I. Locator Information

Instructor: Dr. Druann Heckert  
Course name and number: Sociology 500: Sociological Concepts  
Semester Credit Hours: 3  
Day and time class meets: Tuesday: 6-8:50  
Office Location: Taylor 210D  
Office hours: MWF: 11-1 and T: 4-6  
Office phone: 672-1503  
Email Address: dheckert@uncfsu.edu

FSU Policy on Electronic Mail: Fayetteville State University provides to each student, free of charge, an electronic mail account (username@uncfsu.edu) that is easily accessible via the Internet. The university has established FSU email as the primary mode of correspondence between university officials and enrolled students. Inquiries and requests from students pertaining to academic records, grades, bills, financial aid, and other matters of a confidential nature must be submitted via FSU computer laboratories throughout the campus that can be used to access electronic mail. Rules and regulations governing the use of FSU email may be found at http://www.uncfsu.edu/PDFs/EmailPolicyFinal.pdf

II. Course Description

SOCI 500: Sociological Concepts is an advanced course in general sociology designed to give basic principles and interpretation of society, groups, institutions, and the basic social processes. The course is intended to provide a comprehensive overview of the scope, theory, and methods of the discipline of Sociology. It is primarily intended for those with limited experience in Sociology.

III. Disabled Student Services: In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ACA) of 1990, if you have a disability or think you have a disability, please contact the Center for Personal Development in the Spaulding Building, Room 155 (1st Floor); 910-672-1203.

IV. Textbook

V. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

a. To provide a comprehensive overview of the nature, development, and basic concepts of Sociology.
b. To provide an overview of the theoretical perspectives and methods of Sociology.

VI. Course Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

1. Each member of the class will complete weekly assignments. The weekly assignments consist of taking notes on the assigned chapters and then formulating 2 discussion questions from those notes. The primary purpose is to facilitate the learning of theories of crime as well as the analytical discussion, synthesis, and critique of the information.

2. Each member of the class will complete a 7 to 9 page scholarly paper and make a presentation to the class on that particular topic. This course is designed to cover a general understanding of the discipline of Sociology. Consequently, there are many potential topics and this will be discussed in class. During the last couple of sessions, each member will present their research to the class and provide an opportunity for the class to broaden their knowledge and theoretical insight into various important sociological topics. The date of the presentation will be scheduled early in the semester and the papers will be due the last day of class. No late papers will be accepted.

Weekly assignments: 30 percent (Late assignments: automatic deduction of 30 percent)
Participation: 25 percent (quality of classroom discussion)
Scholarly Paper/Research Paper: 25 percent
Presentation of Scholarly Paper/Research Paper: 20 percent

A……..90-100
B……..80-89
C……..70-79
D……..60-69
F……..0-59

VII. Academic Support Services

The instructor holds 8 hours of office hours per week. If you have any trouble understanding the material or need assistance in writing your paper, I encourage you to ask during my office hours.

VIII. Course Outline and Assignment Schedule

This calendar is subject to change or adjustment as needed throughout the semester.
August 27—Introduction to the course

September 3—McIntyre: Ch. 1—Responding to Chaos; Ch. 2—The Sociological Eye; Ch. 3—Science and Fuzzy Objects

September 10—McIntyre: Ch. 4—Who’s Afraid of Sociology; Ch. 5—The Vocabulary of Science; Ch. 6—Doing Social Research

September 17—McIntyre: Ch. 7—Culture; Ch. 8—Social Structure

September 24—Abrahamson: Ch. 1—Introduction; Ch. 7—Emile Durkheim; Ch. 8—Emile Durkheim

October 1—McIntyre: Ch. 9—Society and Social Institutions; Ch. 10—Socialization

October 8—Review of research papers and brainstorming; review of ASA citation

October 15—Abrahamson: Ch. 5—Max Weber; Ch. 6—Max Weber

October 22—McIntyre: Ch. 11—Deviance and Social Control; Ch. 12—Stratification and Inequality

October 29—Abrahamson: Ch. 3—Karl Marx; Ch. 4—Karl Marx

November 5—McIntyre: Ch. 13—Inequality and Achievement; Ch. 14—Inequality and Ascription

November 12—Abrahamson: Ch. 9—Georg Simmel

November 19—Presentations of scholarly research

November 26—Research Day; Completion of Research Papers

December 3—Presentations of scholarly research
TERM PAPERS DUE

IX. Teaching Strategies

Since this is a graduate seminar class, the class will focus on the assigned reading materials. The examinations will also focus on that material. Each week, major core ideas of Sociology will be discussed. Students are co-participants in the course. Additionally, as this is a graduate seminar, students will conduct scholarly research and will share their research with the class.
X. Selected References


