Introduction to Sociology, SOCI 1101-N01  
Spring 2014  

No prerequisites required.

Instructor: Tiffany A. Parsons  
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Phone: 678.839.6335  
Email: tparsons@westga.edu

Virtual Office Information:  
Location: CourseDen  
Hours: R 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Phone: 762.233.7827  
Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Email: within CourseDen

Class Meetings: online Monday – Friday, August 25 – December 13.

**Course Description:** A general introduction to the sociological perspective; including theoretical orientations; methodological approaches; the content of society and culture; the process of socialization; social institutions; and social stratification. A survey of the discipline of sociology. Topics will include sociological theory, methods and selected substantive area.

**Learning Outcomes:**  
1. Understand basic concepts, perspectives, and their interpretive applications.  
2. Understand the nature of culture and social structure.  
3. Understand the reciprocal relationship between the individual and society.  
4. Understand the diversity of American society.  
5. Demonstrate an ability to think critically.

- ISBN#: 1269367374  
  - NOTE: only this ISBN # comes with the access code for this class, & it’s only available at the UWG bookstore. Also, beware: the UWG bookstore has two Intro books for Parsons. They look the same, but they have different ISBN#s. One is for my face-to-face class, and one is for this online class. Be sure you get the one for the online class – the ISBN# above.  
- UWG Bookstore: [http://www.bookstore.westga.edu/](http://www.bookstore.westga.edu/)


**Attendance Policy:** Daily, Monday – Friday, active and engaged participation is expected. This includes daily logins, checking email & news items daily, reading new From Parsons posts daily,
completing tasks (graded and non-graded), participation in the class lounge (asking or answering questions, offering advice…).

**Communication:**
- **Westga.edu email:** Only use this address for non-course related communication & emergencies.
- **CourseDen email:** For private course related communications, use CourseDen email within the course. I will respond to CourseDen emails within 24 hours, Monday – Friday.
- **Class Lounge:** Post and reply to questions or advice pertaining to the class, teacher, texts, instructions, schedule, content, lectures… I will check the Class Lounge daily, Monday – Friday, and address anything that requires my attention within 24 hours.
- **Appointments:** Office and phone appointments may be scheduled when needed.

**Changes, Notices, etc.:** I reserve the right to change the schedule, assignments, or requirements. I will announce changes via CourseDen News or email within the course. You are responsible for knowing changes.

**Technology:** This is an online class. You are 100% responsible for access to properly working technology and knowing how to use CourseDen as well as the technology and software required for this course. You will need
  - a reliable computer and internet access capable of streaming movies.
  - basic computer literacy skills. You will be required to do the following:
    - upload a photo,
    - post/reply in discussion boards,
    - take timed quizzes,
    - read text in html, and
    - watch linked videos.

- The following is a link to UWG Online Connection website (includes links to Orientation, basic software/hardware requirements, Online Student Guide, and all student services) - http://www.westga.edu/~online/
  - If you have a computer, software, or CourseDen questions, contact distance education: 678.839.6248 or http://www.westga.edu/~distance/webct1/help/

**Respect for others:** You are expected to be respectful to all other students: when you disagree with or have had an alternate experience than the one being shared…

**Academic Integrity & Honesty:** You read and agreed to the UWG Honor Code, which includes academic honesty and integrity, when you applied to UWG. You are responsible for knowing
and understanding this policy. You will be held to this standard. A copy of the Academic Honor Code Pledge Statement that you signed is available for review in the Welcome Module.

Student Handbook: http://www.westga.edu/~handbook/index.php. (for more information and definitions on cheating, plagiarism, and academic honesty and integrity, click the Honor Code and Appendix A.)

Any incident of academic dishonesty, intended or unintended, whether the assignment is worth 1% or 75%, will result in an F for the course and a letter to the VPAA. If you already have a violation of Academic Honesty on your record, I will seek your expulsion from the University.

**Graded Tasks:** I will do my very best to have all graded tasks returned within one week.

**Quizzes:** There are 11 quizzes throughout the semester - one in each lesson. Quizzes will consist of approximately 10 matching, multiple choice, and true/false questions. Quizzes are taken online through CourseDen.

**Pre-Assessment:** You must take the pre-assessment before beginning Lesson 1. You must take it before you will have access to the first quiz. The grade you earn does NOT affect your grade in the class. I use this, along with the post-assessment, to measure the course materials’ effectiveness.

**Post-Assessment:** You must take the post-assessment before you can take your last quiz. The Pre-Assessment and Post-Assessment are exactly the same. The grade you earn MAY affect your grade in the class; if you make an A on the post-assessment, I will add up to five points on your final exam! (That’s half of a letter grade!)

**Check Yourself:** There are 10, one question mini-quizzes located throughout the lessons for you to check yourself on key sociological concepts. If you get the question incorrect, before moving on, you should return to the lesson, learn the information, and re-check yourself. You must earn 100% or attempt twice each check yourself in a lesson before you gain access to the self-assessment.

