

INTRODUCTION

TO

SOCIOLOGY

"These social changes . . . are comparatively public matters, and this history is chiefly concerned with the private lot of a few men and women; but there is no private life which has not been determined by a wider public life, from the time when the primeval milkmaid had to wander with the wanderings of her clan, because the cow she milked was one of a herd which had made the pastures bare. Even in that conservatory existence where the fair Camelia is sighed for by the noble young Pineapple, neither of them needing to care about the frost or rain outside, there is a nether apparatus of hot-water pipes liable to cool down on a strike of the gardeners or a scarcity of coal."

George Eliot, 1866

Staff

Professor John Pease

Apprentices Megan Benetsky, Khaleelah Hardie, Kriti Vikram

I'd Rather Be Studying

We hope this is an interesting and intellectually useful course for you. Set high standards, for all of us. Take your studies, seriously. Do all your studies the best you can and do them on time. Learn all you can and if there is anything we can do to help you learn more, let us know.

Of Course

Introduction to Sociology

Sociology 100 (sections 0601-0609)

Lectures are Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 2203 Art-Sociology Building

Times and Places of Friday Discussion Meetings are listed on page 4

Spring, 2009 University of Maryland, College Park

This course is intended for first-year students and has no prerequisite.

The Meaning of Life

"Education," Robert Redfield wrote, "is a conversation about the meaning of life, as each sees some part of it, on behalf of everyone." A CORE of this conversation is the Liberal Arts and Sciences Studies Program, the general education portion of your degree curriculum. This course has been approved as a CORE Distributive Studies course. Distributive Studies courses are designed to ensure that you will take a look at several different academic disciplines and the ways they create and analyze knowledge about the world.

Course Description

"The task of sociology," Joan Huber wrote, "is to explain the way the totality of social patterns works together, whether well, not so well, or badly indeed. Sociologists study how patterned ways of behaving in various arenas (political, economic, and religious, for example) interact as people try to provide for themselves and reproduce the next generation of workers. The intellectual challenge of developing a theory of human organization is sociology's primary reason for existence."

This course is a comparative, historical, interdisciplinary study of human societies that focuses on the main components of human societies, how they are organized, how they change, and how they come to shape our collective social existence.

What is the Question?

The primary questions of this course are:

1. Why is a society the way it is?
2. Why aren't societies always and everywhere the same?
3. What are the main features of a society and how are they interrelated?
4. How and why does a society change?
5. How does society come to shape our collective social existence?

Course Objectives

1. To help you to clarify and expand your questions about society, social change, and the collective aspects of human social behavior;
2. to help you to think sociologically about the organization of social life as you continue to develop your own theory of society;
3. to help you to better understand society, social change, and the collective aspects of human social behavior by learning some of the basic knowledge, concepts, and principles of sociology; and
4. to help you to read critically, to think analytically, and to write clearly.

Common Reading

This course features three books, one article, and a slew of handouts. The article is available online through the library website. The handouts will be distributed in class.

The books are:

Jared Diamond, Guns, Germs, and Steel

Both the 1997 and 1999 editions of this book are acceptable.

Any book with one of the following ISBNs is acceptable:

0393038912; 039317552; 9780393317558

Patrick Nolan and Gerhard Lenski, Human Societies

The 8th (1999), 9th (2004), 10th (2006), and 11th (2009) editions are all acceptable.

Any book with one of the following ISBNs is acceptable:

0072891327; 1594510237; 1594511448; 9781594511431; 9781594515781

Hans Ruesch. Top of the World

This 1950 book is out of print.

Xeroxed copies are available for purchase at the Armory Copy Center (0127 Armory).

The article is:

Cottrell, W. F. "Death by Dieselization." American Sociological Review, 16 (June, 1951), 358-365.

