



Fall Semester, 2014

Paul Wright

**INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY  
SOC 2303**

Required Text: Hughes and Kroehler, SOCIOLOGY: THE CORE  
(10<sup>th</sup> edition)

The purpose of this course is to acquaint the student with the basic concepts of sociology and their applications to understanding the social structures and institutions we interact with. Basic concepts will be covered initially, followed by examinations of social groups and institutions that influence our behavior and "life's chances."

Expected learning outcomes from the course include the following: being able to observe everyday events through a sociological perspective, understanding and appreciating the concept of culture, recognizing the importance of institutions in shaping society, and learning the processes through which societies change.

It is Sul Ross State University policy to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. Qualified students with disabilities needing academic or other accommodations to ensure full participation in the programs, services and activities at Sul Ross State University should contact the Disability Services Coordinator in Counseling and Prevention Services, 112 Ferguson Hall, Box C-171, 837-8203.

There will be 12 quizzes. Cumulatively, the quizzes will count for a third of the final grade. There will be three exams. Each exam will be noncumulative and will together count for half of the total grade.

Students may earn extra credit by participating in the discussion forums that are found on the Blackboard. Approximately 18 questions are posed for discussion after concepts and materials related to them are discussed in the course. The amount of extra credit given for each question

is based on the quality of the response given, but persons responding thoughtfully to all questions typically earn 50 or more points of extra credit.

Hand-held communication devices (cell phones, blackberries, etc.) are not permitted to be visible in class and must be turned off. Any device going off in class will result in the owner being dismissed for the duration of the class. Leave them elsewhere or out of sight in a container. Any visible device discovered during quizzes or exams will be regarded as prima facie evidence of cheating with the owner being subject to appropriate disciplinary action. I trust this will not happen to anyone in this class.

Theoretically, there are a total of 600 possible points. The point distributions for a given grade are as follows: 480+=A, 420-479=B, 360-419=C, 300-359=D, below 300=F. In cases where the final point total falls somewhat below the cutoff for a given grade, grade improvement over the semester and any classroom participation will be taken into account in determining whether to raise the grade. Lack of grade improvement and/or classroom participation will not lower the grade, but grade improvement or active classroom participation may raise it.

Attendance is expected and comprises 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the final grade. There are 100 points that can be received by attending all 50 minute classes on time. Each absence will result in 4 points being deducted from the point total whereas each "tardy" will result in two points being deducted from the point total.

My office hours are from 9:00-9:50 on W,M,F and 9:30-10:30 on T,Th. Please do not hesitate to contact me to arrange another time if you want to see me outside of my office hours. My office number is 837-8150 and my home phone is 837-7245. My e-mail address is [pwright@sulross.edu](mailto:pwright@sulross.edu). My office is at LH 306.

TOPICS, READINGS, AND EXAMS WILL BE IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Aug 28	Introduction to Sociology	Chapter 1
Aug 30	Introduction to Sociology	
Sept 4	Introduction to Sociology	
Sept 6	Introduction to Sociology	

Sept 9	Introduction to Sociology	
Sept 11	Quiz, Culture	Chapter 2
Sept 13	Culture and Social Structure	
Sept 16	Social Structure	
Sept 18	Quiz, Socialization	Chapter 3
Sept 20	Socialization	
Sept 23	Socialization	
Sept 25	Quiz, Social Groups	Chapter 4
Sept 27	Social Groups	
Sept 30	Social Groups	
Oct 2	Quiz, Deviance	Chapter 5
Oct 4	Exam	
Oct 7	Deviance	
Oct 9	Deviance	
Oct 11	Quiz, Social Stratification	Chapter 6
Oct 14	Social Stratification	
Oct 16	Social Stratification	
Oct 18	Quiz-Ethnic Stratification	Chapter 7
Oct 21	Ethnic Stratification	
Oct 23	Gender Stratification	
Oct 25	Gender Stratification	Chapter 8
Oct 28	Quiz, Political and Economic Power	Chapter 9
Oct 30	Political and Economic Power	
Nov 1	Political and Economic Power	
Nov 4	Quiz, The Family	Chapter 10
Nov 6	Exam	
Nov 8	The Family	
Nov 11	The Family	
Nov 13	Quiz, Religion	Chapter 11
Nov 15	Religion	
Nov 18	Religion	
Nov 20	Quiz, Population and Environment	Chapter 12
Nov 22	Quiz, Population and Environment	
Nov 25	Population and Environment	
Nov 2	Quiz, Social Change	Chapter 13
Dec 4	Social Change	
Dec 9	Quiz, Final Exam	