

## CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS

### SOC 1000 – INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

**Semester/Year:** Fall 2015 (SOC 1000-02: 41956)

**Lecture Hours:** 3

**Lab Hours:** 0

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Class Time:** 11 am-12:15 pm

**Days:** T/R

**Room:** LH 186

**Instructor's Name:** Evin Rodkey, Ph.D.

**Instructor's Contact Information:**

**Office Phone:**

**Email:**

**Office:** LH 175-E

(307) 268-2696

evinrodkey@caspercollege.edu

Email is the best way to reach me. You may also call my office line at any time; please leave a voicemail if needed.

#### **Office Hours:**

10-11 am Mon-Fri; also 12-1 pm Mon

I will be available at other times, especially in the afternoon; if you would like to meet at a different time than those listed, please contact me.

#### **Course Catalog Description:**

*(3L)(3CR) [E]* A survey of the organization of human society and the impact of group membership and interpersonal relationships upon human behavior.

#### **Statement of Prerequisites:**

None required

#### **Goal:**

In general, I hope that at the end of the semester we all have a basic understanding of how sociologists view the world, how they study it, and we should also have a sense of how to use sociology in our work and in our lives.

#### **Outcomes:**

This class will focus on the following two of the Casper College course outcomes:

1. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication
2. Use the scientific method
- 3. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity**
- 4. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives**
5. Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities

6. Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research
7. Describe the value of personal, civic, and social responsibilities
8. Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data

**Course Objectives:**

--Describe and apply three perspectives within the field of sociology: functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interaction.

--Identify research methods in the social sciences.

--Analyze the concept of race and its role in American life.

--Analyze the concept of gender and its role in American life.

**Methodology:**

Lecture and discussion; attendance and active participation is required. Your feedback is valuable as the instructor uses course evaluations in determining course methodology.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

**NOTE: All work is due both by hard copy in class AND by uploading to turnitin on Moodle. All work may be subject to resubmission.**

**--Section Review Packets:**

At the end of each of the three Sections of the course you will be responsible for submitting a packet of materials addressing content from the respective section, which will include writing assignments. A portion of this will include materials from previous class sessions. Overall, keep in mind you will incorporate material from class and the assigned reading; therefore, if you miss class or readings throughout the section, you will do worse on these and get less out of them. Detailed instructions will be given in class and posted on Moodle.

**--Exam:**

In the last week, we will have an exam in class that may also consist of take home material assigned prior. You will be given precise criteria to focus on in preparation for the exam.

Section Review Packet #1	50
Section Review Packet #2	50
Section Review Packet #3	50
EXAM	50

**TOTAL:** 200 (A: 200-180 / B: 179-160 / C: 159-140 / D: 139-120 / F: 119-0)

**Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.**

**Required Text, Readings, and Materials:**

One book is required, which is available at the campus bookstore. Also keep in mind online sources for purchasing and renting, as well as library systems for borrowing. Also note that the book is placed

on reserve in the campus library for temporary use (and usually under other SOC 1000 sections as well). **One way or another, you must have full access to the book.**

**Sociology, 15<sup>th</sup> edition.** John J. Macionis. Pearson, 2013.  
ISBN-13: 978-0205985609  
ISBN-10: 0205985602

Additional required readings may be posted or handed out.

### **Class Policies:**

**IMPORTANT:** See the "Supplement to the Syllabus" for further information to help you succeed in this class and beyond.

**Do not use your phone or other electronic devices during class.** It's rude and distracting to you, me, and the rest of the class. However, if you have a special situation, please let me know prior to class and exceptions can be made.

Late work is generally not accepted; however, contact the instructor in advance with any problems and in extraordinary circumstances (determined by the instructor), brief extensions may be granted.

As noted above, regarding attendance and participation, though there is no grade category for this, the coursework requires attendance and active participation; therefore, you will lose significant points for missing class. Also note remember that, per college policy during the specified period, I will submit a faculty-initiated withdrawal (FIW) for students who fail to attend scheduled course sessions for two consecutive weeks.

