# Course Information Sheet Soci 1301 Introduction to Sociology

Professor Janice De Leon Fall 2018

**Phone:** (806) 716-2480 (Levelland Campus)

Office: AD147 (Levelland Campus)

Office hours: MW 9:30-11:00 am; MW 2:15-3:45 pm; or by e-mail or by appointment

E-mail: jdaniel@southplainscollege.edu but after the first day of class use the e-mail within Blackboard to contact

me

**Textbook:** The Real World: An Introduction to Sociology; 5th edition, by Ferris and Stein, Norton Publishing, InQuizitive access code is required for this course.

You do have options when it comes to purchasing textbooks, so I am including pricing from the SPC bookstores and Norton Publishing for the textbook. You may find the textbook from other sources but make sure the price includes Inquizitive access or you will need to purchase a code separately from Norton Publishing for \$20.00.

SPC bookstores: Students are required to purchase an Inquizitive access code for the course. The cost a new textbook with code at the SPC bookstores is \$107.15 or rental is \$61.15. There is also a limited number of eBooks available.

Norton Publishing: To purchase an eBook with InQuizitive access for \$45.00 or if you purchased a used textbook and need an Inquizitive access code for \$20.00, go to: <a href="https://digital.wwnorton.com/realworld5">https://digital.wwnorton.com/realworld5</a>

There is a 21-day free access to digital material but after that you will have to have an access code to continue to access the material.

Here is a link that shows the order options for the paperback edition with access code for \$93.75, the loose-leaf edition with access code for \$65.62, and the eBook for \$45.00:

http://books.wwnorton.com/books/webad-detail-editions.aspx?id=4294990297

#### How this Course is Conducted:

This course is a blended course, which means that you will attend the regular classroom for general instruction **and** you will access Blackboard for a portion of your course work and for your grades.

# Logging into Blackboard:

Go to <a href="http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/">http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/</a> to access your course. You can get to the website for the course in three ways. You can go to the SPC Homepage and click on the "Login to" link in the top right-hand portion of the page and then click on the Blackboard link on the pull-down or you can type or copy the address into the address window of your computer. I recommend that you bookmark Blackboard on your computer for quick access. You can also log into MySPC and there is a Blackboard link there. Once you reach the site you will click "Log In". The log-in screen will come up asking for your user name and password. Simply follow the instructions on the screen.

- Your user name is the first initial of your first name, last 4 digits of your Student ID (not your Social Security number). Example: jdoe1234
- Your password is the same as your password for MySPC.
- You are required to log into the Blackboard portion of the course several times a week. You are also required to submit coursework through Blackboard.

#### OTHER INFORMATION concerning Blackboard:

**Open Computer Lab:** There is an Open Computer Lab located on the Levelland campus in the Technology Center. It is available to all students, with priority given to those students enrolled in computer classes. Computers are also available on the Reese Center, Lubbock, and Plainview campuses. Check with libraries and labs for hours.

**Technical Problems/Support:** If you are having computer problems, you have to let me know. I will try to help you in any way that I can. Please remember that it is your responsibility to have a backup plan if your computer goes down. Please have this plan in place now and do not wait until it is a crisis situation. If you lose your course work due to bad flash drives, Internet service down, computer crash, or your dog ate your homework, there is nothing I can do about it. **THIS IS YOUR WARNING TO HAVE A BACKUP PLAN IN PLACE.** 

- IMPORTANT: Most tech issues are related to failure to update java, using the incorrect internet browser (try use Google Chrome or Firefox instead of Internet Explorer), and/or not deleting browsing history files daily. Most issues are related to computer issues, not Blackboard. Please note that this instructor does NOT recommend use of any handheld devices for taking this course. Cellphones are wonderful but not for course work done on the Internet.
- Reminder **bookmark** the Blackboard login page on your computer.

**SPC Technical Support Contact:** Call (806) 716-2180 or email at <a href="mailto:Blackboard@southplainscollege.edu">Blackboard@southplainscollege.edu</a> for student technical support. I am your course work support contact. Only call or e-mail technical support with questions about Blackboard or computer functioning. There is Technical Support information in the Start Here area of your Blackboard course. It contains links to Student Tutorials and the Student Orientation Course for Blackboard. Contact me for any course content information.

# PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO TURN COURSE WORK IN OR YOU MAY HAVE PROBLEMS! Remember the saying "TECHNOLOGY HAPPENS"!

