

Department of Sociology
Dartmouth College
Fall 2008

Course: Introduction to Sociology (Sociology 1)

Time: MWF 8:45-9:50
Thursday 9:00-9:50 (X-hour)

Instructor: John Campbell
123 Silsby Hall
Office phone: 646-2542

Office Hours: Monday 1:00-3:00 (or by appointment)

Email: I will try to answer email queries as soon as I can. However, given the rather large amount of email I receive, I can make no guarantees how fast that will be. For the same reason, my responses may be rather short. Please do not take offense.

Course Description: What is society? How have societies developed historically? How do they distribute wealth, income and other resources? How do they organize political authority and economic power? How do they coordinate work? How do they socialize people to “fit in” with those around them? How do they produce culture? This course provides answers to these and other questions in ways that provide an introduction to the field of sociology. It focuses on a broad range of theory and research showing how sociologists think about and study these questions. In many cases, the topics covered in the course reflect the research interests and course offerings of faculty in the sociology department at Dartmouth. As a result, the course also provides an introduction to some of the curriculum offered in the department.

Required Texts: Listed below are the required books for the course. They are available at Wheelock Books, the Dartmouth Bookstore, and are on reserve at Baker-Berry Library. There are also a few additional required articles. These are listed in the syllabus below and posted to the course’s Blackboard site.

Peter Cookson and Caroline Persell. Preparing for Power. New York: Basic Books, 1987.

G. William Domhoff. Who Rules America? Power and Politics. 4th or 5th edition. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2002, 2005.

Gary Alan Fine. Kitchens: The Culture of Restaurant Work. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1996.

Lisa Keister. 2005. Getting Rich: America’s New Rich and How They Got That Way. New York: Cambridge University Press.

William Julius Wilson. 1996. When Work Disappears: The World of the New Urban Poor. New York: Knopf.

General Course Requirements: All students are expected to attend lectures, do the reading and take the exams.

Attendance Policy: Class attendance will not be taken. Beware, however, that about half of the questions on each exam will be based on lecture material.

Examinations: There will be three multiple choice exams including the final exam. The exam dates are listed below in the syllabus.

Make-up Policy: As a general rule there will be NO make-up exams. In extraordinary circumstances a make-up may be possible if (1) you know in advance that you will be unable for extraordinary reasons to take the exam, and you make arrangements with the instructor at least one week before the scheduled exam date, or (2) you are seriously ill and have written confirmation from either a dean or physician that this prevented you from taking the exam. The instructor reserves the right to refuse permission for a make-up exam if he feels it is not warranted. Notably, having other exams scheduled during the same week is not an acceptable reason for requesting a make-up exam. (Note that instructors are not permitted to grant make-ups for a final exam unless the student also receives approval from their class dean. But the final decision is still made by the instructor.)

Grading: Your grade will be based on the total number of points earned on the exams.

Exam #1	70 points/35 questions	
Exam #2	70 points/35 questions	
Exam #3	70 points/35 questions	(Note: The third exam may be cumulative.)

Honor Principle: Examinations will be conducted in accord with the principles of academic honor detailed in the Dartmouth Organization, Regulations and Courses.

Students with Disabilities: Students with learning, physical, or psychiatric disabilities enrolled in this course that may need disability-related classroom or other accommodations are encouraged to make an appointment to see me before the end of the second week of the term. All discussions will remain confidential, although the Student Disability Services office may be consulted to discuss appropriate implementation of any accommodation requested. I also ask that students who want to discuss this provide me with a copy of a disability registration form, which lists the accommodations recommended for them by the Student Disability Services within the Academic Skills Center. This will also verify that you are registered for disabilities services. If you do not have such a form, please see the Director of Student Disability Services to get one

Reading Assignments: The reading assignments for the course are listed below. It is expected that you will have done the reading by the time class meets on the date for which the assignment is listed in the syllabus. ***There is a lot of reading so you should keep up with it as we go along.*** Otherwise you will be faced with an extraordinary amount of reading the night before the exam.

