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Winter 2009
RBC AUD
MWF 8-8:50

Soc 1B/L: The Study of Society

This course is a follow-up to Soc 1A, which introduced students to what C. Wright Mills called “the sociological imagination”—a distinctive way of understanding the enormous range of events, institutions and relationships that shape both society and the lives of individuals. Soc 1B returns to the sociological imagination, but shifts attention to the political dynamics of social change in the contemporary world. We will deal with issues such as violence and masculinity, mechanisms of social control, the debate about globalisation, and the growth of terrorism across the world. In Soc 1A, students were encouraged to develop a sociological imagination by linking private experiences to public issues. The goal of Soc 1B is similar. This time, however, students are also encouraged to consider themselves as citizens of a complex and fast-changing global environment.

TAs:

Marie Murphy: Mon 3 - 3:50 and 4 - 4:50 p.m.

Kate Wood: Tues 2:00 - 2:50 and 3 - 3:50 p.m.

Jon Sharfan: Wed 2 - 2:50 and 3 - 3:50 p.m.

Josh Shapiro: Wed 4 - 4:50 and 5:00 - 5:50 p.m.

Lila Sharif: Thu 5 - 5:50 and 6 - 6:50 p.m.

Course Requirements

- a) Attendance at all lectures; students are expected to complete the weekly reading assignments before coming to class in order to participate in discussions.
- b) Written assignments include: a take-home exam due in class (not after class and not in my office!) on Mon, 9 February and an in-class final exam on Monday, March 16 at 8 – 11 a.m. Your TA may also require you to submit written assignments. In this case, the assignments are mandatory and will count towards your “attendance and participation” grade.

Important: In general, there will be no make-up exams or extensions on exams. Only a medical certificate will permit you to modify course deadlines.

Grade breakdown

Grades will be based on the mid-term exam (35%); the final exam (50%); and section attendance /participation (15%).

Required texts (copies have been placed on reserve)

Books: The following texts are available at Groundwork Books (copies have also been placed on reserve):

- Dalton Conley, *You May Ask Yourself*. (W.W. Norton, 2008).

- Garth Massey, *Readings for Sociology*. (W.W. Norton, 2008. 6th edition).
- [Webct.ucsd.edu](http://webct.ucsd.edu): In addition to these texts, several readings may be placed on the course web site at webct.ucsd.edu . These readings are mandatory for the class.

SCHEDULE

Week 1 (5, 7, 9 Jan): Introduction/The Enlightenment and the Origins of Sociology

Peter Hamilton, “The Enlightenment and the birth of the social sciences,” in S. Hall et al., *Modernity: An Introduction to Modern Societies* . (Blackwell, 1996). (Webct)

Week 2 (12, 14, 16 Jan): Sociological perspectives

◆ Conley, Chapter 1.

- Michael Burawoy, “Public Sociologies: Contradictions, Dilemmas, and Possibilities,” Ch. 4 in Massey;
- Allan Brandt, “Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study,” Ch. 7 in Massey.

Week 3 (21, 23 Jan—no class on MLK Day, 19 Jan): Culture and media

◆ Conley, Chapter 3.

- E. Fernea and R. Fernea, “A Look Behind the Veil,” Ch 10 in Massey;
- D. Eitzen, “Upward Mobility Through Sport?” in Ch. 27 in Massey.

Week 4 (26, 28, 30 Jan): Religion

◆ Conley, Chapter 9

- M. Weber, “The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism,” Ch. 39 in Massey.
- R. Bellah et al, “Religious Community and American Individualism,” Ch 46 in in Massey,

Week 5 (2, 4 6 Feb): Authority and the state

◆ Conley, Chapter 11

- C. Shearing and P. Stenning, “From the Panopticon to Disney World,” Ch 32 in Massey;
- Lorna Rhodes, “Total confinement: madness and reason in the maximum security prison,” Ch. 33 in Massey.

Week 6 (9, 11, 13 Feb): Deviance and social control

◆ Conley, Chapter 6

- Beth Montemurro, “Deviance and liminality,” Ch. 12 in Massey and
- Christine Horne et al, “ Civility and order: adult social control of children in public places,” Ch. 14 in Massey.

Week 7 (18, 20 Feb—no class on President’s day, 16 th): Networks and organizations

◆ Conley, Chapter 5.

- Heather A. Horst et al, “Media Ecologies,” read online at <http://digitalyouth.ischool.berkeley.edu/book-mediaecologies>

Week 8 (23, 25, 27 Feb): Social Movements

◆ Conley, Chapter 18

- Mary Pardo, “Grassroots Activism: Mothers of East Los Angeles,” Ch 49 in Massey.

Week 9 (2, 4, 6 March): Science and the Environment

◆ Conley, Chapter 17

- Naomi Oreskes, “The Scientific Consensus on Climate Change,” *Science* (3 December 2004, 306).

Week 10 (9, 11, 13 March): Conclusion and review