

Intro to Sociology

Fall 2017

Instructor: Nicholas Russ, M.A History, M.A African American Studies

Office Hours T- Thursday 10:30-11:30 or by app D 200 F

Email: nicholas.russ@bellevuecollege.edu

Course Description

In this Intro to Sociology class, we will examine concepts and theoretical frameworks that govern our current systems. We will examine concepts such as capitalism, political ideologies, and constructs of religion, race, culture, gender, class and inequality. By examining these constructs, we will better understand systems of hierarchy, stratification and communal regulations that influence our daily lives. Seeking to understand and question how our own multi-layered identities help us view the world in regards to pollution, income inequality, poverty, and political corruption so we can then begin the process of becoming active participants in the process of change.

We will be using the **required text** in connection with outside articles and other educational tools to create an academic framework that allows us to question. Questioning is fundamental in the process of learning therefore, we must begin to question the ways of the world if we are ever going to create change

Required Texts

Engaged Sociologist: Connecting the Classroom to the Community, *Korgen, Kathleen and Jonathan M. White (2015)*

Book is now available at the Campus Bookstore

What is expected of you?

In this class, I am looking for you to challenge yourself and display through assigned writings, quizzes and group presentations that you are wrestling with the course material. Your ultimate success in this class is contingent on your ability to engage with the material and your classmates.

Assignments

Quizzes /50 points

There will be five quizzes, all worth 10 points, over the course readings.

Group Presentation /50 points

During week, six you will sign up for group presentations (max 5 people). You will choose from a list of sociologist and then create a PowerPoint Presentation. Details for this assignment will be given throughout the quarter.

Sociological Exercises/ 40 points

There will be assigned sociological exercises given in class that you will have to complete and return for grading. We will discuss this assignment in detail during the second week of class.

Sociological Write-Ups / 30 points

There will be three sociological write-ups. We as a class will come up with a topic and then you will have the opportunity to examine your position and engage with the reality of sociological issues.

Participation

It is imperative that you recognize that you are required to do more than attend. I expect students to engage and be active in the creation of a strong intellectual community. Being a passive participant will not be tolerated.

Grading Breakdown

Your grade will be determined by how many points you earn divided how many points are possible. Bellevue College utilizes a consistent, published letter grading system to reflect the student's achievements. Bellevue College utilizes a consistent, published letter grading system to reflect the student's achievements.

Plagiarism

The principal of academic honesty guides this class. Be honest with yourself and do not cheat. Instructors have access to commercial software that detects plagiarism. There will be severe penalties for participating in academic dishonesty.

Attendance

Responsibility for class attendance rests with the student. Regular and punctual attendance at all scheduled classes is expected, and the university reserves the right to deal at any time individual cases of nonattendance. Attendance is expected and continued absences will affect your grade.

Class Schedule

Week One: What is Sociology?

Week Two:

Engaged Sociologist 1-30

Week Three:

Quiz one

Engaged Sociologist 31-46

Weather Underground DVD

Week Four:

Engaged Sociologist 46-62

Week Five:

Quiz two

Engaged Sociologist 63-80

Week Six:

Engaged Sociologist pp 81-101

Quiz three

Week Seven:

Engaged Sociologist pp 102-122

Week Eight:

Quiz four

Engaged Sociologist pp 123-139

Week nine:

Engaged Sociologists pp140-160

DVD Killing us softly

Week Ten: Group Presentations

Week Eleven: Group Presentations

Week Twelve:

**Required readings may change*