

*Soci 1101*, Introduction to Sociology  
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Office Hours: Mon., Tues, 3:30- 5:00.  
Baldwin Hall, Rm. 320  
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## Course Syllabus<sup>1</sup> Fall 2009

The goal of this course is to encourage among the students the development of the **sociological imagination**. We'll do this by examining the ways in which social and historical forces affect human beings and, in turn, are affected by them. One of the basic lessons to be learned in *Soci 1101* is that human behavior cannot be understood as simply a matter of personality or other internalized aspects of the individual. Human beings are **social** animals, which means that we influence – and are influenced by – the world around us. This external world includes both the aspects of the immediate situation we find ourselves in – such as whether other people are present and the role relationships we have with these other people – but also more “structural” forces such as our economic situation and the culture of the social groups with which we identify. So, in sum, our goal is to examine these interesting linkages between our “selves” and the society to which we belong.

### Getting Started

Explore the WebCT page set up for this course. This website will serve as the definitive source of information about the course. Please refer to its pages for the most up-to-date information, links to assignments, supplementary material, and much more.

### Required Text

Dalton Conley. 2008. *You May Ask Yourself*: An Introduction to Thinking Like a Sociologist. N.Y.: W.W. Norton.

### Tests and Grades.

There will be **two** tests in addition to the final exam. The dates for these tests will be (1) Wednesday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>, covering material from Weeks 1-5 (approximately); and (2) Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, covering Weeks 6-10 (or so). The final exam will emphasize material from the last four weeks of class but will also include some material covered earlier in the semester. The final will be held on Wed., Dec. 16, 12:00 - 3:00 pm. Each of the two tests counts 30% toward the final grade; the final exam counts 40%.

If a student misses a test for reasons beyond his or her control, the student **must contact me** as soon as possible **on the day of the test** at the latest in order to explain the reason for the absence. Students are required to provide documentation of the reason for the absence. Students failing to notify me on the day of the test, or before, of their absence from the test will

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<sup>1</sup> University regulations require that I remind you that a course syllabus is a flexible document. According to our Vice President for Instruction, the syllabus “is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.”

not be allowed to take the makeup. In all cases of missed tests, the decision to allow a student to take the test at an alternate time is left to the discretion of the instructor.

### **Discussion Groups**

Your discussion group leaders are Christen Bradley <[cbradley@uga.edu](mailto:cbradley@uga.edu)>; Scotty Jenkins <[bjenkins@uga.edu](mailto:bjenkins@uga.edu)>; Philip Lewin <[plewin@uga.edu](mailto:plewin@uga.edu)>; and Stephen Watts <[swatts@uga.edu](mailto:swatts@uga.edu)>. The discussion groups will provide you the opportunity to meet in a smaller group to develop further your sociological imagination through discussion of readings and the analysis of sociological data.

### **Miscellaneous Policies.**

#### *1. Class Attendance.*

I expect everyone to be in class for every class meeting. I always presume, unless convinced otherwise, that there is a good reason for an absence; we all get sick now and again and so must miss class occasionally. For this reason, then, I do not need to see excuses for class absences.

If any student is participating in a sponsored school activity that requires periods of time away from campus, please see me *during the first week of the semester during office hours* so that we may discuss the ways in which missed classes will be made up.

#### *2. Classroom Behavior.*

Please be in your seat prior to the start of class. More important, *if you come to class stay until the end*. It is distracting for everyone when individuals leave class while it is still in progress. Use common sense in this regard. If you become suddenly ill, by all means leave the room.

Needless to say, once class starts all newspapers should be put away and your attention should be focused toward the front of the room. One last thing: Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices during class. This prohibition applies to **laptop computers** as well.

#### *3. Honesty.*

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The link to more detailed information about academic honesty can be found at: <http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/acadhon.htm>

#### *4. Disabilities.*

If you have a disability and would like to request classroom accommodations, please see me after class or make an appointment during office hours.

