

South Plains College: Common Course Syllabus

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Sociology

Course Number: Sociology 1301

Course Title: Introduction to Sociology

Semester Hour Credit: 3 Hours; 3 Lecture Hours; 0 Lab Hours (3:3:0)

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: Yes (Behavioral Science)

Prerequisites: none for campus; TSI reading compliance for Internet

Available Formats: Conventional classroom and Internet

Textbook: *The Real World*, 6th edition, Norton Publishing. See instructor's course information sheet for textbook and on-line publisher content requirements.

Supplies: Computer and Internet access for Internet courses and campus classes.

Course Specific Instructions: Internet classes- access Blackboard from South Plains College homepage on the first day of the semester. Campus classes may use Blackboard for course material, see instructor's course information sheet for specifics.

Course description: The scientific study of human society, including ways in which groups, social institutions, and individuals affect each other. Causes of social stability and social change are explored through the application of various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. Analysis of social issues in their institutional context may include topics such as social stratification, gender, race/ethnicity, and deviance.

Course Purpose/Rationale/Goal: The purpose of the behavioral science component in the core curriculum is to enable the students to understand and apply sociological theories and concepts as they examine human society. To master sociology, students will be able to identify and apply the concepts and principles in the study of group life, social institutions, and social processes.

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to complete this course, students should attend all classes, log into Blackboard multiple times per week, read required textbook/course materials, complete required homework/assignments and/or examinations. See instructor's course information sheet for specifics.

Course Evaluations: Refer to Instructor's course information sheet for specifics coursework and grading.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

See instructor's Course Information Sheet for additions to the attendance policy.

Disability Services Policy: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. Processing time could take up to 30 days once paperwork has been submitted. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-7162577, Reese Center (Building 8) & Lubbock Center 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611. See *South Plains College General Catalog* for more information.

Title IX Statement: As part of its commitment to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment free from discrimination, South Plains College complies with Title IX of the Education Amendments, which prohibits discrimination and harassment based upon sex in an institution's education programs and activities. In accordance with the requirements of the titles of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended in 1992, South Plains College will not exclude or discriminate against any

individual with a disability from the full attainment and access to post-secondary education, and equal enjoyment of its services and facilities. Detailed information and how to respond to these situations can be found at http://www.southplainscollege.edu/student_consumer/TitleIX-NonDiscrimTermNotification.pdf.

- **Title IX Pregnancy Statement:** If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations.

Academic Integrity Policy: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

- **Cheating:** Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the text-book or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of whatever length, as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.
- **Plagiarism:** Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identifiable expression of material taken from books, Internet resources, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

See *South Plains College Student Guide* and *South Plains College General Catalog* for more information.

Also, see instructor's course information sheet for more information.

Student Conduct Policy:

- **Classroom Conduct:** Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course.
- See *South Plains College Student Guide* for full policy covering other areas of conduct including penalties for misconduct and procedures for disciplinary action.

Campus Concealed Carry Policy:

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at:

http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Grade and Academic Discipline Appeals: South Plains College provides two procedures which allow students the opportunity to address grievances of an academic nature.

- Appeal Restrictions: Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered. The instructor's teaching ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed
- Informal Appeal
 - The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or disciplinary action.
 - 2. If the student is still not satisfied, she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate departmental chairperson to discuss the situation. The chairperson may request that the instructor also be present.
 - 3. If the student is still not satisfied, he she should schedule an appointment with the Divisional Dean to discuss the situation. The dean may request that the chairperson also be present.
 - 4. If the student is still not satisfied, he she should be advised of the formal appeal process.
- Formal Appeal: If the student is not satisfied with the results of the informal appeal, s/he should provide the following information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:
 - A request for a formal appeals hearing.
 - 2. A brief statement of what is being appealed.
 - 3. The basis for the appeal.
 - 4. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.
- The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.
- The Hearing
 - Composition of the appeals committee:
 - Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing.
 - Faculty member of the student's choice.
 - Faculty member and student selected by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

- President of Student Government Association.
- Dean of Students.
- Other persons who should be available at the hearing:
 - The student who requested the hearing.
 - The faculty member involved.
 - Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case.
 - Chairperson and Divisional Dean.
- Hearing procedure:
- The committee will hear the student's appeal during which the parties to the controversy and such representatives as desired will present all facts relating to the case. By majority vote, the committee will decide to sustain, amend or reverse the previous decision.
- The decision of the committee is final and completes the academic appeals procedure.

See *South Plains College Student Guide* for more information.

