

South Plains College: Common Course Syllabus

Department: Behavioral Sciences

NOTE: The Common Course Syllabus section of this syllabus applies to ALL Soci1301 sections taught at SPC including campus and Internet and to all instructors. It contains important information for the course but course specific information for this section of the course is noted in the Course Information Sheet beginning on page 5.

Discipline: Sociology

Course Number: Sociology 1301

Course Title: Introduction to Sociology

Semester Hour Credit: 3 Hours; 3 Lecture Hours; 0 Lab Hours (3:3:0)

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: Yes (Behavioral Science)

Prerequisites: none for campus; TSI reading compliance for Internet

Available Formats: Conventional and Internet

Textbook: *The Real World, 5th edition, Norton Publishing.* See instructor's course information sheet for full textbook information.

Supplies: Computer and Internet access for Internet courses and campus classes.

Course Specific Instructions: Internet classes- access Blackboard from South Plains College homepage on the first day of the semester. Campus classes may use Blackboard for course material, see instructor's course information sheet for specifics.

Course description: The scientific study of human society, including ways in which groups, social institutions, and individuals affect each other. Causes of social stability and social change are explored through the application of various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. Analysis of social issues in their institutional context may include topics such as social stratification, gender, race/ethnicity, and deviance.

Semester Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Lab Hours: 0

Course Purpose/Rationale/Goal: The purpose of the behavioral science component in the core curriculum is to enable the students to understand and apply sociological theories and concepts as they examine human society. To master sociology, students will be able to identify and apply the concepts and principles in the study of group life, social institutions, and social processes.

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to complete this course, students should attend all classes, log into Blackboard multiple times per week, read required textbook/course materials, complete required homework/assignments and/or examinations. See instructor's course information sheet for specifics.

Course Evaluations: Refer to Instructor's course information sheet for specifics coursework and grading.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of

registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

See instructor’s Course Information Sheet for additions to the attendance policy.

Disability Services Policy: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland Student Health & Wellness Center 806-716-2577, Reese Center (also covers ATC) Building 8: 806-716-4675, Plainview Center Main Office: 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611, or the Health and Wellness main number at 806-716-2529. See *South Plains College General Catalog* for more information.

Academic Integrity Policy: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

- **Cheating:** Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the text- book or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of what- ever length, as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.
- **Plagiarism:** Offering the work of another as one’s own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identifiable expression of material taken from books, Internet resources, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

See *South Plains College Student Guide* and *South Plains College General Catalog* for more information.

See instructor’s course information sheet for more information.

Student Conduct Policy:

- **Classroom Conduct:** Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course.

- See *South Plains College Student Guide* for full policy covering other areas of conduct including penalties for misconduct and procedures for disciplinary action.

Grade and Academic Discipline Appeals: South Plains College provides two procedures which allow students the opportunity to address grievances of an academic nature.

- **Appeal Restrictions:** Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered. The instructor's teaching ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed
- **Informal Appeal**
 - The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or disciplinary action.
 - 2. If the student is still not satisfied, she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate departmental chairperson to discuss the situation. The chairperson may request that the instructor also be present.
 - 3. If the student is still not satisfied, he she should schedule an appointment with the Divisional Dean to discuss the situation. The dean may request that the chairperson also be present.
 - 4. If the student is still not satisfied, he she should be advised of the formal appeal process.
- **Formal Appeal:** If the student is not satisfied with the results of the informal appeal, s/he should provide the following information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:
 - A request for a formal appeals hearing.
 - 2. A brief statement of what is being appealed.
 - 3. The basis for the appeal.
 - 4. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.
- The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.
- **The Hearing**
 - **Composition of the appeals committee:**
 - Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing.
 - Faculty member of the student's choice.
 - Faculty member and student selected by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
 - President of Student Government Association.
 - Dean of Students.
 - **Other persons who should be available at the hearing:**
 - The student who requested the hearing.
 - The faculty member involved.
 - Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case.
 - Chairperson and Divisional Dean.
 - **Hearing procedure:**
 - The committee will hear the student's appeal during which the parties to the controversy and such representatives as desired will present all facts relating to the case. By majority vote, the committee will decide to sustain, amend or reverse the previous decision.
 - The decision of the committee is final and completes the academic appeals procedure.

See *South Plains College Student Guide* for more information.

Equal Rights Policy: All students are entitled to equal rights under the affirmative action and equal opportunity laws. Students are also protected against unjust or biased academic evaluation, but at the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. See *South Plains College Student Guide* for more information.

Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.
2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.
3. Describe key concepts in sociology.
4. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.
5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.

