



# SOC 1101 • Autumn 2017

## Introduction to Sociology

TTh • 12:45 – 2:05

Hitchcock Hall 131

*Professor Kristi Williams*

[soc1101williamsta@osu.edu](mailto:soc1101williamsta@osu.edu)

Office Hrs: 2:15 – 3:15 in ksa café (Knowlton  
Architecture Building) and by appointment

### COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Sociology is the scientific study of human society and social behavior. Students gain broad knowledge of some of the most important theories, concepts, and scientific methods that sociologists use to analyze and understand the social world. Particular emphasis is placed on the cultivation of critical thinking skills and the application of a scientific approach to understanding a range of modern social phenomena. Students will learn to challenge taken-for-granted assumptions about the primacy of the individual in society and analyze the complex interplay between structural and individual factors in shaping human social behavior and social inequality.

Approximately 50% of the course content for this hybrid course will be delivered online. See course schedule for details. In-class sessions will only be held on Thursdays, with the exception of a makeup exam on Tuesday 11/29 for those who missed Exam 1. However, assignments are due on both Tuesdays and Thursdays. I reserve the right to change the reading and assignment schedule, notification of which will be delivered via email to your @osu.edu email address in class announcement, and announcement on Carmen.

### REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Alexander, Brian. 2017. "Glass House: The 1% Economy and the Shattering of an American Town." St. Martin's (bookstore or Amazon)
- Regular access to a computer to access additional readings, view Lecture Videos, take Online Quizzes, and complete Discussion Questions on Carmen.



*"This is your last chance. After this, there is no turning back. You take the blue pill -- the story ends, you wake up in your bed and believe whatever you want to believe. You take the red pill -- you stay in Wonderland and I show you how deep the rabbit hole goes." -- Morpheus, The Matrix, 1999*

### RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS:

- [Open Stax Introduction to Sociology](#) (free online); not required; reference as needed for extra help.

### TEACHING ASSISTANTS (TAS)

This class has three Teaching Assistants. Based on the first letter of your last name, you will be assigned to one specific TA, who is your first contact for all questions or assistance. They will attend class and you may email or meet with your assigned TA during office hours. Identify your TA as follows:

Last Name A- N): Paolo Echave; MT 8:30am – 10:30am  
56 Townshend Hall

Last Name O – X) Guillermo Paredes Orozco

Last Names X – Z: Bashir Tofangsazi: MW 2:00pm – 4:00  
103 Townshend Hall

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### READING

University guidelines specify that a 3 credit-hour course must require the average “C” student in the course to spend an average of 9 total hours per week, including both in-class and out-of-class work. This does not mean that students who spend a certain number of hours of work on the class WILL earn such a grade. However, it is a useful guideline for judging how much work is reasonable for instructors to assign and students to complete in each course. According to Ohio State rules, students who are not spending more than 6 hours per week on a course should not reasonably expect to be able to earn more than a “C.” The amount of reading assigned in this course is consistent with these guidelines.

Assigned readings are listed and, where applicable, linked in the Modules section of this Carmen site. All readings should be completed prior to attending class on the day on which they are listed. The assigned readings will be the primary focus of the discussion questions so you will actually need to read them in time to complete the discussion questions by 10am on the date that they are due.

### LECTURE VIDEOS

There is a lecture video assigned approximately each week (see schedule). Lecture videos should be watched by 2:00pm on the day on which they are listed. Each lecture video has an accompanying online graded quiz that should also be completed by 2:00pm on the day on which it is listed on the calendar/syllabus. Lecture videos vary in length but in general you can plan for an average length of 45 minutes. They will generally be available for viewing a week prior to the due date and will continue to be available for viewing throughout the term to assist you in preparing for exams and for viewing as entertainment at your weekend parties (a professor can dream).

### EXAMS (60%)

There are 2 required exams in this course, each worth 30% of your course grade. Exams must be taken at the date and time shown on the syllabus. If you miss Exam 1 for any reason, you have two options: (1) Make it up in class on Tuesday 11/29 or (2) Take a 0 on the exam. All students may take the optional cumulative final exam. If you choose to take the final exam, your lowest exam grade will be dropped (including a 0 if you miss and do not make up Exam 1 or miss Exam 2). If you take the final exam and receive a lower grade on it than on the other 2 exams, your final exam grade will be dropped. Therefore, the optional final exam may increase your final course grade but it will not lower it.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (20%)

Each week in which course readings are assigned, you will answer a set of discussion questions about the readings prior to the class in which they will be discussed. Each discussion question assignment is worth 2% of our course grade. You may skip 1 of the 11 discussion questions assignments. They are due by 10am on the day on which they are listed on the schedule and are completed exclusively on Carmen.

