

**UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology**  
**Course Syllabus: Introductory Sociology**  
**SOC 1010 Section #001 — CRN# 41451**  
**Fall 2016**

**Instructor:**

Jason J. Leiker, PhD

Office: Old Main 224G

Office Hours: Monday 10:25-11:25 and 12:25-1:25, Wednesday 10:25-11:25,  
and by appointment

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**Meeting Time and Place:**

Mon., Wed., and Fri. 9:30-10:20

Old Main 225

**Teaching Assistants:**

Kaitlyn Brouwer

Rachael Gulbrandsen

Joshua Haas

Francesca Matern

**Supplemental Instruction Leader:**

Kami Ahart

E-Mail Address: kamiahart@gmail.com

S.I. Times and Places: Tuesday 5:30-6:20 in MAIN 115

Thursday 5:30-6:20 in MAIN 115

**Required Texts and Materials:**

***Textbook Information***

Macionis, John J. 2017 (14<sup>th</sup> Edition). *Society: The Basics*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.  
{It is imperative that you have the 14<sup>th</sup> edition of text for this course.}

I would also strongly encourage students to purchase the loose-leaf version of the text that is bundled with a blue “REVEL Student Access Code Card” which has an ISBN 9780134226989 . This “REVEL Student Access Code Card” allows students to access a host of useful online materials including a mobile-ready eBook version of the *Society: The Basics* (with audio) and short integrated quizzes. You can find the specific link to our class on the

Canvas homepage. I think these online materials are an excellent resource for students. *However, using the textbook website and online resources will not be required.*

### **Course Description:**

This course provides an acquaintance with basic concepts and major figures of the discipline. We will focus social processes and institutions and look at the relationship of the individual to social structures. We will explore how and why people of different cultures control their societies, evaluate their behavior, and organize as they do. In short, we will examine how people become human through the use of the sociological perspective.

### **Course Objectives:**

#### ***USU's IDEA Essential Course Objectives***

In Introductory Sociology (SOC 1010) , we will focus on 3 broad learning objectives; These 3 objectives are:

1. Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)
2. Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories
3. Learning to apply course materials (to improve rational thinking, problem solving and decisions)

#### ***Sociology Program Objectives***

Upon completion of the course students should be able to:

- 1) Understand and apply concepts and theories used in sociology.
- 2) Develop and use their "sociological imagination" and see how individuals, even themselves, are influenced by other people and by society.
- 3) See that although they are shaped by society they also can change society.

Sociology classes collectively contribute to form the major goals of the Sociology Program. Students will learn to:

- 1) Communicate effectively.
- 2) Think critically, analytically, and reason logically about social issues and/or social problems.
- 3) Understand and use sociological principles, concepts, and theories to examine social behavior and issues.
- 4) Understand and evaluate the application of sociological methods to social behavior and issues.

Specific assignments in this course will assess students= learning in one or more of the above objectives.

## **Classroom Policies and Procedures:**

### ***Attendance***

Since much of what students will learn in this course occurs during lectures, class discussion, class activities, and video presentations, regular attendance is expected. Students who miss class are responsible for getting notes and handouts. Neither I nor my teaching assistants will lend our notes or handouts to students. In the case of a student's unexcused absence from class, no make-up exams, quizzes, or class discussion assignments will be given to the student. Only those students who miss class with an excused absence will be allowed to make-up an exam, quiz, or class discussion assignment. Make-up exams and quizzes/activities will be given only to those students who have filled out a note card regarding the excused absence and, unless there is schedule change, will occur Monday, December 5 during the regular class period. All make-up quizzes/activities will consist of a written assignment. If the student's participation in organized University activities should require missing a class, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in advance and to arrange to make-up the work missed. Likewise, students who miss class for any other legitimate reason should notify the instructor in advance of their absence if possible. No make-up quizzes/activities or exams will be given to a student who fails to notify the instructor in advance of an absence unless some form of documentation of an emergency is produced by the student. Only under the most extreme emergencies will I accept a late extra credit service project paper or give a make-up exam or quiz/activity without written notification of an excused absence from the University. There will be at least ten quizzes/activities given throughout the course of the semester to encourage students to attend class and to keep up with course materials. Students have one week from the time of their return to class to make arrangements to show documentation of any excused absence from class. I strongly prefer handling attendance issues in my office during my office hours. **Students must fill out an index card to arrange any make-up work. An index card must be filled out by the student for each day there is an excused absence. Only those students who fill out an index card(s) with excused absences will be allowed to complete any missed class assignments. All excused make-up work is scheduled to occur on Monday, December 5 during the regular class period.**

### ***Classroom Behavior***

I will follow University guidelines and policies regarding student behavior in this course. In general, I expect students to respect other students and help maintain the proper learning environment needed for students to succeed in this course. Please do not disrupt the class by walking in late, leaving early, holding a conversation or answering your cell phone during a lecture or a video presentation. Students will not be permitted to take exams or quizzes/activities if they walk in after the start of the assignment or leave prematurely unless prior arrangements have been made by the student. No cell phone use of any kind is allowed during an exam or quiz/activity. As per University policy, I will not hesitate in failing and removing a disruptive student from this course.

