

# Sociology 1: Introductory Sociology, Winter 2018

## Professor Rogers Brubaker

**Lectures: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., Broad Art Center 2160E**

**Course website:** <https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/18W-SOCIOL1-1>

On the website you will find the syllabus and announcements; electronic reserves for readings; reading questions; lecture slides; and newspaper articles on matters of sociological interest

**Office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 2-3pm, 232 Haines Hall.**

**Note:** Please read this syllabus carefully. It contains many important details about course policies and procedures. It also contains answers to many questions you might have. **Before** emailing the instructor or TA with questions, please check to see if these questions are answered in the syllabus.

**Email communication:** Make sure the email address that is registered on MyUCLA is the email address you actually use and check regularly. The instructor and TAs will be sending out information by email. This may include information about changes in reading assignments or about section assignments. You will be responsible for this information.

### **Teaching Assistants**

It is your responsibility to notify your TA **in advance** about any necessary absences from lecture or section. Any excused absences will require proper documentation.

### **Academic Integrity**

As UCLA students, you are expected to demonstrate integrity in all of your academic endeavors. All forms of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students' Office. Please see UCLA's Student Guide to Academic Integrity:  
<http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Portals/16/Documents/StudentGuide.pdf>.

### **Course Description**

This course provides an introduction to sociological analysis. It does not attempt to provide a comprehensive overview of the discipline; such an overview would require a year-long course. Instead, the course focuses selectively on a few key issues and on developing what C. Wright Mills called the "sociological imagination" – the ability to think sociologically about the social world.

The introductory unit course considers the key characteristics of a sociological perspective on the world, explores the idea of the social construction of reality, and analyzes what is distinctive about the contemporary social world.

The second section is concerned with questions of identity (“who *is* what?”) and inequality (“who *gets* what?”). We discuss the social construction of ethnicity, race, and gender; and we consider patterns of inequality based on gender and citizenship.

The final section is concerned with social order and co-ordination. We consider how social order emerges through face-to-face interaction; through patterned choices; through social ties and networks; through institutions such as marriage; and through large-scale organizations.

## **Enrollment**

No PTE numbers will be given out. Students on the waiting list will be admitted only if the waiting list clears.

## **Lectures**

Lectures will not simply go over the readings; they are an integral part of the course. You will be responsible on quiz questions and exams for material presented in lectures.

In consideration for other students, as well as for the instructor, please make sure you that you arrive on time, and do not leave class early. (If you must leave early on a particular occasion, please make sure you sit in an aisle seat at the back of the class.)

**Laptops, tablets, and phones may not be used for any purpose in class.** Research has long shown that multi-tasking has negative effects on academic performance. The powerful immediate emotional gratifications of social media only make the problem worse. As NYU media theorist Clay Shirky has noted, the hardware and software we use are brilliantly designed to be as distracting as possible, to grab as much of our attention as possible, since attention is what drives the enormous social media and internet-based sectors of the economy. Plus recent research has shown that laptop-based multitasking distracts not only the user, but nearby students as well: not only do multitasking students perform worse than others, but students in direct view of a multitasking peer perform worse than others.

**Lecture slides** will be posted on the course website. I will make every effort to post lecture slides by 8am on the day of the lecture, but note that this may not be the final version. If the final version differs, I will post it after the lecture. Lecture slides are **not** a substitute for lecture notes. They can be useful, however, as a framework for taking notes, so you may want to print out the lecture slides and bring them to class.

**Clickers.** An i-clicker remote is required for this course. Clickers will be used every day in lecture. They will be used to make lectures more interactive, to provide feedback on your understanding of course material, to administer low-stakes quiz questions, and to allocate credit for participation in lectures.

All students are required to **purchase a physical i>clicker** and to **bring it to lecture each day**. These are available at the ASUCLA store and elsewhere. **Make sure you purchase the i>clicker; no other brand of clicker will work.** The **i>clicker2** model is strongly recommended; it

provides confirmation that your input was received. The **original i>clicker** or **i>clicker+** models do not provide such confirmation. Please note that you will **not** be able to use Mobile Clicker or i-clicker GO or REEF Polling for this course.