To access this article from a campus computer go to <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2087609>

Otherwise:

- 1 Go to www.lib.umd.edu
- 2 Click "research port"
- 3 In "by database" type jstor and click "find database"
- 4 Click "jstor"
- 5 Click "Browse" and select "by title"
- 6 Scroll down to "American Sociological Review" and click it
- 7 Click "1950-1959"
- 8 Scroll down to "1951" and click "No. 3"
- 9 Scroll down and click on the article
- 10 Zing! There it is

The handouts are:

Various issues of The Soche Buff 's Gazette

Audio Tape

Miriam Makeba, "The Click Song"

Documentary Films

"The Age of Warming"
 "The Black Plague"
 "Conquest: Killer Germs"
 "Crowd Diseases"
 "Dead Birds"
 "The Global Assembly Line"
 "Guns, Germs, and Steel: Out of Eden"
 "Guns, Germs, and Steel: Interview"
 "The Hawaiian Horror"
 "The Invisible World"
 "The Jobless Recovery"
 "Mondo Cane: Eating"
 "The Mound Builders"
 "Nanook of the North"
 "North Korea"
 "Out of the Fiery Furnace: The Revolution of Necessity"
 "Versailles"
 "The West--The People"
 "The West--The Vision"
 "Under the Influence"
 "Why Man Creates"
 "World in the Balance: The Population Paradox"

Discussion Meetings

The purpose of these discussions is to:

1. learn the names of your classmates;
2. learn your questions about course material;
3. help you answer your questions about course material;
4. help you measure your understanding of course material;
5. discuss the meaning of the material in terms of course objectives; and
6. engage in a course-based conversation about the meaning of life, as you see it, on behalf of everyone.

Discussion Leaders, Meeting Times and Places

Megan Benetsky

Section 0602 9:00 Friday, Room 3203 Art-Sociology Building
 Section 0604 11:00 Friday, Room 1101 Architecture Building
 Section 0606 1:00 Friday, Room 3219 Art-Sociology Building

Khaleelah Hardie

Section 0603 10:00 Friday, Room 1107 Benjamin Building
 Section 0608 12:00 Friday, Room 3211 Art-Sociology Building
 Section 0607 2:00 Friday, Room 3217 Art-Sociology Building

Kriti Vikram

Section 0601 8:00 Friday, Room 3215 Art-Sociology Building
 Section 0609 10:00 Friday, Room 1123 Susquehanna Hall
 Section 0605 12:00 Friday, Room 3215 Art-Sociology Building

Course Reflectors

Megan Benetsky	Soche1@umd.edu	Messages sent to this email address go to everyone in all three of Ms. Benetsky's discussion sections.
Khaleelah Hardie	Soche2@umd.edu	Messages sent to this email address go to everyone in all three of Ms. Hardie's discussion sections.
Kriti Vikram	Soche3@umd.edu	Messages sent to this email address go to everyone in all three of Ms. Vikram's discussion sections.

Class Attendance and Participation

This course requires that you attend and participate in class meetings. We have designed the course so that there is substance to each of our class meetings. Class meetings provide important information, documentary film material, and discussion. Your questions and comments improve the value of the course. We take attendance at every class meeting because it helps us determine your command of course material (there is much that you learn in your courses that is not measured on even the most carefully crafted graded assignments), helps us learn your name, indicates how well we are doing, reminds you of your academic responsibility, and provides useful information for letters of recommendation. Moreover, research studies indicate that class attendance is a better predictor of grades than the number of hours you study outside of class and even better than your high school grade point average and your SAT score. If you do not know University policy regarding class attendance, please learn it before the beginning of our second class meeting. The complete policy is available online at www.inform.umd.edu/ugradcat/. If you have a University-excused absence, please inform your discussion leader.

