CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
SOC 1000 – INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Semester/Year: Spring 2016 (SOC N2: 45120)

Lecture Hours: 3  Lab Hours: 0  Credit Hours: 3
Class Time: (NET)  Days: (NET)  Room: (NET)

Instructor’s Name: Evin Rodkey, Ph.D.

Instructor’s Contact Information:  Office Phone:  Email:
Office: LH 175-E  (307) 268-2696  evinrodkey@caspercollege.edu

Email is the best way to reach me. You may also call my office line at any time; please leave a voicemail if needed.

Office Hours:
Mon 12-2 pm / Wed and Fri 12-1 pm / Tues and Thurs 12:15 – 1:15 pm
I will be available at other times, especially in the afternoon; if you would like to meet at a different time than those listed, please contact me.

Course Catalog Description:

(3L)(3CR) [E] A survey of the organization of human society and the impact of group membership and interpersonal relationships upon human behavior.

Statement of Prerequisites:
None required

Goal:
In general, I hope that at the end of the semester we all have a basic understanding of how sociologists view the world, how they study it, and we should also have a sense of how to use sociology in our work and in our lives.

Outcomes:
This class will focus on the following two of the Casper College course outcomes. Note we will also emphasize oral and written communication:

3. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity
4. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives
COURSE OBJECTIVES:

--Describe and apply three perspectives within the field of sociology: functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interaction.

--Identify research methods in the social sciences.

--Analyze the concept of race and its role in American life.

--Analyze the concept of gender and its role in American life.

METHODOLOGY:

Online class with reading, quizzes, discussions, and writing assignments. Your feedback is valuable as the instructor uses course evaluations in determining course methodology.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

1. Quizzes: Each week, by Thursday at midnight, you must complete a quiz on Revel based on the given chapter.

2. Short Assignments: On alternating weeks (roughly), you will complete a short assignment based on the content of a given chapter. Typically these will be short responses to questions I pose.

3. Discussions: On alternating weeks (alternating with Short Assignments and Papers), you will post Discussion comments to Moodle. Prompts with detailed instructions will be posted in advance.

4. Papers: You will have three papers, which are essays tying together various course material. Papers are due on weeks a short assignment would be due (alternating with Discussions); but on weeks when papers are due, there are no Short Assignments due.

Point Breakdown:

Quizzes on Revel (13) 20%
Short Assignments (5) 20%
Discussions (6) 20%
Papers (3) 40%

TOTAL: 200 (A: 100-90 / B: 89-80 / C: 79-70 / D: 69-60 / F: 59-0)

Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

We are using the online platform Revel, which includes full access to the book: Sociology, 15th edition. John J. Macionis. Pearson, 2013. The access code for Revel is available via the Casper College bookstore. The price is $65 and for an additional $5 you can get a paper copy of the book (unbound) as well. If you are local, also note that the book is placed on reserve in the campus library for temporary use (and usually under other SOC 1000 sections as well).

*Additional required readings may be posted*
OVERALL CLASS POLICIES:

1. You must check your Casper College email regularly and use Moodle and Revel. This is required—you are responsible for any information I send through email or post on Moodle and Revel. Note that you can change your primary email with the college. I will send class emails to whatever email address is in my roster—if that is the Casper College email, then you are required to check it.

Remember, if you are local, you can use campus computer labs (including for printing if you ever need it).

2. Late work is generally not accepted; however, contact the instructor in advance with any problems and in extraordinary circumstances (determined by the instructor), brief extensions may be granted. You cannot simply turn in something late with no notice or arrangements.

Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade: Thursday, April 14, 2016

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Chair/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

Official Means of Communication: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student’s assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.

ADA Accommodations Policy: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

COURSE CALENDAR

NOTE: Dates and other information may change. If so, you will be notified in class (if possible) and by email.

IMPORTANT: Take notes on the reading as you go—this will help you! Also note that chapters are not always in order.
Each chapter of Sociology begins with a list of “Learning Objectives” and an opening feature titled “The Power of Society.” Use these to help guide your reading.

Also note in each chapter you will find a varied number of features titled, “Seeing Sociology in Everyday Life,” “Thinking About Diversity: Race, Class, and Gender,” “Controversy and Debate,” and “Thinking Globally” (not all chapters have all four) that detail important material relevant to the given chapter. Be sure to incorporate these into your reading.

Further note that each chapter features a number of photographs, maps, charts, figures, etc. Be sure to incorporate captions and further explanations accompanying these features.

Finally, note that the end of each chapter features “Seeing Sociology in Everyday Life” (separate from the feature mentioned above) and “Making the Grade” that you should review.

SECTION I: FUNDAMENTALS OF SOCIOLOGICAL INQUIRY

To begin the course we will discuss the basic concepts of sociology, focusing on the major tenets of the discipline, the development of the field, and the research methods used to generate sociological understanding. We will also focus on the fundamentals of society and processes of learning to live in society.

