

SOC 202 (003) – Principles of Sociology – Spring 2019
3 Credit Hours
MW 1:30-2:45 Winston 004

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Office: 1911 Building, Room 340 **Office Phone:** (919)515-0443
Office Hours: 3:00 - 4:00 Mondays and Wednesdays

Course Description and Objectives

This course offers an introduction to sociology. We will discuss key processes and institutions (including interaction, inequality, organizations, socialization, and social change), along with core sociological concepts, methods, and theories. My general goals for this course are that students will learn to think sociologically, make evidence-based arguments, become aware of key sociological concepts and issues, and make connections between course materials and their lived experiences.

At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe and demonstrate knowledge of the sociological imagination.
2. Explain the differences between personal troubles and public issues.
3. Use quantitative and/or qualitative evidence to support arguments.
4. Identify social inequalities in day-to-day life.
5. Question taken-for-granted assumptions about ‘the way things are’.
6. Use course materials to make sense of personal experiences.

Students’ abilities to meet each of these objectives depends largely upon student effort and dedication throughout the course.

This course meets the GEP social sciences requirements. Each course in the Social Sciences category will provide instruction and guidance that help students to:

1. Examine at least one of the following: human behavior, culture, mental processes, organizational processes, or institutional processes; and
2. Demonstrate how social scientific methods may be applied to the study of human behavior, culture, mental processes, organizational processes, or institutional processes; and
3. Use theories or concepts of the social sciences to analyze and explain theoretical and/or real- world problems, including the underlying origins of such problems.

Course Materials

1. Textbook: Kerry Ferris and Jill Stein. *The Real World: An Introduction to Sociology*. 6th edition. W.W. Norton & Company. ISBN: 978-0393251036. (referred to as “RW” on course schedule)
2. Other reading materials, if required, will be posted on Moodle (<https://wolfware.ncsu.edu/>)

Course Requirements and Evaluation

1. Assigned readings: There will be assigned readings for most classes. These must be completed *before the class period for which they are assigned*. Completing assigned readings on schedule is crucial for your success in this course. I also highly recommend taking notes on the assigned readings as you go through them (this helps you to understand the material better and should make it easier to study for exams).
2. Homework (75 points): There will be one homework assignment per week. The content of homework assignments will vary; generally, these assignments will help you to identify real-world examples or applications of the course material. Homework will not be time-intensive (my goal is for each assignment to take less than one hour). Homework assignments will be used as a basis for

in-class discussion. You should plan to complete your homework assignment *after* completing the assigned reading for any given class period.

Homework assignments will be due on my desk at the start of the class period (1:30p) for which they are due. Drop them off on your way to your seat. (Note: this means you must be on time for class!)

3. In-class participation (75 points): *In-class participation is required; you must read the assigned reading (and, when applicable, complete the assigned homework) to prepare for in-class participation.* Discussion (small- and large-group) and informal writing assignments will be a regular part of each class period and will comprise your in-class participation grade. In order to get full credit for in-class participation, you must be prepared for class, attend class, and participate in class discussion and class activities (including informal writing assignments).
4. Exams (250 points total/ 125 points each): There will be two exams throughout the course of the semester. Exams will center on information that has been covered in class and will primarily consist of short-answer/essay questions.
5. Final paper (100 points): You will complete one 3-4 page final paper, which will be due on Moodle at the end time of our scheduled final exam. Detailed instructions regarding the final paper will be distributed later in the semester.

Final grades are determined by the percentage of earned points out of the total points (500) available.

Therefore, your grade is made up of

Homework: 15%

In-class participation: 15%

Exams: 50% (25% each)

Final paper: 20%

This course uses standard NCSU letter grading:

A+ = 97 – 100	B+ = 87 – 90	C+ = 77 – 80	D+ = 67 – 70	F = Below 60
A = 93 – 97	B = 83 – 87	C = 73 – 77	D = 63 – 67	
A- = 90 – 93	B- = 80 – 83	C- = 70 – 73	D- = 60 – 63	

Course Policies

Attendance Policy: Attendance is necessary for success in this course and will be documented during each meeting. Regular student participation in discussion and informal writing is required. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to collect notes and other materials that were missed.

Generally, you cannot earn in-class participation points for classes that you do not attend. If you can offer documentation of a legitimate reason for missing class (e.g. being sick and having a doctor's note), you may contact me about making up in-class participation points *within one week* of your return to class. If you anticipate missing certain classes (e.g. because you are a student athlete) please contact me in advance.

For complete attendance and excused absence policies, please see <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-03>

Late Assignments: Late assignments are not accepted and will not earn any points, except under extreme circumstances and when the instructor has been notified in advance.

In-Class Technology Policy: *Use of cellphones, laptops, or tablets during class time is not allowed.* If you have a compelling reason for using any of these devices in class and would like special permission to do so, please come talk to me privately within the first two weeks of the semester and we might be able to work something out.

Requirements of Credit-Only (S/U Grading): In order to receive a grade of S, students are required to take all exams and quizzes, complete all assignments, and earn a grade of C- or better. Conversion from letter grading to credit only (S/U) grading is subject to university deadlines. Refer to the Registration and Records calendar for deadlines related to grading. For more details refer to <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-15>.

