

**Sociology 101: Introduction to Sociology**  
**Fall 2015**  
**MWF 1:00-1:50pm**  
**Classroom: NSC 220**

**Instructor:** Aysegul Balta Ozgen

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**Office:** 452 Park Hall

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 1:00-2:00 p.m., Fridays 12:00 noon-12:50 p.m., or by appointment

**Required Reading:** James M. Henslin. 2015. *Essentials of Sociology*. Pearson. (11<sup>th</sup> edition)  
 ISBN-10: 0133810615 | ISBN-13: 9780133810615

Please note that you can purchase the hard copy of the book from the bookstore. I highly recommend that you obtain the hard copy, but you can also purchase the e-text if you prefer. Some additional required readings are provided through the course website on UBlerns.

**MySocLab:** We will also use a website called MySocLab in this course. Please make sure that you obtain the access card to MySocLab when you buy the book. MySocLab consists of e-text, media resources, pretests and posttests for each chapter, and writing assignments.

You can access the course here: [www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com](http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com). I will post further registration instructions on UBlerns.

**Course Description:** Sociology is the scientific study of human society and social life. In this course, we analyze how people influence and are influenced by other people and the social structures in which they live. We examine key concepts, theories, and ideas in sociology, including subfields such as culture, social class, gender, race and ethnicity, social institutions, and social change.

**Course Objectives and Assessment:**

<b>By the end of the semester, students should be able to...</b>	<b>Methods of assessment...</b>
Understand what sociological thinking is and apply it to a variety of social problems	Completion of Henslin Chapters 1-4 and other readings on ublerns, and Exam #1
Identify the major concepts, theories and methods of sociology	Completion of Henslin Chapters 1-4 and other readings on ublerns, and Exam #1
Understand systems of social stratification such as social class, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and age	Completion of Henslin Chapters 7-10 and other readings on ublerns, and Exam #2
Understand major social institutions and their relevance to societal stability and change	Completion of Henslin Chapters 11-15 and other readings on ublerns, and Exam #3
Demonstrate the ability to apply sociological thinking	Writing assignments
How to read and analyze text to synthetically summarize and critique the author's argument	Writing assignments

## Course Evaluation

**Course Grade:** Your grade in this course will be determined as follows:

1. **3 Exams (15% each):** There will be three in-class exams in this course. Each one is worth 15% of your final grade. Exam 1 covers Sociological Perspective - Chapters 1-4. Exam 2 covers Social Inequality - Chapters 7-10 and additional material on migration. Exam 3 covers Social Institutions and Social Change - Chapters 11-15. Each exam will contain multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. The exams will not be cumulative. In other words, each exam will only include material covered since the last exam. The last exam will take place during final exam week, but it will not be comprehensive. It will only be based on the material we cover after the second exam. We will devote about half of the session before the exam date to review; however we will not go over the test after it is graded. If you have questions about your test, please email me to set up an appointment to review the questions you missed.

Do not miss the exams! The exam dates are fixed. In general, missed exams will result in a zero. If you know you will not be able to take an exam on the fixed date, please let me know 48 hours before the exam date or sooner. If there is an emergency on the day of the exam, contact me within 24 hours after the exam. I may ask for documentation to prove your claim, so be prepared to provide it. Make-up exams will be given on a case-by-case basis. Again, make-up exams will only be given in emergency situations at my discretion.

2. **2 Writing Assignments (7.5% each):** You will write two essays for this course. Each essay will be 1.5-2 pages, single-spaced, and each one is worth 7.5% of your final grade. I will post the detailed instructions and grading rubric on Ublearns. The purpose of the writing assignments is to encourage you to apply sociological insights to everyday experiences. You will be able to choose media resources and academic articles you want to use. You will submit your assignment to Ublearns and bring a hard copy to class on the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero.
3. **13 Chapter Exams in MySocLab (2% each):** Preparing and studying over MySocLab is part of the class participation. There are pretests, posttests, flashcards, and media activities in MySocLab. Although all of them are not required, I encourage you to use these resources for your own learning and preparation for the exams. At the end of each chapter we cover in class, you will take the online chapter exam in MySocLab on due dates specified in the course calendar. Each one is worth 2% of your final grade. I will not provide these tests in class; you will take them online at your own convenience until midnight (11:59pm). Late submissions will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero.
4. **7 Quizzes (each worth 2% of the course grade):** There will be several pop-quizzes at the beginning of the class throughout the semester. Each one is worth 2% of your final grade. The purpose of the quizzes is to make sure that you come to class having done the readings. Read the book and other assigned readings to prepare for the quizzes. Quizzes will take place at the beginning of classes for 5-10 minutes, therefore always come to class on time. If you miss a quiz, there is no make-up for it. However, I will give more than 7 quizzes and calculate the best 7 for your final grade.

**Receiving Grades:** Grades for the exams will be posted on UBlerns. Scores will not be communicated via email or telephone. I will return your graded papers in class with comments.

**Disputing Grades:** If you wish to dispute a grade on an exam or paper, please email me to set up an appointment to discuss it. Please be prepared to explain your specific academic reasons for disputing your grade.

