

**Dixie State College**

**Sociology 1010: Introduction to Sociology**

**Instructor:** Logan B. Reid

**Email:** lreid@sbhcutah.com

**Class-time:** Thurs 5:15 – 7:45pm      **Classroom:** MCDON – Room 103      **Office:** Potter Room (McDonald Building) or Southwest Behavioral Health Center - 474 W. 200 N. 3rd Floor      (435)  
634-5652 -- Call or email for an appointment.

**Required Textbooks:**

For this course, assignments and test information will come from the following textbook:

***Essentials of Sociology***, by David B. Brinkerhoff, et al.

A few copies of the textbook are available in the library to be checked out for one hour.

*Study guide material can be found online at:* [Http://sociology.wadsworth.com/](http://sociology.wadsworth.com/)

**Course Website:**

All course information and assignments can be found on the course website located on Canvas:

Go to [www.dixie.edu](http://www.dixie.edu); Under the “Welcome” tab on the left of the page, click “Canvas”; Log in with your campus username and password, and select “Intro to Sociology”

**Course Description:**

Fulfills General Education Social & Behavioral Sciences requirement. This course provides an introduction to the basic concepts of the discipline and science of sociology. The course will teach students what sociology is, what a sociologist does, and how sociology is applied, including the study of cultures, socialization, stratification, religion, families, organizations and social change through lectures, guest speakers, film, writing assignments and exams. FA, SP, SU.

This course will attempt to encourage students to think critically **and** scientifically about societies and people throughout the world. Therefore, it will go further than a simple description and opinion-based analysis of the issues discussed, and attempt to help students understand and view these issues scientifically; and be able to communicate this understanding to others. To do this we will also explore three of the prominent theoretical perspectives in sociology and apply them to the social situations studied.

**Course Objectives:**

This course has 5 main objectives. Students completing Introduction to Sociology should:

Be able to **demonstrate an ability to identify the ideas, people, and events that are generally thought to be important by sociologists**; and an ability to examine human behaviors as a way of understanding the human condition.

Develop informed points of view based on sociological knowledge and exhibit elements of critical thinking, writing skills, and effective communication of informed points of view based on sociological knowledge.

Students will also begin to develop the critical and analytical thinking skills and scientific methodology to examine human behavior and **understand sociology as a scientific discipline (i.e. the gathering and analyzing of empirical data in a systematic fashion)** necessary for further study and research into the social sciences.

Be able to analyze and critique other studies, whether they be academic or otherwise, for their scientific validity and accuracy;

Be able to **demonstrate an understanding functionalism, conflict, and symbolic interactionism as the major theoretical perspectives of sociology** and **demonstrate an understanding of the five main institutions of society (family, religion, education, economy, and politics) from a sociological perspective.**

### **Classroom Expectations:**

As an instructor, I promise to work hard to: (1) prepare meaningful classes that cover the course material, (2) engage students, (3) help students learn and achieve the outlined objectives of the course, and (4) create a comfortable and enjoyable atmosphere where students feel free to voice their opinions and share their ideas. In return, I expect students to: (1) come to class prepared and on time, (2) be respectful of me and other students (pay attention, turn off electronic devices,) (3) treat other students and their ideas/opinions with civility and respect.

The Sociology Program at Dixie State respects the rights of faculty to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions that do not impede the learning process. Disruptive classroom behavior **will not be tolerated**. Due to the nature of the subject, sensitive material will frequently be discussed in this course. All opinions are welcome and encouraged, but should be expressed with tact and discretion out of respect for your peers. I reserve the right as the instructor to stop any conversation I deem inappropriate and/or ask students to leave the classroom if I feel that behavior is inappropriate. Out of common courtesy students should be thoughtful about turn-taking, turning off their cell phones and/or other distracting electronic devices, and arriving to class on time. Unless a student has special needs and provides documentation that their use of above equipment is essential, such use of equipment is not allowed in this classroom. Repeated violations will result in expulsion from the class. Follow this link to view the DSC Disruptive Behavior Policy: <http://new.dixie.edu/reg/?page=fall2012>

### **Student Evaluation & Assessment:**

Grades will be determined from the total points possible in the class. You may drop your lowest quiz score **and** your lowest pop-quiz score. I encourage students to check their scores carefully, (I am not perfect; I make mistakes).

