

SOC 150 SELF & SOCIETY

Instructor | Daniel Alvord
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Office | Fraser 733
Hours | T/R 12:30-2:00pm

Semester | Spring 2019
Time | T/R 11:00am-12:15pm
Place | Fraser 106
Course | #72088

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the relationship between the individual and society. Drawing on sociological and social psychological perspectives, we will explore how our identities, behaviors, and values are shaped by social structures and institutions.

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Text: Required readings will be provided on Blackboard.

Learning Outcomes: This course satisfies two KU Core Goals:

Goal 1.1 (Critical Thinking): Upon reaching this goal, students will be able to analyze and evaluate assumptions, claims, evidence, arguments, and forms of expression, as well as, select and apply appropriate interpretive tools.

Goal 5.1 (Social Responsibility and Ethics): Upon reaching this goal, students will be able to develop and apply a combination of knowledge and skills to demonstrate an understanding of social responsibility and ethical behavior.

By the end of this course, you will be able to develop and apply a variety of perspectives related to social and ethical behavior. You will also be able to critically evaluate between these perspectives, as well as analyze, and condense complex arguments, assumptions, claims, and evidence.

GRADING INFORMATION

Assignments: For this course you will be expected to complete the following:

Essay (20%): For this course you will complete **one** essay. The essay will be 3-4 pages double-spaced in length and will be worth 20% of your final grade. The essay must also be uploaded to Blackboard's SafeAssign function, a plagiarism detecting software. You are encouraged, but not required, to meet with me prior to the essay's due date so that I can address any questions or concerns. You are also encouraged to take advantage of the KU Writing Center (writing.ku.edu).

Quizzes (45%): You will have **three** quizzes that will cover the readings and the lectures. Quizzes will be completed online through Blackboard. You will have the full day to take the quiz at your convenience, but it must be completed before

11:59pm. Quizzes will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer. Each quiz will be worth 15% of your final grade.

Journal Summary (10%): To get a sense of the range of topics that sociologists in this area work on, you will choose one journal article from the journal *Symbolic Interaction*, read the article, and write up a summary. The summary will be 2-pages double-spaced. It will be worth 10% of your final grade.

Discussion Leader (10%): Throughout the semester, students will present an overview and a range of discussion questions for the class. You will sign up in advance for a week and a reading to present. These presentations will consist of a very brief overview of the argument of one of the readings. You will then act as a discussion leader by posing questions to the class. The presentation and discussion will be worth 10% of your final grade.

Attendance and Participation (15%): Attendance and participation are important components of any course. Attendance will be marked each class period. You are granted two “free” absences during the semester. After the second absence, you will begin to lose attendance points. The only exceptions will be for religious holidays, documented illness (after the second absence) or a death in the family (after the second absence). Attendance by itself will count as 5% of your final grade. Participation is understood to mean regularly sharing your thoughts, interpretations, observations, and questions with the class. You can attend class but not participate, but you obviously cannot participate without attendance. Participation points will be determined by me at the end of the semester and will be assessed as a complete body of work. There will not be any “make up” participation. Participation will be worth 10% of your final grade.

Grade Scale: Your grade will be determined using the CLAS plus/minus grading system:

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
Attendance	5%	93-100	A
Participation	10%	90-92	A-
Article Review	10%	88-89	B+
Discussion Lead	10%	83-87	B
Essay	20	80-82	B-
Quizzes	45%	78-79	C+
	<hr/>	73-77	C
	100%	70-72	C-
		68-69	D+
		63-67	D
		60-62	D-
		0-59	F

The following is a breakdown of the marking system and an indication of the quality of work that roughly corresponds to each grade:

A: Displays a thorough understanding of material and expresses original, text-supported opinions; clear, organized and thoughtful writing; consistent and intelligent contributions and insights. Has completed all required assignments and they have been among the best in class.

B: Displays a good factual understanding of material; very good preparation for class; ability to communicate ideas logically and clearly. Has completed all required assignments and they have been of good quality.

C: Displays an understanding of the basic points of all material, although the presentation may be unclear or disorganized; may also denote sporadic participation in class. Has completed all or most required assignments, which might suffer from small issues, but generally have been free of significant problems.

D: Displays incomplete work; slight grasp of basic ideas; disorganized, poorly presented or communicated ideas; little participation in class. Has failed to complete all required assignments and they have often suffered from problems.

F: Displays incomplete work; unclear and/or inaccurate presentation of the main themes of the course; poor written communication of ideas; numerous absences, and/or little or participation in class. Has failed to complete required assignments and they have routinely suffered from serious problems.