Core Objectives:

- **Communication skills**- to include effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Critical thinking skills**- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Empirical and Quantitative skills**- to include the ability to apply, analyze, and draw conclusions based on scientific and mathematical concepts.
- **Social Responsibility**- to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Texas Coordinating Board Approval Number..... 45.1101.51.25

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South Plains College: Sociology 1301 Section 251 ,252,253

Introduction to Sociology/Instructor: Robert Wood

CONTACT:

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Office Location: Reese Campus Building 4 Room 450 Office Phone: 894-9611 ext. 4034

Office hours at Reese: Tuesday and Thursday: 8:00-11:00 AM

Office Hours at TTU, Holden Hall 169: MWF 8:20-8:50 and Mondays 2:00-3:00

General Course Information

Course Description: This course is a study of human behavior by placing it within a broader social context. Specifically how groups influence people and especially how people are influenced by their society.

- Course Goals/Objectives:
- An understanding of the theories and language of sociology.
- A knowledge of how the individual influences and is influenced by society
- A better understanding of how society is structured through institutions and culture.

Course Competencies:

Each student will learn to examine the different characteristics and structure of groups within society using sociological theories. It is these theories that will provide the tools to view variations in society. For many of you, this will be your first opportunity to discuss and examine these differences. Since you are taking this class, you are now a Sociologist and therefore will go beyond “personal” views in order to be objective. Objectivity does not mean that you accept or approve but only that you intellectually understand. In many cases, understanding will lead you to broaden yourself not only as an individual but also as a member of society.

Academic Integrity- See College Catalog, p. 23.

Unfortunately, it is necessary to remind all students that any form of cheating will not be tolerated. Cheating is cheating, whether plagiarism or copying another student’s exam. It is important that you understand plagiarism and not neglect to include citations or footnotes on all papers. Please do not put yourself or others in the position of having cheated. If you are caught cheating at my discretion you may be removed from class.

Classroom Behavior:

I have few classroom rules but feel obligated to discuss disruptive behavior* and what it means in a college classroom. First, we are all adults therefore I would appreciate having your attention when I lecture or when another student is speaking. That means that you will direct comments to the entire class and not just to those seated near you. Do not get “personal” when discussing topics. Secondly, it is very rude to read papers, work on another class’s assignments or sleep in class. If you feel the need to do any of these you may be asked to leave and return the next day. Use of cell phones: please mute or turn it off during class. If you feel the need to use your cell phone in any manner (calling, texting, checking the time) you should be aware that this is not appropriate and will not be tolerated. You should also know that this would include watches or other jewelry that are internet capable. If you are texting in class I may ask you to leave and you will be counted absent for that day as you cannot concentrate on two things at once. To further clarify: *Disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to being rude to an instructor or other students, walking out of class before class ends, making “side comments” to other students, or any other non-adult behavior as defined by the instructor. The Student Guide details SPC policy concerning student conduct.

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: (http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php)

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

In the TTAP program you must conform to the regulations of the institution where you are. For example if you are taking classes on the Texas Tech campus you must conform to the Texas Tech conceal and carry regulations.

Diversity:

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it can be.

Textbook

Textbook: The Real World by Kerry Ferris and Jill Stein, 5th edition, W.W. Norton

Attendance:

For classes that meet three times a week: If you miss four or more class periods, you will be dropped from the course with an “X or an F” for the course (depending on your grades accrued at the time of the drop). If your absences occur after the drop date, you will receive “F” for the course regardless of test scores. THIS IS IMPORTANT! It is your responsibility to withdraw from the course if you do not attend.

I generally do not give excused absences but if you have some sort of documentation that will be taken into consideration when it comes to the total number of absences when being dropped from the course. You must file an appeal through the TTAP office. This will generally NOT be taken into account for the privilege of dropping a grade unless there are large extenuating circumstances. This class will generally defer to the TTAP attendance policy.

Tardiness: being late to class is very disruptive and rude. It is suggested (strongly) that you allow enough time in your schedule to arrive a few minutes early to class. Three times being tardy will count as one (1) absence. If you leave class early, that may count as a tardy or an absence. If you are tardy it is your responsibility to approach me after class and make sure that you are on the roll for that day to be counted as tardy and not absent. Absences have become an issue due to money. Money is provided by the state for all students not just those on financial aid. Attendance will be taken every class. Many students state that being a student is a job. Obviously if this is true it should be treated as such. You would not expect to keep a job if you did not report to work and did not call in as many as five times in a one semester period. Attendance relates directly to one's grade. It is certainly up to you to keep track of your absences. If you want to know how many you have, you can ask me before class or email me and ask.

Accommodations:

SPC Standard Disability Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) & Lubbock Center 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Non-Discrimination Statement

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-

discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College -1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336, 806-894-9611

Grading and Testing:

EXAMS: There will be five (5) exams. The fifth is really your final and will only include material covered after exam #4. You will drop your lowest test grade **ONLY, if you have missed two classes or fewer.** To avoid scheduling problems the exam dates are “set in stone” therefore do not allow any scheduling conflicts. If you have more absences than would allow you to drop a grade, all four exams will be counted equally.