Course Outline:**Part I. What is Sociology?**

Sept 24 Introduction to the Course

Part II. The Development of Modern Society and the Foundations of Sociology

Sept 25 **X-HOUR** Marx's Conflict Sociology

Fred Pampel. 2007. "The Sources of Human Misery: Karl Marx and the Centrality of Social Class." Pp. 1-38 in Sociological Lives and Ideas. NY: Worth. (On Blackboard)

Sep 26 **NO CLASS**

(Continue reading.)

Sep 29 Durkheim's Functionalist Sociology

Fred Pampel. 2007. "The Problem of Social Order: Emile Durkheim and Morality in Modern Societies." Pp. 43-82 in Sociological Lives and Ideas. NY: Worth. (On Blackboard)

Oct 1 Weber's Historical Comparative-Historical Sociology

Fred Pampel. 2007. "A Prophet of Doom: Max Weber and the Spread of Rationality." Pp. 87-124 in Sociological Lives and Ideas. NY: Worth. (On Blackboard)

Part III. The Heart of the Matter: Inequality

Oct 3 Economic Inequality: Who Gets What?

Lisa Keister. Getting Rich. (Begin reading chapters 1-4, 9 closely; skim the rest.)

Oct 6 Economic Inequality: Theories of Class and Stratification

Lisa Keister. Getting Rich. (Continue reading.)

Oct 8 Racial Inequality

Lisa Keister. Getting Rich. (Finish reading.)

Oct 10 Racial Inequality

William Julius Wilson. When Work Disappears. (Begin reading chapters 1-5 closely; skim the rest.)

Oct 13 Gender Inequality

William Julius Wilson. When Work Disappears. (Continue reading.)

Oct 15 Gender Inequality

William Julius Wilson. When Work Disappears. (Finish reading.)

Oct 17 Exam Review

Oct 20 **EXAM #1**

Part IV. Analyzing Social Institutions

Oct 22 The Economy
G. William Domhoff. Who Rules America? (Begin reading chapters 2-3.)

Oct 24 **NO CLASS**
(Continue reading.)

Oct 27 The Economy
G. William Domhoff. Who Rules America? (Finish reading chapters 2-3.)

Oct 29 The State: Film–Frontline’s “Washington’s Other Scandal”
G. William Domhoff. Who Rules America? (Begin reading chapters 4, 6, 7.)

Nov 1 The State
G. William Domhoff. Who Rules America? (Continue reading chapters 4, 6, 7.)

Nov 3 The State
G. William Domhoff. Who Rules America? (Finish reading chapters 4, 6, 7.)

Nov 5 The Schools
Peter Cookson and Caroline Persell. Preparing for Power. (Begin reading.)

Nov 7 The Schools
Peter Cookson and Caroline Persell. Preparing for Power. (Finish reading.)

Nov 10 Exam Review

Nov 12 **EXAM #2**

Part V. Analyzing Organizations

Nov 14 Bureaucracy
Charles Perrow. 1986. “Why Bureaucracy?” Pp. 1-48 in Complex Organizations. NY: Random House. (On Blackboard)

Nov 17 Rise of the Modern Corporation
Neil Fligstein. 1990. “Introduction.” Pp. 1-32 in The Transformation of Corporate Control. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. (On Blackboard)

Nov 19 The Labor Process
Eliot Freidson. 1994. “The Changing Nature of Professional Control.” Pp. 128-46 in Professionalism Reborn. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (On Blackboard)

Part VI. Analyzing Interpersonal Interaction

- Nov 21 Symbolic Interaction
Gary Alan Fine. Kitchens. (Begin reading.)
- Nov 24 Presentation of Self
Gary Alan Fine. Kitchens. (Continue reading.)
- Nov 26 THANKSGIVING BREAK
- Nov 28 THANKSGIVING BREAK
- Dec 1 Production of Culture
Gary Alan Fine. Kitchens. (Finish reading.)
- Dec 3 Exam Review
- Dec 7 **EXAM #3** 8:00 am