### ***Reading Assignments***

Readings will be assigned from *Society: The Basics* by Macionis. Students are expected to follow the reading schedule provided in the tentative class schedule. Please read the

assignment prior to the class period for which it is assigned. By following the reading schedule students will benefit by not only being able to ask better questions, discuss ideas more often, and do better on the pop quizzes, but also students who follow the reading schedule will not be faced with reading the approximate 100+ pages covered by each exam the night before the exam. Short additional readings will be assigned throughout the semester and will be made available to students thru electronic reserve.

### ***Video Presentations***

During the course of the semester numerous videos will be shown. Students are expected to take careful notes during these presentations. Test items will be taken from the information that is presented in the videos. No videos will be loaned to students who miss class. Students who miss class will assume the responsibility of getting the notes from the video presentation.

### ***Exams***

There are 5 exams in this course. The first 4 exams are worth 100 points each. The first 4 exams will not be cumulative but considerable material will be covered by each exam. The fifth exam is worth 120 points. A portion of the fifth exam will be comprehensive. All exams will be “objective” and can include true/false, multiple choice, and matching questions. In calculating a student's course grade, the lowest exam score from the first 4 exams will be dropped. However, the fifth exam cannot be dropped. Students will be expected to take exams as scheduled. Students will not be permitted to take exams or quizzes if they walk in after the start of the assignment unless prior arrangements have been made by the student. All make-up examinations are scheduled to be given during the regular class period on Monday, December 5 and only will be allowed if the absence was excused and an index card was filled out by the student.

### ***Quizzes/Activities***

There will be at least 10 quizzes or class activities throughout the course of the semester. Each quiz or class activity will be worth 10 points. In calculating a student's course grade, the 2 lowest quiz/activity scores will be dropped. Thus, students can miss or fail at 2 quizzes/activities without lowering their grade. Quizzes and activities can include worksheets from video presentations; short take home written assignments, taking part in an online class discussion, web-based exercises, and the participation in a class activity. Students will not be permitted to take quizzes or class activities if they walk in after the start of the assignment unless prior arrangements have been made by the student. All make-up quizzes/activities will consist of a written assignment, are scheduled to be given during the regular class period on Monday, December 5 and only will be allowed if the absence was excused and an index card was filled out by the student.

### ***Extra Credit Service Project Paper***

Students will be given the opportunity to complete a 2-3 page typed paper for the course for extra credit. The service project paper will be worth a maximum of 25 points extra credit for no more than 1/3 of a letter grade increase. The service project paper will involve applying sociological concepts and theories to the experiences students have while spending at least 3 hours engaging in a service activity. Students are to use the Val R. Christensen Service

Center (TSC 332) or SSWA Department to arrange for their service activity. Service activities are to occur during the current semester. Service activities used to meet the requirements of another USU course are **not** to be used for this paper. The paper portion of the extra credit service project is due at the assigned time during the final exam period for the course. I will provide further requirements and details regarding this assignment between the first and second exam.

***Students with Disabilities***

Students with ADA-documented physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. Veterans may also be eligible for services. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, (435)797-2444 voice, (435)797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print or digital) are available with advance notice. Please let me know how I can assist you in succeeding in this course.

***Academic Dishonesty***

Acts of academic dishonesty (i.e. cheating, falsification, plagiarism) will not be tolerated in this class. I will follow University guidelines regarding my academic dishonesty policy. Students who participate in academically dishonest activities will receive an F for the course at the minimum. Thus, if you are caught cheating even on a 5 point quiz/activity, you will flunk this course and may face stiffer penalties depending upon the nature of the offense.

