

Introduction to Sociology
Spring 2018
Syllabus

Instructor: Dana Battison

Contact Information:

Email: dbattiso@centralmethodist.edu

Phone: Discussion will usually be over email, but in urgent situations, students may request a phone call by email and I will return their call as soon as possible.

Office Hours: Always available by email and will respond within 24 to 48 hours.

Central Methodist University Mission Statement:

Central Methodist University prepares students to make a difference in the world by emphasizing academic and professional excellence, ethical leadership, and social responsibility.

Required Text:

Henslin, James M. Conley, D. Essentials of Sociology. 10th ed. Pearson.

Course Description: 3 hours. This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental theories, methodological approaches and basic principles used in sociology. The course examines the systematic study of social relationships and interactions, including the study of the structure and development of society. We will study how people a) interact with each other and their environments, b) how individuals and groups affect society, and, c) how society affects groups. During the course of this semester, students will discover a variety of factors that impact society, from macrosociology to microsociology. Students will discover the pioneers in the field of sociology, and their early influences and contributions.

COURSE GOALS:

Students will examine the historical roots of societies, theory, and scientific method. Students will examine many philosophies, social turbulence, and unprecedented changes in society. Students will engage in Socratic dialogue, discussing ancient civilization and the industrialization and urbanization of society. Finally, the semester will end with students discussing the impact of technology on society.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

Students will:

- Show initiative and creativity
- Demonstrate knowledge of the basic tenets of psychology
- Analyze problems skillfully
- Work harmoniously with others
- Respond positively to instructions and procedures
- Maintain high standards
- Complete work in a timely, consistent manner
- Respect diverse perspectives

EXAMS, ASSIGNMENTS, and ATTENDANCE:

- We will have four exams, including a Midterm and a Final. The highest three scores of these will be taken, usually meaning that high scores on the first three exams eliminates the need for taking the Final.
- There may be others but you will have ample time to prepare.
- There will be a Research Project with a written report in ADA format.
- There may be pop quizzes from time to time.
- This is a COLLEGE LEVEL CLASS so you will be expected to be in **attendance**, be attentive during class, take lecture notes, and keep up with the reading. If you are absent for any reason, you are responsible for the information missed. You will have three days to turn in late assignments.
- You will have a variety of projects assigned throughout this semester; each will be discussed in class and a due date will be given.
- All assignments will be emailed to facilitators who will distribute to students.
- Quizzes and exams will be monitored by facilitators and submitted to the Professor.
- This is an interactive course. Students are expected to be prepared for assignments and discussions.

As with any other class, plagiarism or any other form of academic misconduct is unacceptable. According to the CMU Catalogue, “Any conduct that unprofessionally represents a student’s academic performance violates CMU’s Academic Conduct Policy” (41). The Catalogue defines plagiarism this way:

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to [1] representing as one’s own work a paper, speech, or report written in whole or in part by someone else (from the un-credited use of significant phrases to the un-credited use of larger portions of material), including material found on the internet, [2] failing to provide appropriate recognition of the sources of borrowed material through the proper use of quotation marks, proper attribution of paraphrases, and proper reference citations. Always provide appropriate recognition of all borrowed materials and sources.

Whether it is intentional or not, plagiarism is unacceptable in a college classroom. Failure to cite sources or misrepresent someone else’s work as your own (in both cases either intentionally or unintentionally) may result in any or all of the following: a) a zero (0) on the assignment, b) a failure of the course, and/or c) a referral to the Dean’s office for further disciplinary action (see page 42 of the course catalogue for the range of actions the Dean’s office may take). For more information on CMU’s academic conduct policies, please see the Course Catalogue pg 41-42.

ACADEMIC PROPERTY

All work (original or copy) submitted by the student to satisfy the requirements of the course may be retained at the discretion of the instructor. Such work is generally used for assessing the course and providing evidence of student accomplishment for review by accrediting agencies. Any student wishing to prohibit such use of their work may do so by notifying the instructor in writing.

INSTRUCTORS POLICIES

It is expected that YOU will each be responsible for your OWN work and exams; cheating results in an automatic 0 for that project or exam, and your principal will be contacted. Should you cheat on any exam/project, you will receive an F for the class. Your grades will be submitted at the request of your schools.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

The University will discipline students for infractions of the Academic Honesty Policy with various sanctions which it deems appropriate, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University. *Penalties internal to a course, including grades and expulsion from the course, are at the discretion of the instructor.* Students can appeal instructor's internal course penalties to the Committee on Academic Standards and Admissions, whose decision is final. Instructors must report all penalties they impose for academic dishonesty, with a brief account of the offense, to the Dean of the University, so that all violations are recorded. For serious or repeated offenses, the Dean may impose further penalties beyond the course penalty. These penalties include but are not limited to notations in the student file, notations on the student transcript, probation, suspension, and expulsion. A decision by the Dean of the University can be appealed to the Faculty Committee on Academic Standards and Admission, whose decision is final.

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, who have any emergency medical information the instructor should know of, or who need special arrangements, should make an appointment with me as early as possible

Course Complaint Protocol:

If you have complaints or concerns about me or about this class, please follow accepted protocol in seeking solutions and redress: discuss your concerns first and foremost with me. Then, if you feel I have inadequately addressed your concerns, contact me directly, and your facilitator.

Central Methodist University Mission and Creed

Central Methodist University prepares students to make a difference in the world by emphasizing academic and professional excellence, ethical leadership, and social responsibility.

The Central Methodist University community, consistent with its United Methodist heritage, strives for academic excellence, individual achievement, and social responsibility. As members of that community we believe in: seeking knowledge, truth, and wisdom; valuing freedom,

honesty, civility, and diversity; living lives of service and leadership; and taking responsibility for ourselves and the communities in which we live.

Assignments and grades:

In-Class assignments = 10 pts. each.

Research project = 25 (Criteria sheet will be given in class)

Quizzes = 25 pts. each.

Midterm Exam = 50 pts.

Final Exam = 50 pts.

The pace of the class will determine the number of in-class assignments which will ultimately determine point total.

Grade Scale:

90 - 100% = A

80 - 89 % = B

70 - 79 % = C

60 - 69 % = D

Below 60% = F

If at any time, you feel you need further instruction/clarification or simply want to discuss anything related to the class, please email me. I will respond as quickly as possible.

Thank you and have a great semester!