Quizzes (3 of 4 @ 15 points each)= 45 Points

Pop - Quizzes (1 of 2 @ 5 points each)= 5 Points

Final Exam= 50 Points

Class Activities (10 @ 6 points each)= 60 Points

\*\*“What is sociology?”= 30 Points

\*\*\*Media Application= 50 Points

\*Sociological Research= 20 Points

Other Assignments (4 @ 10 points each)= 40 Points

**TOTAL= 300 Points**

*Extra Credit (2 @ 5 points each & 1 @ 30 Points) ≥ 40 Points*

### **Assignments:**

Students are required to complete 7 assignments for this class. Assignments must be turned in through Canvas the day they are due. I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE ASSIGNMENTS. I DO NOT ACCEPT EMAILED ASSIGNMENTS. I encourage you to keep a copy of all of your assignments. (*For more info. see assignments on Course Webpage*)

**Assignment 1: Sociological Research** – For this assignment, find a report, article, or book demonstrating sociological research of some kind. You must save or copy the article and submit it through Canvas. See Canvas page for more information and a grading rubric.

**Assignment 2: “What is Sociology?”**– Write a one-page paper describing what sociology is. This should be an essay-style paper describing sociology. (Must include at least one citation in addition to your textbook).

**Assignment 3: Movie Selection** – Your main project/assignment for this class will be a three-page paper applying a sociological theory to a movie of your choice. For this assignment, your simple task is to choose a movie. Submit through canvas: the title of the movie, the director and the copyright year of the movie you will view for this project. Include a one-paragraph synopsis of the movie.

**Assignment 4: Family Health History** – For this assignment, you will develop a family health history that describes the past and/or current health problems of your children, siblings, parents, grandparents and

aunts and uncles, (or you may choose 1 family member to focus on). Identify the social factors that contributed to the health problems of your family members. Such social factors may include stress, workplace conditions, gender role socialization, environmental hazards, socioeconomic factors, and cultural and religious beliefs. You will present these findings orally to small groups within the class, and in a written report that will be turned in through Canvas.

**\*\*\*Assignment 5: Theory Selection** – For this assignment, choose the social theory that you will apply to the movie you chose. Write a one-page summary of the social theory you have chosen. DO NOT copy this from a book or article. Write your own summary of the theory. DO NOT mention your movie in this paper. This paper is about the theory.

**\*\*\*Assignment 6: Media Application** – In a three-page paper you will describe the social theory that you have chosen, and how it applies to the movie you chose to view. Describe in detail how the theory helps explain the social phenomenon/behavior/situation that the movie depicts? Describe in detail how it applies or doesn't apply. (*It will take me at least three weeks to grade these papers*).

**Assignment 7: Sociology in Practice** – For this assignment you will interview a professional who you think might employ sociological understanding in their career. They don't have to be a sociologist, but they need to work in a field where social science plays a role in their day-to-day activities. As you will learn throughout the class, there are few jobs, if any, that DON'T fit this criteria. You will write a two-page paper describing the occupation of the individual you chose to interview, details about the interview itself, and how the job relates to the things we have learned in this class (I am looking for examples of sociological topics we have discussed, and how they apply to specific tasks your interviewee does at their job). Some examples of professions you could use are: Human Services Workers, Case Managers, Social Workers, Correctional Facilities, Law Enforcement, Adoption/Child Care Agencies, Hospitals, Religious Organizations, Research, Advertising, Politics, Public Administration, Environmental Organizations, Education, Military, International Relations, etc., etc..

