Instructor: Kristin B. Allen, M.S., Doctoral Candidate, Dept. of Sociology
Email: kba15@my.fsu.edu
Office Hours: Mondays 12-1 PM, or by appointment (held via Zoom through the course site)

Course Description
This course is designed to introduce students to the field of sociology, which includes the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Sociologists investigate the structure of groups, organizations, and societies, and how people interact within these contexts.

Students will explore the field through a variety of readings, film clips, and PowerPoint presentations through a weekly Canvas module and textbook reading assignment. They will then apply this knowledge by completing quizzes, addressing writing prompts, and completing a final project.

Course Objectives
By the end of the course, students will be able to understand and explain:

• Basic concepts, theories, and methods used in the study of sociology;

• The sociological focus and the influence the study of sociology has on identifying, explaining, and addressing social issues; and

• How sociology can be used in everyday life to explain and sometimes predict human social behavior

This course meets a requirement for Liberal Studies at FSU. The Liberal Studies for the 21st Century Program at Florida State University builds an educational foundation that will enable FSU graduates to thrive both intellectually and materially and to support themselves, their families, and their communities through a broad and critical engagement with the world in which they live and work.

Required Materials

Grading
There are 1000 total points possible. Grades are based primarily on weekly open-note quizzes, five reaction papers, and one final project.
First Day Attendance 30 points
Open-Note Quizzes 14 x 30 points ea. 420 points
Short Reaction Papers 5 x 70 points ea. 350 points
Final Project 200 points

TOTAL 1000 points

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:
A 93-100; A- 90-92.99; B+ 87-89.99; B 83-86.99; B- 80-82.99; C+ 77-79.99; C 73-76.99; C- 70-72.99; D+ 67-69.99; D 63-66.99; D- 60-62.99; F below 60

Grade Components

1. First Day Attendance: On the First Day Discussion Board, introduce yourself in 1-2 paragraphs and reply to two of your classmates. This is an open-ended assignment, but some recommended areas to cover include your interests and hobbies, academic major, career aspirations, any questions or concerns that you have regarding the class or syllabus. This is worth 30 points and completion is a University requirement to remain enrolled in the course.

2. Open-Note Quizzes: Each week, students will take an open-note quiz on the Canvas course site. This will include multiple choice and short answer questions regarding the readings and other materials covered during the week. It is a timed assessment to encourage reading of the material and completion of the weekly module prior to the quiz. The quiz for the week will be open each week beginning on Tuesday and close on Friday at 11:59 p.m. Each quiz is worth 30 points.

3. Short Reaction Papers: Five brief reaction papers will be due during the semester (approximately every third week). For each paper, a prompt related to the course material will be provided. Students are to respond to the prompt with information from the course. In-text citations and a reference list should be included for each paper. Each paper should contain a minimum of 500 words (two double-spaced pages). Each paper is worth 70 points. The due dates are the following Fridays: 1/22, 2/12, 3/5, and 3/26 by 11:59pm.

4. Final Project: The final project allows students to explore a broad course topic of interest in more depth. For this assignment, students will choose a topic in the textbook about which they’d like to learn more (this can include information in chapters not covered in the course). Students will create a PowerPoint with a minimum of 15 slides and record a verbal presentation on each slide using the PowerPoint program. It should include at least three scholarly sources (academic journals from the FSU library). The final project is worth 200 points and is due on 4/22 by 11:59pm.
Additional instructions and a grading rubric will be provided on the assignment tabs for each assignment.

Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>COURSE MATERIAL TO READ</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS DUE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Read Syllabus</td>
<td>1/6 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/6-1/8</td>
<td>Complete Week 1 Module</td>
<td>INTRO Assignment due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Read Chapters 1 and 2</td>
<td>1/15 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/11-1/15</td>
<td>Complete Week 2 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Read Chapters 3 and 4</td>
<td>1/22 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/18-1/22</td>
<td>Complete Week 3 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 2 REACTION PAPER 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Read Chapters 5 and 6</td>
<td>1/29 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/25-1/29</td>
<td>Complete Week 4 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Read Chapters 7 and 8</td>
<td>2/5 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<td>2/1-2/5</td>
<td>Complete Week 5 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Read Chapters 9 and 10</td>
<td>2/12 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/8-2/12</td>
<td>Complete Week 6 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 5 REACTION PAPER 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Read Chapters 11</td>
<td>2/19 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<td>2/15-2/19</td>
<td>Complete Week 7 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Read Chapters 12-13</td>
<td>2/26 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/22-2/26</td>
<td>Complete Week 8 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Read Chapters 14-15</td>
<td>3/5 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<td>3/1-3/5</td>
<td>Complete Week 9 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 8 REACTION PAPER 3</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Read Chapters 16-17</td>
<td>3/12 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<td>3/8-3/12</td>
<td>Complete Week 10 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Read Chapters 18-19</td>
<td>3/19 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<td>3/15-3/19</td>
<td>Complete Week 11 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 10</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Read Chapter 20</td>
<td>3/26 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/22-3/26</td>
<td>Complete Week 12 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 11 REACTION PAPER 4</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Read Chapter 21</td>
<td>4/2 by 11:59pm:</td>
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<td>3/29-4/2</td>
<td>Complete Week 8 Module</td>
<td>QUIZ 12 SUBMIT FINAL PROJECT TOPIC FOR APPROVAL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Read Chapter 22</td>
<td>4/9 by 11:59pm:</td>
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**Dates and requirements are subject to change in rare circumstances. Students will be notified via course announcement and email of any changes.**