Anti-virus Software: Please make sure that your computer has an up-to-date antivirus software program installed.

**Academic Integrity:** See the Common Course Syllabus. In addition, this is your reminder that any form of cheating will not be tolerated on exams, assignments, or any other course work. If the instructor determines an assignment to be plagiarized the resulting grade will be zero for that assignment. A second offense will result in failure of the course. There is an APA Citation tutorial in the Applying the Sociological Imagination Essay section of your Blackboard course.

Guidelines for Classroom Behavior: The following is in addition to the Common Course Syllabus:

I would like to welcome all students into an environment that creates a sense of community, pride, courtesy and respect; we are all here to work cooperatively and to learn together.

In order to create a smooth and harmonious learning community, please make every attempt to come to all the class sessions, to come to class on time, and to stay until the end of the class unless you have informed the instructor that you must leave early. There may be a time when you are unavoidably late for class. In that case, please come into the room **quietly** and choose a seat **closest** to the entrance. See me after class to record your attendance; otherwise you will be marked absent.

Once the class session has begun, please do not leave the room and then re-enter unless it is an emergency. If you have an emergency, inform me on your way out and take your things with you. My starting a video is NOT a signal for students to leave the class for a break or to get on your cell phone. You will have questions on exams that are taken from video information, so it is important that you pay attention (no cell phones) during the videos. If you need to leave the classroom, take your things with you and come back the next class.

If you miss a class meeting for any reason, you are responsible for all material covered, for announcements made in your absence, and for acquiring any materials that may have been distributed in class. I do NOT give out my notes so you will need to get those from another student.

It is important that we are all able to stay focused on the class lecture/discussion and not have disruptive behaviors\* in the class. This includes cell phones. Cell phones have become very commonplace but are inappropriate in class. If you have any of these technological marvels, turn them off or mute them prior to class. If you have a special circumstance, talk with the instructor prior to class. In addition, cell phones, laptops, tablets, etc. are not allowed in the classroom except for document-approved cases. The class is an "electronic free zone" and if you choose to use a device, you may be asked to leave the class.

During exams, all backpacks and belongings including cell phones will be placed at the front of the classroom. You may pick them up as you leave the class.

We are all adults and therefore I would appreciate having your attention when I lecture or when another student is speaking. That means that you will direct comments to the entire class and not just to those seated near you. Do not get "personal" when discussing topics. In addition, it is very rude to read papers or sleep in class. If you feel the need to do any of these things you may leave and return the next class.

\*To further classify: Disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to being rude to an instructor or other students, walking out of class before class ends, using an electronic device, making "side comments" to other students, or any other non-adult behavior as defined by the instructor. For additional information on student misconduct, refer to the *Student Guide.* Failure to abide by policies may result in expulsion from the class and an "F" for the semester.

Any student that is called for any disruptive behavior in class may be asked to leave the class for the day and counted
as absent for that day. Repeated offenses may result in the student being administratively dropped from the course
with a grade of X or F.

**Smoke free environment:** The following is the SPC policy on tobacco use.

South Plains College prohibits the use of any tobacco product, electronic cigarette, or vapor device throughout all indoor areas and within a 25-foot perimeter around all facility entrances, exits and HVAC air intake vents under the control of SPC, including sporting facilities and SPC vehicles. Included in this ban are tobacco products of all types (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such a manner to be suitable for spit tobacco use, smoking, or both). This ban also includes herbal tobacco products and simulated tobacco products that imitate or mimic tobacco products such as e-cigarettes, vapor cigarettes, pipes or other types of inhalation devices.

Attendance Policy: The following is in addition to the Common Course Syllabus:

You are expected to attend class and remain for the entire class. Attendance is necessary as test questions will also come from the lecture, class discussion and other material received in class as well as the textbook. In addition, there will be in class activities and discussions that may be important to you. If you are absent OR late you will miss the opportunity to get the information or earn those grades. Also, if you are late, it is your responsibility to speak with the instructor to see if you missed an important announcement or assignment at the beginning of the class. If you are absent on the day of an in-class activity, you miss those points. Attendance is important for many reasons and that is one of them.

In addition to the catalog policy on of the General Catalog, roll will be taken at each class session and a record of attendance maintained. A student may be dropped from the course if 4 consecutive classes are missed OR 5 total absences are exceeded with a grade of "X" or "F" regardless of your grade. If absences occur after the final drop date you will not be dropped and will receive the grade you have earned.

