/participation grade. In addition, as mentioned above, **no make-ups** will be allowed for assignments due during a recitation session for which the student has an unexcused absence.

On missed exams, the exam dates are provided above in the list of grading percentages and also below in the class calendar. This calendar is provided early in order that you can identify any potential conflicts as soon as possible. Excused absences from exams are **rarely granted**, must be a result of

extenuating circumstances, and must be coordinated with Professor Hunter **at least one week in advance** of the absence.

There are no make-ups for the final exam, and anyone **NOT** taking the final (Exam 4) will fail the course, no exceptions. This is a comprehensive exam and is, therefore, important in bringing together the entire semester's material. **Be sure to communicate with family and friends as they make plans for the beginning of winter break ~ no early plane tickets!**

University policy explains that if you have three or more final exams scheduled on the same day, you are entitled to arrange an alternative exam time *for the last exam or exams scheduled on that day*. To qualify for rescheduling final exam times, you must provide evidence that you have three or more exams on the same day, and arrangements must be made with Dr. Hunter no later than the end of the sixth week of the semester.

MISC:

Laptop computers are **NOT** allowed in either the lecture hall nor recitation sections. To assist with note-taking in lecture, Dr. Hunter will post a **draft** of the lecture slides the day of class.

On weekly writing assignments, it is fine to discuss the material and explore shared ideas with fellow students. However, **it is imperative that the written work submitted represents your individual effort**. To do otherwise constitutes **plagiarism** which is defined as "the use of another's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgment." (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/acadinteg.html>; Dec 2005). Plagiarism of any nature (including from the internet) will result in a Violation Report being filed with the University's Honor Code office. We take this very seriously.

Students are responsible for keeping copies of all returned, graded work in the event there is a grade dispute at semester's end. For example, if our course records show an exam score of "85" but you claim you received a "91" but don't have the returned exam, your grade will remain "85."

If you qualify for accommodations because of a **disability**, please submit to Professor Hunter a letter from Disability Services (DS) early in the semester (**by the end of the 3rd week**) so that your needs may be addressed. DS determines accommodations based on documented disabilities (303-492-8671, Willard 322, www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices).

Please review the course schedule ASAP. If you have conflicts between **religious observance** dates and course examinations or assignments, let Professor Hunter or your TA know **by the end of the 3rd week of the semester**.

The University has a **classroom behavior** policy. Students are required to adhere to the behavior standards listed in the Rights and Responsibilities Regarding Standards of Conduct and to refrain from disrupting classes and other academic settings. The specific policy may be found at: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html>.

Finally, the University of Colorado Policy on Sexual Harassment applies to all students, staff and faculty. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual attention. It can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises that create an environment that is hostile or offensive. Harassment may occur between members of the same or opposite gender and between any combination of members in the campus community: students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Harassment can occur anywhere on campus, including the classroom, the workplace, or a residence hall. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been sexually harassed should contact the Office of Sexual Harassment (OSH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the OSH and the campus resources available to assist individuals who believe they have been sexually harassed can be obtained at: <http://www.colorado.edu/odh/>

GENERAL TOPICS AND ASSIGNED READINGS

- ◆ A calendar reflecting lecture and recitation topics for specific days can be found following this list.

UNDERSTANDING SOCIOLOGY

Examples of topics we will cover:

- ◆ So, what is Sociology?
- ◆ What is the “Sociological Imagination”?
- ◆ How do you practice Sociology as a science?
- ◆ What is Sociological Theory?

Readings:

- ◆ Chapter 1, “The Sociological Imagination” (in Witt, *SOC*)

SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH

- ◆ What types of research designs, data and analytical techniques are used by Sociologists?

Readings and Assignments:

- ◆ Chapter 2, “Sociological Research” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material and writing assignment (as noted on course website)

CULTURE

- ◆ What is culture and what influence does culture have upon social life?

Readings and Assignments:

- ◆ Chapter 3, “Culture” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material and writing assignment (as noted on course website)

SOCIALIZATION

Examples of topics we will cover:

- ◆ What is socialization and how does it happen?
- ◆ Why is socialization an important social process? What are some specific agents of socialization?
- ◆ What is the debate over “nature” vs. “nurture”?