WEEKS 1 and 2 – Introducing Sociology and Sociological Research Methods
M 1/25 – F 1/29
READ:
--c. 1 “The Sociological Perspective”
--c. 2 “Sociological Investigation”
  ONLY Intro, Section 2.1 (pp. 31-34) and 2.5 - 2.7 (pp. 45-59)

*Quiz #1 due by midnight Thurs 1/28
*Discussion #1 (“Introductions”) ASAP, no later than midnight Thurs 1/28

WEEK 3 – How People Live: Culture
M 2/1 – F 2/5
READ: c. 3 “Culture”

*Quiz #2 due by midnight Thurs 2/4
*Short Assignment #1 due by midnight Thurs 2/4

WEEK 4 – Analyzing People and Learning Our Roles: Society and Socialization
M 2/8 – F 2/12
READ:
--c. 4 “Society”
--c. 5 “Socialization”
  ONLY:
  --Intro, Section 5.1, through “The Social Sciences: The Role of Nurture” (stop before “Social Isolation”) (pp. 125-127)
  --In Section 5.2, “George Herbert Mead’s Theory of the Social Self” (stop before “Erik H. Erikson’s Eight Stages of Development”) (pp. 133-134)
  --Section 5.3 (pp. 136-141)
  --In Section 5.5, “Controversy & Debate” Feature (p. 147)
*Quiz #3 due by midnight Thurs 2/11
*Discussion #2 due by midnight Thurs 2/11

**WEEK 5 – Sexuality and Society**
M 2/15 – F 2/19
NOTE: Presidents Day Holiday M 2/15 – No on-campus classes
READ: c. 8 “Sexuality and Society”

*Quiz #4 due by midnight Thurs 2/18
*Paper #1 due by midnight Thurs 2/18

**SECTION II: SOCIAL IMBALANCE**

For Section II, we will apply the conceptual material from Section I with attention to social imbalance in the realms of class, “race,” gender, and more areas of social life, including global connections. We will focus on how social systems contribute to inequality and roles we all play in such systems.

**WEEK 6 – Gender Stratification**
M 2/22 – F 2/26
READ: c. 13 “Gender Stratification”

*Quiz #5 due by midnight Thurs 2/25
*Discussion #3 due by midnight Thurs 2/25

**WEEK 7 – “Race,” Ethnic Diversity, and Stratification**
M 2/29 – F 3/4
READ: c. 14 “Race and Ethnicity”

*Quiz #6 due by midnight Thurs 3/3
*Short Assignment #2 due by midnight Thurs 3/3

**WEEK 8 – Social Class and Stratification**
M 3/7 – F 3/11
READ:
--c. 10 “Social Stratification”
    ONLY: Intro and Section 10.1 (pp. 273-275) and 10.3 – 10.6 (pp. 284-291)
--c. 11 “Social Class in the United States”
--c. 20 “Education”
    ONLY: Section 20.4, through, “Access to Higher Education (stop before “Greater Opportunity: Expanding Higher Education”) (pp. 578-583)

*Quiz #7 due by midnight Thurs 3/10
*Discussion #4 due by midnight Thurs 3/10

***NO CLASS M 3/14 – F 3/18 – SPRING BREAK***

**WEEK 9 – Global Stratification**
M 3/21 – F 3/25
NOTE: Spring Holiday F 3/25 – No on-campus classes
READ: c. 12 “Global Stratification”
*Quiz #8 due by midnight Thurs 3/24
*Paper #2 due by midnight Thurs 3/24

**WEEK 10 – Explaining Deviance in Society**

READ: c. 9 “Deviance”  
M 3/28 – F 4/1

*Quiz #9 due by midnight Thurs 3/31  
*Discussion #5 due by midnight Thurs 3/31

**SECTION III: SOCIETAL INSTITUTIONS**

In the final section of the course we will examine major social institutions and how they are constituted. We will focus on the roles they play in our lives, as well as the role we play in their development and maintenance.

**WEEK 11 – Economy and Labor**

M 4/4 – F 4/8  
NOTE: Advising Day F 4/8 – No on-campus classes  
READ: c. 16 “The Economy and Work”

*Quiz #10 due by midnight Thurs 4/7
*Short Assignment #3 due by midnight Thurs 4/7

**WEEK 12 – Politics and Power**

READ: c. 17 “Politics and Government”  
T 4/11 – F 4/15

*Quiz #11 due by midnight Thurs 4/14
*Discussion #6 due by midnight Thurs 4/14

**WEEK 13 – Religion**

READ: c. 19 “Religion”  
M 4/18 – F 4/22

*Quiz #12 due by midnight Thurs 4/21
*Short Assignment #4 due by midnight Thurs 4/21

**WEEK 14 – Family**

READ: c. 18 “Families”  
M 4/25 – F 4/29

*Quiz #13 due by midnight Thurs 4/28
*Paper #3 due by midnight Thurs 4/28

**WEEK 15 – Societal Change**

READ: c. 24 “Social Change: Traditional, Modern, and Postmodern Societies”  
M 5/2 – F 5/6

*Short Assignment #5 (Key Concepts Evaluation) due by midnight Fri 5/6