Religious Observance

If you need to be absent from class to participate in a religious observance, please provide your discussion leader with a written list of the dates you will need to be absent before the end of the second day of classes. We will make certain that you are not disadvantaged because of your absence. University policy regarding religious observance is available online at www.president.umd.edu/policies/docs/iii_510a.pdf

Disability Support Services

If you have a documented disability, please register with the Office of Disability Support Services (0126 Shoemaker Hall) and obtain the accommodation request form and give it to your discussion leader. The rules for eligibility and the types of accommodations you may request are available online at www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS/receiving_serv.html

Examinations and Small Assignments

This course features four exams and several small assignments. The dates of the exams are listed below in the Course Calendar. Small assignments will be announced and explained in meetings of your discussion group. Please honor the dates of these assignments. If you are unable to take an exam with your classmates because of a University-excused absence, you may arrange to take a make-up exam. If you don't know University policy regarding the very few circumstances in which professors are obliged to provide make-up examinations, please learn it before our second class meeting. The policy is available online at www.inform.umd.edu/ugradcat/

Grading Scheme

Your final grade in the course will be weighted as follows:

20 percent	class attendance, participation, and small assignments
20 percent	for each exam

All your work is graded for timeliness, accuracy, completeness, written expression, originality, and, most of all, how well it demonstrates a profound understanding of the material. (Late assignments are docked one-third letter grade for each calendar day late and assignments that are more than seven days late receive no credit.)

Academic Honor Code

We teach this course each semester and each semester we try to improve the course, keeping the lectures, readings, films, handouts, etc. that are effective teaching tools and changing or replacing those that are not. Much about the course necessarily remains the same from semester to semester. I recite all of this because some students violate the University Honor Code (submitting work they did not do, cheating on exams, etc.). Whenever this happens we are required to report the violation to the Student Honor Council. Don't let this happen to you. The assignments in this course are not too difficult for you. Our help is available to you.

Please affirm your commitment to the honor code ("I pledge that on my honor I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment") on all your graded assignments. If you don't know the University Honor Code, please learn it before our second class meeting. The Honor Code is available online at www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/code.html

Know No

This course provides no extra-credit assignment.

Here We Are

John Pease

Electronic mail:	pease@umd.edu
Voice mail:	301-405-6436
Office address:	4139 Art-Sociology Building
Office hours:	2:00-3:00 Tuesdays and Thursdays
Website:	www.bsos.umd.edu/socy/people/faculty/jpease.htm

Megan Benetsky

Electronic mail:	mbenetsky@socy.umd.edu
Office address:	4108 Art-Sociology Building
Office hours:	Fridays following discussion
Website:	www.bsos.umd.edu/socy/people/Grad/grad_students.htm

Khaleelah Hardie

Electronic mail:	khardie@socy.umd.edu
Office address:	4108 Art-Sociology Building
Office hours:	Fridays following discussion
Website:	www.bsos.umd.edu/socy/people/Grad/grad_students.htm

Kriti Vikram

Electronic mail:	kvikram@socy.umd.edu
Office address:	4108 Art-Sociology Building
Office hours:	Fridays following discussion
Website:	www.bsos.umd.edu/socy/people/Grad/grad_students.htm

Help Us

We are interested in learning what you think we should do to become better teachers and to help you become a better student. Whenever you have a question, complaint, concern, problem, or whatnot about this course, please let us know.

CourseEvalUM

Please evaluate this course by going directly to the website www.courseevalum.umd.edu anytime between April 28 and May 13.

Students who complete evaluations for all of their courses in the previous semester can access the posted results via Testudo's CourseEvalUM reporting link for any course on campus that has at least a 70 percent response rate.

Calendar for Lectures, Readings, Films, and Exams

1. January 27 Tuesday
 Introductions and Overview of the Course
 Handouts: Syllabus
 Study Questions for the Readings

2. January 29 Thursday
 Question: What is sociology and how is it similar to and different from the other social sciences?
 Lecture: Sociology and the other Social Sciences
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski pages 19-22
 Ruesch chapters 1-3
 Handout: Sociology Is

- January 30 Friday
 Discussion

3. February 3 Tuesday
 Question: How do we make sense of the cultural variety among societies?
 Lecture: Sociology and Liberal Education
 Reading: Ruesch chapters 4-8
 Handout: Ethnocentrism and Cultural Relativism
 Film: "Mondo Cane: Eating"