Hunger Games ASSIGNMENT: We will work on a group/individual Hunger Games assignment. You will be responsible for reading the summary of the book, or the book if you like, and taking small quizzes over it. Once we have worked our way through the book we will have a day when we work in groups to apply what we are learning in class to the book. You will take 4 quizzes over the book that each count as worth 10 points and then the group activity will count for 10 points and another worth 50 points. The assignment will total 100 points and be the equal to an exam.

PAPER: You will write a paper over a film of your choice applying what you have learned in the class to the film. This is similar to what we will do with the Hunger Games assignment but this time you will work by yourself to complete the assignment. I will give you a more detailed assignment sheet when you are to begin working on this assignment.

IN CLASS GRADE: This will be worth 100 points and will be made up of between three and seven in class grades. These could be unannounced quizzes over the reading, in class group or individual work. If you miss one of these grades you will need to produce a note from a physician in order to have the grade omitted, or be given the chance to make the grade up.

NO LATE OR MAKEUPS ALLOWED IN THIS COURSE. If you miss a test, that is considered a “0” and will be your lowest grade. *If there is a conflict with a religious holiday, please let me know now. All exam dates are listed in the syllabus.*

90%-100%	A
80%-89%	B
70%-79%	C
60%-69%	D
59% and Below	F

IMPORTANT NOTE:

ATTENDANCE IN THIS CLASS WILL SIGNIFY YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF ALL CLASS AND SPC POLICIES. FAILURE TO ABIDE BY THESE POLICIES WILL RESULT IN EXPULSION FROM CLASS AND AN “F” FOR THE SEMESTER REGARDLESS OF RACE, ETHNICITY, SEX, RELIGION OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION.

READING--I expect you as students to read the chapters before I lecture on them. There are 2 reasons for this. First, you will have some familiarity with the material and therefore the lectures will have a lot more meaning for you. Second, if there is something that you didn't understand in the text you can point it out to me and I can clarify it to you. You will be tested over the lectures as well as the readings. The first thing you should read in each chapter is the visual summary located at the end of the chapter. Next go through the chapter noting highlighted words. You are responsible for the higher level concepts covered in the text, but it is impossible for you to understand these if the book is using

words you don't understand! Use the glossary of the book and a dictionary if this will help you. The people who read and comprehend well think and read at the same time. Read the questions at the end of the chapter first and then read the chapter looking for the answers as you read. Write in your book if it helps. Examples of the concepts that you can remember: What you understand, what you don't, anything to help! **Once again read the summary first!!**

Videos and DVD's can be an excellent instructional tool. These are not viewed by me as simply time filling devices. Any videos that we may watch for class could also be used as exam material.

South Plains College email and Blackboard- Outline portions of the powerpoints--There are outlines on **Blackboard** for notes. These would be very helpful for you to download, space out, and then print. This would be the way that I would advise to take notes and allow you to concentrate on what I am saying rather than only writing down what is on the power-point. A copy of the syllabus is also in the syllabus section. These are only portions of the powerpoints. You will need to attend class to get all of the notes.

The discussions/lectures will loosely follow the following topics. These are subject to change

Ch1	Sociological Perspective and Theory	Ch2	research methods
Ch3	Culture	Ch4	Self and Interaction
Ch5	Groups	Ch6	Deviance
Ch7	Social Stratification and Class	Ch8	Race and Ethnicity
Ch9	Constructing Gender and Sexuality	Ch10	Politics, Education and Religion
Ch12	Life at Home/Family	Ch13	Recreation and Everyday life

Course Calendar: This calendar is subject to change

Schedule for M/W/F

8/28	Syllabus		10/23	Chapter 7				
8/30	Chapter 1		10/25	Chapter 7				
9/1	Chapter 1		10/27	Chapter 8				
9/6	Chapter 2		10/30	Chapter 8				
9/8	Chapter 2		11/1	Exam #3 (6-7) and Hunger Games quiz #3 (15-22)				
9/11	Chapter 2 and 3		11/3	Chapter 8				
9/13	Chapter 3		11/6	Chapter 8				
9/15	Chapter 3		11/8	Chapter 9				
9/18	Chapter 4		11/10	Chapter 9				
9/20	Chapter 4		11/13	Chapter 9				
9/22	Exam 1 Chapter 1 & 2 and Hunger Games quiz 1 over chapters 1-7		11/15	Chapter 10 and Hunger Games quiz #4 (23-end)				
9/25	Chapter 5		11/17	Hunger Games Group project #1				

