

Summer 2017

CRN: 50546

Instructor: Richard R. Maraccini, MA Behavioral Science
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Day: Tuesday, Thursday
Time: 6:00-10:20 pm
(661) 654-3219

"Neither the life of an individual nor the history of a society can be understood without understanding both."

- C.W. Mills

Course Description

The scientific study of human social behavior: This assumes that external forces shape individual behavior. The focus of this perspective is to identify, explain, and interpret these forces. As such, essential concepts, research methods, social institutions, and applications essential to the sociological perspective are examined.

Sociology B1 satisfies the behavioral science and multicultural components for the general education requirement at Bakersfield College. It is also a requirement for those planning on obtaining an AA in sociology. Whether you major in sociology or never take another sociology course, my hope is that this course will change the way you look at your social world.

Text

Henslin, J.M. 2013. *Essentials of Sociology-Revel Access*, Bakersfield College Edition. Pearsons.
ISBN 9780134253381

Student Learning Objectives

1. Compare and contrast the basic elements of the three major theoretical perspectives in sociology.
2. Demonstrate an understanding and ability to apply the basic sociological concepts to culture, socialization, social structure, deviance, stratification, race/ethnicity, social institutions, demography, collective behavior, and social change.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic elements of the scientific method including the various methodologies used to collect, analyze, interpret the data/observations employed in sociological research.

Course Tips

- Attend every class.
- Ask questions in class, after class, and during breaks.
- Participate in class discussions.
- Read, re-read, and contemplate.
- Form study and discussion groups.
- Look for practical applications to course material.
- Talk about what you learn with others.

Reading Assignments and Lectures

Lectures will be based on the material found in assigned chapters from the text. The lectures will include in-class demonstrations and projects. Supplemental material will be brought in as the instructor deems necessary. The instructor may choose to present material in a manner different from that found in the text. This is so that you the student may have additional exposure to the different schools of thought found within contemporary sociology. It is to your advantage to read the material before each class lecture. This will not only help you to keep on top of the subject matter, but will also enable you to ask questions concerning material found in the text during class lectures and discussions. I permit taping of my lectures. The reading list is found on page 6 of the syllabus.

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy

Cell phones must be on silent mode during class lectures. Please do not answer your cell phones or text message during class time. Please let me know if you have a job, child care, or other situations that require you to be reachable. Electronic devices of any kind are not permitted during exams.

Assignments

Exams (66%)

The examination schedule is also found on page 6 of the syllabus. Each exam is arranged according to topic and the assigned corresponding chapters found in the text. The exams will be comprised of multiple choice, true/false, matching, fill-in, and short answer essay questions. The three exams will be administered at the beginning of class on the following dates: June 27th, July 13th, and July 20th. Each exam will be worth a total of 100 points. My expectation is that you have arranged your schedule so that you can attend both the lectures and take the exams on the assigned date. I will only allow rescheduling of exams if given prior advance notice. **Prior notice does not mean the day of the test.**

Projects (26%)

Project 1: All students will be required to submit a paper on one of the early contributors to sociology. You will be able to access the information at the "Sociologists Index" link at: <http://media.pfeiffer.edu/lridener/DSS/>. You may write your paper on any one of the following early sociologists: Auguste Comte, C.H. Cooley, Emile Durkheim, Karl Marx, G.H. Mead, Herbert Spencer, Max Weber, T. Veblen, Jane Addams, Harriett Martineau, Vilfredo Pareto, W.I. Thomas, or W.E.B. Dubois. Summarize their background and early life experience. Next, summarize their major works and contributions to the field of sociology. The paper has a required length of 2-3 pages and is worth a total of 50 points. It must be typed in a double-spaced format, and have a cover page. Properly cite or reference material using the appropriate ASA style. The cover and reference page is in addition to the 2-3 pages of text. It will be due on June 29th. Papers will no longer be accepted a week

after the due date and face an automatic 10% deduction. Papers must be turned in at the start of class on the due date. I will not accept any emailed papers.

The ASA format is available at the following link: <http://web.calstatela.edu/library/guides/3asa.pdf>.

Project 2: Part of your grade will require you to conduct a sociological observation. You will be required to visit a public location, take notes, and then write paper addressing the following:

1. Describe the physical setting. What are some of the key objects, as well as its mood and pace? Further describe a couple of the social and cultural norms of the location. Make sure you address how people dressed, interacted, occupied space, and spoke to one another. [10 pts]
2. What appeared to be the social statuses and roles of the individuals in the location? Explain why you think this is. Also, what did you learn by observing the location sociologically? [10 pts]
3. Twenty-five points will be allotted to your incorporation of ideas from the assigned chapters and class discussions. Use material from both to support your observations. Demonstrate your understanding of the material. Cite chapter and page when using material taken from the text. If you are incorporating material from class discussions cite the date of the lecture, and make sure you refer to the specific portion of the lecture you are referring to.
4. Five points will likewise be allotted to paper organization, appropriate citation, spelling, and grammar. The paper should have a clear introduction that includes what you will discuss in the rest of the paper, a body that addresses questions 1 and 2, and a conclusion tying the entire paper together.

The observation is due on July 6th. It will be worth a total of 50 points. It must be typed and double-spaced, and contain a title page. The paper has 3-4 page required length (excluding the cover page). All citations and referencing must follow the appropriate ASA style. Observation notes must be turned in as they will count as part of the total grade. Late papers will be accepted one week after the due date, but face a 10% deduction. I will not accept any emailed papers.