4. February 5 Thursday
 Question: What were the main features of Inuit society, how were they interrelated, and why were they the way they were?
 Reading: Ruesch chapters 9-14
 Handout: Nanook
 Film: "Nanook of the North"

- February 6 Friday
 Discussion

5. February 10 Tuesday
 Question: Why is a society the way it is?
 Lecture: A General Theory of Society and Social Change
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski chapter 3
 Handout: Materialism
 Film: "The West: The People"
6. February 12 Thursday
 Question: How do we classify societies and why do we do it the way we do?
 Lecture: Types of Human Society
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski chapters 4 and 8
 Handout: Types of Human Society
 Film: "Why Man Creates"
- February 13 Friday
 Discussion
7. February 17 Tuesday
 Question: What were the main features of hunting and gathering society and how were they interrelated?
 Lecture: The Social Organization of Hunting and Gathering Society
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski chapter 5
 Handouts: Hunting and Gathering Society
 I'd Rather Be Studying: The True Story of Sara Bellum
 Audio: Miriam Makeba, "The Click Song"
8. February 19 Thursday
 Testudo: The First Exam
- February 20 Friday
 Instead of meeting with your discussion group, go to the Nonprint Media Center in Hornbake Library and use the dial-access system to view the film, "Guns, Germs, and Steel: Out of Eden." This is a documentary film about the beginnings of plant cultivation and the rise of horticultural society. This film supplements some of the material in chapters 6 of the Diamond book and the Nolan-Lenski text. You may view this film anytime between February 16 and March 1. Information about Nonprint Services, including hours of operation, is available online at www.lib.umd.edu/nonprint/
9. February 24 Tuesday
 Question: What were the consequences of the shift to horticulture?
 Lecture: The Social Organization of Horticultural Society
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski chapter 6
 Diamond chapter 6
 Handout: Horticultural Society
 Film: "Dead Birds"

10. February 26 Thursday
 Question: What were the consequences of the shift to agriculture?
 Lecture: The Zenith of Inequality
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski chapter 7
 Diamond chapter 14
 Handout: Agrarian Society
 Film: "Versailles"
- February 27 Friday
 Discussion
11. March 3 Tuesday
 Question: In what ways did the status and treatment of women change from one type of preindustrial society to another and what were the reasons for the changes?
 Lecture: Societal Variations in Gender Inequality
 Handout: Gender Stratification in Pre-industrial Societies
12. March 5 Thursday
 Question: What were the ultimate causes of the European conquest of the new world?
 Lecture: The Biophysical Environment
 Reading: Diamond prologue and chapters 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10
 Handout: Location, Location, Location
 Film: "Guns, Germs and Steel: Interview"
- March 6 Friday
13. March 10 Tuesday
 Question: What were proximate causes of the European conquest of the new world?
 Lecture: The Second Revolution
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski pages 195-200
 Diamond chapters 2 and 3
 Handout: 1492
 Film: "The West: The Vision"
14. March 12 Thursday
 Question: In what ways did European germs change the new world?
 Lecture: The Transformation of the New World
 Reading: Diamond chapter 11
 Handouts: Germs
 Education is a Noble and Risky Ambition
 Films: "The Black Plague"
 "Conquest: Killer Germs"
 "Crowd Diseases"
 "The Hawaiian Horror"
 "The Invisible World"
 "The Mound Builders"

March 13 Friday
Discussion

March 17 Tuesday No class, spring break

March 19 Thursday No class, spring break

March 20 Friday No class, spring break

15. March 24 Tuesday

Question: In what ways did the industrial revolution change society?

Lecture: The Third Revolution

Reading: Cottrell article

Handout: Social Changes

16. March 26 Thursday

Testudo: The Second Exam

March 27 Friday

Instead of meeting with your discussion group, go to the Nonprint Media Center in Hornbake Library and use the dial-access system to view the film "Out of the Fiery Furnace: The Revolution of Necessity." This is a documentary film about technological changes that accelerated the industrial revolution and it supplements material in chapter 9 of the Nolan-Lenski text. You may view this film anytime between March 23 and April 5.