Once you have purchased your i>clicker, you will need to **register** it for use in this class. This is the case *even if you have already registered it for another class*. Since i>clicker is now integrated into Moodle, our course management software, you will **not** register your i>clicker on the i>clicker website; instead, you need to **register it on the course home page**:

<https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/18W-SOCIOL1-1>. You will see an i>clicker box on the right side of the page; click “student registration” to register your i>clicker remote by entering the 8-character ID located on the back of the clicker. For further information about registering clickers, see [https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/docs/Registering\\_your\\_iClicker](https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/docs/Registering_your_iClicker). If you have problems with registration or use of clickers, please contact [help@ssc.ucla.edu](mailto:help@ssc.ucla.edu), or click on the “Need help” link at the top right of the main course web page.

**\* Important.** *You will not be able to receive credit for clicker quiz questions and lecture participation until you have **registered** your clicker. Please be sure to purchase and register your clicker **by the end of the first week of class**.*

**Important note about academic integrity:** Responding in class for another person (by using their clicker) or having someone attend class and respond for you is a **serious violation of academic integrity** and will be treated as such.

## Sections

Sections meet once a week for one hour. **Section attendance is mandatory, and attendance will be taken.** Sections focus on sharpening and deepening students’ understanding of the readings; clarifying issues raised in lecture; and developing reading strategies and writing skills. There will be some section writing assignments; these will count toward your section participation grade. Short additional readings may be assigned in sections as well.

## Exams

There will be a midterm and a final exam. The final exam will be cumulative, although more emphasis will be placed on material covered after the midterm. The midterm will be held on Tuesday, February 13. The final will be on Tuesday, March 20, 3-6pm

Make-up exams will be offered only for urgent medical reasons; this will require a letter from a doctor, and it should be cleared in advance with the TA and professor.

**Important note:** exams will cover *both* the lectures and the readings. This includes parts of the readings that are *not* discussed in lecture, as well as parts of the lectures that are *not* devoted to the discussion of the readings.

## Paper

There will be one paper assignment. The paper (4-5 pages, or 1000-1200 words) will be due by 10:45am on **Thursday, February 22** in the Sociology Department office, Haines Hall 264.

Requests for extensions – in case of exams or papers due at the same time in other courses, for example -- should be made **at least a week in advance** to the TA. Late papers will be marked down by 1/3 of a letter grade (for example, from B to B-) per day. The assignment will be posted on the web site on **Thursday, February 8**.

## Grading

Final grades will be based on the midterm (25%), final (35%), paper (15%), quizzes and lecture participation (15%), and section participation (10%).

Any request to review the grade received on an exam must be made in writing and must explain in specific detail why the student believes the grade was inappropriate. Review may result in a lower grade, a higher grade, or no change.

Grades for **section participation** will be based on contribution to class discussion and completion of section assignments. They will also be based on attendance: section grades will be lowered for those who have more than one unexcused absence. Five points (half the section participation grade) will be based on section attendance; *one point will be deducted for each unexcused absence after the first one*. Absences from section can be excused only if cleared with the TA in advance.

Quiz questions and lecture participation will account for 15% of the grade: 10% for quiz questions, 5% for lecture participation.

**Clicker-based quiz questions** will be integrated into the lectures throughout the course. The quiz questions are designed to provide an incentive for keeping up with the readings, and also to check your understanding of the course materials.

Almost all lectures after the first week will include two quiz questions. The clicker technology will let you see immediately whether you answered the questions correctly. The questions will be based on the readings – *including the readings assigned for that day* – and on material presented in lectures. To be prepared for the quiz questions, you must have completed the assigned readings before lecture.

All quiz questions will be in multiple choice (or occasionally true-false) format. A correct answer will receive one point; an incorrect answer will receive zero points. If you are not in class or do not have your clicker, you will receive zero points.

