**SURVEY OF GENERAL SOCIOLOGY (SOC100—CRN 20177)**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII HONOLULU COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**FALL SEMESTER 2013**

T/R 11:30-12:45 Bldg 7/634

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Fumiko Takasugi, Ph.D.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>M 10:30-11:30, 1:30-2:30/ T 1:30-2:30, 4-5/ W 10:30-11:30 or by appointment in Bldg 7/621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact info</td>
<td>845-9152 and <a href="mailto:takasugi@hawaii.edu">takasugi@hawaii.edu</a></td>
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<td>Please DO NOT private message me on Laulima – email me directly instead.</td>
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<td><strong>Required Materials</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Recommended Materials</strong></td>
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<td>• Other readings will be announced and distributed in class.</td>
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**Course Description**

(from the college catalogue) Basic social relationships, norms, social structures and processes affecting social change.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Sociology is a social science because it is the systematic study of human behavior in society. Society both influences the experiences of individuals within it and is influenced by the individuals within it. The objective of this course is to gain an understanding of the sociological imagination, which we will encounter early in the semester. As the sociologist, C. Wright Mills, who coined the term says:

The sociological imagination enables its possessor to understand the larger historical scene in terms of its meaning for the inner life and the external career of a variety of individuals. It enables him to take into account how individuals, in the welter of their daily experience, often become falsely conscious of their social positions.

The first fruit of this imagination—and the first lesson of the social science that embodies it—is the idea that the individual can understand his own experience and gauge his own fate only by locating himself within his period, that he can know his own chances in life only by becoming aware of those of all individuals in his circumstances.

We have come to know that every individual lives, from one generation to the next, in some society; that he lives out a biography, and that he lives it out within

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**Important!!** Please read this syllabus carefully. You are responsible for the information in this syllabus and all of it is necessary to get the most out of this class.
some historical sequence. By the fact of his living he contributes, however minutely, to the shaping of this society and to the course of its history, even as he is made by society and by its historical push and shove. The sociological imagination enables us to grasp history and biography and the relations between the two within society. That is its task and its promise.

Perhaps the most fruitful distinction with which the sociological imagination works is between “the personal troubles of milieu” and “the public issues of social structure.” … Troubles occur within the character of the individual and within the range of his immediate relations with others; they have to do with his self and with those limited areas of social life of which he is directly and personally aware… A trouble is a private matter. Issues have to do with matters that transcend these local environments of the individual and the range of his inner life. They have to do with the organization of many such milieux into the institutions of a historical society as a whole, with the ways in which various milieux overlap and interpenetrate to form the larger structure of social and historical life. An issue is a public matter.

The sociological imagination will help you gain a more critical understanding of yourself within the world in which you live. On a more personal note, sociology has helped me see things beyond what I had been seeing before, and has taught me to be critical of things that I had taken for granted. I'm looking forward to sharing with you what I have learned.

Upon completion of the course you will have had the opportunity to:

1. Understand major sociological theoretical approaches
2. Comprehend and be able to apply basic sociological concepts to daily life
3. Recognize strengths and weaknesses of basic sociological research methods
4. Read academic articles and understand the significance of the work
5. Write well organized sociological essays that involve the use of social theory and social scientific terminology
6. Gain a greater appreciation for cultural diversity and the lessons that can be learned from others and other societies

These are the SLOs for SOC100. Whether or not you are proficient in these areas will be assessed in the 3 exams, 1 project, and participation in class, the last of which will be measured in a number of ways (more on this below).

DS Credit/Articulation/Prerequisite SOC100 fulfills a social sciences requirement (DS) for the A.A. degree at HCC and UH-Manoa. This three-credit course transfers to all UH campuses and virtually every college in the country; however, students should review their core distribution requirements before enrolling. As this is a transfer level course, ENG22/60 is a prerequisite and collegiate reading and writing levels are absolutely necessary.

Notes, Announcements, Discussions, and Laulima I will be using Laulima to post class notes, announcements, and discussions. After every exam, I start a new set of notes, so you end up with 3 sets by the end of the semester. The NOTES ARE IMPORTANT in this class and I refer to them during class lectures, so be sure to stay up-to-date with them. I also post materials that I use during class, including this syllabus. Checking your hawaii.edu account and Laulima frequently is your responsibility for staying on track with this class. The link for Laulima is https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal. Check it out ☺
FYI: I will also count participation on Laulima as participation in the class, so take advantage, especially if you're not too keen on participating in discussions in class.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

There are five major requirements of this course. Of the five, three are exams. The fourth is a project, and the last requirement is class participation. The following are the expectations for each of the requirements.