Roll will be taken every class period beginning the first day of class and will be used to document attendance. All absences are counted, including ones that are due to illness or other events.

If extra credit is offered for bringing the Power Point to class, you must be in class when your name is called for the recording of attendance to earn the points for that day. If you come in after your name is called, you won't get the points for that day. Arriving on time is very important.

Tardiness or leaving class early: If you are tardy two times or if you leave class early two times that will equal one absence or a combination of the two (one tardy and one leaving early equals one absence). Being late or leaving early is very disruptive so allow enough time in your schedule to arrive a few minutes early to class and remain until class is dismissed. If you do arrive late, quietly take a seat closest to the entrance. In addition, it is YOUR responsibility to see the instructor to have your attendance noted on the roll sheet or you will be counted absent. This is IMPORTANT!

<u>Technical help with Blackboard and Student Support Services</u> Links are provided on your Blackboard Home page under Start Here for Course Requirements.

#### **Diversity**

In this class, the instructor will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world, and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age. In addition, this instructor will not tolerate remarks or gestures that can be construed to be sexist, racist, heterosexist or in any way disparaging to another person. Students who exhibit such behavior will be dropped from the class with a semester grade of "F" regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, religion, or sexual orientation.

# COURSE POLICY AND REQUIREMENTS

This is what you need to do to *earn* your grade:

Inform your instructor by August 31st of any religious holiday that you have that conflicts with class dates so that other arrangements can be made. This applies to in class course work such as in class activities earned for a grade or exams. If the course work due on a religious holiday is in Blackboard, you have that available to you on-line and you may submit that before the religious holiday.

#### \*\*\*Course Agreement:

You will receive a course agreement through the course email. When you receive the course agreement you will have two options. You may either respond to the course agreement with the words "I agree" or if you do not agree you may choose to drop the course. Responding with the words "I agree" is required to remain in the course. Response is required within 2 weeks of the first day of classes. Failure to respond is grounds for the instructor to drop you from the course with a grade of "X". Note - If you choose to come to class you are automatically accepting the rules and policies of this syllabus and course.

# Course Work:

You are required to come to class prepared to learn. This includes reading the textbook material that is to be covered in class before coming to class, completing the InQuizitive assignments prior to the deadlines, come with an open mind, and be alert and ready to learn and participate in the classroom.

Your course work will include 4 exams, Introduction discussion plus 2 replies, 10 InQuizitive assignments, an essay about the Letters from Former Students, a project on Racial Representation in Popular Media, and other activities totaling 80 points. All course work will be submitted through Blackboard except exams will be taken in the classroom. The instructor will give instructions in class for all other course work, so it is IMPORTANT that you be in class and on time to receive those

instructions. If you are not in class for an in-class assignment, you will miss those points. See point breakdown below for grading information on the course work.

#### Exams:

- There will be four (4) exams. The 4th exam is your final exam. The final exam will be **not** be comprehensive. To avoid scheduling problems the following exam dates are "set in stone" therefore do not schedule conflicts. If there is a conflict with a religious holiday let me know by **August 31st** or you will be expected to complete the exam on the scheduled date.
- All electronic devices will be turned off and put out of sight during exams. Any violation of this rule may result in a
  zero for that exam.
- If you miss an exam a grade of "0" will be recorded for that exam grade and you may take a make-up comprehensive exam at the end of the semester.
- The make-up exam will be a comprehensive exam given during the time of your final exam. It will be 50 questions randomly selected from the chapters covered during the semester. Any student needing to take the make-up exam will first complete the final exam and turn it into the instructor. At that time the student will be given the make-up exam to take.
- If you miss two exams for any reason you will be dropped from the class with a grade of "F".

**Introduction discussion posting -** introduce yourself to the class and reply to two other students' introductions. Check the Discussion Board for information to include in your post. To get to the Discussion Board click on the "Discussion" link on the left-hand side of the course homepage. To earn full credit, you need a minimum of 10 quality sentences and you need to read the postings of other students in your section plus respond to 2 of them so you may have to log into the Discussion Postings several times. See the calendar in Blackboard and/or at the end of this syllabus for the deadline. Late work is not accepted in this course.

