PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY (2343)  
(SOCI 210 SECTION 01: 3 Credit Hours)  
Total Contact Hours for the Course: Approximately 45  
Fayetteville State University  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Sociology  
Spring Semester 2014  

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00 AM – 8:50 AM  
Taylor Social Science Building Room 103  

Instructor: Professor Stacye Blount  
Office: Williams Hall 212  
Phone: (910) 672-1531 (office); (910) 672-1122 (Sociology Department: 110 Taylor Social Science Building)  
E-mail: sblount@uncfsu.edu (the best way to contact me)  
Office Hours:  
• Tuesday and Thursday: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm  
• Wednesday: 10:30 am – 12:30 PM (by appointment only)  

Supplemental Instruction Leader  
Name: Miss Charity Alexander  
Telephone: (910) 672-1038  
E-mail: calexan3@broncos.uncfsu.edu  
Website: http://www.uncfsu.edu/learningcenter/si/index.htm  
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/find-friends/browser/?ref=ler#!/pages/Fayetteville-State-University-Supplemental-Instruction-SI-Program/194198057292717  

FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY ELECTRONIC MAIL POLICY  
FSU provides each student, free of charge, an e-mail account (username@uncfsu.edu) that is easily accessible through the Internet. The university has established e-mail as the primary mode of communicating with enrolled students about impending deadlines, upcoming events, and other information important to student progression at the university. **Students are responsible for reading their e-mail on a regular basis to remain aware of important class and university information.** The university maintains computer labs for students use, and these labs are available for checking e-mail. Students making inquiries through e-mail to FSU faculty and staff about academic records, grades, bills, financial aid, and other matters of a confidential nature are required to use their FSU e-mail account. Rules and regulations governing the use of FSU e-mail may be found at the following website:  
http://www.uncfsu.edu/policy/general/FSUE-mailFINAL.pdf  

COURSE OVERVIEW AND DESCRIPTION  
This course will examine basic concepts and principles of sociology, with emphasis on a scientific analysis of culture, personality, social groups and social institutions, social organizations, population trends, and social processes.
**DISABILITY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

- If you have a disability (e.g., visual impairment, hearing impairment, physical impairment, communication disorder, and/or specific learning disability) which may influence your performance in this course, you must meet with a representative in the Center for Personal Development to arrange for reasonable accommodations to ensure an equitable opportunity to meet all the requirements of this course. If you require accommodations due to disability, please contact the Center for Personal Development at 672-1222, Campus Location: Spaulding Building. You will need to complete the Services for Students with Disabilities form (website address: [http://www.uncfsu.edu/studentaffairs/cfpd/disabled_student_services.htm](http://www.uncfsu.edu/studentaffairs/cfpd/disabled_student_services.htm)).

- Note: Possession of a note from the Center for Personal Development does not excuse you from meeting the requirements for this class.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK/COURSE MATERIALS**


- Readings/Podcasts/Videos on Blackboard (as necessary-BB in the course schedule)
  - These articles, podcasts, and/or videos are found under Readings/Podcasts/Videos for the Course in Blackboard.
  - Note: During the semester, you may be required to read additional articles, listen to podcasts, and/or view videos that are pertinent to course material. This situation will probably occur when news in mass media is relevant to class discussions. Although these reading, podcasts, and/or videos may be assigned on an impromptu basis, they are required material for the course.

- Audience Response System Clicker (if applicable; provided by the instructor)

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

The following learning outcomes are outlined for students enrolled in this class:

- Explaining sociological concepts and theoretical perspectives
- Analyzing historical, cultural, and social events using concepts and theoretical perspectives related to sociology
- Evaluating social issues using the sociological imagination

**Pre-test/Post-test Statement**

As part of the Department of Sociology’s assessment of program and student outcomes, students will be asked to take a pre-test at the beginning of the semester and a post-test at the end of the semester. The scores made on the pre-test and post-test will not affect the final grade earned in the course. The test will help the department assess how well particular areas of the discipline are covered and give the department an overall look at student performance in those areas. The test will be administered online through Blackboard. Students can earn five extra credit points for taking the pre-test and five extra credit points for taking the post-test. Additional details will be given during the first week of class.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

As your professor, I strive to maintain a classroom environment that promotes an optimal learning experience; therefore, you are expected to abide by the guidelines (see below) for this class.