Non-Discrimination Policy: South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. All SPC courses meet federal regulations under Title II of the ADA, Sections 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College -1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336, 806716-2360.

Equal Rights Policy: All students are entitled to equal rights under the affirmative action and equal opportunity laws. Students are also protected against unjust or biased academic evaluation, but at the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. See *South Plains College Student Guide*.

Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.
2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.
3. Describe key concepts in sociology.
4. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.
5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.

Core Objectives:

- **Communication skills-** to include effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Critical thinking skills-** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.

- **Empirical and Quantitative skills-** to include the ability to apply, analyze, and draw conclusions based on scientific and mathematical concepts.
- **Social Responsibility-** to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Texas Coordinating Board Approval Number..... 45.1101.51.25

Course Information Sheet
SOCI 1301-Introduction to Sociology
Instructor: Brant Farrar

First, I would like to say **THANK YOU!** I consider it an honor that you have chosen to be in my course. I want to thank you in advance for the time and hard work that you will put into this learning experience. One of the keys to being successful in college is to maintain communication with your instructor. Feel free to call, e-mail, or to make an appointment if I can help you be successful in this course. I hope that your grade in this course will reflect the effort you put into it. – Brant Farrar

Note: All deadlines are on Tuesdays. Late work is not accepted for grading.

All deadlines are at noon.

Office Hours:

- **Monday and Wednesday-8:30am to 9:30pm; 2:15pm to 3:30pm (Reese Center)**
- **Tuesday and Thursday-8:30am to 9:30am; 2:15pm to 3:30pm (Lubbock Center)**
- **Friday-By Appointment ONLY: Call or email me and we will find a time that works for you if my posted office hours do not fit your schedule (do be sure to keep appointments as my time is just as valuable as yours). All appointments will be held at my Reese campus office unless otherwise noted.**

**Office Location: Reese campus, Building 4, Room 405E
Lubbock Center, office TBD**

Email address: bfarrar@southplainscollege.edu once the session starts, all correspondence should be in the e-mail in the Blackboard course. Course work will not be accepted if sent to the SPC e-mail address.

Contact method: Once the session has started, you are to use the e-mail link within your Blackboard course. You will log into your Blackboard account and click on your SOCI1301 course in order to be able to access that e-mail account. Once you are in the course, you will see the “E-mail – course” link on the left-hand side of the page. I will do my best to respond to all student messages within 24 hours on weekdays and within 48 hours on weekends and/or holidays unless I have notified you differently.

Telephone: (806) 716-4657, if you leave a message include your name, class you are in, phone number, and a short message. Be sure to speak clearly and leave your number slowly.

Textbook: *The Real World*, Ferris and Stein, 6th edition, Norton Publishing.

Attendance Policy: See Common Course Syllabus section. Since this course is a virtual classroom, attendance will be taken according to the following:

- Participating in class discussion by posting to the discussion board.
- Submitting chapter quizzes on or before the noon due dates.

Note: Simply logging into the course or logging into the course and sending an e-mail is NOT considered attendance for this course. You MUST participate in the course by submitting work during any given week to be considered “in attendance”.

Late work: *No work will be accepted for grading after the deadline.* Excuses such as "The network was down," or "I could not figure out how to send the assignment through the assignments function" or "I got really sick and had to go to the ER last night" are not acceptable. In short, plan ahead, work ahead of the deadline, and do not wait until the last minute to submit your assignments. It is always okay to turn in assignments and to post discussion messages early.

*****Administrative Drop Policy***:** Due to Financial Aid and South Plains College requirements for participation/attendance a student who fails to submit 6 quizzes, fails to participate in 3 grading periods for discussions, or fails to participate by submitting course work in the course for 9 consecutive days during the session may be dropped with a grade of "X" or "F" from the course. Note: Logging into the course does NOT count as attendance in this course. If you miss course work after the final drop date the grade earned will be the final grade.

Course Technology:

Since this course are entirely online, participants are expected to have at least an elementary knowledge of their microcomputer operating system and basic knowledge of software and tools such as a word processor, e-mail, an Internet browser, and search engines.

Required hardware:

- Computer available for download/installation of software and plug ins
- Speakers / Sound card

Required software:

- Microsoft Office (Word)
- Blackboard (see note below)
- Internet access – regular, dependable, fast enough to watch videos
- Web browser – a **current** version of one of the following – Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Safari, or Google Chrome. Downloads for the newest browser versions are available free of charge from their websites.