**InQuizitive Assignments:** There is an InQuizitive Assignment set up in Blackboard for chapters of the textbook that will be covered in the course. You are to complete the assignments to earn this portion of your grade. See the calendar in Blackboard and/or at the end of this syllabus for the deadline. Late work is not accepted in this course.

#### A note about InQuizitive:

InQuizitive is adaptive learning and the time is set for 20 minutes. If you know all of the answers, you should finish in about that amount of time but if you guess and give incorrect answers, the program will add questions, so it will take you longer than the 20 minutes. It is also recommended that you do the InQuizitive for a chapter before you take the quiz for that chapter to help prepare you for the quizzes.

Class activities and/or assignments: These activities may be in class, outside of class, or a combination of the two. These will be assigned and discussed at the beginning of a class, so it is important that you be present to receive information and instructions. If you are late for class, it is your responsibility to check with the professor to see if an assignment was given before you entered class.

**Short essay:** You will write a short essay using information from Letters from Former Students.

**Project:** The project is Racial Representation in Popular Media. Students will choose a movie (a movie may only be chosen by one student), gather data on the movie, and complete a quiz based on the findings of the class.

# Break down of points for the course:

4 Exams @ 100 each =	400 points
Introduction discussion =	50 points
10 InQuizitive assignments @ 20 =	200 points
Letter from Former Students essay =	100 points
Racial Representation project =	100 points
Assignments/Activities =	150 points

# All grades will be posted in Blackboard under the My Grades link.

Total Possible Points = 1,000 points

Grading scale: A = 900 - 1000; B = 800 - 899.99; C = 700 - 799.99; D = 600 - 699.99; F = 0 - 599.99.

This scale is the typical: A = 90%-100%; B=80%-89.99%; C=70%-79.99%; D=60%-69.99%; and F=0%-59.99%.

Grades are NOT automatically rounded up.

If you have any questions about any of the course work or anything about the course material do not hesitate to speak to me during office hours, before/during/after class, or via Blackboard e-mail.

Study materials provided under the Study Tools link on your Blackboard home page. Study tools include Power Points, Course Materials, and to Practice Quizzes to help students as the study the materials for the course and prepare for exams. The practice questions come from the same test bank as some of the questions that will be on your exam. You may take each quiz as many times as you want to, and they are not timed. The grades you earn on the Practice Quizzes are not counted in your total points earned, so they don't raise or lower your grade for the course. However, taking the Practice Quizzes may help your exam grades.

Participation & Attendance: Attendance is required, and attendance will be recorded each class. In addition, it is important that you come to class PREPARED. That means that you need to have read the material that will be covered in class that day. If you miss class, take responsibility to find out what you have missed. Remember, if you are tardy, you are responsible for seeing me to have your attendance recorded on the attendance sheet before you leave the classroom and 2 tardies and/or leaving early equal one absence. As stated in the Attendance section, a student may be dropped from the course with a grade of "X" or "F" when you miss 4 consecutive classes or exceed 5 total absences. If absences occur after the last drop date you will not be dropped and will received the grade earned for the course.

Extra credit opportunities will be made available during the semester. I recommend that you take advantage of those opportunities as they become available as I will not make extra credit available on individual request.

# Course Calendar – Fall 2018

Date	Day of the Week	Course Work
Sept 3	Monday	Labor Day holiday – no class
Sept 5	Wednesday	InQuizitive assignment – Chapter 1 by midnight
Sept 9	Sunday	InQuizitive assignment – Chapter 2 by midnight
		Introduction Discussions by midnight (original & 2 replies)
Sept 12	Wednesday	Submit your Course Agreement
		Inform instructor of religions holiday conflicts with any class dates
Sept 16	Sunday	InQuizitive assignment – Chapter 3 by midnight
		Letters From Former Students Assignment
Sept 19	Wednesday	Discussion - Name of movie for Racial Representation in Popular Media
		assignment
Sept 24	Monday	Exam 1
Sept 26	Wednesday	Discussion - Post data on movie for Racial Representation in Popular
		Media assignment
Sept 30	Sunday	InQuizitive assignment – Chapter 4 by midnight
Oct 7	Sunday	InQuizitive assignment – Chapter 5 by midnight
Oct 15	Monday	Exam 2
Oct 21	Sunday	InQuizitive assignment – Chapter 6
Oct 28	Sunday	InQuizitive assignment – Chapter 8 – notice out of sequence
Nov 12	Monday	Exam 3