***Grades***

Grades will be determined on a total points basis. Remember that your lowest exam score from the first 4 exams will be dropped and your 2 lowest quiz/activity scores will be dropped. I will add any extra credit points earned to the total before determining grades. Neither my teaching assistant nor I will discuss grades over the phone. Students have 10 days from posting of scores for an exam or quiz/activity to review and question the number of points they have received for the activity. Points and grades will be assigned as follows:

Exam 1-4 Ranked #1	100 points	470-500 points = A (94-100%)
Exam 1-4 Ranked #2	100 points	450-469 points = A- (90-93%)
Exam 1-4 Ranked #3	100 points	435-449 points = B+ (87-89%)
Fifth Exam	120 points	415-434 points = B (83-86%)
<u>Quizzes/Activities (8 of 10)</u>	<u>80 points</u>	400-414 points = B- (80-82%)
TOTAL	500 points	385-399 points = C+ (77-79%)
(Extra credit added to total)		365-384 points = C (73-76%)
		350-364 points = C- (70-72%)
		335-349 points = D+ (67-69%)
		300-334 points = D (60-66%)
		299 or below = F (59-0%)

## **Tentative Class Schedule:**

Changes in the schedule may occur and will be announced in class. Students are responsible for being aware of any changes in the schedule. All “Chapter” readings below refer to *Society: The Basics* by Macionis. The tentative schedule is as follows:

### **Week #1**

Mon. Aug. 29 Introduction and Course Syllabus  
Ch. 1 Sociology: Perspective, Theory, and Method

Wed. Aug. 31 Ch. 1 continued

Fri. Sep. 2 Ch. 1 continued

### **Week #2**

Mon. Sep. 5 *No Class–Labor Day*

Wed. Sep. 7 Chapter 2 Culture

Fri. Sep. 9

### **Week #3**

Mon. Sep. 12 Ch. 2 continued

Wed. Sep. 14 Ch. 2 continued

Fri. Sep. 16 Ch. 2 continued  
Review for Exam #1

### **Week #4**

Mon. Sep. 19 Chapter 3 Socialization: From Infancy to Old Age (on Exam #2)

Wed. Sep. 21 **EXAM #1–CH. 1-2**

Fri. Sep. 23 Chapter 3 continued

### **Week #5**

Mon. Sep. 26 Chapter 4 Social Interaction in Everyday Life

Wed. Sep. 28 Chapter 4 continued

Fri. Sep. 30 Chapter 5 Groups and Organizations

### **Week #6**

Mon. Oct. 3 Chapter 5 continued

Tues. Oct. 5 Chapter 5 continued

Wed. Oct. 5 Chapter 5 continued  
Review for Exam #2

Fri. Oct. 7 **EXAM #2–CH. 3-5**

### **Week #7**

Mon. Oct. 10 Chapter 7 Deviance

Wed. Oct. 12 Chapter 7 continued

Fri. Oct. 14 Chapter 7 continued

### **Week #8**

Mon. Oct. 17 Chapter 8 Social Stratification

Wed. Oct. 19 Chapter 8 continued

Thurs. Oct. 20 Chapter 9 Global Stratification

Fri. Oct. 21 *No Class–Fall Break (attend Fri. classes on Thurs.)*

**Week #9**

- Mon. Oct. 24 Chapter 9 continued  
Wed. Oct. 26 Chapter 10 Gender Stratification (on Exam #4)  
Review for Exam #3  
Fri. Oct. 28 **EXAM #3–CH. 7-9**

**Week #10**

- Mon. Oct. 31 Chapter 10 continued  
Wed. Nov. 2 Chapter 12 Economics and Politics  
Fri. Nov. 4 Chapter 12 continued

**Week #11**

- Mon. Nov. 7 Chapter 14 Education, Health, and Medicine  
Wed. Nov. 9 Chapter 14 continued  
Fri. Nov. 11 Chapter 14 continued

**Week #12**

- Mon. Nov. 14 Chapter 11 Race and Ethnicity (on Exam #5)  
Review for Exam #4  
Wed. Nov. 16 **EXAM #4–CH. 10, 12, & 14**  
Fri. Nov. 18 Chapter 13 Family and Religion

**Week #13**

- Mon. Nov. 21 Chapter 15 Population, Urbanization, and Environment  
Wed. Nov. 23 *No Class–Thanksgiving Break*  
Fri. Nov. 25 *No Class–Thanksgiving Break*

**Week #14**

- Mon. Nov. 28 Chapter 15 continued  
Chapter 16 Social Change: Modern and Postmodern Societies  
Wed. Nov. 30 Chapter 16 continued  
Review for Exam #5  
Fri. Dec. 2 **EXAM #5–CH. 11, 13, 15, 16 & Comprehensive Materials**

**Week #15**

- Mon. Dec. 5 Make-Up Exam & Quiz/Activity Day  
Wed. Dec. 7 Service Project Paper Session  
Fri. Dec. 9 Service Project Paper Session

**Finals Week**

- Wed. Dec 14 **SERVICE PROJECT PAPER DUE**  
**9:30 A.M. Old Main 225**