17. March 31 Tuesday

Question: In what ways did industrial technology change the world of work?

Lecture: The Changing American Labor Force

Reading: Nolan-Lenski pages 201-218 and chapter 10

Handout: Jobs

Film: "The Jobless Recovery"

18. April 2 Thursday

Question: In what ways has the status and treatment of women changed during the past century and during the past generation and what explains the changes?

Lecture: Closing the Gender Gap: Women, Work, and Feminism

Reading: Nolan-Lenski pages 268-270 and 282-288

Handout: Feminism

April 3 Friday

Discussion

19. April 7 Tuesday

Question: In what ways have marriage and family changed during the past century and during the past generation?

Lecture: Changing Family in a Changing Society

Reading: Nolan-Lenski 278-282

Handout: Marriage and Family

20. April 9 Thursday

Question: What caused the democratic trend of industrial societies?
 Lecture: The Democratic Trend
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski pages 244-259
 Handout: Democracy
 Film: "Under the Influence"

April 10 Friday
 Discussion

21. April 14 Tuesday

Question: What were the changes in ideology that accompanied the industrialization of society?
 Lecture: Ideology, Religion, and Sociology
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski pages 236-244
 Handouts: Ideology
 Learning is Becoming: The True Story of Leah K.

22. April 16 Thursday

Testudo: The Third Exam

April 17 Friday

Instead of meeting with your discussion group, go to the Nonprint Media Center in Hornbake Library and use the dial-access system) to view the film "The Global Assembly Line." This is a documentary film about the internationalization of labor, gender inequality, the power of multinational corporations, and the global economy. You may view this film anytime between April 13 and April 26.

23. April 21 Tuesday

Question: In what ways has inequality within industrial society declined during the past 150 years and why did it decline?
 Lecture: Reversal of the Basic Trend
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski chapter 12
 Handout: The Decline of Inequality

24. April 23 Thursday

Question: Why are some societies so rich and others so poor?
 Lecture: Industrializing Societies
 Reading: Nolan-Lenski chapter 14
 Handout: Global Inequality
 Film: "North Korea"

April 24 Friday
 Discussion

25. April 28 Tuesday
Question: In what ways have the main demographic variables changed during the industrial era and what accounts for the changes?
Lecture: Malthus and the Demographic Transition
Reading: Nolan-Lenski pages 273-278
Handout: Population
26. April 30 Thursday
Question: What is the probable future of global population change?
Reading: Nolan-Lenski pages 342-345
Handout: Global Population Change
Film: "World in the Balance: The Population Paradox"
- May 1 Friday
Discussion
27. May 5 Tuesday
Question: What does globalization mean?
Lecture: Global Society
Handout: Globalization
28. May 7 Thursday
Question: What is the probable future of environmental change?
Lecture: The Technological Flaw
Reading: Nolan-Lenski pages 345-347
Handout: The Environmental Crisis
Film: "The Age of Warming"
- May 8 Friday
Discussion
29. May 12 Tuesday
Course review and revelry
Handout: The True Story of Testudo: Get Hip on Studying
Film: "Why Man Creates"
30. May 19 Tuesday 1:30-3:30
Testudo: The Final Exam

Paging Human Societies

The page numbers listed in the course calendar are keyed to the 9th edition. If you are using the 8th or 10th or 11th edition, the corresponding page numbers are:

9th Edition	8th Edition	10 th Edition	11th Edition
19-22	20-23	19-21	18-21
195-200	211-218	187-193	188-194
201-218	218-239	193-212	195-214
268-270	299-302	266-269	272-274
282-288	315-320	281-287	287-293
278-282	311-315	277-281	282-287
244-259	272-286	241-258	246-260
236-244	262-272	233-241	236-246
273-278	305-311	272-277	278-282
342-345	388-391	334-336	329-332
345-347	391-393	336-341	332-337