**Exams**

There will be 3 in-class open-book, open-notes (NO ELECTRONIC OR COMPUTER DEVICES ALLOWED) exams for this class. You will be tested and expected to answer and write on lectures, discussions, readings, movies, and other class materials. The exams will cover class material, and will consist of short essay-style questions.

**Project**

This semester you will work on finding a statistic that you like, examining how the statistic was derived and analyzing what it can tell us. The statistic can be a sports-related statistic, a statistic about a social problem, or whatever else interests you with regards to the individual and society.

**Class Participation**

Class participation consists of a number of things, including speaking up in class, participating in discussions, being active in group work, in-class writing, and interaction on Laulima. We will also watch films in class, which will help to illustrate what is meant by sociological thinking. Therefore, your class participation will encompass a number of different aspects of your activity in class. Although I don’t take attendance, you will see why it is important to be present, as exercises will not be repeated and some films are difficult to access on your own if you miss them. Please try your best to make the class meetings.

**Grading System**

The following is the breakdown of your grade for this class:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
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100%

**CLASS POLICIES**

1. **Respect for other viewpoints and perspectives**

In a Sociology course of this nature, we deal with many timely and controversial topics. There will most likely be at least one subject area in which you have strong feelings and opinions. This is fine and only natural. I only ask of you that you respect the viewpoints and perspectives of others in the class. Loud voices and swearing at your classmates or at me is unacceptable behavior and will not be tolerated (the one exception is me – I get to speak loudly). Part of what I would like to have accomplished in this course is to have you gain an understanding of how others frame the world, so it is necessary that you learn to listen, even if you don’t agree. Communication is the only way to solve problems, both in the private and public realm. Listening is a part of communication.

Important!! Please read this syllabus carefully. You are responsible for the information in this syllabus and all of it is necessary to get the most out of this class.
2. **Policy on disabilities**  If you need or desire special support services, you can contact Student ACCESS (Bldg. 5, Room 107B, phone 844-2392 or 845-9272). Services are based on documented needs. It is recommended that you contact ACCESS early, so that there is sufficient time for services to be put in place. You can also let me know of a special need or support needs and I can help you get the ball rolling.

3. **Cellphone and texting policy**  I don’t have a strict cellphone and texting policy, since I don’t believe in having to police these for adults. I know that some message/calls are emergencies. I also know that sometimes one is looking something up on the phone. BUT if your texting or other phone activity is disruptive to others in the class, I will call you on it. What it comes down to is basic social etiquette – given this is a college class. Honestly, though, if you can focus for the class time, you will do better on exams and you will use your time effectively, because trying to make up for what should have been learned during class outside of class generally takes twice or three times longer. Look at it this way... a class isn't THAT long. And if you have something better to do than be in my class, then why are you in my class??

4. **Make-up exam policy**  As a general rule I do not give make-up exams. However, you will be given an opportunity to make up an exam or receive up to 5 days extension on an assignment. To take the one opportunity to make up an exam, you are required to give me advance notice (in advance of the exam date) that you want to make up the exam and you will need to make up the exam within a week of the original exam date. (See section on “predicament coupon.”)

5. **N Grade**  I reserve the right to grant an N grade (no grade or evaluation...?) to students who are in good academic standing (i.e., a C or higher grade), but who, for exceptional personal reasons, is unable to complete the course. Do not assume that I will give you an N grade just because. Please see me to discuss your situation but do it as early as you can. Discussion of an N grade must take place during the semester.

6. **I Grade**  I also reserve the right to grant an I grade (an Incomplete) to a student who I feel should be granted extra time to finish up the work necessary to pass the course. You should be advised, however, that the majority of students who receive an I grade do not finish the work in the required time. When this happens, you receive the grade you would have received, had you not been granted an Incomplete.

7. **Predicament coupon**  I make use of a “predicament coupon,” which allows you one make-up exam, an extension on a paper, or other extra consideration that you can use once a semester. Each student has one coupon, which can be used throughout the semester. If the coupon is unused by the end of the semester, you can cash it in for extra credit points.