- Virus protection
- Latest version of Java [Available here](#)

Blackboard:

Blackboard is an electronic learning resource that is designed to provide students with information requirements related to the courses. This includes up-to-date announcements, course information, assessment, assignments, deadlines, and the like. For this resource to function to its full potential, it is important that students log in multiple times during the week.

Students will post their responses to discussion prompts on the Discussion Forums through Blackboard. Students can also monitor their progress in the course by using the “My grades” link on the left-hand side of the course page.

Blackboard can be accessed via an Internet link:

<https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/>

You may also use the link to Blackboard in the upper right-hand side of the SPC Homepage. It is recommended that you bookmark the Blackboard page as it is on a separate server and if the SPC website is down you can typically still access your Blackboard course if you use the URL or bookmark. Your log-in is the same as you MySPC log-in.

Technical support:

If you have any questions or need assistance, you are to contact Blackboard technical support at blackboard@southplainscollege.edu or call 806-716-2180. A note, contact your instructor for any questions you have about course content as technical support is only for issues concerning computers or Blackboard performance.

What to do if you experience technical problems:

If you are unable to submit an assignment, complete a quiz, or otherwise participate in our course because of an issue with Blackboard, it is YOUR responsibility to notify me via email when the problem occurs. It is also YOUR responsibility to notify technical support (contact information is in the box above) for assistance and to document your attempts to resolve the problem. In addition, take a screenshot to document your problem and submit this with your email to me and to technical support. If the Division of Instructional Technology staff verify Blackboard outage, I will work with you to make alternative arrangements. However, you are responsible for your technology and ability to submit work (including your access to an Internet connection). I strongly recommend that you submit your work early to avoid last minute problems. I also strongly recommend that you save a copy of your discussions and/or assignments to the course in case of technology disruption. In addition, I strongly recommend that you have a back-up plan in case you have technical issues.

Open Computer Lab: There is an Open Computer Lab located on the Levelland campus in the Technology Center. It is available to all students, with priority given to those students enrolled in computer classes. Computers are also available on the Reese Center, Lubbock, and Plainview campuses. Check with libraries and labs for hours.

PLEASE, DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO TURN ASSIGNMENTS IN OR YOU MAY HAVE PROBLEMS! Remember the saying "TECHNOLOGY HAPPENS"!

Anti-virus Software: Please make sure that your computer has an up-to-date antivirus software program installed.

Course work: See the course calendar for deadlines. All deadlines are every Tuesday. All deadlines are by noon. If you work or have class in the morning, I recommend that you set your personal deadline at midnight the night before the deadline. Better yet, work a day or two ahead of the deadline and avoid the stresses and risks that may come with working close to the deadline. The deadline listed on the calendar/checklist is the FINAL time that course work can be submitted but you can ALWAYS submit ahead of the deadline. I don't accept late work for grading. The choice is yours when it comes to how close you work to a deadline.

All course work is in your Learning Modules.

Chapter Quizzes

DO NOT TAKE QUIZZES ON YOUR CELL PHONE or tablets! You must have a stable internet connection to complete the course quizzes.

Notes: You must submit an [Online Participation Agreement Quiz](#) and earn full points before the remainder of the course work will be available to you.

There is a twenty-five question multiple choice quiz for each section of the 14 chapters of the text book that the course will cover. The 6 chapter quizzes are 45 minute timed quizzes and will close at the deadline. The questions for each exam will be drawn from the chapters covered in the corresponding section. For example, the first quiz will cover chapters 1 and 2. The second quiz will cover chapters 3 and 4...and so on. These are "open book" quizzes but you will probably not have enough time to look up all the answers without reading and studying the material prior to taking the quiz. Do not click on the link until you are ready to take the test as once you enter the quiz and get out of it, you cannot re-enter the quiz. Quizzes will not be accepted after you surpass the time limit or after the deadline so plan ahead. Late quizzes are not accepted. Practice quizzes are available to use as a study tool and are taken from the same test bank as the chapter quizzes. Practice quizzes can be completed multiple times as study tools. Each quiz in the learning modules may be completed once and once only. Just like in-class exams, you get one attempt at the learning module quizzes. If you fail to submit 3 quizzes you may be dropped from the course.

Short Essay Assignments

There are two short essay assignments. See the module for the assignment and grading rubric.

Class Participation/Discussion Board postings

Note: You MUST post your original message before you will be able to view the posts of other students.

This course includes an Introduction Discussion that will help us get to know a little about each other and Discussions for each module that will include a video, article, or other material related to information that is covered in that section of the textbook.

