

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.

Student Evaluation:

Grades will be determined from the total points possible in the class. Grades will be based on four Journal Essays, three In-Class Essays and a Final Exam/Project. You will also be awarded points for class participation. Late essays will be graded down one full grade, and will not be handed back until the end of the semester. **IN-CLAS ESSAYS MUST BE TAKEN ON ASSIGNED DATES.** (If you miss an essay no make-up will be given.)

Journal Essays (4 @ 50 points each)	= 200 Points
In-Class Essays (3 @ 25 points each)	= 75 Points
Final Exam/Project	= 50 Points
Class Participation	= 25 Points
TOTAL	= 350 Points

A	= 94-100%
A-	= 90 – 93%
B+	= 87 – 89%
B	= 83 – 86%
B-	= 80 – 82%
C+	= 77 – 79%
C	= 73 – 76%
C-	= 70 – 72%
D+	= 67 – 69%
D	= 60 – 66%
F	= 0 – 59%

To calculate your grade: Simply take the total of all of your scores from the assignments we have completed, and divide that number by the total possible points from all of the assignments we have completed. This will give you your percentage.

$$\frac{\text{My Total Score}}{\text{Total Possible Point}} = \text{My \%}$$

Assignments & Assessment:

Students are required to complete four assignments for this class, and may opt to complete a final project in lieu of a final exam. Assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class the day it is due (see 'Tentative Class Schedule' for due dates). Late assignments will be docked an automatic full grade immediately after the class on the due date. (*For more information on assignments see Course Webpage*)

Journal Essays: – Students will write four Journal Essays in which you apply concepts from our readings and class discussions to observations you make of a specific interactional arena. I will hand out a Journal Essay assignment on January 21st. Your essays are due in class on February 4th, February 25th, March 18th and April 15th.

In-Class Essays: – Students will write three In-Class Essays, each worth 25 points. These essays will be based exclusively on concepts from our readings and class discussions. You will write In-Class Essays on February 11th, March 18th, and April 8th.

Final Project: – Students who wish may complete a final project rather than take the final exam. These projects are open to student suggestions and ideas; however, I must approve the project before March. The project must be some form of creative endeavor illustrating or applying the concepts discussed in our readings and class discussions. Suggestions and ideas will be shown in class. (See course website for further information).

Final Exam: – The final exam will be similar to the in-class essays, but will have more questions and will be graded steeper. More information on the final will be given towards the end of the class.

Class Participation: – Class participation points will be given for students' involvement during class discussions and activities, attendance to class, as well as small assignments given requiring class participation. For example: each student will be required to prepare a 15 minute discussion, complete with a brief overview and discussion questions, of one of the assigned readings for the course. Students will then direct the class in their discussion on the date assigned. NOTE: I reserve the right to adjust individual grades based on my evaluation of your participation and enthusiasm in the course.

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 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.

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>
January 14 th	Introduction – Syllabus – What is Social Psych? – Sociology Review	NONE
January 21 st	Perspectives Hand Out Journal Essay #1	Charon, Chps. 1 & 2
January 28 th	Symbolic Interactionism The Meaning of Symbols	Charon, Chs. 3 & 4
February 4 th	The Importance of the Symbol Self <u>JOURNAL ESSAY #1 DUE</u> Hand out In-Class Essay #1 Focus Sheet	Charon, Chs. 5 & 6
February 11 th	<u>In-Class Essay #1</u> Mind Roles	Charon, Chs. 7 & 8
February 18 th	Human Action Social Interaction	Charon, Chs. 9 & 10
February 25 th	Society Erving Goffman <u>JOURNAL ESSAY #2 DUE</u>	Charon, Chs. 11 & 12
March 4 th	Studies and Applications of Symbolic Interactionism Hand out In-Class Essay #2 Focus Sheet	Charon, Ch. 13
March 11 th	<u>SPRING BREAK – No Class!</u>	
March 18 th	Realities and Truths <u>JOURNAL ESSAY #3 DUE</u> <u>In-Class Essay #2</u>	O'Brien, "What is Real," 1, 3, & "Symbolic Interactionism"
March 25 th	Humans as Symbol	O'Brien, "Shared Meaning as the basis of Humanness," 8, & 10.
April 1 st	Social Order	O'Brien, "Meaning is Negotiated Through Interaction," 13, 17, 18, & 19
April 8 th	Social Selves Hand out In-Class Essay #3 Focus Sheet	O'Brien, "From Masks to Selves," 21, 22, 23, & 27
April 15 th	Social Construction of Reality <u>JOURNAL ESSAY #4 DUE</u> <u>In-Class Essay #3</u>	O'Brien, "Building and Breaching Reality," & 30
April 22 nd	Ambiguity, Complexity and Conflict	O'Brien, "Boundaries and Contradictions," 36, & 39
April 29 th	Final Projects Review	
May 6 th	FINAL EXAM	

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). I take academic dishonesty very seriously, and 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 in any way, 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.