

**Sociology 1, Introduction to Sociology
Hybrid Course
Saddleback College**

Welcome to *Introduction to Sociology!*

Class Meets From:

Location:

Time:

Professor April Cabbage

Office: BGS 300

Office# (949) 582-4636

Webpage: <http://www.saddleback.edu/faculty/acabbage>

E-mail: acabbage@saddleback.edu

Office Hours: TBA

What You Need to Know

Required Text:

Henslin, James M. (2009). Essentials of Sociology: A Down-To-Earth Approach, Eighth Edition. Needham Heights, MA: Pearson and AB Publishing.

ISBN#0205578705/9780205578702 **OR** you can purchase the Essentials of Sociology A La Carte (this is an unbound version of the text which tends to be cheaper but cannot be sold back to the bookstore at the end of the semester)

Course Objective: This course will introduce students to the discipline of sociology. We will explore the sociological perspective, how sociological research is conducted and how it is distinct from other approaches to understanding human interaction and social life. This course will utilize the textbook and lecture, along with media and current events to apply sociological concepts.

Student Learning Outcomes: after completing the course, students of Soc 1 will be able to:

- distinguish the difference between social science and other disciplines
- explain the major concepts that make sociology distinct from other disciplines within the social sciences
- use core and unique concepts to sociology such as the “sociological imagination” and “debunking” when reading, analyzing, discussing and interpreting issues presented both in class, the media and within their daily lives

- be able to distinguish between academic scholarship and other types of research
- understand the main methodological tools used to conduct social science and sociological research
- identify the major sociological theories and be able to describe how each of these perspectives are different and how they influence research
- apply the major sociological theories to any of the course materials, topics covered in the course or current social problems
- have a clear understanding of how intersectionality is vital to the study of sociology

Course Requirements: Students are expected to attend each lecture and have the assigned readings completed *prior* to class meetings, bring their book to class and be prepared to discuss the readings and topics in class. Random, short quizzes based solely on the readings will be given weekly, so staying on top of the assigned readings is crucial. This also means that being on time and planning on staying the entire class session is essential for you to acquire your quiz points. In addition, although the book supplements my lectures, I do not lecture “off the book”. Therefore, your attendance and careful lecture notes are very important.

Moreover, your participation is also critical to your success in this class and for your intellectual exploration and growth. I believe that collaborative learning is the best way to enhance your academic success in this class and understanding of the course objectives and outcomes. This course requires *active* and *engaged* learning. The good news about this is you will have the unique opportunity to determine some of the topics covered in class through small group learning modules. In these modules, you will get to know your group members well and work weekly with one another in various peer lead facilitations and in-class group assignments.

If you feel this course is in conflict with your schedule and you will not be able to devote the time needed each week, or you decide the course is not for you, it is your responsibility to drop this course. **I do however reserve the right to drop you, if you have missed 4 consecutive classes with no communication with me.**

Extra Credit

I MAY FROM TIME TO TIME FEEL THERE IS AN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ON CAMPUS SUCH AS A GUEST SPEAKER THAT IS APPLICABLE TO OUR COURSE CONTENT AND TO THE ENRICHMENT OF YOUR LEARNING AND OFFER EXTRA CREDIT. I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO GIVE EXTRA CREDIT AND DO NOT DO SO TO BUMP GRADES BUT FOR YOUR EDUCATIONAL GROWTH. EXTRA CREDIT IS NOT NEGOTIABLE AND IS AT MY DISCRETION.

Course Policies:

This syllabus is your contract. It is YOUR responsibility to know all exam and paper deadlines.

If you are not going to be in class on the days that you are facilitating, you will lose the points for that day. Due to the nature of the assignment, these points can not be made up as is the case with all in class work and quizzes.

If you will be absent when a written assignment is due, you must make sure you have the assignment in my campus mailbox or e-mail by the beginning of the start of the class despite your absence. There will be no exceptions unless there is a substantiated medical or other emergency.

Likewise, you are expected to take each exam at the time and day they are scheduled. **IMPORTANT:** Only substantiated emergencies will be given a make-up exam. You will have to have a doctor's note or other documentation.