Attendance
Your contribution to this class is important to your classmates and me; therefore, I STRONGLY recommend consistent attendance and participation. If you desire to have a meaningful, interesting, and rewarding experience in this class, it will be necessary for you to be prepared for this class. I shall capture your attendance patterns.

During the first half of the semester/term, faculty will assign an interim grade of “EA (Excessive Absences)” for students whose class absences exceed 10% of the total contact hours for the class. Students who receive EA interim grades must either withdraw from the class or resume attendance. Students who resume attendance must consult with the instructor about [possible] completion of missed assignments. The EA is not a final grade; therefore, students who are assigned an interim grade of EA, but do not withdraw from the class, will receive a final grade based on the evaluation criteria for the class.

FSU Policy on Disruptive Behavior in the Classroom
The Code of the University of North Carolina (of which FSU is a constituent institution) and the FSU Code of Student Conduct affirm that all students have the right to receive instruction without interference from other students who disrupt classes.

The FSU Policy on Disruptive Behavior identifies the following behaviors as disruptive:

- Failure to respect the rights of other students to express their viewpoints by behaviors such as repeatedly interrupting others while they speak, using profanity and/or disrespectful names or labels for others, ridiculing others for their viewpoints, and other similar behaviors;
- Excessive talking to other students while the faculty member or other students are presenting information or expressing their viewpoints;
- Use of cell phones and other electronic devices that are in violation of the class syllabus;
- Overt inattentiveness (e.g., sleeping, reading newspapers, doing work for another class during the class period);
- Eating in class (except as permitted by the faculty member);
- Threats or statements that jeopardize the safety of individuals;
- Failure to follow reasonable requests of faculty members; and/or
- Entering class late or leaving class early on a regular basis.
- Other behaviors as specified by the instructor (see additional items related to Sociology 210 below)

Additional Sociology 210 (Principles of Sociology): Expectations for Behavior

- In accordance with the above policy, it is disruptive and rude to enter and re-enter the classroom during the class period. Please tend to personal matters before the beginning of the class period.
- Children are not permitted in the classroom. Classroom guests must have prior approval of the instructor.
- Students should wear attire that is appropriate for the classroom. Determination of appropriate attire is at the discretion of the instructor.
The instructor may take the following actions in response to disruptive behavior:

- Direct student(s) to cease disruptive behavior.
- Direct student(s) to change seating locations.
- Require student(s) to have an individual conference with the faculty member. During this meeting, the faculty member will explain the consequences of continued disruptive behavior.
- Direct student(s) to leave class for the remainder of the class period.
- Dismiss class for the remainder of the period. This action must be reported to the chairperson of the department.
- Deduct points from the final grade for a student.
- File a complaint with the Dean of Students for more severe disciplinary action.

Students who believe the faculty member has unfairly applied the policy to them may make an appeal with the chairperson of the department.

**NOTE:** For the complete FSU policy on disruptive behavior in the classroom, please see the following website: [www.uncsfu/policy/academic_affairs/DisruptiveBehavior.Final.pdf](http://www.uncsfu/policy/academic_affairs/DisruptiveBehavior.Final.pdf).

