**SYG 2000 Section 2894 – PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY**

**Tues 10:40-11:30AM & Thurs 10:40AM-12:35PM**

**Turlington 2318**

**Professor Sierra A. Schnable, M.A.**

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(717) 816-9695

**Office hours:** Thurs 2-4PM & by appointment (excluding holidays)  
Turlington 3309

_Tell me the landscape in which you live, and I will tell you who you are._ – José Ortega y Gasset

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**Course Description and Learning Goals**

Catalog description: Introduces sociology as a social science and analysis of American society. Culture, socialization, deviance, bureaucracy, population, urbanization, social stratification, minorities and other topics. (S) (WR)

Sociology is the systematic study of human society and social behavior, from large-scale institutions and mass culture to small groups and individual interactions. The sociological perspective is a lens that is used to examine issues such as class, race and ethnicity, gender, sexuality, culture, politics, globalization, deviance, families, education, and many more. In this course, you will learn the foundations and methods of the discipline while developing your own sociological perspective and turning it toward various aspects of the social world.

- Students will develop a sociological imagination and learn to apply it to real-world social problems in order to improve the world around them.
- Students will become more aware of the life circumstances of people and groups unlike themselves, and will learn how inequality is created and reproduced.
- Students will understand foundational sociological perspectives and methods of doing research. Additionally, students will engage with both theoretical and empirical works in the discipline.
- Students will formulate a research question and carry out a fieldwork assignment.
- Students will improve skills in various ways of demonstrating knowledge and understanding (oral presentations, class discussion, short papers, and exams).

**Required Materials**


Handouts, marked (H) on the syllabus, which will be distributed via Canvas under the “Files” section.
Course Requirements and Evaluation

Exams (3 @ 40 points each): These exams will be comprised of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. The questions will come directly from class lectures, readings, films, discussions, and handouts. If you do not come to class on the day of the exam, you lose the opportunity to complete it – if you know in advance that there will be a conflict, communicate with me and we will reschedule before the exam. There are no make-ups except in the case of an emergency. Exam 3 (the Final Exam) will not be cumulative. It will follow the University’s schedule, which is available at: http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/soc/201501/finalexamsched.html

Group Presentation (30 points): With a maximum of 5 people per group, you will develop an oral presentation and lead discussion for the supplemental reading listed on the syllabus that day. The guidelines and rubric for this assignment can be found on Canvas. You must sign up via Canvas under the “People” section by midnight on 11 January or you will be randomly assigned and will lose points.

Note: Each group member will evaluate the contribution of every other member using an anonymous evaluation form that will be due at the end of class on the day of your presentation. The evaluations will influence your individual grades on this assignment.

Fieldwork Paper (50 points): You will write a 3-4 page paper that integrates fieldwork and course concepts. It will require you to formulate a research question, go out into the community and collect data, and relate your data to what we are learning in the class. The assignment sheet for this will be distributed via Canvas well in advance of the deadline. This paper is due via Canvas by midnight on 17 April.

In-Class Writing Assignments (8 @ 5 points each): There will be 10 of these throughout the semester, and if you complete all 10 your lowest 2 scores will be dropped. Assignments will include film worksheets, short answer summaries of the reading, brief reflections on course concepts and your experiences, etc. These are not listed on the syllabus and if you are not in class, you lose the opportunity to complete the assignment.

Attendance and Participation (10 points): You are expected to attend class regularly and keep up with the course readings. You are also encouraged to ask questions and raise issues that you find important, both in the readings and in the social world. Please note that quality, not frequency, is most important in your class participation. If you miss 3 class meetings, you forfeit your attendance points – arriving to class late will count as half an absence. **Athletes must submit their schedules to me ASAP in order to be excused for their game-related absences. Anyone found to be signing the attendance sheet for another student will automatically lose their attendance points.

*TOTAL: 250 points*
### Assignment Details

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>2-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Presentation</td>
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<td>Fieldwork Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Class Writing Assignments</td>
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<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
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Please note the following classroom policies:

**Technology:** Laptops, tablets, cell phones, etc. are *strictly prohibited in this classroom.* Use of any technology by students is only allowed in exceptional circumstances and with prior approval by the professor. Please be advised that you will be asked to leave class if you choose to use technology, thus forfeiting your attendance points and your ability to complete any in-class assignments for the day. This is not up for negotiation.

**Safe space:** Each of us brings a unique perspective to the classroom that enriches the learning experience for everyone. This classroom will be constructed as a safe space where all voices are heard and respected. Language and actions that compromise this goal by harassing, disrespecting, or promoting violence against any group or individual will not be tolerated. This includes blatant rudeness or ignorance directed towards the professor or any other student, present or not. To that end, I will ask anyone who disrupts the safe space to leave the classroom.

**Communications:** Please use my UF email to communicate with me (sschnable@ufl.edu). All emails must include a subject line and your full name, and be formatted in a professional manner (Please take the “Sent from my iPhone” out of your signature!). I will return your emails within 24 hours, excluding holidays, and expect you to do the same. Please see me in person to discuss grades, as I cannot give them out via email.

**Late work:** No late work will be accepted without prior approval from the professor. I reserve the right to grant extensions on a case-by-case basis as I see fit and only in exceptional circumstances. If you know you will not be in class to take an exam, you must make arrangements with me in advance. There are absolutely no makeups for in-class assignments. If you miss an assignment, you will receive a grade of 0 points.

