**INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY**

**Course goals and objectives:**

Sociology is “the systematic study of human society” (Macionis, 2011). Sociology is based on both theory and empirical observation. This course will provide you with a strong introduction to sociology. It gives you a sociological perspective so that you can think critically and understand the basic concepts, theories, and the vocabulary of sociology*.* It also means that you can use the tools and concepts from the course to understand better your own society as well as other societies.

**Required ReadingS:**

Textbook: Macionis, John. 2011. *Sociology*, 14th edition. Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall or Pearson. If you cannot find the 14th edition, buy the most recent one available at bookstores.

Companion Reader: Macionis&Benokraitis. *Seeing Ourselves: Classic, Contemporary, and Cross-Cultural Readings in Sociology,* Eighth edition.

There will be additional readings, which would be distributed in the class and/or uploaded on Moodle.

**GROUP EMAIL:**

All students are required to send their email addresses to the instructor before the start of the course in order to receive important notifications and readings.

**Grade breakup:**

Class participation and attendance 10%

Quizzes 20%

Mid-term exam 30%

Final Exam 40%

**Methodologies:**

Assigned reading, lectures, class discussions, group exercises, homework assignments, Moodle,quizzes, and a final exam.

**READING PLAN:**

**Week 1: The Sociological Perspective.**

Text Readings: Macionis, John. 2011. *Sociology*, 14th edition. Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall or Pearson*.*

Review Table of Contents. Read Preface, Introduction, and Chapters 1 and 2.

Special Readings: C. Wright Mills.(2000). “The Sociological Imagination”*.* Pp. 1-5 in *Seeing Ourselves: Classic, Contemporary, and Cross-Cultural Readings in Sociology,* edited by J. Macionis and Nijole V.Benokraitis. Eighth edition. Boston: Prentice-Hall, 2010. (handout in class)

Peter L. Berger. (1963) “Invitation to Sociology.” Pp. 6-9 in *SeeingOurselves, op. cit. (*handout in class)

Max Weber.(1918) “The Case for Value-Free Sociology.”Pp.19-20

**Week 2: Culture and Society**

Readings: Macionis. *Sociology.* Read Chapters 3 and4.

Special Readings:

Leslie White. (1949) ‘Symbol: The Basic Element of Culture.”.Pp. 33-37*, op. cit.*

Robert Merton. (1967). “ Manifest and Latent Functions.” Pp. 38-39, *op. cit.*

**Week 3: Socialization.**

Readings: Macionis. *Sociology.* Read Chapters 5 and 6.

Michael A. Messner. (1990). “Boyhood, Organized Sports, and the Construction of Masculinities.”Pp. 72-82, *op. cit.*

D. Terri Heath. (1995) “Parents’ Socialization of Children in Global Perspective.”*, op. cit.*

Erving Goffman. (1959) “The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life.”Pp. 96-101  *op. cit.*

**Week 4: Groups and Organizations**

Readings: Macionis. *Sociology.* Read Chapter 7

Max Weber. (1946) “The Characteristics of Bureaucracy.” Pp. 121-124, *op. cit.*

**Week 5: Deviance and Social Stratification**

Readings: Macionis. *Sociology.*  Read Chapters 9 and 10.

Also: Emile Durkheim. “ The Functions of Crime.”Pp. 141-143*, op. cit.*

Melissa Farley. “Prostitution: A Worldwide Business of Sexual Exploitation.” Op. cit. 167-179.

**Week 6: Gender, Race, and Ethnicity**

Readings: Macionis. *Sociology.* Read Chapters13 and 14

Kingsley Davis and Wilbert E. Moore, with a Response by Melvin Tumin. (1945) “Some Principles of Stratification.”Pp. 201-208,  *op. cit.*

Margaret Mead. “Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies.” Pp. 230-235 in *Seeing Ourselves, op. cit.*

Nijole V. Benokraitis. “How Subtle Sex Discrimination Works. 1997.”Pp.242-246 in Seeing *Ourselves, op. cit.*

**Week 7: Mid-term exam and progress review**

**Week 8:The Economy and Work**

Readings: Macionis, Chapters 16

Also: Karl Marx. “Alienated Labor,” op. cit. pp. 282 – 285.

William Julius Wilson, “When work disappears,” op. cit. p.286.

**Week 9: Politics, Government, and Policy**

Readings: Macionis, Chapter 17

Also: C. Wright Mills. “The Power Elite,” op. cit. p. 305

**Week 10: Families**

Readings: Macionis, Chapters 18

Also:Jessie Bernard.“ “His” and “Her” Marriage,”op.cit., p.321

Bron B. Ingoldsby. “Mate Selection and Marriage Around the World,” p. 333

**Week 11: Health and Population**

Macionis, Chapters 21 and 22

Talcott Parsons. “ The Social Structure of Medicine.” Pp. 375-378 in *SeeingOurselves, op. cit.*

**Week 12: Religion**

Read Macionis, Chapter 19

Max Weber. “The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism,” *op. cit.*Pp. 339-344*.*

**Week 13: Health and Medicine**

Read Macionis, Chapter 21

Also: Talcott Parsons. “The Social Structure of Medicine,” *op. cit.* p. 375

Efua Dorkenoo and Scilla Elworthy. “Female Genital Mutilation,” *op.cit.* p. 384

**Week 14: Population and Urbanization**

Read Macionis, Chapter 22

Also: Georg Simmel. “The Metropolis and Mental Life,” *op. cit.* p. 392

**Week 15: Social Change: Traditional, Modern and Postmodern Societies**

Read Macionis, Chapter 24

Also: Max Weber. “The Disenchantment of Modern Life,” op. cit. p. 423

Todd Gitlin. “Global Mass Media,” op. cit. p. 430.

**Week 16: Progress review, wrap-up session**