### **Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade:**

Thursday, November 12, 2015

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

**Chain of Command:** If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Chair/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty:** (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

**Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college's Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, [bheuer@caspercollege.edu](mailto:bheuer@caspercollege.edu). The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students

requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

## **COURSE CALENDAR**

**NOTE:** Dates and other information may change. If so, you will be notified in class (if possible) and by email.

**IMPORTANT:** Reading for each week must be completed **by Tuesday** of that week. Take notes on the reading as you go—this will help you! **Also note that chapters are not always in order.**

In each chapter of *Sociology*, you will find a varied number of features titled, “Seeing Sociology in Everyday Life,” “Thinking About Diversity: Race, Class, and Gender,” “Controversy and Debate,” and “Thinking Globally” (not all chapters have all four) that detail important material relevant to the given chapter. Be sure to incorporate these into your reading.

Also note each chapter begins with a list of “Learning Objectives” and an opening feature titled “The Power of Society.” You should use these to help guide your reading.

Further note that each chapter features a number of photographs, maps, charts, figures, etc. Be sure to incorporate captions and further explanations accompanying these features.

Finally, note that the end of each chapter features “Seeing Sociology in Everyday Life” (separate from the feature mentioned above) and “Making the Grade” that you should review.

### **SECTION I: FUNDAMENTALS OF SOCIOLOGICAL INQUIRY**

To begin the course we will discuss the basic concepts of sociology, focusing on the major tenets of the discipline, the development of the field, and the research methods used to generate sociological understanding. We will also focus on the fundamentals of society and processes of learning to live in society.

#### **WEEK 1 – Introducing Sociology**

T 8/25

R 8/27 – **READ:** c. 1 “The Sociological Perspective”

#### **WEEK 2 – Sociological Research Methods**

**READ:** c. 2 “Sociological Investigation”

T 9/1

R 9/3

#### **WEEK 3 – How People Live: Culture**

**READ:** c. 3 “Culture”

T 9/8 (Day after Labor Day)

\*R 9/10 – **Writing Assignment #1 due at the start of class (grade part of Packet #1, see Week 6)**

#### **WEEK 4 – The Groups of People Who Live: Society**

**READ:** c. 4 “Society”

T 9/15

R 9/17

### **WEEK 5 – Learning How to Live in Society**

**READ:** c. 5 “Socialization”

T 9/22

R 9/24

### **WEEK 6 – Sexuality and Society**

**READ:** c. 8 “Sexuality and Society”

T 9/29

\*R 10/1 – **Section Review Packet #1 due at the start of class**

## **SECTION II – SOCIAL IMBALANCE**

For Section II, we will apply the conceptual material from Section I with attention to social imbalance in the realms of class, “race,” gender, and more areas of social life, including global connections. We will focus on how social systems contribute to inequality and roles we all play in such systems.

### **WEEK 7 – Social Deviance**

**READ:** c. 9 “Deviance”

T 10/6

R 10/8

### **WEEK 8 – Processes of Social Stratification in a Global Context**

**READ:**

--c. 10 “Social Stratification” (\*pp. 272-275 and 284-290 **ONLY**)

-- c. 12 “Global Stratification”

T 10/13

R 10/15

### **WEEK 9 – Social Class in the U.S.**

**READ:** c. 11 “Social Class in the United States”

T 10/20 – **NO CLASS (Fall Break)**

R 10/22

### **WEEK 10 – Social Class: Gender**

**READ:** c. 13 “Gender Stratification”

T 10/27

R 10/29

### **WEEK 11 – Social Class: “Race” and Ethnic Diversity**

**READ:** c. 14 “Race and Ethnicity”

T 11/3

\*R 11/5 (Tomorrow is Advising Day) – **Section Review Packet #2 due at the start of class**

## **SECTION III: SOCIETAL INSTITUTIONS**

In the final section of the course we will examine major social institutions and how they are constituted. We will focus on the roles they play in our lives, as well as the role we play in their development and maintenance.

**WEEK 12 – Economy and Labor**

**READ:** c. 16 “The Economy and Work”

T 11/10

R 11/12

**WEEK 13 AND THANKSGIVING WEEK – Governance / Education**

**T 11/17 – READ:** c. 17 “Politics and Government”

R 11/19 – **NO CLASS [Instructor at American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting]**

**Thanksgiving Week:**

**T 11/24 – READ:** c. 20 “Education”

R 11/26 – **NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)**

**WEEK 14 – Religion**

**READ:** c. 19 “Religion”

T 12/1

\*R 12/3 – **Section Review Packet #3 due at the start of class**

**WEEK 15 – Societal Change**

**READ:** c. 24 “Social Change: Traditional, Modern, and Postmodern Societies”

\*T 12/8 – **EXAM**

\*R 12/10 – **EXAM (contd)**