### **Tips:**

Students will benefit from attending ALL classes. Pop quizzes and class activities will be given randomly throughout the semester. Questions on all quizzes and exams will come from the instructors lecture, material presented during class, and assigned readings. If you are not in attendance you will miss that information and you will not get credit for the class activities. Coming to class having read the assigned material will help students understand, process and remember course material. DO THE READING!

NOTE: Important class and college information will be sent to your Rebelmail email account. This information includes your DSC bill, financial aid/scholarship notices, notification of dropped classes, reminders of important dates and events, and other information critical to your success in this class and at DSC. All DSC students are automatically assigned a Rebelmail email account. If you do not know your user name and password, go to [www.dixie.edu](http://www.dixie.edu) and select "Rebelmail" for complete instructions. You will be held responsible for information sent to your Rebelmail email, so please check it often. (You can set it to forward to another email).

## Students with Disabilities (Americans with Disabilities Act)

Qualified students with disabilities may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. Proper documentation of a disability is required in order to receive services or accommodations. Any student eligible for and requesting reasonable academic accommodations due to a disability must provide a letter of accommodation to their professor from the Disability Resource Center within the first two weeks of the beginning of classes. Please contact the Center on the main campus to follow through with the documentation process. We are located in the Student Services Center Room #201, or you may call for an appointment and further information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) at 652-7516.

## Writing Center:

The Writer Center, on the fourth floor of the Holland Centennial Commons Building, room 421, offers free tutorial help to all students assigned a writing project. The Center's hours are as follows:

Monday through Thursday, 9am-8pm

Friday, 9am-5pm

You can walk in and begin working with a tutor if s/he is not assisting another student at that moment, make an appointment to return at another time or call (435) 652-7629 to make an appointment. Please bring to the Center a description of the writing project and a draft of the paper you wrote to meet the requirements of the project. Tutors will assist you with the organization and content of a draft. To derive the most benefit from the tutoring session please visit the Center at least two days before a paper is due. This will allow you time to revise.

See also: [http://www.dixie.edu/english/dsc\\_writing\\_center.php](http://www.dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php)

**Tentative Class Schedule:** (The Instructor reserves the right to change this schedule at any time and for any reason during the course of the semester. Any changes will be made known during class.)

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings/Assignments</u>
WEEK 1 (Feb 18)	Introduction/Syllabus/ Society/Sociology  Society	Brinkerhoff: Pgs 2-5  Mackie: "The Value of Sociology" (Course Website) -- Stark & Hirschi Reading (Course Website)
WEEK 2 (Feb 24)	Theory/Research Methods/ Culture	Brinkerhoff: Pgs 6-16 -- <b>Assignment 1 Due Feb. 24</b> <b>Assignment 2 Due Feb 28</b>
WEEK 3	Culture/Socialization/ Social Groups/	Brinkerhoff: pgs 56-74 -- Brinkerhoff: Pgs 100-120 -- Brinkerhoff: Pgs 127-144

(March 3)	Stratification	Monk: "Clashing Views on Drugs" (Course Website) <b>Assignment 3 Due March 7</b>
	Deviance/Crime/Social Control	Brinkerhoff: Pgs 241-250 <b>QUIZ 1 Available. Due by Monday @ 8:00am</b>
WEEK 4 (March 17)	Health/Medicine	Skolnick: Pgs 210-216 (Course Website) -- Brinkerhoff: Pgs 276-281 <b>Assignment 4 Due March 17</b>
WEEK 5 (March 24)	Family	<b>QUIZ 2 Available. Due by Monday @ 8:00am</b> Brinkerhoff: Pgs. 152-171
WEEK 6 (March 31)	Race/Ethnicity	Brinkerhoff: Pgs. 210-223  <b>QUIZ 3 Available. Due by Monday @ 8:00am</b> <b>Assignment 5 Due October 31<sup>st</sup></b>
	Gender	
WEEK 7 (April 7)	Education	Brinkerhoff: Pgs 284-393
WEEK 8 (April 14)	Religion	Brinkerhoff Pgs 294-299; 305-309 <b>QUIZ 4 Available. Due by Monday @ 8:00am</b> <b>Assignment 6 Due Nov. 14<sup>th</sup></b>
WEEK 7 (April 21)	Presentations	<b>Assignment 7 Due Dec 5th</b>
April 23	<b>Last day of Class -</b>	Brinkerhoff: Pgs 377-395
<b><u>April 29</u></b>	<b><u>Final Exam</u></b>	<b><u>7:30-9:30am</u></b>