Each Substantive Discussion (Disc) is worth 50 points and includes one Original Discussion and at last two Reply Discussions. Each Original Discussion is worth 20 points and the Reply Discussions are worth 15 points each. For each Disc, you will be graded on (1) your original post and (2) your replies to classmates' discussion of that same discussion topic.

The Online Discussion component of this course is comprised of weekly Discussion topics and is an important part of the class. Each week there will be discussion related to the course material. The faculty member posts weekly main discussion prompts that may include videos, articles, or other resources related to a topic that is being covered for that week. Students are expected to respond to ALL Discussions.

Online discussion is a very important part of online learning. Through your responses to weekly discussions, you will learn to integrate class material into your thoughts and learn more about how others view the topics that are covered in the course. Additional discussion with classmates and the professor help us all learn more about the material. As such, each week you are also expected to make at least two thoughtful and substantial responses to classmates.

I suggest that members participate at least two times per week. It is a good idea to check in early in the deadline period and again closer to the final day of the deadline period. This assures that you are an active member of the class throughout the week and have ample opportunity to interact with other members. Discussions will be due at 12:00 p.m. (NOON), so if you work or have classes in the mornings, you may need to set your personal deadline at midnight the night before the noon deadline. See the course calendar/checklist for deadlines.

Discussion posts are not accepted for grading after the deadline. Drop policy is if you fail to participate in 3 discussion grading periods you may be dropped from the course.

Online Discussions will require the following:

Discussion topics are listed in the Learning Module and in the Discussion link on the left-hand side of the course page. Most discussion topics will require viewing a video and the links are provided in the discussion topics instructions.

Original discussions should:

- You must post your original discussion message before you will be able to see the posts of other students.

- Be made before the deadline stated on the course calendar/checklist.
- Contain a minimum of 200 words.
- Be thoughtful, organized, and analyze the information in the video/prompt.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the video/prompt and the course material. Each video/prompt is chosen because it illustrates at least one topic in the chapter(s) covered for the grading period. You are to identify and discuss the topic(s) that are shared content of the video/prompt and the course material. Base your discussion post on the material you have read AND watched. Show me you have read and understand the course material in your post.
- Contain more than just your opinion: justify your statements using course materials.
- Do NOT simply state a recap of the video/prompt. Everyone should have watched/read the material and I am looking for a deeper level of thought than just stating what was in the video/prompt.
- Incorporate ***and cite information from the textbook***, outside academic sources, credible websites, etc. Textbook citations should include the page number(s) and other sources should include citations to show where you located the information. Note: Wikipedia is NOT an academic source.
- You may include personal experiences and/or reactions. CAUTION: remember to use the sociological perspective in all of your course work.
- Utilize appropriate language, grammar, and spelling

Responses to Original discussions should:

- Be made before the deadline stated on the course calendar/checklist.
- Contain a minimum of 75 words.
- Include at least two responses to classmates.
- Add to the overall value of the discussion (simply posting a statement similar to “I thought this week’s ideas were interesting” or “I agree”) will not count towards your points for a grade.
- Ask questions to encourage other students to think more deeply. Just asking, “What do you think?” will not earn full points here.
- Share your own experiences that relate to the topic of discussion.
- Constructively and/or respectfully disagree at times.
- Refer to class course work (text or video information) and apply the information or ask other students how they are applying course information.
- If you repeat yourself in your reply messages you will not earn full points.
- Utilize appropriate language, grammar, and spelling.

ONLINE ETIQUETTE:

A few words about communication and online discussion are in order. As you imagine, some conversations easily become emotional, especially if we touch on people's deeply held beliefs. Unfortunately, online postings can mislead one into thinking that cyberspace is an "anything goes" kind of forum. This isn't the case. Civil interaction is as much expected here as in the

"traditional" classroom. Below I provide some guidelines for communicating more effectively online. I will deduct points from posts that violate the spirit of these suggestions.

Keep in mind:

- There may be disagreement and this is okay, otherwise we will be bored.
- Disagreement can be very constructive; it encourages us to reconsider our own positions and either recommit, expand, or discard them.
- I must at all times hear/see you debating the IDEA and not making a personal attack on an individual. Note that this is a skill to learn like any other so learn how to debate and get your point heard.
- Personal insults and attacks impede the development of critical thought. Avoid "you" statements, which can be more easily interpreted as accusations ("you don't know what you're talking about", "the problem is people like you," etc., etc.). Try, instead, to use "I" statements ("I disagree with your position on "X" and then explain your viewpoint using course material to validate that viewpoint or "I find that Durkheim was actually saying ...").
- In addition, people have to be given the benefit of the doubt on occasion. Because this is an online class and we cannot see each other's facial expressions or hear the tone in our voices, it is important to clarify issues that are confusing. Before jumping to a conclusion and putting words in someone's mouth, ask them to clarify their point. And if someone asks you to restate your opinion, do not be afraid to restate it.
- Finally, I will be most impressed with individuals who can incorporate course materials into their posts. A key skill you should leave college with is the ability to support your positions; this online forum is an appropriate place to hone this skill. Refer to readings and module material to support your points.