**Important Dates: Spring Semester 2014**

- Monday, January 20, 2014: Martin Luther King Holiday
- Friday, January 24, 2014: Deadline for Submission of X (NO-SHOW) Grades
- Saturday, March 1, 2014: Midterm Exams Begin
- Friday, March 7, 2014: Midterm Exams End
- Saturday, March 8, 2014: Spring Break Begins
- Monday, March 10, 2014: Midterm Grades Due
- Friday, March 14, 2014: Spring Break Ends
- Friday, March 28, 2014: Deadline for Withdrawal from Classes
- Thursday, April 10, 2014: Founders Day
- Friday, April 18, 2014: Spring Holiday
- Friday, April 25, 2014: Deadline for Withdrawal from the University
- Friday, May 2, 2014: Last Day of Classes

**NOTE:** For complete information about important academic dates for spring semester 2014, please see the following website: [http://catalog.uncsfu.edu/calendar.htm](http://catalog.uncsfu.edu/calendar.htm).
**Course Policies**

- **Course Buddies:** I advise you to exchange contact information with two course buddies. You should use these course buddies as resource persons for this class in the event that you are absent from class. You are responsible for class information you missed because of absence.

- **Class Website:** The course website is maintained on Blackboard. It will provide access to documents and announcements connected to the class. I will do my best to be diligent about posting the discussion outline under *Lecture Notes* in Blackboard before class. Please check Blackboard daily for course updates and announcements. You are responsible for material posted in Blackboard.

- **Submission of Assignments:** Each assignment will have specific instructions for submission. **Please do not send any assignments to my e-mail address without prior approval from me. I shall not accept any assignments that you send to my email address if you have not received prior approval from me.**

- **Late Assignments:** I do not accept late assignments. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

- **Late Arrival to Class:** Be diligent about arriving to class on time. If you must arrive late to class and/or leave early from class, please respect your classmates and me by entering and/or leaving in a quiet manner.

- **Make-up for Major Exams:** The exams for this class will be available online in Blackboard. Each student will have two attempts for each exam. I shall record the higher grade for the exam grade. Each exam will have a 6-day test window period whereby the exam will be available in Blackboard until the test window ends. Students can complete the test anytime during the period that the test window is open; therefore, it should not be necessary to request a make-up exam for any exam. It is highly unlikely that a student should miss the entire test window for any exam; therefore, I shall give a make-up exam in very rare and extreme emergency situations. The student must have the appropriate documentation to document his or her reason for not being able to take the exam during the test window period. It is at my discretion as to whether I give a make-up exam. **This policy is not applicable to missed in-class assignments (to include application writing, reflective writing, and extra credit assignments), discussion preparations, and/or quizzes.**

- **Online Exams in Blackboard:** When you begin your online exam, be sure that you are ready to take the exam and that your computer is operating in proper mode. You will have two attempts for each exam. I shall record the higher grade of the two scores for your exam score. Do not make it a habit of requesting that I restart an exam for you. If something happens on your first attempt, you will have another attempt to take the exam. I shall restart exams ONLY in very, very rare cases. Be diligent about your readiness to take the exam.

- **Incomplete Grades:** I do not give incomplete grades.

- **Religious Observances:** The policy for religious observances can be found at the following website: [http://www.uncfsu.edu/policy/subject.htm](http://www.uncfsu.edu/policy/subject.htm). The policy is located under the *Academic Affairs* section.

- **Supplemental Instruction:** Although academic support is provided for this course, I do not participate in the Extension Grade component of the academic support program.
• **Extra Credit:** Extra credit points are linked to supplemental instruction sessions. You can earn two extra credit points for each visit to a supplemental instruction session. You can earn an unlimited amount of extra credit points for visits to supplemental instruction sessions. During the semester, I may offer unannounced opportunities for in-class extra credit assignments.

• **Academic Integrity:** All students are expected to display academic integrity. Suspected violations such as plagiarism, cheating, and fabrication are examples of academic dishonesty and will be dealt with according to the university policy (http://www.uncfsu.edu/handbook/pdf/Codeofconduct.pdf).