**Extra Credit:**

There are three opportunities for extra credit. There will be articles and online media shows made available on Canvas that students can access from the internet. After reading the article or watching the show, students may write a one-page paper on the subject. They will give an overview of the article or show, as well as a brief discussion about their thoughts regarding the subject. These will be worth five points each.

The final option for extra credit is to complete an internship for the Big Brother/Big Sister Program. This is a one-year commitment. Students agree to spend approximately eight hours a month with a youth enrolled in the program. If you choose to do this for extra credit in this class, you will be required to fulfill your duties as a mentor for the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program for the course of the semester, and then

write a two page paper, using your experience with this program to explain a social theory discussed in class, (worth 30 points). A report will be given to me at the end of the semester to ensure your participation. (See course website for more details.)

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

Students of my class are asked to abide by the "Honor System." Under this system, students agree to follow the "Honor Pledge" which states:

***"I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity."***

Dixie's student code of conduct stipulates that "infractions" of academic dishonesty include "cheating", "falsification", and "plagiarism" (please refer to the student handbook for full definitions of each) or follow this link to view ALL DSC POLICIES & STATEMENTS: <http://new.dixie.edu/reg/?page=spring2011> . I take academic dishonesty very seriously, and acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. I will follow Dixie State guidelines outlined in The Code of Policies and Procedures for Students at Dixie State College. Students who participate in academically dishonest activities will receive an F for the course at the minimum. If you are caught cheating, even on a 5 point quiz/activity, you will flunk this course and may face stiffer penalties depending upon the nature of the offense. I reserve the right to impose sanctions and handle matters as I see fit.

### **Disclaimer:**

Please note: THIS IS A COURSE ABOUT SOCIETY AND THE PEOPLE AND GROUPS THAT COMPRISE IT. We will be discussing many of these groups and the social issues that relate to them. We will discuss, study, observe, listen to and view materials related to issues like: politics, child abuse, homosexuality, pornography, drug abuse, race, ethnicity, war, obesity, religion and more. All of the material I will show in class will be within the PG-13 rating system, or approved for public television. However, please understand that these are sensitive, graphic, provocative, and sometimes offensive issues.

### **Important Notes:**

I don't give make-up quizzes. If you miss it, you miss it.

I don't allow you to make up class activities. They are called class activities because we do them in class. If you are not in class, you can't do them.

I don't accept late work.

Class activities end up being worth 60 points. That is more than your final exam and final paper. So if you miss one activity it won't hurt you much. If you miss a bunch, it will have a drastic impact on your final grade.

The final exam is comprehensive.

I don't accept emailed assignments. Don't send an assignment to my email address. Turn them in through Canvas.

Keep a copy of all of your assignments. Sometimes you lose them, sometimes I lose them. If you have a copy, it's an easy fix. If you come to me at the end of the semester and say, "I turned that assignment in, but you don't have it in the grade book," I will say, "Great, show me the copy."

The Tentative class schedule is called a tentative class schedule because it's a TENTATIVE class schedule. It WILL change based on our class discussions and various events during the semester. I ALWAYS update students on changes IN CLASS. If you are not in class you will not get those updates. If I change the day of a quiz and you miss it because you weren't in class to get the update, too bad.