Reflexive Assignment (8%)

The reflexive assignment will be a short paper approximately 2-3 pages in length. It will require you to consider, apply, and discuss what you have learned in class discussions, the readings, and the lectures. The reflexive assignment will be due on July 18th. The assignment will be worth a combined total of 50 points. It must be typed and double spaced. Assignments cannot be submitted by email. July 20th, the last scheduled exam, is the last day I will accept late papers. Late papers face a 10% deduction.

Grading

Course grades will be determined employing the following scale:

405-450	A
360-404	B
315-359	C
270-314	D
269 or below	F

Please note: The above grading scale is subject to any changes that the instructor deems necessary. The three exams combined will comprise approximately two-thirds of the total grade, while the dead sociologist, observation, and reflexive assignment will comprise the remaining one-third. **Students will write no less than 10 written pages in accord with BC's Behavioral Science Department policy.**

Attendance

This class meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00-10:20 p.m. The lecture will start promptly at 6:00 p.m., so you need to make sure you arrive on time. Tardies disrupt the learning process for everyone. Each student is expected to arrange her or his schedule so that they can attend each class session. I welcome questions during the lecture or in-class discussions: however, I do not allow conversations between students during the lecture even if it is about the lecture material. If you are hospitalized or ill for any prolonged period of time, please contact me as-soon-as-possible. Attendance will usually be taken at the beginning and near the end of each class. **Research repeatedly shows that regular attendance is the best predictor of class grades.**

Withdrawals

The instructor expects the student to officially drop this course. Students are responsible for officially withdrawing from any classes they no longer plan to attend. **Non-attendance does not release students from this responsibility.** Any student who stops attending and failed to officially withdraw will receive a letter grade based on the total number of points she/he accumulated at the time they stopped attending.

Other Important Dates: June 14th is the last day you can drop and still receive a refund. The last day you can officially withdraw from a semester length class with a "W" is July 5th.

Academic honesty

"plagiarize (plā'jə rīz'; -jē ə-) to take (ideas, writings, etc.) from (another) and pass them off as one's own."
(Neufeldt, V. (Ed.). (1988). *Webster's new world dictionary*. New York: Webster's New World.)

Plagiarism occurs when you use the exact written or spoken words, a summary of written or spoken words, and/or the ideas that someone else has produced without giving the original author credit. When you use another author's material you must give that person credit by indicating the source of the material in your text. Buying a paper or having someone write your paper is also considered plagiarism. A plagiarized paper will receive no (0%) credit.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disabled Student Programs & Services (661-720- 2000), **Delano Campus, Room 1001**, as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Habits of Mind

How will you succeed at BC this semester? What determines success is not circumstance, but habit. **Habits of Mind**, **It's POSSIBLE at BC** has many free tools intended to help you accomplish your goals in school. Only you can overcome the challenges you face this semester and in life. Start out successfully with these steps:

- Visit the Habits of Mind website: www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/habits-of-mind .
- Download the app for Habits of Mind at Bakersfield College for power in your palm.
- Ask for help, do the work, and refuse to quit.

Success takes energy, planning, and strategies for both the expected challenges in school as well as the unexpected twists life can take. Ask your professor for more information. Now is the time to develop new habits.

Office

Messages can be left for me at my office at (661) 654-3219. I can also be reached by either of my two emails (see first page). My office fax is (661) 654-6971.

Welcome to Sociology B1!

Reading List/Course Schedule (Subject to Change)

TOPIC 1: THE STUDY OF SOCIETY, CULTURE, INTERACTION, AND SOCIAL STRUCTURES.

Read: Chapter 1: "The Sociological Perspective"; Chapter 2, "Culture"; and Chapter 4, "Social Structure and Social Interaction".

Tuesday 6/13: "Sociology: Perspective, Theory, and Method" (ch. 1).

Thursday 6/15: Finish Chapter 1. Start chapter 2 ("Culture")

Tuesday 6/20: Finish chapter 2. Start chapter 4 ("Social Structure and Social Interaction").

Thursday 6/22: Finish chapter 4.

Exam #1: Tuesday 6/27 (chs. 1-2, 4). Start chapter 3 ("Socialization").

TOPIC 2: SOCIALIZATION, GROUPS, FORMAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND INSTITUTIONS

Read: Chapter 3, "Socialization"; Chapter 5, "Social Groups and Formal Organizations"; and Chapter 12, "Marriage and Family".

Thursday 6/29: Finish ch. 3. **Famous sociologist project due.**

Tuesday 7/4: Holiday. No class.

Thursday 7/6: "Groups and Formal Organizations" (ch. 5). **Observation project due.**

Tuesday 7/11: "Marriage and Family" (ch. 12).

Exam #2: Thursday 7/13 (chs. 3,5, 12). Start chapter 8 ("Social Class in the United States").

TOPIC 3: SOCIAL CONTROL, STRATIFICATION, AND SOCIAL INEQUALITY

Read: Chapter 8, "Social Class in the United States"; and Chapter 9, "Race and Ethnicity".

Tuesday 7/18: Finish Chapter 8. Do chapter 9 ("Race and Ethnicity"). **Reflexive assignment due.**

Exam #3: Thursday 7/20 (chs. 6, 8-9). Enjoy the rest of the Summer!