Readings and Assignments:

- ◆ Chapter 4, “Socialization” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material and writing assignment (as noted on course website)

SOCIAL STRUCTURE & INTERACTION

Examples of topics we will cover:

- ◆ What role does social interaction play in defining reality?
- ◆ What are the elements of social structure? What are the implications of social structure?
- ◆ What is a social status? role? network?

Readings and Assignment:

- ◆ Chapter 5, “Social Structure & Interaction” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material and writing assignment (as noted on course website)

GENDER AND SEXUALITY

Examples of topics we will cover:

- ◆ What is the difference between sex and gender?
- ◆ What is the “social construction” of gender?
- ◆ How is gender related to social stratification? What are the implications of this association?

Readings and Assignment:

- ◆ Chapter 12, “Gender and Sexuality” (in Witt, SOC)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material and writing assignment (as noted on course website)

RACE AND ETHNICITY

Examples of topics we will cover:

- ◆ What is the difference between race and ethnicity?
- ◆ What is the difference between prejudice and discrimination? What are their implications?
- ◆ How do Sociologists study race and ethnicity?

Readings and Assignment:

- ◆ Chapter 13, “Race and Ethnicity” (in Witt, SOC)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material and writing assignment (as noted on course website)

DEVIANCE

Examples of topics we will cover:

- ◆ How do Sociologists define deviance?
- ◆ What different perspectives are used to understand deviance?
- ◆ What are some forms of social control? In Sociological terms, what is conformity? Obedience?

Readings and Assignment:

- ◆ Chapter 6, “Deviance” (in Witt, SOC)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material and writing assignment (as noted on course website)

GLOBAL INEQUALITY

Examples of topics we will cover:

- ◆ What is “The Global Divide?” How did it develop?
- ◆ What is the global movement for human rights? How did it develop?
- ◆ How significant is global stratification? What forces lead to stratification and what are its implications?

Readings and Assignment:

- ◆ Chapter 11 “Global Inequality” (in Witt, SOC)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material and writing assignment (as noted on course website)

SOCIAL CHANGE

- ◆ What are social movements and how do they develop?
- ◆ What are some of the major contemporary forces of social change?
- ◆ What forces resist social change? What are the consequences of social change?

Readings:

- ◆ No reading or writing assignment for this week.

NOTES:

* Use this calendar in combination with the prior weekly reading list to clarify assignments for lecture days and YOUR recitation days.

* Each recitation has 2 days off through the course of the semester.

AUG/SEPT	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lectures:	24 Review syllabus Ch. 1 (Witt) Soc Imagination	25	26 Ch. 1 (Witt) Soc Imagination	27	28
	Recitations:	Introductions, overview	Introductions, overview	Introductions, overview	Introductions, overview
Lectures:	31 Ch. 1 (Witt) Soc Imagination Start Ch 2 Soc Research	1	2 Ch 2 (Witt) Soc Research	3	4
	Recitations:	Ch 1 Soc Imag D2L material/assignmt	Ch 1 Soc Imag D2L material/assignmt	Ch 1 Soc Imag D2L material/assignmt	Ch 1 Soc Imag D2L material/assignmt
Lectures:	7 Labor Day Holiday	8	9 Ch 2 (Witt) Soc Research	10	11
	Recitations:	Ch 2 Soc Research D2L material/assignmt	Ch 2 Soc Research D2L material/assignmt	Ch 2 Soc Research D2L material/assignmt	Ch 2 Soc Research D2L material/assignmt
Lectures:	14 Ch 3 (Witt) Culture	15	16 Ch 3 (Witt) Culture	17	18
	Recitations:	Ch 3 Culture D2L material/assignmt	Ch 3 Culture D2L material/assignmt	Ch 3 Culture D2L material/assignmt	Ch 3 Culture D2L material/assignmt
Lectures:	21 Ch 3 (Witt) Culture & REVIEW	22	23 TEST #1 Covering Lecture & Recitation Material Thus Far	24	25
	Recitations:	No recitations today!	No recitations today!	Exam review, in-class exercise, introduce Ch 4	Exam review, in-class exercise, introduce Ch 4
OCT	28 Ch 4 (Witt) Socialization	29	30 Ch 4 (Witt) Socialization	1	2
	Recitations:	Exam review, in-class exercise, discuss Ch 4	Exam review, in-class exercise, discuss Ch 4	Ch 4 Socialization D2L material/assignmt	Ch 4 Socialization D2L material/assignmt
Lectures:	5 Ch 4 (Witt) Socialization	6	7 Ch 5 (Witt) Structure & Interaction	8	9
	Recitations:	Ch 4 Socialization D2L material/assignmt	Ch 4 Socialization D2L material/assignmt	Ch 5 Structure/Interaction D2L material/assignmt	Ch 5 Structure/Interaction D2L material/assignmt
Lectures:	12 Ch 5 (Witt) Structure & Interaction	13	14 Ch 5 (Witt) Structure & Interaction	15	16
	Recitations:	Ch 5 Structure/Interaction D2L material/assignmt	Ch 5 Structure/Interaction D2L material/assignmt	No recitation today!	No recitation today!
Lectures:	19 TEST #2 Lectures & Recitation Since Test #1	20	21 Ch 12 (Witt) Gender & Sexuality	22	23
	Recitations:	Exam review, in-class exercise, introduce Ch 12	Exam review, in-class exercise, introduce Ch 12	Exam review, in-class exercise, discuss Ch 12	Exam review, in-class exercise, discuss Ch 12