If you miss an exam or assignment due to an emergency, you must contact me within 48 hours after the exam or assignment was due or it will not be accepted and a make-up will not be possible.

If you are consistently late for class I reserve the right to ask you to leave class, issue a warning, and/or drop you from the course.

Plagiarism and/or cheating will not be tolerated in this course and appropriate actions will be taken according to campus policy. If you are unclear of this policy, please refer to the Saddleback handbook at <http://www.saddleback.edu/media/pdf/handbook.pdf>

If I catch you cheating in any form, you will automatically receive an F for the assignment and will be asked to meet with me to discuss further action before being allowed back in the class.

You are required and expected to be on time, courteous and respectful of both the instructor's and your fellow student's opinions- ideas and contributions. Excessive talking, texting, performing work that is not related to the class will not be tolerated and you will be asked once to cease the disruptive/rude behavior. After that, you will be asked to leave the class and arrange a meeting with me before returning.

Laptops are permitted but I reserve the right to ask you to close your laptop at anytime and for any reason.

Blackboard Attendance (Course Website): Your virtual attendance and participation is also required. A portion of this course will be completed online via our course Blackboard website. A minimum of nine hours of coursework will be completed online.

The assignments include: two online examinations, lecture material, discussion board assignments, and uploading paper assignments.

Blackboard/CourseInfo 4.0: This system will be used to further enhance student learning. It will be used to increase interaction among students and faculty, encourage active learning, facilitate prompt feedback, and be used as a tool to emphasize the important concepts and issues relating to the course. The system includes such features as: e-mail, discussion board (required), grades, announcements, study terms, and exams (required). Your username is your Saddleback College e-mail address given to you at registration (first initial of your first name and your last name plus a number; DO NOT INCLUDE “@saddleback.edu”) and your password is your Saddleback College e-mail password (usually the last four digits of your social security number plus two zeros OR your pin number plus two zeros). <http://socccd.blackboard.com>

Technical Difficulties:

If a student is experiencing difficulties with the website, which extends beyond a few hours as the website could be temporarily down, he or she must immediately contact me. Questions regarding navigating the website usually can be found by reading the Blackboard instructions found through the campus website:
<http://www.saddleback.edu/itc/user/blackboardfaq.html>

For Blackboard or Mysite login problems contact: Sheri Nelson at snelson@saddleback.edu or (949) 582-4515

Online Etiquette:

It is essential that each student be polite and respectful at all times. When posting on the discussion board, responding to other students’ postings, throughout written assignments, and via e-mail, courtesy and respect must be maintained. A good thing to keep in mind is, “would I say this to the person’s face?” or “would I say this to my grandma?” Also note that offensive language will not be tolerated. If a student is found to be disrespectful and/or providing a negative learning environment for others he or she will receive a warning or immediately dropped from the course according to the instructor’s discretion. Please go to the following websites for information on “Netiquette”:

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/>

<http://www.chirpingbird.com/netpets/html/computer/emoticon.html>

Computer Lab Information:

Computer labs are located in IMC Lab in BGS248, LAP/ICC in VIL8-06 (in the Village), VIL3 (in the Village), and SM207.

Saddleback College Distance Education Website:

A good source of information for online students, <http://www.saddleback.edu/de/>

ASSESSMENTS

Quiz: Your first assessment will include ten multiple-choice questions testing your comprehension of the orientation information, the course syllabus, and your ability to navigate through our Blackboard website. The quiz is worth **ten points** and will be completed online via our Blackboard website. You will have fifteen minutes to complete the quiz. The quiz can be found under “Assignments” on our course website. Please read the subsequent information on completing online exams.

