

ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE AND HUMAN SERVICES

Course Syllabus, Fall, 2023 (0625)
SYG 2000: Introductory Sociology, Section 3422

Semester Dates: August 14 – December 7, 2023

Credit Hours: 3

Modality:

Face2Face Room, LY228 Mondays & Wednesdays, 8:00-9:15 am

Instructor Contact Information

Dr. David Liebert, Professor
Office: Tarpon Springs Campus, LY 215
Phone: Cell (Preferred), 813-546-1628/Office, 727-712-5776
College Email: Liebert.David@spcollege.edu

Prerequisites

REA 0017 and Prerequisite: ENC 0025) Or Prerequisite: EAP 1695 or Prerequisite: appropriate score on the SPC placement test.

Course Information

Course Description: This course is the study of human groups, their structure and function, social and cultural patterns, and social processes. It will emphasize the fundamental concepts and principles of sociology including the development of sociology, major theories, culture, socialization, social interaction and social structure, groups and organizations, stratification, race and ethnic inequalities, sex and gender, deviance and social control, population, urbanization, collective behaviors, and social institutions.

Course Objectives

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the historical roots of the science of sociology by: a. recalling the historical details leading to the formation and development of Sociology... b. identifying major theorists and theories from the 1800's to the present... c. explaining the Sociological Imagination and applying it to society and their own lives... d. defining key concepts in Sociology...e. recognizing and applying structural functionalism, conflict theory and symbolic interactionism.
2. Students will examine research approaches used in sociology by: a. explaining the case study, qualitative (narrative), naturalistic observation, survey, correlational, and experimental methods... b. differentiating the purpose, strengths, and weaknesses of case study, qualitative (narrative), naturalistic observation, survey, correlational, and experimental methods used in sociological research... c. identifying ethical considerations in research.
3. Students will analyze the main pillars in sociology consisting of conflict, structural functional, and symbolic interactional approaches by: a. examining each of the following topics using one or more of the main pillars; identifying social stratification, social inequality as applied to ethnicity and gender, social control, marriage and family, media, religion, education, deviance, economic and political systems, social construction of gender identities, social interaction, and group dynamics... b. examining social dynamics influencing social change through the following topics; examining population growth and demographic trends, effects of urbanization, and social movements.

4. Students will identify cultural, ethnic, and social diversity as applied to human groups, behavior, thought, and emotion by: a. recognizing commonalities and variations in human functioning... b. describing the impact of ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and socioeconomic status.

5. Students will demonstrate research, written communication, use of APA style, and critical thinking skills by: a. utilizing credible sources, such as peer-reviewed academic journals, primary sources, or sources from academic databases... b. applying thoroughness of thought to the academic writing process, including substantiating assertions and integrating higher-order thinking... c. applying experience through service learning, team collaboration, civic engagement and/or independent writing.

Required Materials

All readings are in PDF format and found under the “Course Content” tab in MyCourses. There are no required readings to purchase for this course!

Freud, S. (1930). *Civilization and its discontents*. (P. Gay Trans.). Norton.

Liebert, D. (2023). Unpublished Manuscript.

Jung, C. G. (1964). The importance of dreams. *From Man and his symbols*, C. G Jung (Ed.), pp. 3-94. Dell Publishing.

Marx, K. & Engels, F. (1964). *The communist manifesto*. (S. Moore Trans.). Washington Square Press.

OpenStax College. (2021). *Introduction to sociology/ 3e*. Author.

* Students who elect to purchase hard copies of these materials are encouraged to work with the College’s bookstore.

** Students will also be required to watch movies as part of course-related assignments. Students will need to make necessary arrangements on their own to rent these films through providers such as Spectrum, Prime, YouTube, etc. It is the student’s responsibility to notify the professor as soon as possible if they are unable to find the movie. Please note: The movies assigned may include adult themes. Students are responsible for first ensuring the content is not personally offensive. An alternative movie can be provided at the student’s request.

Assignments and Grading

There are 10 quizzes, each worth 10 points for 100 points. Quizzes are completed through MyCourses outside of class. Quizzes are not timed. Students have two attempts with the higher score being recorded. All quizzes are based on the OpenStax *Introduction to Sociology/ 3e* textbook chapters.

There are four, 750-word take-home essay exams, each worth 100 points for a total of 400 points. Students will be provided with an assigned prompt no less than one week before the exam is due. Exams are submitted to the assigned drop box by the assigned due date.

All due assignment due dates are also posted on the calendar in MyCourses.

Grading Scale

A (500-450 points/90%); B (449-400 points/80%); C (399-350 points/70%); D (349-300/60%); F (299 or less points/59%)

Active Participation Policy

Students who miss four or more class meetings and/or fail to submit more than two assignments will be considered as *not actively participating* in the class and will be assigned a W/F the week following the published **withdrawal date**.

Agenda Topics

Now at the end of the syllabus some informed consent: This is going to be a controversial course. Controversial in the sense we'll be wrangling with some difficult subject matter where it's unlikely we'll find consensus on any of our identified topics. To be clear, it's never my place as a professor to tug on one's moral compass with the goal of changing its direction. The objective here is to teach students to incorporate sociological factors as they weigh and engage in thoughtful debate on meaningful subject matter.

Week of	M	T	W	R	F	S	N
August 14	Topic: Intro to SYG		...Continued		Drop date, 8/18 Quiz 1/chapter 1		
August 21	Topic: History of SYG		... Continued		Quiz 2/chapter 2		
August 28	Topic: Science of SYG		... Continued		Quiz 3/chapter 3		
September 4	College Closed, 9/4		Topic: Happiness – The "Big Question!"				
September 11	Topic: Marx		...Continued				Exam 1
September 18	...Continued		Topic: Freud		Quiz 4/chapter 5		
September 25	...Continued		...Continued		Quiz 5/chapter 7		
October 2	Topic: "Big Answer," Meaning, not Happiness		Topic: The Social Dynamic & Jung				
October 9	... Continued		Topic: Social Values				Exam 2
October 16	... Continued	Withdraw, 10/17	Topic: Social Behaviors		Quiz 6/chapter 11		
October 23	... Continued		... Continued		Quiz 7/chapter 13		
October 30	Topic: SYG Goals, Middle Class	No Class, 10/31	... Continued		Quiz 8/chapter 15		
November 6	Topic: SYG Goals, Education		...Continued				Exam 3
November 13	Topic: SYG Goals, Sobriety		... Continued		Quiz 9/chapter 16		
November 20	College Closed						
November 27	Topic: SYG Goals, Marriage		... Continued		Quiz 10/chapter 20		
December 4	Exam 4						