

Fall 2021

STS 221-003: Introduction to Sociology

Melissa Anderson

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New Jersey Institute of Technology

Course Title: Introduction to Sociology

Course Number and Section: STS-221-003

Semester: Fall 2021

Course Scheduled Days/Times: 8:30am-9:50am T/R

Location: Central King Building 315

Instructor Name: Melissa Anderson

Office Hours: by appointment

Campus Email: mand@njit.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The study of social life, society, and the individual within a global and multicultural context. Examines social life and social behavior and highlights development of a sociological imagination. Introduces sociological theory and research methods as means for studying the social world.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Having carefully prepared for and completed this course, students will;

SLO1: Demonstrate an understanding of the core concepts and theories within the sociological perspective through a rigorous analysis of society and social behavior.

SLO2: Critically analyze the effects of social structures and forces on human lives, organizations and groups. **SLO3:** Effectively comprehend and ethically use quantitative and qualitative methodologies to gain a better understanding of the social world.

SLO4: Identify the importance of diversity, democracy, egalitarianism and social justice in a pluralistic society and articulate the implications for social policy and action in efforts to bring about social change.

SLO5: Articulate, analyze and describe the relationship between their personal lives, the history of their world, and contemporary social arrangements in local, national, environmental, and global contexts.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

This course is taught primarily as a lecture with integration of electronic discussion, and audio/visual supplement.

Textbook & Materials (Recommended)

*Discover Sociology 4TH ed. William Chambliss & Daina Eglitis. 2020
Sage Publications. ISBN# 9781544333434*

Lecture slides will be posted in either pdf or html form in three week intervals on Canvas.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- I. Three-(3) Non-Cumulative Exams (48%)
Exams-I & II @ 14% each/ Exam-III @ 20%
- II. Interactive Prompts (20%)-- 2required @ 10% each)
- III. Papers: (32%)
 - a. Observation-Reflection (10%)
 - b. Narrative Paper (22%)

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Exams. {48 pts.}** Your grade will consist of three (3) non-cumulative exams with multiple-choice questions. Administered exams cover material presented in lecture and the course textbook. Once posted exams remain open during the length of the semester; it is the student's responsibility to complete exams- I & II by December 1st @ 11:59pm. Exam-III will be administered during final exam week.
2. **Interactives Prompts. {20 pts.}** Students are required to participate in two-(two)- interactives on Canvas. The purpose of the assignment is to stimulate an understanding of the course material through an integrated proxy inquiry.
3. **Reflections. {28 pts.}**
 - a. Observation-Reflection; using critical thinking tools students will detail social observations witnessed in any social space and offer a sociological interpretation of the context on Canvas. As an introductory exercise, students are not required to reference Sociological terms, concepts, or theories. In essence, students should refer only to the observation and their clarification of understanding to date. Minimum 800-word count paper due on Canvas, **September 9th by 11:59pm.**
 - b. Narrative-Reflection; Students are required to view "Tammy's Story: People Like Us: Social Class in America" and write a *5-6 page* sociological analysis in explanation of Tammy's circumstances. Students are required to use at least five-(5) concepts, terms or theories examined throughout the semester to offer an insightful Sociological lens of micro-and macro contextual distinction. **Paper is due on Canvas November 23rd by 11:59pm; an Instructional is administered Week 8 of the course.**

Assignment Recall

Observation-Reflection Paper
Interactive Prompts
Exam I
Instructional + Rubric / Due
Exam II
Exam III

Dates

Week 2
Weeks 5, 12
Week 5
Week 8 / Week 13
Week 10
Week 16

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: September 2nd (*Introduction/Syllabus/*)

Week 2: September 7th - 9th

Chapter -1; Discovering Sociology

Assignment: Observation – Reflection Paper Due; September 9th by 11:59pm

Week 3: September 14th -16th

Chapter -1; Discovering Sociology

Week 4: September 21st- 23rd

Chapter -4; Socialization and Social Interaction

Week 5: September 28th - 30th

Chapter -5; Groups, Organizations, and Bureaucracies

Week 6: October 5th -7th

Interactive-1 - Due on Canvas October 5th by 11:59pm

Exam I on Canvas

Covers chapters 1, 4, &5 (Opens Thurs. October 7th)

Week 7: October 12th -14th

Chapter -3; Culture and Mass Media

Week 8: October 19th -21st

Chapter -6; Deviance and Social Control

(Instructional + Grading Rubric for Narrative-Reflection Paper Due; Week 13)

Week 9: October 26th -28th

Chapter -7; Social Class and Inequality in the United States

Week 10: November 2nd- 4th

Exam II on Canvas

Covers chapters 3, 6, & 7 (opens Thurs. Nov. 4th)

Week 11: November 9th -11th

Chapter -9; Race and Ethnicity

Week 12: November 16th -18th

Chapter -11; Families and Society

Interactive-2 - Due on Canvas November 18th by 11:59pm

Week 13: November 23rd- 25th

Assignment: Narrative – Reflection Paper Due; November 23rd by 11:59pm

Thanksgiving Break- NO CLASS

Week 14: November 30th - December 2nd

Chapter-10; Gender and Society

Reminder: Exams I & 2 Close on December 1st

Week 15: December 7th - 9th

Chapter -18; Social Movements and Social Change

Week 16: Final Exam Week ; Exam III on Blackboard

Covers chapters 9, 10, 11, & 18

ASSESSMENT:

No extra credit will be assigned to individual students.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Attendance: Attendance is required on lecture days and will be taken at the beginning of each class.

Excuses: Approved excuses include a medical concern or family emergency allocated with proper documentation (e.g., doctor's note, police report, funeral program). If you have a religious observation which conflicts with a scheduled exam, please notify me no less than two weeks prior to exam dates. University athletes with prior approval for arranged events may also be excused.

Student's Responsibilities "It is the student's responsibility to be registered for classes through the Registrar's Office and cleared through the Bursar's Office. Students who attend classes and who are not properly registered and cleared will not be reinstated into the class and will not receive credit."

Students with Disabilities NJIT will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students with documented disabilities who may need special instructional accommodations or who may need special arrangements in the event of an evacuation should notify the instructor as soon as possible, no later than the second week of the term. Students are encouraged to contact Disability Services for information and guidance.

Academic Integrity "Plagiarism is the copying of a passage or idea from a book, article, notebook, laboratory report, video, internet, or other source, published or unpublished, without acknowledging the source of the passage or idea. Text extracted from another source without substantial paraphrasing must be cited as a quotation, or it will be considered plagiarism.

To maintain course integrity, if students are not actively engaged, I reserve the right to change/alter the syllabus to reflect the needs of the student's intellectual stimulus with due notice.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

1. <https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/taking-mcat-exam/prepare-mcat-exam/free-planning-and-study-resources/>
2. <https://edge.sagepub.com/chambliss4e>