Discussion Board: It is required that each student participate on our course discussion board. Each student must answer the required discussion board questions (check course schedule for specific discussion board requirements) as well as discuss the topic with other students. On particular weeks in which there is a discussion board assignment you will be required to discuss the given topic throughout the assigned days of that particular discussion board forum. You will “start a new thread” at the beginning of the discussion. When you are adding to the discussion or responding to a specific student you will “reply.” It is required that you engage in a discussion with your fellow students on each topic, therefore, you should be probing them with additional questions and offering comments that go beyond a basic statement such as “good job” or “interesting.” You should be adding to what others have responded and discussing the topic with your fellow students as well as asking your fellow students additional questions. Please note: grammar and spelling (the discussion board has **spellcheck**) as well as comprehensive coverage of the topic will be taken into consideration for grading the discussion board assignments. Please use black font as well as the default font size for your responses and replies as it can be difficult to read otherwise. Some of the discussion board questions require that you incorporate application from class and some require additional research (in this instance the student is required to cite the source or sources of the data used). Please make sure you read the specific discussion board requirements each week. Note that there will be due dates for each student’s main post as well as a subsequent deadline for responses to other students (due dates will be posted on the discussion board forum; please pay close attention to the due dates for your main post as well as the due dates for your reply/responses to other students). Make sure you read the specific requirements for each discussion board forum I will monitor the discussion and offer input where needed throughout. The discussion board requirement is worth up to **40 points** (10 points per discussion board forum). Please see the document titled “**Rubric for Online Discussions**” for more information on the grading for discussion board participation. **Note: participation on the discussion board is essential to your success in the class and the points for this assignment play an important role in your overall grade in the class.**

Exams: There will be two online examinations and one in class examination throughout the semester. The online examinations will be completed online via our Blackboard website. The in class examination will be during finals week. Each exam is based on material presented in class as well as the assigned readings. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions and is worth 100 points.

Information Regarding Online Exams: Each online exam has a specific deadline in which the exam must be completed as well as a time limit once the exam is started.

Exams will be available on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday of the week they are due; exams must be completed by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday. Students are allowed one hour and thirty minutes to take each exam. **Please note** that the questions on the exam will show one at a time and backtracking is prohibited. When you move on to the next question the previous question is automatically saved. **One point will be deducted for each minute or portion of each minute beyond** the allotted time you are permitted to complete the exam (up to 30 points can be deducted per exam). **NO MAKE UP EXAMS WILL BE PERMITTED.**

To ensure that there are no **TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES** while taking the online exams you will need to **close all OTHER BROWSERS, block all POP-UPS, and DO NOT click on “Refresh”** as this can cause the website and the exam to freeze up and kick you out of the system. In this instance it will show that you have completed the exam and any questions you have not answered or saved will be marked incorrect. Please make sure you **click on “submit”** once you have completed the exam (if you only chose “save” the exam is not submitted to me). Please use **“Firefox” or “Internet Explorer”** as your internet browser (go to firefox.com to download; if you have “Vista” make sure you use Firefox as your browser), as these systems are more compatible with the Blackboard system. Students must also make sure they are on a **WIRED CONNECTION** (do not use a wireless router) when completing exams. Make-up exams will not be allowed for such avoidable technical difficulties. Also, make sure your internet connection is not moving slower than usual before you take the exam as this could cause your exam to not be processed upon submitting it. Make sure you do not wait until the last minute to take exams as technical difficulties will not be considered if it is within the last three hours allotted to complete the exam.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:

Paper Assignments: You will be required to complete two application and analysis papers. Your assignment will be to incorporate application from class into your discussion of each of the given topics. Specific paper instructions will be available via our Blackboard website at least two week prior to the due date. The grading for these assignments is based on comprehensive coverage of the issue(s), your ability to incorporate application from class as well as sociological analysis to the issue, and grammar and spelling. Papers are assigned in class; therefore, if you are absent it is your responsibility to contact me immediately. Each paper will be due one week after it is assigned.