Except in the case of a possible calculation error, please do not contact me to change the grade that you earned.

COURSE POLICIES

Classroom Conduct: Students are expected to behave in a respectful manner during class. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated in this class. Students who behave in any manner that interferes or has the potential to interfere with other students' opportunity to benefit from this course will be subject to the relevant University policies and procedures. Per the Electronic Devices policy, do not explore the Internet or play games on your portable computing device during class. It draws others' attention and is rude.

Email Conduct: Email is a very convenient and useful means of communication. Indeed, it is the best way to get in touch with me. However, its convenience often translates into a lack of formality. There are a few email guidelines that should be adhered to during this course. First, I do not discuss grades over email. Any discussion of grades should be done during office hours. Second, unless otherwise noted, I do not read early drafts of papers or answer substantive questions by email. I am more than happy to read drafts, provide comments, and give clarification for concepts covered in class during office hours, but not by email. Finally, I am not "on call" with my email. Do not email me late at night or

the night before a paper or quiz is due and expect an immediate reply. I respect that all of you will have many things going on at one time this semester, and that your time is incredibly valuable to you. I ask that you please respect that my own time is valuable as well and that I also have plenty going on in my own schedule.

Office Hours: Office hours are a time to come meet with me to discuss the material in class or to discuss other interests you may have. You may ask for extra help or for clarification. You may also come and just talk about aspects of the class you find really interesting or compelling. Office hours are not lesson plans and student should come to office hours prepared to drive the conversation.

Academic Misconduct & Plagiarism: Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor, providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment), or the attempt to commit such an act. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit. Any form of cheating or academic dishonesty will be actively investigated and punished. The University defines academic misconduct in Section 6 of the University Senate Rules and Regulations: “Academic misconduct by a student shall include, but not be limited to, disruption of classes; threatening an instructor or fellow student in an academic setting; giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of notebooks, themes, reports or other assignments; knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work. . .” Cheating will possibly result in an F in the course and the filing of academic misconduct charges. As ignorance of the rules is not an acceptable excuse for academic misconduct, please consult the KU Student Handbook for further information: http://www.writing.ku.edu/~writing/instructors/guides/academic_misconduct.shtml For more information on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, please consult the following KU website: <http://www.writing.ku.edu/~writing/guides/>.

Make-up Work: Make-up work will only be given to students with excused absences. In accord with university policies, students will be allowed to take a make-up exam if they can document that they were ill or if they had a death in the family. Absences which result from participation on a university athletic team and which are documented by the university athletic office will also be excused. Transportation problems do not qualify as a valid excuse. Students without a valid and documented excuse will receive a 0 on any missed exam. Students wishing to schedule a make-up exam must contact me by e-mail within 24 hours of the time at which the original exam was scheduled. Students must be prepared to present me with documentation explaining their absence prior to scheduling a make-up exam. Exams must be taken within a week of the original exam date. It is up to students who have missed an exam to contact me, to provide documentation and to set up a time to make up the exam.

Late Assignments: Unless otherwise noted, all assignments must be submitted by the beginning of class on the assigned due date. Late submissions will be penalized at the rate of 10%, or one letter grade, per day (including weekends).

Extra Credit: There will be no extra credit opportunities in this course.

Electronic Devices: The use of any handheld electronic devices will not be tolerated. Cell phones and other mobile devices are to be silenced and stowed away during all 75 minutes of class. The use of laptop computers will be allowed only in situations where the student can provide documentation from the Academic Achievement and Access Center (<http://www.achievement.ku.edu/>) attesting to their need for the device in class. Research shows that using a laptop during class impedes both your learning and the learning of students around you (see, e.g., Sana et al. 2013, and Dynarski 2017). If you must use one, or insist on using one, students may sit in a “laptop zone” if they feel, for any reason, that you would benefit from using a laptop to take notes. Students using laptops or cellphones for purposes other than note taking will be asked to leave and be counted as absent for the class.

Recording & Auditing: As per the Electronic Devices policy, the use of handheld personal recorders will only be allowed in class in situations where the student can provide documentation from the Academic Achievement and Access Center (<http://www.achievement.ku.edu/>) attesting to their need for the device. Any student wishing to record lecture must consult with me before class. Additionally, course attendance is exclusively restricted to members of the class, and you need explicit permission from the instructor to attend any class sessions if you are not formally enrolled in the course.

Religious Holidays: Attendance is required for every class session. If class requirements conflict with religious holidays that you observe, this needs to be discussed with me in advance. Notification after the fact is not acceptable and will count as an unexcused absence.