• **Assistance with the Course:** If you are having difficulty in this course, please come see me as soon as possible. Please do not wait until the last minute to come talk to me about your performance in this class. I am happy to assist you with course material. If you do not alert me in a timely manner, it is unlikely that I will be able to assist you with the situation. Additionally, do not approach me with discussion about your academic progress before or after class. Discussion about academic progress is a private issue; therefore, it is my practice to have those conversations in my office. Feel free to visit me during my office hours to discuss your progress in the class. If you are unable to visit me during office hours, please make an appointment to see me.

• **Writing Center/Smart Thinking:** Tutors at the writing center are available to help you with your writing assignments. The university writing center is located in 216-C Helen Chick Building. The phone number is 672-1864. Please check the website for hours of operation (http://www.uncfsu.edu/learningcenter/writingcenter/index.htm). In addition to the writing center, the university sponsors access to Smart Thinking. This program is under Tools in Blackboard.

• **E-mail Messages:** I will answer e-mail messages that you send to me. Please put Sociology 210 in the subject area and be certain that your FULL NAME appears somewhere in the e-mail message. I will not respond to e-mail messages that do not contain your full name and SOCIOLOGY 210 in the subject line. Furthermore, please use Standard Written English in your e-mail messages to me. Do not use text message syntax in e-mail messages that you send to me. Our relationship is a professional one. Thus, your e-mail message to me should begin (“Dear Professor Blount”) and end in a professional tone. I am diligent in responding to e-mail messages that you send to me. I do not respond to e-mail messages that are not sent from your UNCFSU e-mail account. I do not respond to e-mail messages that are written with text message syntax.

• **Syllabus Changes:** I have the right to amend the contents of this syllabus and/or the schedule during the term to accommodate unanticipated events and developments. Furthermore, it is my right to modify the content of the syllabus when student learning will be enhanced by flexibility and responsiveness of your professor. You are responsible for any changes in the syllabus that are announced in class, in Blackboard, and/or through e-mail messages sent to your UNCFSU account. Be assured that changes will be fair, reasonable, and in your best interest. Please maintain your UNCFSU e-mail account.
• **Statements Concerning Electronic Devices in the Classroom**
  
  o Personal laptops should be for note-taking and/or for retrieving information that is relevant to class discussions.
  o Please turn all electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode (preferable mode). It is amazing that you can check your electronic device AFTER class and see who called you and/or sent a text message to you. It is rude to send text messages during the class period. If you have special circumstances, please inform me.
  o **Note:** It is possible that opportunities will exist for you to use your cell phone or smart phone to send text messages for responses to questions posed in class. In these instances, the use of these devices to send text messages in class is permissible by me.

• The environment in this class is governed by the Student Code of Conduct ([http://www.uncfsu.edu/handbook/pdf/Codeofconduct.pdf](http://www.uncfsu.edu/handbook/pdf/Codeofconduct.pdf)).

• You are responsible for having knowledge of information printed in the undergraduate catalog that is applicable to you ([http://catalog.uncfsu.edu/ug/ugindex.htm](http://catalog.uncfsu.edu/ug/ugindex.htm)).

• **Message to Student Athletes:** Be reminded to give your progress reports to me approximately 2 to 3 days before you have to submit them to your coaches. I appreciate your cooperation in this endeavor.

**An academically responsible and accountable student:**

• Recognizes that learning is a life-long process.
• Attends class on a regular basis, is well-prepared to participate in all class activities, and completes all assignment by the deadline.
• Assumes responsibility for his or her academic success and monitors his or her academic progress in classes.
• Uses good time management skills and prioritizes responsibilities.
GUIDELINES FOR GENTLE CLASS DISCUSSIONS