**Lecture participation** will also be assessed using clicker. In addition to quiz questions, lectures will include other clicker-based questions. These additional questions will not count toward your quiz grade, but they will count towards your lecture participation grade. For each lecture that includes quiz questions, you will receive either one participation point or zero points – no partial points will be awarded. To receive a participation point for a lecture, you must **answer all but**

**one** of the clicker questions asked during the lecture. This includes both quiz questions and other clicker questions. You don't need to answer them correctly; you just need to answer them. This means that if you leave your clicker at home, or if you miss class, or if you arrive late or leave early and miss more than one clicker question, you will not receive a participation point for that class.

A maximum of three points will be given for each lecture that includes quiz questions (two points for correctly answering quiz questions, one point for participation). At the end of the quarter, the two lowest days' scores for quiz and participation points will be dropped. This means *you can miss class twice (or leave your clicker at home) and still get the **maximum** grade on quiz and lecture participation*. So please do **not** ask the professor or TA to adjust your points if you miss a class or forget your clicker. Adjustments will be made only for necessary absences that are **cleared in advance with your TA** and supported with appropriate documentation (athletes, for example, must provide the TA in advance with official documentation showing the dates for which they are required to be absent). Please do not email the professor about such absences.

### **Honors section**

I will conduct an honors section if there is sufficient student interest. Participation in the honors section is in addition to participation in a regular course discussion section. The honors section will meet one hour each week on **Thursday at 2 PM in Bunche 3123, beginning January 11**. The honors section, which carries one credit, will be graded separately from the rest of the course, and will require additional work.

In addition to participating actively in honors section discussions, students will be required to read short additional readings each week and to write a one to two page response paper relating the honors section reading to the other assigned readings. The grade will be based on class participation (50%) and the response papers (50%).

Students interested in enrolling in the honors section (Sociology 89, Seminar 1) should contact me by email ([brubaker@soc.ucla.edu](mailto:brubaker@soc.ucla.edu)) **by Thursday morning, January 11**. You will need a PTE number to enroll. The email should include a statement of your reasons for your interest in the honors section. Enrollment will be limited to a maximum of 15 students to make possible more intensive discussion.

### **Required Readings**

Students are expected to have completed all of the required readings *before* the relevant lecture or section.

This class has a moderate to moderately heavy reading load. Some of the readings are difficult and will require you to **read slowly, take careful notes, and read the text more than once**. It is crucial **to keep up with the readings**; if you do not, you will be unprepared for quiz questions and section discussions, you won't get as much out of lectures, and you are unlikely to do well on exams.

**Reading questions** will be posted on the course website a week before the readings are to be completed. You should print these out and use them as a guide to reading; you should also bring these to sections. Some questions will be quite specific, designed to make sure you understand key points. Others will be broader questions. Reading questions will be useful as a study guide when you are reviewing for exams; they will also be helpful in preparing for quiz questions.

**One book is required for purchase:** Abram de Swaan, *Human Societies*. This is available at the ASUCLA bookstore. The other required readings are available on the Electronic Reserves section of the course web site. The other readings are also available for purchase as a **course reader** from Course Reader Material, 1081 Westwood Blvd. (Entrance on Broxton). (310) 443-3303. The price is \$66. Please note that if you purchase the reader, you will still have to purchase the de Swaan book.

In addition to the readings listed in the syllabus, short supplementary readings may be assigned from time to time; these will be made available on the class website.

If you do not purchase the reader, all required readings should be **printed out**. Please note that some of the PDF files (those marked with an asterisk in the list of readings below) have been **annotated with indications of passages that do not need to be read**. When printing from a PC, please be sure to **print comments or markups** along with document (if you don't do this, you will not be able to see on the printed which parts have been crossed out).

In Adobe Reader 7.0 and later versions (also Adobe Acrobat Pro): select "Document and Markups" (rather than simply "Document") in the drop-down box in the upper right (under "Comments and Forms") of the print menu.

If you don't have your own printer, readings can be printed at the Social Sciences Computing labs in the Public Affairs building. Students enrolled in social sciences courses receive a \$10 (100 pages) printing credit each quarter; for additional printing beyond this, SSC charges 10 cents a page. See <https://computing.sscnet.ucla.edu/labs/printing/>

### **Schedule of lectures and assigned readings**

In addition to the readings listed here, a few short additional readings may be assigned. You will be notified by email of any such additional readings, which will be made available on the course website.