*Adapted from Soc 101: Introduction to Sociology An Online Course, by Professor Marisol Clark-Ibanez, Ph.D.

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. (This means no "texting" abbreviations or shortcuts!) This includes discussions.

Writing Tips for all written work in the course:

1. All written work should be typed or computer generated, double spaced, with one inch margins in a standard 12 pt. font. Please use Word for attachments and do not use Google docs.
2. Any references used should be listed at the end of the paper using APA style and within the body of the text according to APA procedure. Using reference material without proper documentation constitutes plagiarism which is a serious academic offense. Wikipedia is not considered a valid academic source. Do not use it!
3. For the assignments in this class, it is better to write using first or third person pronouns. Therefore it is appropriate to use "I, me, mine" or "he, she, their, we." It is not appropriate to use "you" or "your." Please avoid writing in 2nd person.

4. Be sure to proofread your work for grammatical and spelling errors. Use the "enable html" button within the email, assignments, and discussion functions to run a spell check. Also remember that "healthy" paragraphs are usually comprised of at least three sentences organized around a central idea.

Academic Integrity: See Common Course Syllabus. Students found guilty of plagiarism in this course will receive a grade of zero (0) for the work in question for the first offense and will be dropped from the course with an "F" should a second offense occur. For further information and examples please see <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/information-for/current-spc-students/library/cslibrarylvl/plagiarism.php> or <http://tlt.its.psu.edu/plagiarism/tutorial> .

Student Appeals: See Common Course Syllabus section.

Student Conduct: See Common Course Syllabus section. Also, please note that this is an online environment and others will see your comments posted to the discussion board area and/or in e-mail communications. Do not post any pictures, comments or data that others may find offensive. Since this is an on-line classroom any e-mails or correspondence sent by the instructor to a student or students will be considered lawful directions.

Equal Opportunity: See Common Course Syllabus section. In addition, in this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world, and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

South Plains College strives to accommodate the individual needs of all students in order to enhance their opportunities for success in the context of a comprehensive community college setting. It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age. In addition, this instructor will not tolerate remarks nor gestures that can be construed to be sexist, racist, heterosexist, transphobic or in any way disparaging to another person in this classroom. Students who exhibit such behavior may be dropped from the class with a semester grade of "F" regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, religion, or sexual orientation. . In short, "Bigotry will not be tolerated." I do not ascribe to "political correctness", but I do intend to act in a respectful manner and expect the same of students.

******Sociological perspective:** Students will use what is termed the Sociological Perspective since you are now students of Sociology. This perspective stresses the social context in which people live and steps away from what is termed "person blaming." Sociologists look beyond individuals and individual experiences. This perspective strives to understand human behavior by placing it within its broader social context. Depending on a person's characteristics such as gender, age, race, sexual orientation and religion among others, we each have different experiences. Sociologists using this perspective (and that includes you, the student) evaluate people and behaviors in terms of what is typical or atypical (or not typical) by studying society and finding general patterns of behavior. They do NOT judge others or their behaviors with

terms such as good/bad, moral/immoral or right/wrong. Do NOT use these terms in your assignments or discussion posts or you will lose points.****

Accommodations: See Common Course Syllabus section. Please note: Instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided.

Grading criteria for student's final grade in the course:

Grades: It is possible to earn up to 1200 points in this course.

Your grade will be calculated on a cumulative point total based on the following scale:

A = 1035 – 1150; B = 920 – 1034.9; C = 805 – 919.9; D = 690 – 804.9; F = 0 – 689.9

Point Distribution:

Online Participation Agreement Quiz = 20 points

Introduction posts (1 original and 2 replies) = 50 points

Introduction E-mail Assignment = 30 points

6 quizzes @ 100 = 600 points

6 Chapter Discussion postings (1 original and 2 replies each) @ 50 points = 300 points

1 Short Essay Assignment @ 100 = 100 points

Letter to Future Students assignment = 50 points

Total points possible = 1150

*****Online Calendar and Coursework Checklist can be found on Blackboard*****