



Spring Semester, 2015

Paul Wright

**INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
SOC 2303**

Required Text: Hughes and Kroehler, SOCIOLOGY: THE CORE
(11th 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.

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.

There will be 9 quizzes. Cumulatively, the quizzes will be worth 240 points. There will be three exams. Each exam will be worth 100 points for a cumulative total of 300 points and will be noncumulative.

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.

Attendance is expected and comprises 1/6th 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.

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.

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. 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>
Jan 21	Introduction to Sociology	Chapter 1
Jan 23	Introduction to Sociology	
Jan 26	Introduction to Sociology	
Jan 28	Introduction to Sociology	

Feb 2	Introduction to Sociology	
Feb 4	Quiz, Culture	Chapter 2
Feb 6	Culture and Social Structure	
Feb 9	Social Structure	
Feb 11	Quiz, Socialization	Chapter 3
Feb 13	Socialization	
Feb 16	Socialization	
Feb 18	Quiz, Social Groups	Chapter 4
Feb 20	Social Groups	
Feb 23	Social Groups	
Feb 25	Quiz, Deviance	Chapter 5
Feb 27	Exam	
March 2	Deviance	
March 4	Deviance	
March 6	Quiz, Social Stratification	Chapter 6
March 9	Social Stratification	
March 11	Social Stratification	
March 23	Quiz-Ethnic Stratification	Chapter 7
March 25	Ethnic Stratification	
March 27	Gender Stratification	Chapter 8
March 30	Gender Stratification	
April 1	Quiz, Political and Economic Power	Chapter 9
April 3	Political and Economic Power	
April 6	Political and Economic Power	
April 8	Quiz, The Family	Chapter 10
April 10	Exam	
April 13	The Family	
April 15	The Family	
April 17	Quiz, Religion	Chapter 11
April 20	Religion	
April 22	Religion	
April 24	Quiz, Population and Environment	Chapter 12
April 27	Quiz, Population and Environment	
April 29	Population and Environment	
May 1	Quiz, Social Change	Chapter 13
May 4	Social Change	
May 6	Social Change	
May 11	Quiz, Final Exam	