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of this course based on a standard set of criteria. These evaluations are conducted online ([evaluations.ufl.edu](http://evaluations.ufl.edu)) and are typically available at the end of every semester. More specific information will follow.

*This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning experience. Such changes are not unusual and, if necessary, will be communicated clearly via email and in class.*
University Policies and Resources

**Academic services:** If you struggle with classroom skills like taking notes, studying for exams, and writing papers, please take advantage of the University’s resources *early in the semester*. You can obtain free tutoring services from the Teaching Center ([teachingcenter.ufl.edu](http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu)) online, by appointment, and by walk-in. Please also take advantage of the Writing Studio ([writing.ufl.edu/writing-center/](http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-center/)) as you work on your papers.

**Disability services:** Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office ([dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://dso.ufl.edu/drc/)). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. **You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.**

**Academic integrity:** Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community and of this classroom. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code ([dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/](http://dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/)). I expect its spirit and its provisions to be respected in this course.

**Technical support:** Technological issues are not an excuse for late or missed work! For assistance with the e-Learning aspect of this course, which is hosted by Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk:
- [lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml](http://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml)
- learning-support@ufl.edu
- 352-392-HELP – select option 2
Weekly Course Schedule

Week 1
Tuesday, 6 Jan
Introduction to the course

Thursday, 8 Jan
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 1 – Sociology and the Real World

Week 2
Tuesday, 13 Jan
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 1 – Sociology and the Real World

Thursday, 15 Jan
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 1 – Sociology and the Real World
C. Wright Mills, “The Promise” from The Sociological Imagination (H)

Week 3
Tuesday, 20 Jan
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 2 – Studying Social Life: Sociological Research Methods

Thursday, 22 Jan
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 2 – Studying Social Life: Sociological Research Methods
Mary Romero, “An Intersection of Biography and History” from Maid in the U.S.A. (H)
*Group Presentation 1 on Romero

Week 4
Tuesday, 27 Jan
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 3 – Culture

Thursday, 29 Jan
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 3 – Culture
Haunani-Kay Trask, “Lovely Hula Hands: Corporate Tourism and the Prostitution of Hawaiian Culture” from From a Native Daughter (H)
*Group Presentation 2 on Trask

Week 5
Tuesday, 3 Feb
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 4 – The Self and Interaction

Thursday, 5 Feb
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 4 – The Self and Interaction

Week 6
Tuesday, 10 Feb
Mandatory Group Workshop – The BEAD Project
Thursday, 12 Feb
**EXAM 1

Week 7
Tuesday, 17 Feb
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 5 – Separate and Together: Life in Groups

Thursday, 19 Feb
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 5 – Separate and Together: Life in Groups
Patricia A. Adler & Peter Adler, “Peer Power: Clique Dynamics among School Children” (H)
*Group Presentation 3 on Adler & Adler

Week 8
Tuesday, 24 Feb
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 7 – Social Class: The Structure of Inequality

Thursday, 26 Feb
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 7 – Social Class: The Structure of Inequality

Week 9
Spring Break – NO CLASS

Week 10
Tuesday, 10 March
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 7 – Social Class: The Structure of Inequality
Barbara Ehrenreich, "Nickel-and-Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America" (H)
*Group Presentation 4 on Ehrenreich

Thursday, 12 March
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 8 – Race and Ethnicity as Lived Experience
Peggy McIntosh, “White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack” (H)

Week 11
Tuesday, 17 March
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 8 – Race and Ethnicity as Lived Experience

Thursday, 19 March
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 8 – Race and Ethnicity as Lived Experience
Charlie LeDuff, “At a Slaughterhouse, Some Things Never Die” (H)
*Group Presentation 5 on LeDuff

Week 12
Tuesday, 24 March
**EXAM 2

Thursday, 26 March – NO CLASS (Prof. at conference)
Week 13  
Tuesday, 31 March  
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 9 – Constructing Gender and Sexuality  
Emerson, Fretz, and Shaw, “In the Field: Participating, Observing, and Jotting Notes” (H) in preparation for the Fieldwork Paper

Thursday, 2 April  
Killing Us Softly 4

Week 14  
Tuesday, 7 April  
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 9 – Constructing Gender and Sexuality

Thursday, 9 April  
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 9 – Constructing Gender and Sexuality  
Betsy Lucal, “What It Means to Be Gendered Me: Life on the Boundaries of a Dichotomous Gender System” (H)  
*Group Presentation 6 on Lucal

Week 15  
Tuesday, 14 April  
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 6 – Deviance

Thursday, 16 April  
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 6 – Deviance  
David L. Rosenhan, “On Being Sane in Insane Places” (H)  
*Group Presentation 7 on Rosenhan

Friday, 17 April – Fieldwork Paper Due via Canvas by midnight

Week 16  
Tuesday, 21 April  
Ferris and Stein, Chapter 16 – Social Change: Looking Toward Tomorrow  
Allan G. Johnson, “What Can We Do?: Becoming Part of the Solution” (H)  
*Group Presentation 8 on Johnson

FINAL EXAM – Friday, 1 May, 12:30PM-2:30PM