**Calculating Final Grade:** Your final grade for the course will be calculated as follows:

Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A	94 - 100 %	C	74 - 76.99
A-	90 - 93.99	C-	70 - 73.99
B+	87 - 89.99	D+	67 - 69.99
B	84 - 86.99	D	60 - 66.99
B-	80 - 83.99	F	0 - 59.99
C+	77 - 79.99		

## Course Policies

**Syllabus:** This syllabus is a contract between you and me. Please read it carefully after our first class. The syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. With the exception of exam dates, the schedule is subject to change to accommodate the possibility that some chapters could require more time, class cancellations due to snow, etc. In case of a change I will notify you by email and upload the revised syllabus to UBlerns.

**Class Expectations:** Students are expected to attend all class sessions, read all assigned readings prior to the class session in which they are discussed, actively participate in class discussions and activities, and complete all required assignments in accordance with established guidelines. For readings, you are expected to take notes on the main ideas, bring questions to class if you do not understand something, and think about how the reading is applicable to your own life, to current events, or to the current political/social context. Reading the syllabus and handouts and keeping track of dates for tests and assignments is your responsibility. **Check your e-mail, UBlerns and MySocLab regularly.**

**Contacting the Instructor:** You can reach me by email at aysegulb@buffalo.edu. I will check my email regularly and you can expect a response within 24 hours. You can also come to my office hours listed at the top of this syllabus or set up an appointment to meet.

**Electronics:** I do not mind laptops/tablets in class provided that they are used only for class purposes (i.e., note-taking, looking up information if we have a question). If electronics become a distraction rather than an aid, I will no longer allow them in the classroom. Doing other things,

like checking facebook or shopping online, during class is rude and distracting to other people around you. You must turn off your cell phones and put them out of sight during class.

**Classroom Etiquette:** You are expected to be polite and respectful to your instructor and fellow students at all times. This includes being respectful when someone asks a question or expresses an opinion, even if you disagree with that opinion. This also means arriving to class on time and being attentive during class so you do not distract others. Please do not arrive late, or pack up or leave early. If you get to class late, or must leave early, please do so very quietly. Please do not eat and drink during class time.

**Trigger Statement:** "In this class, we will be dealing with controversial issues that might make some students uncomfortable. We will read some texts, complete some assignments, and watch some video clips that may use explicit language and that will definitely explore controversial topics. While I understand that at times you may feel discomfort, I expect that you will keep an open mind and be willing to think critically. **This means that you should appreciate the process of scientific inquiry and understand how this process is distinct from defending or promoting personal beliefs. A climate of respect for all persons and groups is expected in course work and classroom behavior.** If you anticipate being unable having strong political, religious, or other objections that will prohibit you from interacting with course material in an academic manner, you should see me or re-consider your enrollment."<sup>1</sup>

**Showing Up Late for Exams:** No student will be allowed to take an exam if they show up after a student has already completed the test and left the room. Please come on time!

**Academic Integrity Policy:** I have no tolerance for cheating and plagiarism. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing on an exam or an assignment, this will result in a minimum of a zero on the assignment, and I will formally report you to the University. I reserve the right to use plagiarism detection software on all coursework submitted to me.

Please see the university's policy on academic integrity: "The University at Buffalo takes very seriously its commitment to principles of academic integrity. Our academic community expects the highest ethical behavior on the part of our students in the completion and submission of academic work. Students should assume that no assistance or aid is allowable on exams or homework, unless explicitly outlined by the instructor. Even when the instructor allows consultation or collaboration, the student is expected to explicitly footnote the source, extent, and nature of the contribution. Written works must be the complete and original effort of the student, with all ideas and words of others duly attributed according to the appropriate style manual. Furthermore, students should not recycle work in subsequent courses, nor should they facilitate any act of academic dishonesty by another person. If in doubt, the student should err on the side of caution and consult the instructor for additional guidance. In cases of academic integrity violations, the University will pursue appropriate sanctions subject to official policy, as outlined in the Undergraduate Catalog." <http://academicintegrity.buffalo.edu/policies/index.php>

**Accessibility Resources Policy:** If you require classroom or testing accommodations due to a disability, please contact Accessibility Resources, located at 25 Capen Hall. AR can be reached

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<sup>1</sup> Cited from Dr. Ashley Barr's SOC362 syllabus

by phone at (716) 645-2608 or by email at [stu-accessibility@buffalo.edu](mailto:stu-accessibility@buffalo.edu). Please inform me as soon as possible about your needs so that we can coordinate your accommodations.  
<http://www.buffalo.edu/accessibility/index.php>

**Incomplete Policy:** A grade of incomplete (“I”) indicates that additional course work is required to fulfill the requirements of a given course. Students may only be given an “I” grade if they have a passing average in coursework that has been completed and have well-defined parameters to complete the course requirements that could result in a grade better than the default grade. An “I” grade may not be assigned to a student who did not attend the course. Prior to the end of the semester, students must initiate the request for an “I” grade and receive the instructor’s approval. Assignment of an “I” grade is at the discretion of the instructor.