8. **Cheating and plagiarism**  Any kind of cheating, plagiarism, or getting other people to do your work will not be tolerated. This is a very basic academic rule and you will get an automatic F for the assignment, exam, etc., with the real possibility of an F for your course grade. The following is from your Student Conduct Code ([http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct.html](http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct.html)):

   Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any document that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or dry labbing, which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of the course or from previous terms or fabricating data to fit the desired or expected results.
IMPORTANT DATES

EVERY DAY WE MEET IS AN IMPORTANT DATE FOR THIS CLASS, but you have quite a few requirements to fulfill in this class, and you will want to stay on track. The following are the deadlines and exam dates. Also remember that reading for class is also a REQUIREMENT. You are expected to have read the reading material we cover in class. That schedule is in your syllabus and reading for class is a steady requirement throughout the semester.

Exams There will be 3 in-class open-book, open-notes (no electronic or computer devices allowed) exams on Sept 26th, Nov 5th, and Dec 17th. You will be tested on and expected to answer and write on lectures, discussions, readings, movies, and other class materials. The exams will cover class material, and will consist of short essay questions. For each exam, you will be tested on 4 areas, with an option of a. or b. for each section. In other words, you will answer 4 questions. Each answer will be worth 25% of the exam grade.

Project For the project, which is a semester-long endeavor, you will have due dates throughout the semester for drafts and progress reports. This also means that you will have ample time to work with me if you are stuck, confused, or just in need of ideas.

We will start with your “first draft.” Then, I will give you feedback on the first draft and you will have the opportunity to improve your project for the second draft. I will again give you feedback on the second draft for the third draft, and so on. I will also be asking you to use the services of several tutors who have taken my SOC100 class in the past to help you with how to do the project. You will have numerous opportunities to improve the project until the final project submission, due on Nov 26th. Note that you must submit all four versions of the project (each one revised based on comments on earlier drafts) for maximum points. I will deduct points from your project grade if you have not submitted four revised submissions to me. Furthermore, a draft does not mean a submission does not have to be proofread. You must proofread all submissions for maximum credit. Drafts that have not been proofread will be deducted points.

So, here is what it comes down to… If you don’t give me a submission on a due date, you will have points taken off. If you make no effort to better the project, you will also have points taken off. You will be graded on all the steps, but mostly on the finalized version, since you will have several opportunities to make it the best version that you can make it.

We will follow a strict schedule. The following is this schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 5th</td>
<td>First draft: Cite statistic of choice + 3 bullet points (why the interest, what you think you will find, and questions you have about the statistic). Answer questions to the best of your ability.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 24th</td>
<td>Second draft: Have all questions answered</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 24th</td>
<td>Third draft: Clarify and improve on weak areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 26th</td>
<td>Final version</td>
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THEMATIC SCHEDULE

This course is centered on discussions (of readings, in-class exercises, and films), exams, and a paper. The reading is do-able. YOUR HOMEWORK IS THE READINGS. This is the attitude you should have. Readings are assigned for class meetings. This means that the reading should...
be done before the class meeting so you can actively participate in class discussion (Exception for the first class meeting).

I will also direct you to particular examples and pages in the text and reader even though these may not be listed under a particular section. You will be responsible for having read these and made the connections with what we are covering at a particular time.

At the end of each class meeting, I will let you know what we will be covering in the next class meeting. You really get much more out of a class WHEN YOU DO THE READING. You will also do much better on the exams! Please bring your books to class for in-class discussion and exercises.

PART I  SOCIOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS AND SOCIAL CLASS

The sociological imagination


Social class


History and theory of sociology


Sociological investigation (Sociological research methods)


Exam 1  September 26th

PART II  STRUCTURE, AGENCY, AND CULTURE—CONCEPTS IN PRACTICE

Culture


Socialization


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Social structure/Social interaction


Exam 2  November 5th

PART III  SOCIAL CONTROL, GENDER, AND RACE

Deviance and social control


Gender and sexuality


Race and ethnicity


Exam 3  December 17th

*This schedule is subject to change, in part, because I will adjust the schedule to fit the needs of the class. I will let you know in advance if this happens. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed from me or a classmate.*