- Acknowledge that racism, classism, sexism, heterosexism, and other institutionalized forms of oppression exist in our society.
- Acknowledge that one mechanism of institutionalized racism, classism, sexism, heterosexism, and the like is that we are all systematically misinformed about our own group and about members of other groups. This statement is true for members of oppressed and privileged groups.
- Agree not to blame ourselves or others for the misinformation we have learned, but to accept responsibility for not repeating misinformation after we have learned otherwise.
- Agree not to “blame victims” for the condition of their lives.
- Assume that people-both the groups we study and the members of this class-always do the best they can.
- Actively pursue information about our groups and those persons who belong to other groups.
- Share information about our groups with other members of the class, and never demean, devalue, or in any way “put down” people for their experiences.
- Agree to combat the myths and stereotypes about our own groups and other groups so that we can break down the walls that prohibit group cooperation and group gain.
- Create a safe atmosphere for open discussion. If members of the class wish to make comments that they do not want repeated outside the classroom, they can preface their remarks with a request that class members agree not to repeat the remarks.

Course Requirements and Grading

Exams (possible total points: 400 points — 4 @ 100 points each)
Four exams will be administered online in Blackboard. Each exam will have twenty (20) questions. Approximately three weeks prior to the exam review session, I shall post a study guide in Blackboard.

Possible Total Number of Required Points: 400
At the end of the semester, I will calculate your final grade by dividing the total points earned by you by the total number of possible points (400) that can be earned in the course and multiplying the result by 100. I do not grade on a curve.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Percentage</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>92-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-91</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>73-82</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>64-72</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-63</td>
<td>F</td>
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Note: If you do not understand my expectations of you for a particular assignment, you need to contact me BEFORE you complete the assignment.

Midterm Grade Calculation
I will use grades for assignments that are scheduled from Monday, January 13, 2014, to Friday, March 7, 2014, to calculate your midterm grade. I shall not use extra credit points in the calculation of the midterm grade. I shall use extra credit points earned by you in the calculation of the final grade.
# Tentative Course Topics and Reading Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Monday, January 13, 2014</td>
<td>Meet and Greet Class Session</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 15, 2014</td>
<td>Review of Syllabus</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Friday, January 17, 2014</td>
<td>Review of Blackboard</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Monday, January 20, 2014</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Day-No Class</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 22, 2014</td>
<td>The Sociological Imagination</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Friday, January 24, 2014</td>
<td>Historical and Social Context of Sociology</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Friday, January 24, 2014</td>
<td>Reading: Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Monday, January 27, 2014</td>
<td>Foundations of Sociological Thought: August Comte, Harriet Martineau, and Herbert Spencer</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 29, 2014</td>
<td>Foundations of Sociological Thought: Emile Durkheim and Karl Marx</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Friday, January 31, 2014</td>
<td>Foundations of Sociological Thought: Max Weber and Georg Simmel</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Friday, January 31, 2014</td>
<td>Reading: Chapter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 5, 2014</td>
<td>Contemporary Theoretical Perspectives: Functionalist, Conflict, and Symbolic Interactionist Perspectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Friday, February 7, 2014</td>
<td>Review: Exam #1</td>
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</tbody>
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Week 5  Monday, February 10, 2014
- Sociological Research Methods
- Reading: Research and Theory in Sociology (BB)

Week 5  Wednesday, February 12, 2014
- Culture
- Reading: Chapter 3

Week 5  Friday, February 14, 2014
- Socialization
- Reading: Chapter 4

Week 6  Monday, February 17, 2014
- Society, Social Structure, and Interaction in Everyday Life
- Reading: Chapter 5 pages 118-138

Week 6  Wednesday, February 19, 2014
- Deviance and Crime
- Reading: Chapter 7, pages 180-193 (stop at the subtopic: Postmodern Perspectives on Deviance)

Week 6  Friday, February 21, 2014
- Review: Exam #2
- Topics: Sociological Research Methods, Culture, Socialization, Society, Social Structure, and Interaction in Everyday Life

TEST WINDOW FOR EXAM #2: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2014 – FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2014

Week 7  Monday, February 24, 2014
- Introduction to Social Stratification/Social Inequality

