

**Sociology 1010, Introduction to Sociology**  
**Fall 2014**  
**Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00-9:50am, 10:00-10:50am**  
**Dixie State University**

**Matthew Smith-Lahrman, Instructor**

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**Office**  
**Hours:**        Monday-Friday 11:00am-12:00pm  
                    Or by appointment

**The Course:**

Sociology is the scientific study of people doing things together. In this course we will discover that our behaviors, from the local and intimate to the global and public, are patterned and situated within the groups, communities, and societies of which we are members. We will see that sociologists uncover and understand our behaviors via empirical observations. By the end of the course you will develop a Sociological Imagination--a perspective of the world that recognizes the interconnectedness of personal biographies and larger global and historical events.

**Course Objectives:**

Students completing Introduction to Sociology will:

- demonstrate an ability to identify the ideas, people, and events that are generally thought to be important by sociologists;
- demonstrate an understanding of sociology as a scientific discipline (i.e. the gathering and analyzing of empirical data in a systematic fashion);
- demonstrate an understanding of functionalism, conflict, and symbolic interactionism as the major theoretical perspectives of sociology;
- demonstrate an understanding of the five main institutions of society (family, religion, education, economy, politics) from a sociological perspective.

**Text:**

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

**Evaluation:**

Grades will be based on three multiple choice exams, one term paper and an undetermined number of Random Attendances. The weight of the exams, attendances, and paper in determining your final grade are as follows:

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Exam #1:    | 15% |
| Exam #2:    | 20% |
| Exam #3:    | 25% |
| Paper:      | 30% |
| Attendance: | 10% |

**Exams :**

Exams will be multiple choice, 50 questions each, and graded on a straight 10 percent scale:

45 - 50 = A  
40 - 44 = B  
35 - 40 = C  
30 - 34 = D

EXAMS MUST BE TAKEN ON ASSIGNED DATES.

Note: If you score a perfect 50/50 on either Exam #1 or Exam #2 you will automatically receive an 'A' on your next exam provided you don't miss any Random Attendances (see below) between the two exams.

**Paper:**

For your paper you will engage in some sociological fieldwork of your own, applying concepts we've learned in the course to your observations. I will make available (via Canvas) a paper assignment on September 17, it is due in class on November 14. LATE PAPERS WILL BE GRADED DOWN ONE FULL GRADE.

**Random Attendance:**

At the beginning of every class we will throw a four-sided die to determine if attendance will be taken. If our predetermined number comes up on the die, attendance will be taken. If you are in class for:

90% or more of the random attendance roles you will receive an 'A';  
80% - 89% of the roles you will receive a 'B';  
70% - 79% of the roles you will receive a 'C';  
60% - 69% of the roles you will receive a 'D';  
Less than 60% of the roles you will receive an 'F'.

**Attendance:**

Attendance is not mandatory. However, I lecture on material that is not in the text. There will be exam questions from my lectures that are not from the text. If you miss class you risk missing information that will be on the exam. You also risk missing a Random Attendance if you don't show up for class.

NOTE: Your final grade is based on your letter grades, not on your accumulation of points.

ANOTHER NOTE: You must complete all exams and assignments to pass this class.

FINAL NOTE: I reserve the right to (a) adjust individual grades based on my evaluation of your participation and enthusiasm in the course and (b) make changes to the syllabus during the course if I feel it will benefit the class.

ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE POLICY: Academic dishonesty in any form, including, but not limited to, plagiarism on written assignments, submitting other person's work as one's own, and cheating on exams or quizzes will not be tolerated at Dixie State College of Utah.

Teachers at Dixie State College of Utah have the right to manage their classroom environments to ensure a good learning climate.

If you suspect or are aware that you have a disability that may affect your success in the course you are strongly encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) located in the North Plaza Building. The disability will be evaluated and eligible students will receive assistance in obtaining reasonable accommodations. Phone 435-652-7516.

Important class and college information will be sent to your dmail 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 dmail email account. If you do not know your user name and password, go to [www.dixie.edu](http://www.dixie.edu) and select "dmail" for complete instructions. You will be held responsible for information sent to your dmail email, so please check it often.

### Course Schedule

| <u>Week &amp; Topics</u>   | <u>Readings</u>            |
|--|----------------------------|
| <u>Week #1</u><br>August 25 - 29<br>FOUNDERS, PERSPECTIVES, AND METHODS  | Chapter 1                  |
| <u>Week #2</u><br>September 1 - 5<br>FOUNDERS, PERSPECTIVES, AND METHODS<br><b>No Class, Monday, September 1</b> | Chapter 1                  |
| <u>Week #3</u><br>September 8 - 12<br>CULTURE AND STRUCTURE  | Chapters 2 & 4 (pp. 74-84) |
| <u>Week #4</u><br>September 15 - 19<br>GROUPS<br><b>Hand out Term Paper Assignment, Wednesday, September 17</b>  | Chapter 5                  |

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <u>Week #5</u><br>September 22 - 26<br>SELF & EVERYDAY LIFE   | Chapters 3 & 4 (pp. 85-96)          |
| <u>Week #6</u><br>September 29 - October 3<br><b>Exam #1, Monday, September 29</b><br>DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL             | Chapter 6                           |
| <u>Week #7</u><br>October 6 - 10<br>DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL   | Chapter 6                           |
| <u>Week #8</u><br>October 13 - 17<br>STRATIFICATION<br><b>No School, Friday, October 17</b>                                   | Chapter 7                           |
| <u>Week #9</u><br>October 20 - 24<br>EHNICITY AND RACE  | Chapter 8                           |
| <u>Week #10</u><br>October 27 - 31<br>SEX AND GENDER  | Chapter 9                           |
| <u>Week #11</u><br>November 3 - 7<br>HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE<br><b>Exam #2, Wednesday, November 5</b>                           | Chapter 10                          |
| <u>Week #12</u><br>November 10 - 14<br>FAMILY<br><b>Term Paper Due, Friday, November 14</b>                                   | Chapter 11                          |
| <u>Week #13</u><br>November 17 - 21<br>EDUCATION AND RELIGION   | Chapter 12                          |
| <u>Week #14</u><br>November 24 - 28<br>POLITICS AND ECONOMY<br><b>No School Wednesday, November 26 or Friday, November 28</b> | Chapter 13                          |
| <u>Week #15</u><br>December 1 - 5<br>POPULATION AND URBAN LIFE  | Chapter 14                          |
| <u>Week #16</u><br>December 8 - 12<br>SOCIAL CHANGE AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS<br><b>Last Class, Friday, December 12</b>            | Chapter 15 & "Careers in Sociology" |

Exam #3

Monday, December 15, 10:30am - 12:30pm (10:00am class)

Friday, December 19, 9:30 - 11:30am (9:00am class)