

CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Number and Title – Sociology 1000 N1 and N2

Semester/Year: Fall 2015

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Class Time: Asynchronous

Days: No scheduled days

Room: Moodle Internet Site

Instructor's Name: Beverly Taheri-Williams, Ph.D.

**Instructor's Contact
Information:**

Office Phone: none

**Email: btaheri-williams@
caspercollege.edu**

Office Hours: no office on campus – use Moodle site or e-mail

Course Description: A survey of the organization of human society and the impact of group membership and interpersonal relationships upon human behavior.

Statement of Prerequisites: none

Goal: Students will develop a sociological perspective in understanding the social world around them. Hopefully they will free their own creativity in using sociological theory and research toward this goal. There are latent goals of developing communication skills (writing, small group problem solving) and critical thinking skills common to most college level courses.

Outcomes: The following Casper College general education outcomes are addressed by this course.

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
7. Describe the value of personal, civic, and social responsibilities.

Course Objectives: On completion of this class, students should be able to:

1. Describe and apply three theoretical perspectives within the field of sociology – functionalism, conflict theory and symbolic interactionism.
2. Identify research methods in the social sciences.
3. Analyze the concept of race and its role in American life.
4. Analyze the concept of gender and its role in American life.
5. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives.
7. Understand social stratification and its relationship to social class.
8. Understand the role of six social institutions in maintaining stability and facilitating change.
8. Understand the dynamics of social change.
9. Apply a sociological perspective in analyzing social situations.

Methodology This is an internet based class which will include use of a textbook, additional readings available through MySocLab associated with the textbook, individual learning exercises, selected links, and internet based group discussion. A Moodle platform is available for content, information, discussion, links, exams and other material developed as appropriate. To access MySocLab you log into mysoclab.com. You will initially need an access code obtained when you purchase the text (with MySocLab). You also will need the course ID. That ID for Fall 2015 is: taheri85421. **YOU MUST HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET, A CASPER COLLEGE ACCOUNT THAT ALLOWS ACCESS TO MOODLE, AND THE TEXTBOOK ACCOMPANIED BY MYSOCLAB.** This textbook may be the e-text included in MySocLab.

Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria and Process

The following describes 1) the evaluation activity, 2) the percentage of final grade and 3) a description of the process.

Two short early quizzes. (10% of total grade (5% each)) This is a screening tool for you and for me to evaluate how you do on exams. These will be short essay and a few multiple choice questions. You will do the quizzes on the Moodle internet site. There will be a defined time span during which these will be done.

Two units based exams. (50% of final grade (25% each). These will probably be multiple choice , T/F, matching.... Although primarily unit based, be aware that that content is cumulative and exams will reflect this. The first of these will be the Mid-Term exam. The second will be toward the end of the class. You will do these exams on the Moodle internet site. There will be a defined time span during which these will be done.

Optional final exam. This comprehensive exam can act as make-up for missed quiz or exam with permission of instructor. It can also be used to replace a quiz or exam you feel did not reflect your true ability - just explain why. It will cover all content, will be multiple choice and will be scheduled within the final exam week.

Discussion participation. (5% of final grade.) These discussions will be within the Moodle site with 2 – 3 week spans of time each discussion thread will be open. They are designed to be asynchronous in time. – i.e. you may participate at any time within the defined span of time. This allows for flexibility in your scheduling. They must, however, be done within the assigned times. The threads will close at the end of the defined span of time. To receive any credit at all for a particular thread, you must participate. You should also be aware that exam questions might be taken from the results of these discussions. See evaluation criteria detailed elsewhere on the Moodle site.

Two written assignments (35% of final grade (15% for Assignment 1 and 20% for Assignment 2). These will be done in the second half of the course. Detailed descriptions of these assignments, their due dates and evaluation (grading) rubrics will be published on the Moodle class site. You will have opportunity to discuss these assignments in a discussion forum.

Formal final grades will be distributed within the following traditional format.