**Thinking about a Major or Minor in Sociology?:** To major in sociology, you must: (a) earn a “C” or better in four required courses: SOC 101 (Introduction to Sociology), SOC 293 (Social Research Methods), SOC 294 (Basic Statistics for Social Sciences), and SOC 349 (Sociological Theory); and (b) complete eight sociology electives. To minor in sociology, you must: (a) earn a “C” or better in SOC 101 (Introduction to Sociology); and (b) complete five additional sociology electives, four of which must be at the 300- or 400-level.

More information about the undergraduate program can be obtained on our website:  
<http://sociology.buffalo.edu/undergraduate/>

## Course Calendar

Week	Date	Topic	Readings	Assignment Due Dates
<b>Part I: The Sociological Perspective</b>				
<b>1</b>	Monday, August 31	Introduction		
	Wednesday, September 2	The Sociological Perspective	Chapter 1 (p.2-20) + UBL1	
	Friday, September 4	The Sociological Perspective	Chapter 1 (p.2-20)	
<b>2</b>	Monday, September 7	<b>Labor Day: NO CLASS</b>		
	Wednesday, September 9	MySocLab Introduction and Registration  Doing Sociological Research: Introduction to Methods	Chapter 1 (p.20-36)	Obtain the access card to MySocLab and bring your laptops to class!

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignment Due Dates</b>
	Friday, September 11	Doing Sociological Research: Introduction to Methods	Chapter 1 (p.20-36) + UBL2	MySocLab Ch.1 Exam
<b>3</b>	Monday, September 14	Culture	Chapter 2	
	Wednesday, September 16	Culture	Chapter 2	MySocLab Ch.2 Exam
	Friday, September 18	Socialization	Chapter 3	
<b>4</b>	Monday, September 21	Socialization	Chapter 3	MySocLab Ch.3 Exam
	Wednesday, September 23	Academic Socialization I: Library Research & Citation Rules		
	Friday, September 25	Social Structure and Social Interaction	Chapter 4	
<b>5</b>	Monday, September 28	Social Structure and Social Interaction	Chapter 4	MySocLab Ch.4 Exam
	Wednesday, September 30	Catch up & Review		
	Friday, October 2	<b>EXAM 1</b>		
<b>Part II: Social Inequality</b>				
<b>6</b>	Monday, October 5	Academic Socialization II: How to Read and Write a Paper?		
	Wednesday, October 7	Global Stratification	Chapter 7	
	Friday, October 9	Global Stratification	Chapter 7	MySocLab Ch.7 Exam
<b>7</b>	Monday, October 12	Social Class	Chapter 8	
	Wednesday, October 14	Social Class	Chapter 8	MySocLab Ch.8 Exam
	Friday, October 16	Race and Ethnicity	Chapter 9	
<b>8</b>	Monday, October 19	Race and Ethnicity	Chapter 9	MySocLab Ch.9 Exam
	Wednesday, October 21	Migration	UBL8A	
	Friday, October 23	Migration	UBL8B	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Essay Due</b>
<b>9</b>	Monday, October 26	Gender and Sexuality	Chapter 10 (p.291-315)	
	Wednesday, October 28	Gender and Sexuality	Chapter 10 (p.291-315)	
	Friday, October 30	Inequalities of Aging	Chapter 10 (p.316-330) + UBL9	

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignment Due Dates</b>
<b>10</b>	Monday, November 2	Inequalities of Aging	Chapter 10 (p.316-330)	MySocLab Ch.10 Exam
	Wednesday, November 4	Catch up & review		
	Friday, November 6	<b>EXAM 2</b>		
<b>Part III: Social Institutions</b>				
<b>11</b>	Monday, November 9	Politics and the Economy	Chapter 11	
	Wednesday, November 11	Politics and the Economy	Chapter 11	MySocLab Ch.11 Exam
	Friday, November 13	Marriage and Family	Chapter 12	
<b>12</b>	Monday, November 16	Marriage and Family	Chapter 12	MySocLab Ch.12 Exam
	Wednesday, November 18	Education and Religion	Chapter 13	
	Friday, November 20	Education and Religion	Chapter 13	MySocLab Ch.13 Exam
<b>13</b>	Monday, November 23	Film Screening		
	Wednesday, November 25	<b>Fall Recess: NO CLASS</b>		
	Friday, November 27			
<b>Part IV: Social Change</b>				
<b>14</b>	Monday, November 30	Population and Urbanization	Chapter 14	
	Wednesday, December 2	Population and Urbanization	Chapter 14	MySocLab Ch.14 Exam
	Friday, December 4	Social Change and the Environment	Chapter 15	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Essay Due</b>
<b>15</b>	Monday, December 7	Social Change and the Environment	Chapter 15	
	Wednesday, December 9	Social Change and the Environment	Chapter 15	MySocLab Ch.15 Exam
	Friday, December 11	Catch up & review		

**FINAL EXAM: 12/18/2015, Friday 11:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. in NSC220**