#### *5. Grievances.*

Any student who feels that he or she has not been treated in a fair or professional manner should follow the Department of Sociology grievance procedures, the first step of which is to discuss the matter with the professor.

### MLC Schedule.

Monday	Wednesday
Aug. 17 <sup>th</sup> . Welcome to Soci 1101	Aug. 19 <sup>th</sup> . Part I: Using Your Sociological Imagination. Chap. 1: Sociological Imagination: An Introduction
Aug. 24 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 1, continued.	Aug. 26 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 2: Methods
Aug. 31 <sup>st</sup> . Chap 2, cont.	Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup> . Chap. 3: Culture and Media
Sept. 7 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 3, cont.	Sept. 9 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 4: Socialization and the Construction of Reality.
Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 4, cont.	Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 7: Family.
Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup> . Chap. 7, cont.	Sept. 23 <sup>rd</sup> Test #1.
Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup> . Part III: Fault Lines . . . Social Division and Inequality Chap. 12 Gender	Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 12, cont.
Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 13: Race	Oct. 7 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 13, cont.
Oct. 12 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 13, cont.	Oct. 14 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 14: Stratification
Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup> Chap. 14, cont.	Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup> . Chap. 15: Poverty.
Oct. 26 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 15, cont.	Oct. 28 <sup>th</sup> . Test #2.
Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup> . Part II: Building Blocks: Institutions of Society Chap. 8: Education	Nov. 4 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 8, cont.
Nov. 9 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 9: Religion	Nov. 11 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 9, cont.
Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup> Chap. 10 Capitalism and the Economy.	Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup> . Chap. 10, cont.
Nov. 23 <sup>rd</sup> . Thanksgiving recess	Nov. 25 <sup>th</sup> . Thanksgiving recess.
Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup> Chap. 11 Authority.	Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup> . Chap. 11, cont.
Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup> . Last class.	Final Exam.

### Discussion Group Schedule

Monday Groups	Wednesday Groups	Friday Groups
Aug. 17. Organization meeting.	Aug. 19. Organization meeting.	Aug. 20. Organization meeting.

Aug. 24. Chap. 2	Aug. 26. Chap. 2	Aug. 28. Chap. 2
Aug. 31. Chap. 3	Sept. 2. Chap. 3	Sept. 4. Chap. 3
Sept. 7. Labor Day holiday	Sept. 9. Chap. 4	Sept. 11. Chap. 4
Sept. 14. Chap. 4	Sept. 16. Chap. 7	Sept. 18. Chap. 7
Sept. 21. Chap. 7	Sept. 23. Chap. 12 (for Test #2)	Sept. 25. Chap. 12
Sept. 28. Chap. 12	Sept. 30. Chap. 13	Oct. 2. Chap. 13
Oct. 5. Chap. 13	Oct. 7. Chap. 14	Oct. 9. Chap. 14
Oct. 12. Chap. 14	Oct. 14. Chap. 15	Oct. 16. Chap. 15
Oct. 19. Chap. 15	Oct. 21. Review of Chaps. 12-15.	Oct. 23. Review of Chaps. 12-15.
Oct. 26. Review of Chaps. 12-15.	Oct. 28. Chap. 8 (for the next test)	Oct. 30. Fall break.
Nov. 2. Chap. 8	Nov. 4. Chap. 9	Nov. 6. Chap. 8
Nov. 9. Chap. 9	Nov. 11. Chap. 10	Nov. 13. Chap. 9
Nov. 16. Chap. 10	Nov. 18. Chap. 11	Nov. 20. Chap. 10
Nov. 23. Thanksgiving break.	Nov. 25. Thanksgiving break.	Nov. 27. Thanksgiving break.
Nov. 30. Chap. 11	Dec. 2. Review	Dec. 4. Chap. 11
Dec. 7. Review		Tuesday, Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup> . Friday discussion groups meet. Review.
	<b>Final Exam</b> Wed., Dec. 16, 12:00 - 3:00 pm.	