### ONLINE QUIZZES (10%)

There are 12 online short graded quizzes covering the lecture videos. Quizzes should be completed on Carmen by 2:00pm on the date on which they are listed on the syllabus. You may drop the lowest 2 quiz grades (including a 0). You may reference the videos or any other material in completing the quizzes but you must complete the quiz on your own and you may not share quiz answers with other students. You may take the quiz three times and your average score will be recorded. Answers to quizzes will be available during the following class period and will remain available throughout the term for review.

## COURSE PROJECT (10%)

As a course project, you will create a "Sociology Soundtrack" with liner notes. Choose 4 songs that each have relevance to a different sociological concept we discussed in class. Include the lyrics and write a short paragraph for each song describing what the lyrics mean and how and why they are relevant to the course concept(s). Additional details about the project will be provided on Carmen.

## CLASS ATTENDANCE

There is no guarantee that attendance translates to learning (Person in the back on Snapchat, I'm talking to you). Still, it is impossible to excel at achieving the learning objectives of this course if you do not attend regularly. For this reason, final course grades will be adjusted downward for missing an excessive amount of the 10 required in-class sessions (not counting exams) for any reason, as shown below. Attendance will be taken at the end of each in-class session via short written assignments. Leaving early will constitute an absence. **If you have sports or other regular commitments that prevent you from attending class on Thursday, you should enroll in another section of the course.**

Beginning 8/31 and not including exam days:

# classes missed	Points deducted from final course grade
3	-2
4	-5
5	-10
6	-15
7	-20
8	-25
>8	-30

\*no points are deducted specifically for missing an exam day but you receive a 0 on the exam unless you make it up on Tuesday 11/29.

## GRADING

The definition of grades at Ohio State as approved by the Ohio Board of Trustees is specified in Faculty Rule 3335-8-21 Marks. This rule states that the instructor is expected to judge the extent to which the student achieved the stated objectives of the course "based upon a comparison with other students in the course, and/or with students who have taken the course previously, and/or the instructor's personal expectations relative to the stated objectives of the course, based on the instructor's experience and expertise."

Thus, grades are not based on effort. Students should not expect that completing all course requirements will result in a specific grade. The instructor's assessment of the quality of the work as related to the stated objectives of the course is what determines the final course grade. Professor Williams' judgment of the extent to which each student has satisfied the stated objectives of the course will be based largely on the following individual calculation:

### GRADE DISTRIBUTION\*:

2 Exams (30% each) **	60%
Discussion Questions (10@2% each)	20%
Online Quizzes (10@1% each)	10%
Class Project	10%

\*but see Class Attendance on p. 2

\*\*You may take an optional cumulative final exam (3rd exam). If you do, we will drop the lowest grade of the 3 exams.

### GRADING SCALE (NO ROUNDING):

A	93-100	A-	90-92.9
B+	87-89.9	B	83-86.9
B-	80-82.9	C+	77-79.9
C	73-76.9	C-	70-72.9
D+	67-69.9	D	60-66.9
E	<60		

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### HOW SHOULD I ADDRESS THE TAS AND INSTRUCTOR?

All email should be written in a professional style, including a salutation that includes Dear <Your individual TA name>. In this course, you may address your TA using his or her first name. In all courses, you should use the instructor's title as listed on the syllabus to address him/her. For this class, that would be: "Dear Professor Williams" or "Dear Dr. Williams" and not "Hey, Kristi" or "Whassup, Prof.?" (yes, it happens). In general, if you are unsure, start with Professor and let her/him correct you if needed.

**WHAT IF I MISS AN EXAM?** If you miss the first exam for any reason, you will be able to take a makeup exam on Tuesday 11/29. Otherwise, you may take the optional final exam and that grade will replace the 0 received for missing any one of the two exams and not making it up. Students who do not miss an exam may also take the optional final to drop their lowest exam grade. You may not retake Exam 1 during the makeup period if you already took it.

**DO YOU OFFER EXTRA CREDIT?** No. In the interest of equity, my policy is that any opportunities offered to one student for credit must be offered to all students in the course. Allowing extra credit for one student would therefore require me to completely amend the syllabus and grading requirements for the entire course. If you email me asking for extra credit, a few extra points, or to be bumped up to the higher grade, I will either not reply or send this (or something similar):



### SHOULD I LET YOU KNOW IF I NEED TO MISS CLASS? SHOULD I BRING AN EXCUSE?

There are no excused or unexcused absences. See page 2 for details on how missing excessive classes will affect your grade. The course material cannot be mastered at a high level without regularly attending class; the final course grade, as a metric of mastery of course material, must reflect that reality. Points deducted because of absences are not punishments for bad behavior and reflect no judgment of the instructor about your character or responsibility; therefore, the rationale for missing class is irrelevant. Do not inform us of absences unless you are registered to receive accommodations related to absences through the Office of Disability Services.