Illness: If you are sick, please do not come to class. If you must miss a deadline because of illness, please contact me by email.

Disabilities: Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him/her from fully demonstrating her/his abilities should contact me personally as soon as possible so that we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate educational opportunity. To do this you must first be registered with the Disability Resources office (22 Strong Hall, 785-864-2620), which coordinates accommodations and services for KU courses. *No special needs will be accommodated without proper documentation and recommendations supplied by this office.* For further information and contact information, please consult the Disability Resources website: <http://www.disability.ku.edu/>.

COURSE SCHEDULE

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Read</i>	<i>Due</i>
One	January 22	Welcome / Syllabus	N/A	
	January 24	Intro to Sociology	C. Wright Mills “The Promise”	
Two	January 29	<i>No Class</i>		
	January 31	Social Construction of Reality	Berger and Luckmann “The Social Construction of Reality”	
Three	February 5	Symbolic Interactionism	N/A	
	February 7	Symbolic Interactionism	Blumer “Society as Symbolic Interaction”	
Four	February 12	Development of Self and Identity	N/A	
	February 14	Development of Self and Identity	Mead – The I and the Me Cooley – Looking Glass Self Freud – The Ego and the Id	
Five	February 19	Socialization – Groups	N/A	
	February 21	Socialization – Groups	Becker- On Becoming a Marihuana User Lareau – Invisible Inequality	
Six	February 26	Socialization - Institutions	N/A	
	February 28	Socialization - Institutions	Morris – Tuck in that Shirt!” Kinney –	
Seven	March 5	Presentation of Self – Dramaturgy	N/A	
	March 7	Presentation of Self - Dramaturgy	Goffman – Presentation of Self Goffman – “On Face-Work” Turner and Edgley –	
Eight	March 12	<i>No Class – Spring Break</i>	N/A	
	March 14	<i>No Class – Spring Break</i>	N/A	
Nine	March 19	Presentation of Self - Emotions	N/A	
	March 21	Presentation of Self – Emotions	Hochschild – Managing Feeling Rosenberg – P. 100	
Ten	March 26	Deviance and Stigma	N/A	
	March 28	Deviance and Stigma	Goffman – “Stigma”	

			Goffman – “Asylums” Rosenhan – P. 238 Conrad – P. 243 Cahill and Eggleston – P. 269 Sandstrom – P. 280	
Eleven	April 2	Prejudice	N/A	
	April 4	Prejudice	Blumer – “Race Prejudice as a Sense of Group Position” Bobo and Hutchings – “Perceptions of Racial Group Competition” Gilens – “Race Coding and White Opposition to Welfare” Sumerau, Grollman, and Cragun – “Oh My God, I Sound Like a Horrible Person”	
Twelve	April 9	Race and Racism	N/A	
	April 11	Race and Racism	WEB DuBois – P.294 Kaw – P. 298 Thompson and Keith – P. 308 Hunter – “The Persistent Problem of Colorism” Grollman – “White People” Embrick and Henricks – “Discursive Colorlines at Work” Richeson and Sommers – “Towards a Social Psychology of Race and Race Relations” Gest – “The New Minority”	
Thirteen	April 16	<i>NO CLASS</i>	N/A	
	April 18	<i>NO CLASS</i>	N/A	
Fourteen	April 23	Gender	N/A	
	April 25	Gender	Kanter - P. 344 Williams – p. 353 West – “When the Physician is a Lady”	

			<p>Cahill – Fashioning Males and Females”</p> <p>Grazian – “The Girl Hunt”</p> <p>Snow, Robinson, and McCall – P. 125</p> <p>Pascoe – “Dude, You’re a Fag”</p>	
Fifteen	April 30	Sexuality	N/A	
	May 2	Sexuality	<p>Jones and Hannem – “Escort Clients’ Sexual Scripts”</p> <p>Elliott – “Parents’ Construction of Teen Sexuality”</p> <p>Adams – “Paradoxes of Sexuality, Gay Identity, and the Clost”</p> <p>Reid, Webber, and Elliott – “It’s like Being in Church and Being on a Field Trip”</p> <p>Sweeney – “Masculine Status, Sexual Performance, and the Sexual Stigmatization of Women”</p>	
Sixteen	May 7	Online	N/A	
	May 9	Online	<p>Kendall – “Meaning and Identity in Cyberspace”</p> <p>Zhao – “The Digital Self”</p> <p>Tian – “Embodied vs. Disembodied Information”</p>	
Seventeen		Finals	N/A	

****I reserve the right to alter or amend the course syllabus during the semester within reason.***