INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Sarath K. Menon (713) 718 7142
Distance Edn. Specialist: Ms. Carolyn Paul (713) 718 5210

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Office Hours: 12:30 – 1:30 (Tue&Thu) and by appointment

[NOTE: You can opt to buy the e-book which also grants you access to MySocLab from www.pearsoncustom.com/tx/hccs_soc/ ].

Course Description
SOCI 1301 Introduction to Sociology, Credit 3 (3 lecture. 3 contact hrs. per week)). Core Curriculum Course. Prerequisites: Must be placed into college-level reading (or take GUST 0342 as a co-requisite) and be placed into college-level writing (or take ENGL 0310/0349 as a co-requisite).

A survey course that focuses on the nature of human groups in American and world societies, their social and cultural adaptations, and the impact which various social processes may have on their social organization and social change. (HCCS Catalog). Online courses are the equivalent of on-campus sections of the same course and are transferable.

MYSOCLAB Access
Web link to MYSOCLAB can be found on the course homepage with the class ID. You will need to register using your access code that comes with the purchase of the textbook first in order to gain access to the portal. Please note: students who opt to buy ebook online will also gain access to MYSOCLAB. You are required to attempt a few activities in MYSOCLAB to be considered for full credit of your course grade.

Goals of the Course
Upon Completion of the course, students should be able to:
- Understand the theoretical, historical, and applied nature of the discipline.
- Understand fundamental quantitative and qualitative techniques to study human group behavior.
- Apply sociological concepts and perspectives to the study of human group life.
- Appreciate our socially and culturally diverse society and world.

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Apply the three major perspectives in Sociology: Conflict, Functionalism, Symbolic Interactionism.
2. Identify the principles of the social science research process.
3. Evaluate the various aspects of stratification as they affect American society and the world.
4. Evaluate the various aspects of the institutions of society as they affect American society and the world.

**Instructional Format**
This is an eight-week, online version of SOCI 1301 Introduction to Sociology course listed in the HCCS catalog. The main mode of interaction for teaching and learning will be online. Please remember to keep up with the attached reading assignment schedule in the syllabus for optimal results.

Please read the *semester schedule* and the *Student Handbook* for further information. Students should check their course schedule in the syllabus for keeping up with the reading assignments in the text. After reading the assignment, test your comprehension by completing the "self test" available in the form pre-test and post-test available online through MYSOCLAB. A web link is placed on the homepage for quick access. Please use the class ID to join the virtual classroom online. Please remember, you will be asked to do the pre-tests and post-tests in place of review topics for the actual exams. Review topics may not be sent prior to the exam.

In compliance with the HCC system requirements, the course is designed to fulfill six S.C.A.N.S student competencies. Successful completion of the course work relies very much on the cooperation of both the instructor and the student. Students should complete all reading and written assignment by the stated deadlines *(Reading)*. Reading assignments are given at the end of this syllabus. The nature of the discipline of sociology is such that sensitive and controversial topics will occasionally surface in your reading material. Please bear in mind that the ideas presented in this course do not necessarily reflect the views of your instructor or the institution.

**Method of Contact**
You are encouraged to contact your instructor in person, via email or by phone. Ms. Paul is also our contact person.

**Evaluation**
All students are required to attempt the following in order to be considered for full credit:

1. Three examinations, including the Finals (fulfills Reading & Critical Thinking).
2. Written assignment (fulfills Reading, Writing, Critical Thinking, and Computer Literacy).
3. Quizzes & MYSOCLAB exercises based on text chapters (Reading, Writing, Computer Literacy).

All exams, quizzes, and discussions are to be taken ONLINE. The exams include multiple-choice questions. All written assignments must be typed or word-processed.

**Grade Distribution**
All exams and written assignment are equally weighted. The distribution of points is as follows: Exam I and Exam II = 20% EACH
Finals = 20%; Written Assignment = 20%, Quizzes & MYSOCLAB exercises = 20%

Examination and Written Assignments Schedule (Assessments)
Exam I: February 25 & 26, 2011
Exam II: March 18 & 19, 2011
**Finals:** April 1 & 2, 2011
Writing Assignment: March 25, 2011

Exam Make-up Policy
Make up exams will be given only in the event of extreme genuine emergencies for students who have a **valid, documented excuse** for missing the exam on scheduled dates.

Written Assignment
You are required to write a paper applying the three sociological paradigms found in Chapter 1 of your textbook. This must be written in your own words. Your written assignment must be typed and double-spaced. This assignment may require you to access MYSOCLAB. Retain a copy for your own record, in case of the unexpected! Written Assignment is due by March 25, 2011. You may be required to upload your paper into the assignment slot of the BB course shell. Further instructions will be given in a timely manner.

**READING ASSIGNMENTS – SOCIOLOGY 1301 [Online]**
[In addition to the chapters listed below, a number of articles from the Classics reader may also be assigned for reading]

Chapter 1 : The Sociological Perspective, Theory, and Method.
Chapter 2 : Culture
Chapter 3 : Socialization.
Chapter 4 : Social Interaction in Everyday Life

**EXAM 1** : February 25 & 26, 2011
Chapter 5 : Groups and Organizations
Chapter 6 : Sexuality and Society
Chapter 7 : Deviance
Chapter 8 : Social Stratification
Chapter 9  : Global Stratification

**Exam II : March 18 & 19, 2011**

Chapter 11  : Race & Ethnicity

Chapter 12  : Economics & Politics

Chapter 13  : Family & Religion

Chapter 15  : Population, Urbanization, and Environment

Chapter 16  : Social Change.

**FINAL EXAM : April 1 & 2, 2011.**

The FINAL EXAM is comprehensive with the bulk of the questions from chapters not covered previously. Students may, however, expect some questions from the previous lessons.

**Note:** Your instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus at any time during the course of the syllabus. Changes will be announced in a timely manner.

**Important Information**

The Distance Education Student Handbook contains policies and procedures unique to the DE student. Students should have reviewed the handbook as part of the mandatory orientation. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the handbook's contents. The handbook contains valuable information, answers, and resources, such as DE contacts, policies and procedures (how to drop, attendance requirements, etc.), student services (ADA, financial aid, degree planning, etc.), course information, testing procedures, technical support, and academic calendars. Refer to the DE Student Handbook by visiting this link: [http://de.hccs.edu/de/de-student-handbook](http://de.hccs.edu/de/de-student-handbook)