There will be two paper assignments. Specific paper instructions will be online two weeks prior to the due date. Instructions must be strictly followed. Papers must be saved in word (.doc or .docx) or rich text (.rtf) format. Papers must be **SUBMITTED online via Blackboard only** (see specific paper instructions for submission requirements). All papers must also be uploaded to the **Turnitin link** on our class Blackboard website. **NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED WITH OUT DOCUMENTATION FOR THE REASONS LISTED EARLIER IN THE SYLLABUS**

RUBRIC FOR ONLINE DISCUSSIONS

- **Discussion Boards:** Discussion boards are an important part of the class. In order for us to build meaning together and to learn from each other, we need to be involved in conversations with each other in class and online via our Blackboard class discussion board. We will have several discussion board assignments throughout the semester. In the weeks in which we have a discussion board assignment students must post an original thread and respond to other students' posts. Read the instructions for each assigned discussion board forum for the due date for the main post and the due date for responses and probes to other students. It is important to check in to the discussion board each day of the week in which we have a discussion board forum assignment. **Students will not receive any credit for postings after the due date.**

- I will use the following rubric to evaluate online discussions:
 - 0-30%
 - No original postings (replies do not count as original postings)
 - Too long/rambling/unorganized thoughts
 - Lack of respectful consideration of classmates' opinions
 - Grammar and spelling errors detract from expression of thought
 - Incomplete response
 - Postings clustered all on one day

 - 40%-60%
 - Appropriate, basic original posting with at least 2 appropriate replies to classmates (note: appropriate replies to classmates go beyond social comments such as "good idea" or "I agree")
 - Includes all information asked for
 - Postings spread throughout the week
 - Spelling and grammar do not detract from meaning of post

 - 70%-100%
 - Original posting contributes to overall learning and knowledge of the class. May include links to additional resources on the topic
 - Replies expand upon classmates contributions
 - Succinct and to the point, yet complete
 - 3 or more posting spread throughout the week without overpowering the topic.

Student's progress in the course will be evaluated as follows:

- **On-line Exams- 100 Points (50 points each consisting of multiple choice and True/False)**
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- **Final Exam- 50 Points**
- **Papers/Field Assignments- 150 Points**
- **Discussion Board- 40 Points**
- **Group Facilitation- 50 Points: You will be the “educator” or facilitator in your small group in-class twice. (Details to follow in class)**

Online Quizzes- 60 Points: 6 online quizzes random quizzes based on the readings.

**Tentative Course Readings and Outline
(I reserve the right to modify/alter this schedule)**

Week 1: What Is Sociology

Readings: Chapter 1

Topics: Introduction, Methods and Theory

Discussion Board: Introductions– main post must be completed by Thursday; responses to others must be completed by Saturday

On-line: Quiz 1 – due Thursday by 11:59 p.m.

Week 2: Culture

Readings: Chapter 2

Week 3: Socialization and Social Interaction

Readings: Chapter 3

On-line: Discussion Board and quiz 2

Week 4: Social Organization

Readings: Chapter 4&5

Topics Covered: Social Structure, Organizations and Groups

On-line: Exam I

Week 5: Family

Readings: Chapter 15

On-line: Writing Assignment 1 Due

Week 6: Social Class

Readings: Chapter 9

On-line: Quiz 3

Week 7: Gender

Readings: Chapter 10

On-line: Discussion Board

Week 8: Race and Ethnicity

Readings: Chapter 11

Topics Covered: Gender

On-line: Quiz 4

Week 9: The Elderly and Aging

Readings: Chapter 10

Topics Covered: Sexuality and Aging

On-line: Exam II

Week 10: Deviance, Crime and Criminal Justice

Reading: Chapters 7

Topics Covered: Deviance

On-line: Quiz 5

Week 11: Education

Readings: Chapter 8

On-line: Discussion Board

Week 12: Global Inequality

Readings: Chapter 7

On-line: Writing Assignment 2 Due

Week 13: Urbanization, Population and the Environment

Reading: Chapter 14 and 15

On-line: Quiz 6

Final Exam: TBA from Final exam Schedule

Additional Information:**Learning Assistance Program (LAP)**

If you need any tutoring assistance, please contact the Learning Assistance Program at www.saddleback.edu/library or at the campus library at 114 at phone number (949) 582-4519.

Computing Services

The LAP also has computers with printing capabilities available for your use.

Special Services

If you should require any specialized assistance in this course, please feel free to talk to me so we can make arrangements or contact Student Services at www.saddleback.edu/serv/couns/dsps/ or at SSC113 at (949) 582-4249. If you have already made arrangements with Student Services, please discuss this with me at the beginning of the course so I may get the appropriate paperwork.