Nov 12	Monday	On-line registration begins for Winter Interim and Fall semester	
Nov 15	Thursday	Last day to drop a class	
Nov 18	Sunday	InQuizitive assignment – Chapter 7	
Nov 19	Monday	Racial Representation in Popular Media Quiz	
<b>Nov 21</b>	Wednesday	Thanksgiving holiday – no class	
Nov 26	Monday	InQuizitive assignment – Chapter 9	
Dec 2	Sunday	InQuizitive assignment – Chapter 10	
Final exam and make-up exam schedule – note time difference			
Dec 12	Wednesday	Sec 016 – 10:15 am to 12:15 pm – note time difference compared to	
		regular class time	

Other assignments and activities: deadlines will be announced in class. So, be sure to be in class on time or you may miss valuable information. If you are late to class, it is your responsibility to see the professor after class and ask if you missed any announcements or assignment. This is important because late work is not accepted, and make-up work is not offered.

The comprehensive make-up exam will be given during the time of finals. You will take your final and when you hand it in you will be given the make-up exam to complete.

This calendar is subject to change. Students will be notified in class and/or through Blackboard of any changes.

Disability Services Policy: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland Student Health & Wellness Center 806-716-2577, Reese Center (also covers ATC) Building 8: 806-716-4675, Plainview Center Main Office: 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611, or the Health and Wellness main number at 806-716-2529. See *South Plains College General Catalog* for more information.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly per- formed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

- Cheating: Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the text- book or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of what- ever length, as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.
- Plagiarism: Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identifiable expression of material taken from books, Internet resources, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

See South Plains College Student Guide and South Plains College General Catalog for more information. Also, see instructor's course information sheet for more information.

# Student Conduct Policy:

- Classroom Conduct: Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is
  considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped
  from that course.
- See South Plains College Student Guide for full policy covering other areas of conduct including penalties for misconduct and procedures for disciplinary action.

#### Campus Concealed Carry Policy:

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: (http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human\_resources/policy\_procedure/hhc.php)

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Grade and Academic Discipline Appeals: South Plains College provides two procedures which allow students the opportunity to address grievances of an academic nature.

- Appeal Restrictions: Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered. The instructor's teaching
  ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a
  period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed
- Informal Appeal
  - The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or disciplinary action
  - 2. If the student is still not satisfied, she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate departmental chairperson to discuss the situation. The chairperson may request that the instructor also be present.
  - 3. If the student is still not satisfied, he she should schedule an appointment with the Divisional Dean to discuss the situation. The dean may request that the chairperson also be present.
  - o 4. If the student is still not satisfied, he she should be advised of the formal appeal process.
- Formal Appeal: If the student is not satisfied with the results of the informal appeal, s/he should provide the following
  information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:
  - A request for a formal appeals hearing.
  - o 2. A brief statement of what is being appealed.
  - o 3. The basis for the appeal.
  - 4. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.
- The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter. The Vice
  President for Academic Affairs will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.
- The Hearing
  - Composition of the appeals committee:
    - Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing.
    - Faculty member of the student's choice.
    - Faculty member and student selected by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
    - President of Student Government Association.
    - Dean of Students.
  - Other persons who should be available at the hearing:
    - The student who requested the hearing.
    - The faculty member involved.
    - Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case.
    - Chairperson and Divisional Dean.
  - o Hearing procedure:
  - The committee will hear the student's appeal during which the parties to the controversy and such representatives as desired will present all facts relating to the case. By majority vote, the committee will decide to sustain, amend or reverse the previous decision.
  - o The decision of the committee is final and completes the academic appeals procedure.

See South Plains College Student Guide for more information.

**Equal Rights Policy:** All students are entitled to equal rights under the affirmative action and equal opportunity laws. Students are also protected against unjust or biased academic evaluation, but at the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. See *South Plains College Student Guide*.

### Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.
- 2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.
- 3. Describe key concepts in sociology.
- 4. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.
- 5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.

#### Core Objectives:

- Communication skills- to include effective written, oral and visual communication.
- Critical thinking skills- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- Empirical and Quantitative skills- to include the ability to apply, analyze, and draw conclusions based on scientific and mathematical concepts.
- Social Responsibility- to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Texas Coordinating Board Approval Number...... 45.1101.51.25