Requirements for Auditors (AU): Information about and requirements for auditing a course can be found at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-04>.

Policies on Incomplete Grades: If an extended deadline is not authorized by the instructor or department, an unfinished incomplete grade will automatically change to an F after either (a) the end of the next regular semester in which the student is enrolled (not including summer sessions), or (b) the end of 12 months if the student is not enrolled, whichever is shorter. Incompletes that change to F will count as an attempted course on transcripts. The burden of fulfilling an incomplete grade is the responsibility of the student. The university policy on incomplete grades is located at <https://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-50-03/>

Academic Integrity & Honesty

Academic Integrity: Students are required to comply with the university policy on academic integrity found in the Code of Student Conduct found at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-11-35-01>

Academic Honesty: See <http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-11-35-01> for a detailed explanation of academic honesty.

Honor Pledge: Your signature on any test or assignment indicates "I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this test or assignment."

Other Important Policies & Statements

Electronically-Hosted Course Components

Students may be required to disclose personally identifiable information to other students in the course, via electronic tools like email or web-postings, where relevant to the course. Examples include online discussions of class topics and posting of student coursework. All students are expected to respect the privacy of each other by not sharing or using such information outside the course.

Accommodations for Disabilities

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, student must register with the Disability Services Office (<http://www.ncsu.edu/dso>), 919-515-7653. For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-01>.

Non-Discrimination Policy

NC State University provides equality of opportunity in education and employment for all students and employees. Accordingly, NC State affirms its commitment to maintain a work environment for all employees and an academic environment for all students that is free from all forms of discrimination. Discrimination based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Harassment of any person (either in the form of quid pro quo or creation of a hostile environment) based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation also is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Retaliation against any person who complains about discrimination is also prohibited.

NC State's policies and regulations covering discrimination, harassment, and retaliation may be accessed at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-04-25-05> or http://www.ncsu.edu/equal_op/. Any person who feels that he or she has been the subject of prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should contact the Office for Equal Opportunity (OEO) at 919-515-3148.

Basic Needs

The Pack Essentials program (<https://dasa.ncsu.edu/pack-essentials/>) provides support and resources for students facing food or housing insecurity. Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing is urged to look at the Pack Essentials website or contact the Division of Academic and Student Affairs for support. If you want to discuss your situation and review available resources in a confidential meeting with the Student Ombuds, you can also schedule a face-to-face or phone meeting by calling 919-513-3401.

Course Schedule

Dates	Topic	Assignments & Exams
<i>Unit 1: Basic Concepts</i>		
January 7–9	Course Introduction; Sociological Imagination	M: None W: Read Syllabus and RW p. 6-16 (ch. 1); HW 1
January 14–16	Theoretical Perspectives; Methods & Evidence-Based Arguments	M: Read RW p. 16-31 (ch. 1) W: Read RW ch. 2; HW 2
January 23 No class January 21 (MLK Jr. Day)	Culture & Ideology	M: <i>No class</i> W: Read RW ch. 3; HW 3
January 28–30	Socialization & Self	M: Read RW p. 96-114 (ch. 4) W: Read RW p. 115-121 (ch. 4); HW 4
<i>Unit 2: Social Inequalities</i>		
February 4–6	Social Class	M: Read RW p. 180-201 (ch. 7); HW 5 W: Read RW p. 201-215 (ch. 7)
February 11–13	Gender	M: Read RW p. 250-266 (ch. 9) W: Read RW p. 266-279 (ch. 9); HW 6
February 18–20	Gender (cont'd); Race	M: Read Johnson article; HW 7 W: Read RW p. 216-230 (ch. 8) and Tatum and Schwalbe articles
February 25–27	Race (cont'd);	M: Review last Wednesday's readings W: Read RW p. 230-241 (ch. 8); HW 8
March 4–6	Intersectionality; Exam 1	M: Read Kaufman article; HW 9 W: Exam 1
<i>Unit 3: Social Institutions</i>		
March 11–13 No class (Spring Break)		M & W: <i>No class</i>
March 18–20	Politics; Education	M: Read RW p. 286-302 (ch. 10) W: Read RW p. 302-313 (ch. 10)

		10); HW 10
March 25–27	Religion; Work & Economy	M: Read RW p 313-321 (ch. 10); HW 11 W: Read RW p. 324-335 and 343-351 (ch. 11)
April 1–3	Work & Economy (cont'd); Family	M: Read RW p. 335-343 and 351-357 (ch. 11); HW 12 W: Read RW ch. 12
April 8 No class April 10	Mass Media	M: Read RW p. 393-405 (ch. 13); HW 13 W: <i>No class</i>
<i>Unit 4: Social Change and the “Big Picture”</i>		
April 15–17	Social Change	M: Read RW p. 480-496 (ch. 16) W: Read RW p. 496-503 (ch. 16); HW 14
April 22–24 (Last Week of Classes)	Review & Reflection; Exam 2	M: No reading assignment; HW 15 W: Exam 2
Final Paper Due by 4:00 pm Wednesday, May 1		

NOTE: This course schedule is subject to change. The instructor will notify students of any changes.