Note: readings are to be completed **before** the lectures on the dates indicated below. Quiz questions may address readings assigned for that day.

\* Readings marked with an asterisk below have portions of the text crossed out.

### **Introduction**

**Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>: Introduction**

**Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>: Sociology as a Way of Thinking**

Mills, *The Sociological Imagination*, pp. 3-13

De Swaan, *Human Societies*, chapters 1-3

**Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>: The Social Construction of Reality**

\*Zerubavel, *Social Mindscapes*, Chapter 4 (excerpts)

Best, *Damned Lies and Statistics*, Chapter 1

Haslam, "Concept Creep"

De Swaan, *Human Societies*, chapters 5-6

**Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>: The Social Construction of Disease and Illness**

Conrad and Barker, "The Social Construction of Illness"

Moynihan et al., "Selling Sickness: The Pharmaceutical Industry and Disease Mongering"

**Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>: Modernity : How We Live Now**

Giddens, *Modernity and Self-Identity*, chapter 3, pp. 70-87 (through first sentence of last paragraph on 87) and 99-108

Lupton, "Self-tracking Cultures"

De Swaan, *Human Societies*, chapters 9-12

**Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>: Digital Hyperconnectivity**

**Note: The Schwarz and Turkle readings are to be completed *before* this week's sections.**

Schwarz, "Who Moved my Conversation?"

Turkle, *Alone Together*, pp. 1-middle of 3, middle of 13-middle of 19, 155-157, 162-168, 171-175, 182-last full paragraph on 192, 198-206

Brubaker, "Forget Fake News"

**Identity and Inequality : Who is what and who gets what**

**Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>: Social identity and inequality**

Jenkins, *Social Identity*, pp. 1-6, 80-86, 89

De Swaan, *Human Societies*, chapter 4 (pp. 34 to end of 37 and pp. 40-54)

Cornell and Hartmann, *Ethnicity and Race*, pp. 1-11, 15-25

**Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>: Ethnicity and Race**

Cornell and Hartmann, *Ethnicity and Race*, pp. 72-101

Alba, "The Likely Persistence of a White Majority"

**Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>: Gender**

Lorber, *Paradoxes of Gender*, pp 13-31

\*Harris, *The Nurture Assumption*, 204-212

**Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>: Gender and Race in Flux**

Brubaker, *Trans*, pp. 1-8, 15-68

**Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>: Midterm Exam**

**Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>: Inequality (1): Occupational sex segregation**

\*Charles and Grusky, "The Four Puzzles of Sex Segregation," pp 3-9, 12-31.

**Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>: Inequality (2): Immigration and citizenship**

Pritchett, *Let Their People Come: Breaking the Gridlock on Global Labor Mobility*, pp. 13-14 and 63-82

Waters and Kasinitz, "The War on Crime and the War on Immigrants: Racial and Legal Exclusion in 21st Century United States"

**Social Order and Co-ordination**

**Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>: Social Order and Coordination**

de Swaan, *Human Societies*, Chapters 7 and 8

**Paper due**

**Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>: Interactional Rules and Rituals**

Goffman, "The Nature of Deference and Demeanor"

**Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>: The Interdependence of Choices**

\*Schelling, *Micromotives and Macrobehavior*, pp. 91-102, 110-115, 124-133

Wagner, "Going Green"

**Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>: Networks**

\*Granovetter, "The Strength of Weak Ties"

**Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>: Institutions**

\*Jenkins, *Social Identity*, pp. 127-129

Cherlin, *The Marriage Go-Round*, pp. 13-19, 24-32

Cherlin, "The Deinstitutionalization of American Marriage"

**Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>: Organizations**

Leidner, *Fast Food, Fast Talk*, 1-3, 24-31, 44-50, 65-85

\*Dimaggio and Powell, "The Iron Cage Revisited," pp. 63-74

**Review and Conclusion: Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Final Exam:** Tuesday, March 20, 3-6pm