90 - 100% = A
80 - 89.99% = B
70 - 79.99% = C
60 - 69.99% = D
< 60% = F

Required Text, Readings, and Materials:

The Text Henslin, James M. Sociology – Down to Earth Approach 12th edition (2014) Pearson plus New MySocLab with Pearson etext Access Card Package, 12th. Edition ISBN – 10 - 0133773736 * ISBN -13 – 9780133773736 @2014 * Unbound (saleable) with Access Card.

More about the text, readings and materials...

The CC bookstore is stocking this version. I have seen other ISBNs on other sites. If in doubt, this is the version with a green train on a brown track on the cover. If you are on campus, my suggestion is to go to the campus bookstore to be sure you are buying the right book/access code. If you are off campus, it is possible to buy this directly from Pearson Learning as you log in. Other book sellers also have this text on websites. I advise you to include the e-text in your purchase. There is an additional advantage that there is an audio version too. Yes, someone will actually read the text to you! Past students have found this helpful to their time management and study efficiency. The MySocLab can be accessed through MySocLab.com. The access code for this course in MySocLab this semester is taheri85421. More detail about how to use this is included on the course Moodle website. If in doubt, this is a Pearson Learning product, and our contact there this semester is brittany.diego@pearson.com.

However you decide to access the text, it is crucial for this internet based course that you have the textbook in some form. While I will introduce each topic and add material, you will not have a professor in a live classroom lecturing as an addition to the text. **YOU MUST ALSO GET AN ACCESS CARD ALLOWING YOU INTERNET ACCESS TO THE MYSOCLAB** associated with the above cited Henslin textbook.

Class Policies: Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade: Class policies regarding participation and evaluation are described above in the syllabus. The last day to change to audit or withdraw from this class with a W Grade is determined by the College – 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 Head/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. 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.

Calendar or schedule indicating course content:

Sociology 1000 N1 and N2 Fall 2015
Calendar for Content

Dates	Topic	Text Reading
8/24 – 9/11	Section 1 - The Sociological Perspective – The Basics What is sociology? Why do we care? origins of sociology contributions of major 19 th century theorists three major current theoretical frameworks culture – a way of life socialization – how a biological human becomes a social human (or not) social structure social interactions research – methods and meanings	pp 1 – 143 pp. 666 - 667
9/14 – 9/25	Section 2 – Social Groups/Social Control How do we organize? types of societies over time and space types of groups within society social networks group dynamics – again social influence bureaucracies/formal organizations a little about informal organization social control – defining and controlling deviance (enforcing norms) applying the three major current theories (functionalism, conflict, symbolic interactionism) to analysis of groups	pp.144 – 224
9/28 – 10/16	Section 3 – Social Inequalities Why are we not all equal? global stratification systems How did inequality evolve? social class in the U.S. influence of culture and major social institution (economy) social mobility in the U.S. poverty in the U.S. as seen through the three major sociological theories	pp. 225 – 286

Calendar of Content (cont.)

Date	Topic	Text Reading
	Section 3 – Social inequalities (cont.) Special Issues in Inequalities race/ethnicity gender	pp.287 - 357
10/19 – 11/13	Section 4 – Social Institutions How do we maintain stability? economy (as a social institution) polity (politics as a social institution) family education religion health As seen through the three major sociological theories	pp. 387 – 577 text plus – to be added
11/16 – 12/4	Section 5 – Special Issues in Social Change How does change happen? How fast? as related to the three major sociological theories population change/urbanization collective behavior types of societies Innovation Diffusion – a middle range theory Technology, environment and social change ? evolution or revolution	pp. 578 – 665 material added
12/7 – 12/11	Section 6 – Synthesizing – The Sociological Perspective Complete written assignments Again review video to complete assignment2	review all “chapter reviews” of all chapters
12/14 – 12/17	Finals week	
12/17	End of Semester	

Due Dates of Quizzes, Exams, Assignments

Quiz 1	9/12 thru 9/15
Quiz 2	9/26 thru 9/29
Mid-Term Exam	10/10 thru 10/13
Late-Term Exam	12/10 thru 12/12
Written Assignment 1	Nov. 11
Written Assignment 2	Dec. 15
Discussion Participation throughout the course – times on course website	

See course website for more detail.

Beverly Taheri-Williams, Ph.D., August 2015