

Syllabus

Office: Hirschburg: Brandt 320
Jeff Schmidt, GA: Brandt 324
Hours: Hirschburg: MWF 11:00-11:50; Other times by appointment
Schmidt: TTH 9:30-11:00; Other times by appointment
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Course Objectives

1. Develop a general knowledge of the primary theoretical approaches sociology uses to analyze and understand society.
2. Appreciate the impact of a society's culture on social values, attitudes, beliefs and behavior.
3. Understand ways in which culture structures society and guides social interaction.
4. Be conscious of inequality as a universal, but varying, fact of social life, and appreciate its impact on both individuals and society.
5. Recognize the contemporary social world of high income nations like the U.S. as dynamic, urban, post-industrial environments, interacting with a growing, industrializing world.

Outline of Topics

Text Chapter

Culture and Society

Theory and Method in Sociology
Culture and Society
Socialization

1
2
3

Exam 1

Social Organization

Social Interaction
Groups and Organizations
Conformity and Deviance

4
5
6

Exam 2

Social Inequality

Stratification and Class
Gender Inequality
Racial and Ethnic Inequality

7
9
10

Exam 3

Urbanization and Change

Global Industrialization
Urbanization
Society and Change

8
15
16

Exam 4

Grade Categories

Seminar Activity and Informal Writing – 10% of course grade: Every other week, groups will meet in breakout sessions to discuss course concepts and activities. Periodically, groups may be asked to submit spontaneous written responses to discussion. At least once a month, individuals will “grade” the other members of their group in terms of participation and contributions.

Internet Projects – 20% of course grade: Formal projects and bi-weekly internet assignments will require written analytical reports designed to stimulate critical thinking about contemporary society.

Exams – 70% of course grade: There will be four, multiple-choice exams.

Grading Scale:

A = 90-100% B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = 59% and below

Schedule of Assignments:

January	Tuesday	1/17	Introduction / Chapter 1 Lecture
	Thursday	1/19	Chapter 1 Lecture
	Tuesday	1/24	Chapter 2 Lecture
	Thursday	1/26	A Groups – Lab; B Groups - Breakout
	Tuesday	1/31	Chapter 3 Lecture
February	Thursday	2/2	A Groups – Breakout; B Groups - Lab
	Tuesday	2/7	Lab/Breakout Option
	Thursday	2/9	EXAM 1
	Tuesday	2/14	Chapter 4 Lecture
	Thursday	2/16	A Groups – Lab; B Groups - Breakout
	Tuesday	2/21	Chapter 5 Lecture
	Thursday	2/23	A Groups – Breakout; B Groups - Lab
Tuesday	2/28	Chapter 6 Lecture	
March	Thursday	3/1	A Groups – Lab; B Groups - Breakout
	Tuesday	3/6	A Groups – Breakout; B Groups - Lab
	Thursday	3/8	Exam 2
	Tuesday	3/13	SPRING BREAK
	Thursday	3/15	SPRING BREAK
	Tuesday	3/20	Chapter 7 Lecture
	Thursday	3/22	A Groups – Lab; B Groups - Breakout
	Tuesday	3/27	Chapter 9 Lecture
	Thursday	3/29	A Groups – Breakout; B Groups – Lab
April	Tuesday	4/3	Chapter 10 Lecture
	Thursday	4/5	A Groups – Lab; B Groups - Breakout
	Tuesday	4/10	A Groups – Breakout; B Groups - Lab
	Thursday	4/12	EXAM 3
	Tuesday	4/17	Chapter 8 Lecture
	Thursday	4/19	A Groups – Lab; B Groups - Breakout
	Tuesday	4/24	Chapter 15 Lecture
	Thursday	4/26	A Groups – Breakout; B Groups – Lab
May	Tuesday	5/1	Chapter 16 Lecture
	Thursday	5/3	Lab/Breakout Option
	Tuesday	5/8	10:00 AM – FINAL EXAM

General Requirements and Information:

Formal projects/assignments are to be **1) typed, double spaced**, with **2) your group and 3) date in 4) the upper left-hand corner**, and **5) the title of the project centered below your group and date**. Multiple pages are to be **6) stapled in the upper left-hand corner**. Papers not meeting these requirements will be reduced the equivalent of one-half a letter grade for each infraction.

These and any other planned, written assignments are **due at 11:00 AM on their assigned date**. Papers turned in after 1:30 will be considered late and reduced the equivalent of one letter grade for the first class period they are late, and one-half a letter grade for each subsequent period. **A paper turned in at 11:10 will be late. Plan accordingly.** You cannot always count on lab computers and printers.

Handwritten work must be neat and legible, and all work must display university level writing skills. Scores will be reduced if you fail to meet these standards.

You are responsible for what goes on in class regardless of attendance.

You will need to **bring pencils and erasers** for all exams.

Finally, **AND IMPORTANTLY**, please contact me if you need special considerations or are encountering problems with the course. **DO THIS AS SOON AS THE NEED ARISES. Do not wait until the end of the semester.**