### OFFICE HOURS / HOW CAN I MEET WITH SOMEONE?

Professor Williams is available to meet with students on Thursdays from 2:15 – 3:15 in *ksa café* (Knowlton Architecture Building). You may also schedule an appointment to meet with her in person by emailing a TA at [soc1101williamsta@osu.edu](mailto:soc1101williamsta@osu.edu)

You may meet in person with either of your TAs in your TA group (see details above) during their office hours as listed. No appointment is required.



"But you must not expect me to provide A Balanced View. I am not a sociological book-keeper. Moreover, "balanced views" are now usually surface views which rest upon the homogeneous absence of imagination and the passive avoidance of reflection. A balanced view is usually...merely a vague point of equilibrium between platitudes." – C. Wright Mills, 1958

## COURSE SCHEDULE

This course schedule is subject to changes announced in class. In class meetings are only on Thursdays. However, required quizzes based on video lectures are due on most Tuesdays. See below for details: [R] refers to a reading [V] indicates a Video Assignment; [Q] indicates that an online quiz is due; [D] indicates that a Discussion Question Set is due. All quizzes should be completed by 2pm on the day they are due and discussion questions should be completed by 10 am on their due date.

### WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION TO COURSE AND TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- T 8/22: NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Watch Video Lecture 0: Syllabus and Course Overview  
[Q] Practice Quiz 0 (not graded)
- Th 8/24: REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION: Course Introduction and Overview  
[R] Reading Set 0 on Carmen (recommended; not required; not on exam)

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### SECTION 1: THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE SOCIAL STRUCTURE

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### WEEK 2: SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY AND THE MYTH OF INDIVIDUALISM

- T 8/29: NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Lecture Video 1: What is Sociology? Individuals, Social Structures, and Theory  
[Q] Online Quiz 1 Due by 2:00 pm
- Th 8/31: REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
[R] Reading Set 1 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Questions 1 due by 10:00am

### WEEK 3: CULTURE

- T: 9/5: NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Lecture Video 2: Culture  
[Q] Online Quiz 2 Due by 2:00pm
- Th 9/7: REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
[R] Reading Set 2 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Question Set 2 due by 10:00am

### WEEK 4: SOCIALIZATION AND BIOLOGY

- T: 9/12 NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Lecture Video 3: Socialization and Biology  
[Q] Online Quiz 3 Due by 2:00pm
- Th 9/14: REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
[R] Reading Set 3 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Question Set 3 due by 10:00am

### WEEK 5: SOCIAL CONTROL, DEVIANCE, AND CRIME

- Tu 9/19 NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Lecture Video 4: Social Control, Deviance, and Crime  
[Q] Online Quiz 4 Due by 2:00pm

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Th 9/21: REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
Reading Set 4 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Question Set 4 due by 10:00am

#### WEEK 6: THE SCIENCE OF SOCIOLOGY: EPISTEMOLOGY AND METHODS

T: 9/26 NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Lecture Video 5 The Science of Sociology  
[Q] Online Quiz 5 Due by 2:00pm  
Th 9/28: REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
[R] Reading Set 5 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Question Set 5 due by 10:00am

#### WEEK 7: ECONOMY (NOT ON EXAM 1) AND EXAM

T 10/3 NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Lecture Video 6: ~~Politics and~~ Economy (not on Exam 1)  
[Q] Online Quiz 6 Due by 2:00pm (not on Exam 1)  
Th 10/5 REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
**EXAM 1 IN CLASS (WEEK 2 – 6 CONTENT)**



#### WEEK 8: ECONOMY (Continued) READINGS

T 9/28: NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[R] Reading Set 6 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Question Set 6 due by 10:00am (recommended due date, but extended to 10/17)  
Th 10/12 **NO CLASS – AUTUMN BREAK AND READING ASSIGNMENT**

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### SECTION 2: ECONOMY, SOCIAL STRATIFICATION, AND INEQUALITY

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#### WEEK 9: STRATIFICATION/POVERTY

T 10/17 NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Lecture Video 7 Stratification  
Graded Work Due  
[Q] Online Quiz 7 Due by 2:00pm  
Th 10/19 REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
[R] Reading Set 7 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Question Set 7 due by 10am

