

**SOC 202 (010) – Principles of Sociology – Fall 2019**  
**3 Credit Hours**  
**MW 3:00-4:15 Winston 129**

**Instructor:** Annika Wilcox  
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**Office Hours:** 1:45–2:45 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.
2. **In-class participation (75 points):** *In-class participation is required; you must read the assigned reading 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). Each student is allowed two absences; accumulating more than two absences (without a doctor's note or other good reason) will negatively impact your participation grade.
3. Data Workshop Assignment (100 points): You will choose one of two assignment options to further examine a topic that we cover in Unit 1. Each option entails collecting data and a writing a 3-4 page essay analysis. Instructions regarding the data workshop assignment can be found on Moodle.
  4. Class Discussion Leadership (25 points): You will choose a class period during Unit 2 in which you will work with a group of 4 of your classmates to lead class discussion for 30-45 minutes. Instructions regarding class discussion leadership can be found on Moodle.
  5. Midterm Exam (100 points): The midterm exam will center on information covered in the first half of the course and will consist of short-answer/essay questions.
  6. Visual Essay Assignment (100 points): You will create a photo/visual essay in which you use 4 original photos or other visuals to illustrate and explain a social problem that occurs within a social institution in our society (building upon Unit 3 content). The social problem you focus on will be up to you. Instructions regarding the visual essay assignment will be distributed later in the semester.
  7. Concept Map Activity (25 points): You will work in groups to complete this open-book and open-note activity during our final class period.
  8. Final Exam (75 points): The final exam will center on information covered in the second half of the course and will consist of short-answer/essay questions.

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

Therefore, your grade is made up of

- In-class participation: 15%
- Data Workshop Assignment (Unit 1): 20%
- Class Discussion Leadership (Unit 2): 5%
- Midterm Exam: 20%
- Visual Essay Assignment (Unit 3): 20%
- Concept Map: 5%
- Final Exam: 15%

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.

**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/](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
<b><i>Unit 1: Basic Concepts</i></b>		
<b>Aug. 21</b>	Course Introduction	None
<b>Aug. 26</b>	Sociological Imagination	Read Syllabus and RW p. 6-16 (ch. 1)
<b>Aug. 28</b>	Theoretical Perspectives	Read RW p. 16-31 (ch. 1)
<b>Sept. 2</b>	<i>No class</i>	N/A
<b>Sept. 4</b>	Methods & Evidence-Based Arguments	Read RW ch. 2
<b>Sept. 9</b>	Culture & Ideology	Read RW ch. 3
<b>Sept. 11</b>	Socialization & Self	Read RW p. 96-114 (ch. 4)
<b>Sept. 16</b>	Socialization & Self Cont'd	Read RW p. 115-121 (ch. 4)
<b><i>Unit 2: Social Inequalities</i></b>		
<b>Sept. 18</b>	Social Class	Read RW p. 180-201 (ch. 7) <i>Data Workshop Assignment Due</i>
<b>Sept. 23</b>	Social Class Cont'd	Read RW p. 201-215 (ch. 7)
<b>Sept. 25</b>	Gender	Read RW p. 250-261 (ch. 9)
<b>Sept. 30</b>	Gender Cont'd	Read RW p. 262-275 (ch. 9), Johnson article
<b>Oct. 2</b>	Gender Cont'd	Read RW p. 276-279 (ch. 9), West and Zimmerman article
<b>Oct. 7</b>	Race	Read RW p. 216-225 (ch. 8), Tatum article
<b>Oct. 9</b>	Race Cont'd	Read RW p. 225-241 (ch. 8)
<b>Oct. 14</b>	Race Cont'd	Read RW p. 243-247 (ch. 8), Hartmann article
<b>Oct. 16</b>	Intersectionality & Review	Read Kaufman article, Yoder and Aniakudo article
<b>Oct. 21</b>	Midterm	<i>Midterm</i>

<b><i>Unit 3: Social Institutions</i></b>		
<b>Oct. 23</b>	Politics	Read RW p. 286-302 (ch. 10)
<b>Oct. 28</b>	Education	Read RW p. 302-313 (ch. 10)
<b>Oct. 30</b>	Religion	Read RW p. 313-321 (ch. 10)
<b>Nov. 4</b>	Work & Economy	Read RW p. 324-335 and 343-351 (ch. 11)
<b>Nov. 6</b>	Work & Economy Cont'd	Read RW p. 335-343 and 351-357 (ch. 11)
<b>Nov. 11</b>	Family	Read RW ch. 12
<b>Nov. 13</b>	Mass Media	Read RW p. 393-405 (ch. 13)
<b><i>Unit 4: Social Change and the "Big Picture"</i></b>		
<b>Nov. 18</b>	Social Change	Read RW p. 480-496 (ch. 16)
<b>Nov. 20</b>	Social Change Cont'd & Reflection	Read RW p. 496-503 (ch. 16)
<b>Nov. 25</b>	<i>No class</i>	<i>Visual Essay Assignment Due</i>
<b>Nov. 27</b>	<i>No class</i>	N/A
<b>Dec. 2</b>	Review	None
<b>Dec. 4</b>	Review	<i>Concept Map (complete in class)</i>
<b>Final Exam: 1:00 - 4:00 pm Friday, Dec. 13</b>		

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