Introductory Sociology (Anth/Soc 105, Fall 1999)

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## Course Statement

Sociology is the study of human relations and social, rganization. When we are born we are thrown into a complex world of normative expectations and outside influences that shape our self development and relationship to the world. Sociology studies the effect of these processes - processes that constrain and restrict while simultaneously providing the order and stability needed for survival and self development. This paradox, the state of being an individual yet always, already a social product, is sociology's key concern.

Sociology may be practiced as both 1) an empirical, social science and 2) an applied-philosophical inquiry into what it means to be human. My goal in this course is to teach both of these applications of sociology. You will learn about the history of sociology, its key concepts and findings, and how to conceptualize a sociological analysis; and you will also learn how to apply sociological concepts in order to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the world and your place in it.

I have re-designed this course to be more interactive and participatory. Every Friday we will conduct workshop assignments that will involve the application of course material. On four occasions you will complete an essay assignment (4 pages) and use it as a point of discussion for our Friday workshops. You will then revise your essay and submit it to me to be graded. There will be a midterm and a final exam and class participation will be considered when selecting your final grade. Attendance is mandatory - more than 3 unexcused absences is grounds for an "F".

## Required Texts and Grading

- This Book is Not Required. Inge Bell and B. McGrane, 1999.
  Revised edition. Fort Bragg, California: The Small Press.
- The Un-TV and the 10 MPH Car: Experiments in Personal Freedom and Everyday Life. B. McGrane. 1994. Fort Bragg, CA: Small Press.
- The Meaning of Sociology. Joel M. Charon, ed., 1999. Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall.
- The Encyclopedic Dictionary of Sociology, R. Lachmann, ed. (1991).

Gulford, CT: Dushkin.

Essays 1, 2, 3 and	4 are	worth 15%	each	. 60%
Midterm essay exam				. 20%
Final essay exam				. 20%

Wed	8/25	Course overview and discussion of sociology Read for Fri: Chapter 1 in Bell/McGrane and entries on sociology and internalization		
Fri	8/27	Workshop on internalization Read for Mon: Chapter 5 in Bell/McGrane and entry on dialectic		
Mon	8/30	Wisdom and knowledge Read for Wed: Chapter 1 in McGrane		
Wed	9/1	Understanding one's "thrownness" Read for Fri: Chapter 2 in McGrane		
Fri	9/3	Workshop on reflexivity (students meet in classroom, complete assignment) Read for Wed: Chapters 62 and 63 in Charon		
Mon	9/6	No Class - Labor Day		
Wed	9/8	Sociology is both conservative and subversive Read for Fri: Entries on Durkheim, Comte, norms and chapter 13 in Charon		
Fri	9/10 divi:	Workshop on sui generis phenomena Read for Mon: handout on social facts (Durkheim) and entries on suicide, anomie, social structure, sion of labor. social fact and functionalism		
Mon	9/13	Social facts Read for Wed: NYT article on suicide in Japan		
Wed	9/15	Understanding Suicide Prepare for Fri: Essay on preventing Columbines		
Read: Chapter 6 in Bell/McGrane				
Fri	9/17	Workshop on institutional wellness entry on heredity and environment		
Mon	9/20	Nature and Nurture Read for Wed: Chapter 14 in Charon and entries on socialization, role and self		
concept		(Revised essay is due)		
No.d	9/22	Socialization		
wea	9/22	Read for Fri: Chapter 55 in Charon and entry on latent and manifest function.		
Fri	9/24	Workshop on the depths of socialization (students meet in classroom, complete assignment) Read for Mon: Chapter 19 in Charon and entries on Thomas axiom and social interaction		

Mon		Micro-level approaches to sociology Read for Wed: Entries on symbolic onism, G. H. Mead, ethnomethodology, logy, I and Me concept and E. Goffman
Wed	9/29	G. H. Mead and American Pragmatism Read for Fri: Chapter 36 in Charon
Fri	10/1 theory, momaterialis	Workshop on culture and the self Read for Mon: Chapter 38 in Charon and entries on Karl Marx, conflict ode of production, and dialectical
Mon	10/4	Marx and dialectical materialism Read for Wed: Entries on capitalism, alienation and reification
Wed	10/6	Marx's critique of capitalism and reification Prepare for Fri: Essay on alienation
Fri	10/8	Workshop on alienation Read for Mon: Chapter 10 in Bell and entries on class, class consciousness, stratification,
Prote	estant Eth:	ic and Max Weber Revise essay for Monday
Mon	10/11	Class consciousness and reification (Revised essay on alienation is due)
Wed	10/13	Review for midterm
Fri	10/15	Midterm exam Read for Fri: handout on Berger and Luckmann
Mon.	10/18	Fall break
Wed to	10/20	No class meeting - Dr. McGowan on field trip Chaco Canyon
Fri	10/22	Workshop on constructionism (students meet in classroom, complete assignment)
Mon	10/25	The social construction of reality Read for Wed: NYT article on chimpanzee cultures
Wed	10/27	What makes humans human Read for Fri: Chapter 13 in McGrane Prepare for Fri: Essay on the social ion of reality and "humanness"
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FT1	10/29	Workshop on civil-ization Read for Mon. Chapter 40 in Charon

		Revise essay for Monday
Mon	11/1	Social controls Read for Wed: Chapter 41
Wed.	11/3	Deviance
Fri.	11/5	Workshop on social controls and order Read for Mon: Chapter 8 in Bell/McGrane
Mon	11/8	The Medium is the Message Read for Wed: Chapters 3 and 4 in McGrane
Wed	11/10	Media as social control Read for Fri: Chapters 5 and 6 in McGrane
Fri	11/12	Workshop on the body as cultural landscape Read for Mon: Chapter 33 in Charon
Mon	11/15	The social construction of gender Read for Wed: Chapter 35 in Charon
Wed	11/17	The social construction of rape Prepare for Fri: Essay on gender and
	social in	stitutions
Fri	11/19	Workshop on gender and social institutions Read for Mon: Chapter 10 in McGrane Revise essay for Monday
Mon	11/22	Discussion on walking Read for Mon: Handout on racism
Wed.	11/24	Thanksgiving Break
Fri.	11/26	Thanksgiving Break
Mon.	11/29	Understanding racism and thrownness Read for Wed: Chapter 30 in Charon
Wed.	12/1	The givenness of privilege Read for Fri: Chapter 31 in Charon Prepare for Fri: Essay on diversity at Rhodes
Fri.	12/3	Workshop on transpositional discourse Read for Mon: Chapters 23 and 25 in Charon Revise essay for Monday
Mon.	12/6	Superiority claims
Wed.	12/8	Final class meeting - review for final