#### WEEK 10: RACE AND ETHNICITY

T 10/24 NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Lecture Video 8: Race and Ethnicity  
[Q] Online Quiz 8 Due by 2:00pm  
Th 10/26: REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
[R] Reading Set 8 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Question Set 8 due by 10am



## WEEK 11: GENDER

- T 11/1: [V] Video Lecture 9: Gender  
[Q] Online Quiz 9 Due by 2:00pm
- Th 11/3: REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
[R] Reading Set 9 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Question Set 9 Due by 10am

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## SECTION 3: KEY SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS

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## WEEK 12: FAMILY & EDUCATION

- T 11/8 NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Video Lecture 10: Family & Education  
[Q] Online Quiz 10 Due by 2:00pm
- Th 11/10 REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
[R] Reading Set 10 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Question Set 10 due by 10am

## WEEK 13: HEALTH AND SOCIETY

- T 11/15 NO CLASS: ONLINE  
[V] Video Lecture 11: Health and Society  
[Q] Online Quiz 11 - Due 2:00pm
- Th 11/17 REQUIRED IN-CLASS SESSION  
[R] Reading Set 11 on Carmen  
[D] Discussion Question Set 11 due by 10:00am

## WEEK 14: PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

- T 11/22 No Class - ONLINE  
[V] Video Lecture 12: What Have You Learned and What to Do about it?  
[Q] Online Quiz 12 - Due 2:00pm
- Th 11/24 **NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK**

## WEEK 15: EXAMS

- T 11/29 **IN CLASS MAKE UP EXAM 1** (No class for others)  
**CLASS PROJECT DUE BY 10AM: COURSE SOUNDTRACK WITH LINER NOTES**
- Th 12/1 **EXAM 2 IN CLASS (WEEK 7 – WEEK 14 CONTENT)**



## FINAL EXAM (OPTIONAL):

- T 12/12 2:00 PM in regular classroom.

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:** The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. We will report all violations to the Committee of Academic Misconduct. You should complete all tests and assignments on your own unless notified in writing. See the Student Code of conduct for more information.  
<http://oaa.osu.edu/coamfaqs.html>

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES / SPECIAL NEEDS:** The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. Students who need reasonable accommodations based on a disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), should register with Student Life Disability Services. This office will determine what accommodations are appropriate/legally required. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. **SLDS contact information:** [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); 614-292-3307; [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu); 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

**UNPAID FEES:** Faculty rules specify that students are to have their fees paid by the first day of enrollment for the quarter. [Faculty Rule 3335-9-12]. If you have not paid your fees, you will not be allowed to continue attending class until: 1. your fees are paid, OR 2. You have met with a Sociology Advisor and Financial Aid and are working to get your fees paid.

**DISPOSITION OF EXAMS AND HOMEWORK:** Exams and homework will be discarded in December 2018. Questions about grades should be raised immediately so they can be resolved well before this deadline.

**COPYRIGHT AND APPROPRIATE USE OF COURSE MATERIALS:** Professor Kristi Williams owns the copyright to the syllabus, exams, handouts, study aides, in-class lectures and other materials distributed or demonstrated in this course. They are provided solely for the educational use of students

enrolled in this course. You are not permitted to copy or re-distribute them for purposes unapproved by the instructor; in particular you are not permitted to publicly post or otherwise redistribute course materials or your lecture notes. Unauthorized use of course materials may be considered academic misconduct and a violation of copyright law.

**GE INFORMATION:** Sociology 1101 meets the GE Social Science (Organizations and Politics) requirement. Students will: 1) understand theories and methods of scientific inquiry as they are applied to the studies of organizations and politics, 2) understand the formation and durability of political, economic, and social organizing principles and their differences and similarities across contexts, and 3) comprehend and assess the nature and values of organizations and politics and their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

Sociology 101 meets the GE Diversity (Social Diversity in the United States) requirement. Students who take this course will: 1) describe and evaluate the roles of such characteristics as race, gender, class, ethnicity, and religion in the institutions and cultures of the United States; and 2) recognize the role of social diversity in shaping their own attitudes and values regarding appreciation, tolerance, and equality of others. These objectives are met through the study of the contemporary social institutions and social problems and through the application of social science research, theory, and methods to these institutions and problems. In this class students meet these objectives through: 1) in-class activities and discussions, 2) reading course material and completing online assignments, 3) completing an op-ed writing assignment; and 4) three examinations on the content covered in the lectures and readings.

This BSPH (Bachelor of Science in Public Health) core and specialization competencies covered in this course are listed on the CPH website:  
<http://cph.osu.edu/students/undergraduate>