### COURSE POLICIES

#### Textbook Acquisition

The reading for the first week of class will be open-access and available through Canvas. Beginning the second Friday of the class, students are responsible for taking a quiz over textbook content. Therefore, all students should plan to obtain their course textbooks no later than Tuesday, January 12th. The textbook is available as an e-copy or hard copy through the FSU bookstore or other common online textbook sites.

#### Assignment Submissions

All assignments must be submitted via Canvas. Assignments should not be emailed to the instructor. Short reaction papers and the first day attendance assignments should be submitted in Word or a PDF format only or written in text directly into the assignment. The final project should be submitted as a PowerPoint document.

Students should double-check each assignment on Canvas at the time of submission to ensure they have submitted the correct assignment.

#### Collaboration with Other Students is Prohibited

Collaboration with other students on course assignments is not permitted in this course. All assignments are expected to be completed individually by the student. Collaboration in this course violates the academic honor policy and will be addressed accordingly.

#### Late Work

All due dates are provided at the beginning of the semester to allow for ample planning of assignment completion. As such, coursework is expected to be submitted on time.

Missed work is accepted without late penalty only for documented excuses that are outlined in the University Attendance Policy. In these cases, the instructor should be notified in advance when missed work is foreseeable and as soon as possible for unforeseeable missed work (no later
than 24 hours after the assignment is due). The instructor will advise the student regarding the type of documentation that is needed for the missed work. In order to make up an assignment without a late penalty, students must provide written documentation in the form requested by the instructor within 72 hours of the missed assignment.

For the case of missed assignments for which no documentation is available or are not listed in the University attendance policy (forgotten assignments, work conflicts, etc.), late work is accepted up to four days after the due date and time for a 20% deduction per day that the assignment is late.

**Email Etiquette**

In every email you send to me, please include your first and last name, the course number or date/time of our class. Before asking questions about basic course information, please check the course Canvas site and the syllabus. In most cases, you will get the information you need much more quickly by looking at the course website and syllabus.

**University Attendance Policy**

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid written excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

**Academic Honor Policy**

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University’s expectations for the integrity of students’ academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to “. . . be honest and truthful and . . . [to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University.” (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy)

**Academic Success**

Your academic success is a top priority for Florida State University. University resources to help you succeed include tutoring centers, computer labs, counseling and health services, and services for designated groups, such as veterans and students with disabilities. The following information is not exhaustive, so please check with your advisor or the Dean of Students office to learn more.

**Americans With Disabilities Act**

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Office of Accessibility Services; and (2) request a letter from the Office of Accessibility Services to be sent to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type; and (3) meet (in person, via phone, email, skype, zoom, etc...)
with each instructor to whom a letter of accommodation was sent to review approved accommodations. This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request. For the latest version of this statement and more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Office of Accessibility Services  
874 Traditions Way  
108 Student Services Building  
Florida State University Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167  
(850) 644-9566 (voice) (850) 644-8504 (TDD)  
oas@fsu.edu https://dsst.fsu.edu/oas

**Confidential campus resources**

Various centers and programs are available to assist students with navigating stressors that might impact academic success. These include the following:

**Victim Advocate Program**  
University Center A,  
Room 4100, (850) 644-7161,  
Available 24/7/365,  
Office Hours: M-F 8-5  
https://dsst.fsu.edu/vap

**University Counseling Center,**  
Askew Student Life Center, 2ndFloor,  
942 Learning Way  
(850) 644-8255  
https://counseling.fsu.edu/

**University Health Services Health and Wellness Center,**  
(850) 644-6230  
https://uhs.fsu.edu/

**Free Tutoring Services**

On-campus and online tutoring and writing assistance is available for many courses at Florida State University. For more information, visit the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) Tutoring Services’ comprehensive list of on-campus tutoring options: see http://ace.fsu.edu/tutoring or contact tutor@fsu.edu. High-quality tutoring is available by appointment and on a walk-in basis. These services are offered by tutors trained to encourage the highest level of individual academic success while upholding personal academic integrity.

**Incomplete Grades**
Missing work or completing assignments partially are insufficient reasons for a grade of Incomplete. An Incomplete grade will not be given except under extenuating circumstances at the instructor’s discretion. Note that College of Social Science guidelines require that students seeking an “I” must have completed a substantial portion of the course and be passing the course. If for any reason you do qualify for an Incomplete in this course, I will work with you to develop a plan for completing your remaining work.

**Religious Holidays**

Students are allowed to miss class due to observance of religious holidays, but they are still responsible for all materials assigned outside and covered in class on the day(s) missed. You must talk with your instructor in advance of missing a class for religious holiday observance reasons.

**Syllabus Change Policy**

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.