	26	27	28	29	30
Lectures:	Ch 12 (Witt) Gender & Sexuality		Ch 12 (Witt) Gender & Sexuality		
Recitations:		<i>Ch 12 Gender/Sexuality D2L material/assignmt</i>	<i>Ch 12 Gender/Sexuality D2L material/assignmt</i>	<i>Ch 12 Gender/Sexuality D2L material/assignmt</i>	<i>Ch 12 Gender/Sexuality D2L material/assignmt</i>

NOV	2	3	4	5	6
Lectures:	Ch 13 (Witt) Race & Ethnicity		Ch 13 (Witt) Race & Ethnicity		
Recitations:		<i>Ch 13 Race/Ethnicity D2L material/assignmt</i>	<i>Ch 13 Race/Ethnicity D2L material/assignmt</i>	<i>Ch 13 Race/Ethnicity D2L material/assignmt</i>	<i>Ch 13 Race/Ethnicity D2L material/assignmt</i>

	9	10	11	12	13
Lectures:	Ch 13 (Witt) Race & Ethnicity		TEST #3 Lectures & Recitations since Test #2		
Recitations:		<i>No recitations today!</i>	<i>No recitations today!</i>	<i>Exam review, in-class exercise, introduce Ch 6</i>	<i>Exam review, in-class exercise, introduce Ch 6</i>

	16	17	18	19	20
Lectures:	Ch 6 (Witt) Deviance		Ch 6 (Witt) Deviance		
Recitations:		<i>Exam review, in-class exercise, discuss Ch 6</i>	<i>Exam review, in-class exercise, discuss Ch 6</i>	<i>Ch 6 Deviance D2L material/assignmt</i>	<i>Ch 6 Deviance D2L material/assignmt</i>

***** NOV 23-27 THANKSGIVING BREAK

DEC	30	1	2	3	4
Lectures:	Ch 6 (Witt) Deviance		Ch 11 (Witt) Global Inequality		
Recitations:		<i>Ch 6 Deviance D2L material/assignmt</i>	<i>Ch 6 Deviance D2L material/assignmt</i>	<i>Discuss Ch 11 & Semester Review</i>	<i>Discuss Ch 11 & Semester Review</i>

	7	8	9	10	11
Lectures:	Ch 11 (Witt) Global Inequality		Social Change (no reading)		
Recitations:		<i>Discuss Ch 11 & Semester Review</i>	<i>Discuss Ch 11 & Semester Review</i>	<i>No recitations today!</i>	<i>No recitations today!</i>

COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM: Sunday, Dec 13, 4:30pm, MATH 100