Week 7  Wednesday, February 26, 2014
- Social Class
- Reading: Chapter 8

Week 7  Friday, February 28, 2014
- STUDY DAY-NO CLASS

Week 8  Monday, March 3, 2014
- STUDY DAY-NO CLASS

Week 8  Wednesday, March 5, 2014
- 50th Anniversary: War on Poverty Discussion
- You will listen to a podcast that focuses on poverty in the United States.
- War on Poverty Podcast (BB)

Week 8  Friday, March 7, 2014
- 50th Anniversary: Civil Rights Act of 1964 Discussion
- You will read the act.
- Civil Rights Act of 1964 (BB)
Week 9  Monday, March 10, 2014
- SPRING BREAK-NO CLASS

Week 9  Wednesday, March 12, 2014
- SPRING BREAK-NO CLASS

Week 9  Friday, March 14, 2014
- SPRING BREAK-NO CLASS

Week 10  Monday, March 17, 2014
- Race and Ethnicity
- Reading: Chapter 10, pages 276-292 (stop at Racial and Ethnic Groups in the United States)

Week 10  Wednesday, March 19, 2014
- Race and Ethnicity

Week 10  Friday, March 21, 2014
- Sex and Gender
- Reading: Chapter 11: 310-322; 328-333

Week 11  Monday, March 24, 2014
- Review Exam #3
- Topics: Deviance and Crime, Social Stratification, Social Inequality, Race and Ethnicity, Sex and Gender, War on Poverty, Civil Rights Act of 1964

EXAM #3 TEST WINDOW: TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2014 – MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2014

Week 11  Wednesday, March 26, 2014
- Movie: Flight

Week 11  Friday, March 28, 2014
- Continuing watching Flight

Week 12  Monday, March 31, 2014
- Continuing watching Flight

Week 12  Wednesday, April 2, 2014
- Continuing watching Flight

Week 12  Friday, April 4, 2014
- Continuing watching Flight

Week 13  Monday, April 7, 2014
- Families and Intimate Relationships
- Reading: Chapter 15

Week 13  Wednesday, April 9, 2014
- Families and Intimate Relationships

Week 13  Friday, April 11, 2014
- Education
- Reading: Chapter 16
Week 14  Monday, April 14, 2014
  • Education

Week 14  Wednesday, April 16, 2014
  • Religion
  • Reading: Chapter 17

Week 14  Friday, April 18, 2014
  • SPRING HOLIDAY-NO CLASS

Week 15  Monday, April 21, 2014
  • Review: Exam #4
  • Topics: Families and Intimate Relationships, Education, Religion

TEST WINDOW FOR EXAM #4: TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2014 – MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2014

Week 15  Wednesday, April 23, 2014
  • Social Movement and Social Change: Begin watching The Long Walk of Nelson Mandela

Week 15  Friday, April 25, 2014
  • Social Movement and Social Change: Continue watching The Long Walk of Nelson Mandela

Week 16  Monday, April 28, 2014
  • Social Movement and Social Change: Continue watching The Long Walk of Nelson Mandela

Week 16  Wednesday, April 30, 2014
  • Social Movement and Social Change: Continue watching The Long Walk of Nelson Mandela

Week 16  Friday, May 2, 2014
  • LAST DAY OF CLASS-NO CLASS

TEACHING STRATEGIES

This course employs the following pedagogical tools: lectures, class discussions (using the Socratic Method), writing assignments, exams, and the use of film.
REFERENCES


APPENDIX A: THE ROLE OF THE PROFESSOR IN CLASS DISCUSSIONS
I desire to establish an active dialogue that encourages you to incorporate active and reflective thinking in your study of sociology. Thus, I view my role as facilitator of class discussions.

APPENDIX B: DISCLAIMER ABOUT POSSIBLE OFFENSIVE MATERIAL
Some material presented in this class may be offensive to you. Films and/or written material may contain course language and/or harsh descriptions of social issues. If the material covered in this class questions your race, ethnicity, social class, gender, sexuality, faith, or any other aspect of your identity, please take the opportunity to evaluate the basis for your reaction.