



**National Taiwan University of Science and Technology
2016 Summer Program**

SOC 111 Introduction to Sociology

Course Outline

Course Code: SOC 111

Instructor: Juli Minoves-Triquell

Home Institution: TBA

Office Hours: 4-6 Monday to Thursday

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Class Hours: According to the regulations of Minister of Education, R.O.C, 18 class hours could be counted as 1 academic credit in all universities in Taiwan. This course will have 72 class hours, including 40 lecture hours, professor 10 office hours, 10-hour TA discussion sessions, 2-hour review sessions, 10-hour extra classes.

Course Description:

When we study sociology we study ourselves. Many of the topics we discuss and the readings in this course will speak to some aspect of your experience. Sociology can help to provide the language to understand what we go through in our lives and how we are connected to other people. *“Sociology is the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Sociologists investigate the structure of groups, organizations, and societies, and how people interact within these contexts”* (American Sociological Association).

This five week course is designed to provide a general introduction to the discipline of sociology. The course is divided into fifteen sections. First, we will try to understand what sociology is and what it is that sociology studies. Second, we will examine different types of inequality in society, including race, class, gender, sexuality, and disability and learn how they affect people’s lives. Third, we will explore the workings of a variety of social institutions, including the economy, politics, religion, the family, and



education.

Course Requirements:

Each class session will be a combination of lecture and student discussion. Students are expected to attend class, complete the assigned readings in advance of the class meetings and participate in discussion.

Grading

Midterm Exam: 30%

Final Exam: 30%

Term Paper: 30%

Participation: 10%

Some supplementary readings or articles will be distributed periodically to complement the assigned readings from the manual, either in advance, or in class. Apart from the chapters of the manual, you will also find in this syllabus mentions of readings from specific authors: a brief selection to be assigned from each of them will be made available and will be read for the assigned week. In addition, short selections of works by Durkheim, Foucault, Bourdieu, Barthes, Freud, Simmel, Marx, Bauman and Comte will be analyzed in class.

This syllabus is subject to change by the professor. Verbal or written notice will be given in the event that changes are made.

Required Materials:

George Ritzer, Introduction to Sociology (Los Angeles: SAGE, 2013)

Selections from Max Weber, Economy and Society (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1978)

Schedule

Section 1

Sociology among the social sciences



Ritzer, Chapter 1 and 2

Section 2

Classical and Contemporary Sociology

Ritzer, Chapter 3

Selections from Weber

Selections from Robert K. Merton, *On Theoretical Sociology* (New York: MacMillan Publishing Co., 1967)

Selections from Herbert Spencer, *First Principles* (New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1898)

Section 3

Culture

Ritzer, Chapter 4

Selections from Riccardo Lucchini and Charles Ridoré, *Culture & Société* (Fribourg: Éditions Universitaires, 1979)

Section 4

Socialization and Interaction

Ritzer, Chapter 5

Selections from Robert K. Merton, *Social Theory and Social Structure* (New York: The Free Press, 1968)

Section 5

Organizations, Societies and the Global

Ritzer, Chapter 6

Section 6

Social Stratification

Ritzer, Chapter 8

Selections from Weber

Section 7

Deviance and Crime

Ritzer, Chapter 7



Selections from Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison* (New York: Random House, 1995)

Section 8

Race and Ethnicity

Ritzer Chapter 9

Video: Speech “I Have a Dream” by Martin Luther King

Section 9

Sex and Gender

Ritzer Chapter 10

Selections from George Ritzer and Douglas J. Goodman, *Modern Sociological Theory* (Boston: McGrawHill, 2004)

Selections from Javier Corrales and Mario Pecheny, *The Politics of Sexuality in Latin America* (Pittsburgh: The University of Pittsburgh Press, 2010)

Section 10

The Family

Ritzer Chapter 11

Selections from Scott A. Boorman, *The Genetics of Altruism* (New York: Academic Press, 1980)

Section 11

Religion and Education

Ritzer Chapter 16

Selections from Raymond Aron, *Les Étapes de la Pensée Sociologique* (Paris: Gallimard, 1967)

Section 12

The Body, Medicine, Health and Health Care

Ritzer Chapter 13

Selections from Graham Scambler, *Sociology as Applied to Medicine* (Edinburgh: Saunders, 2003)

Section 13



Population, Urbanization and the Environment

Ritzer Chapter 14

Selections from Philip W. Sutton, *The Environment: A Sociological Introduction* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2007)

Selections from Lewis A. Coser Ed., *The Idea of Social Structure* (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1975)

Section 14

Social Change, Social Movements, and Collective Behavior

Ritzer Chapter 15

Selections from Daniele Caramani, *Comparative Politics* 2nd. Ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011)

Selections from Juan J. Linz and Alfred Stepan, *The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes* (Baltimore: The John Hopkins University Press, 1978)

Section 15

Politics and the Economy

Ritzer Chapter 12

Selections from Weber

Selections from Juan J. Linz and Alfred Stepan, *The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes* (Baltimore: The John Hopkins University Press, 1978)