**Self-Assessments:** There are 11 self-assessments – one in each lesson. Each lesson’s self-assessment must be submitted before taking the lesson quiz. The due date/time for self-assessments are 24 hours prior to the due date/time of quizzes. A score of less than 100% on the self-assessment indicates one is NOT ready to take the lesson quiz. However, a score of 100% doesn’t necessarily mean one IS ready to take it. Use the self-assessment to gauge whether or not you’re ready. Ask yourself, how easy was it? Did I know all the answers immediately? Did I recognize all the key words in the question? Would I be able to answer other questions related to those key words as easily as I did these? Use the self-assessment experiences to guide you on reviewing the lesson material and studying before taking the lesson quizzes.
**Interactive Essays:** There are 4 interactive essays throughout the semester – one in each unit. Each will have a prompt related to its lesson material. Discussions involve critical thinking, as well as application, analysis, and synthesis of lesson material. They further require engagement with classmates about the topic under study.

**Midterm Exam:** It will consist of approximately 25 matching, multiple choice, and true/false questions.

**Final Exam:** It will consist of approximately 25 matching, multiple choice, and true/false questions.

*Late/Make Up Assignments:* Under most circumstances, I will not accept late work and do not give make up work.

**ONE & ONLY Extra Credit opportunity: 9/12:** College of Social Science (COSS) Service Day. This is a chance for you to get out from behind your computers and out of the classroom into the community and do sociology! You will have the opportunity to serve a local nonprofit in the UWG community. Transportation will be provided to & from UWG. We will meet around 9 a.m., go serve, and return around noon for a COSS cookout and field day. More details will be announced in CourseDen News as we get closer.

If you check “in” on time, serve your chosen organization well, and check “out” when we return to UWG, you may add up to 10 points on your midterm exam grade or replace any one quiz with a 100.

**Grading:** Notice that I do not round up.

Exams: 30%
- Midterm Exam – 12%
- Final Exam – 18%

Quizzes: 50%
- 11 quizzes – 4.5% each

Interactive Essays: 20%
- 4 I.E.s – 5% each

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>What it Symbolizes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90+</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Consistently Excellent Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-89.9999</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>In Total, Above Average Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-79.9999</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>In Total, Average Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69.9999</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>In Total, Below Average Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59.999 &amp; below</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Consistently Poor Work</td>
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NOTE:
- Poor behavior and/or participation may result in the loss of points from your final grade.
- Excellent participation may result in the addition of points to your final grade.
- Academic dishonesty will result in failing the class without regard to your other grades in the course.
- Failing to take either your proctored midterm or final exam will result in failing the class without regard to your other grades in the course.

Library: http://www.westga.edu/library/

Common Language: http://tinyurl.com/UWGSyllabusPolicies

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT STATEMENT:
If you are a student who is disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act and requires assistance or support services, please seek assistance through the Center for Disability Services. A CDS Counselor will coordinate those services:
http://www.westga.edu/studentDev/index_8884.php

If you are entitled to and desire accommodation: Email me your packet immediately – before the end of day Friday, January 17 – along with a list of the accommodations you desire.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT:
No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, creed, national origin, age, or disability, be excluded from employment or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by UWG.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT:
University of West Georgia adheres to affirmative action policies to promote diversity and equal opportunity for all faculty and students.
### Tentative Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Course Content:</th>
<th>Topic:</th>
<th>Interactive Essays Due Thurs @ 4 p.m.</th>
<th>Self-Assessments Due Thurs @ 4 p.m.</th>
<th>Quizzes/Exams Due Fri @ 4 p.m.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/25 – 8/29</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Intro to Course &amp; Resources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Syllabus (sample) &amp; Pre-Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/1 – 9/5</td>
<td>Lesson 1</td>
<td>Sociological Imagination &amp; Theory</td>
<td>IE1</td>
<td>SA 1</td>
<td>Q1</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/8 – 9/12</td>
<td>Lesson 2</td>
<td>Social Interaction</td>
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<td>SA2</td>
<td>Q2</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/15 – 9/19</td>
<td>Lesson 3</td>
<td>Social Structure</td>
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<td>SA3</td>
<td>Q3</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/22 – 9/26</td>
<td>Lesson 4</td>
<td>Culture, Media...</td>
<td></td>
<td>SA4</td>
<td>Q4</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/29 – 10/3</td>
<td>Lesson 5</td>
<td>Markets, Orgs, &amp; Work</td>
<td>IE2</td>
<td>SA5</td>
<td>Q5</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/6 – 10/10</td>
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<td>MIDTERM</td>
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<td>10/13 – 10/17</td>
<td>Lesson 6</td>
<td>Class &amp; Stratification</td>
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<td>SA6</td>
<td>Q6</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/20 – 10/24</td>
<td>Lesson 7</td>
<td>Race &amp; Ethnicity</td>
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<td>SA7</td>
<td>Q7</td>
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<td>10/27 – 10/31</td>
<td>Lesson 8</td>
<td>Gender &amp; Sexuality</td>
<td>IE3</td>
<td>SA8</td>
<td>Q8</td>
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<td>11/3 – 11/7</td>
<td>Lesson 9</td>
<td>Crime, Deviance...</td>
<td>IE 4</td>
<td>SA9</td>
<td>Q9</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/10 – 11/14</td>
<td>Lesson 10</td>
<td>Community &amp; Environment</td>
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<td>SA10</td>
<td>Q10</td>
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<td>12/1 – 12/5</td>
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<td>FINAL</td>
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### IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. Midterm and Final Exams will open at 5 a.m. on Friday of the Midterm/Final week.
2. You must complete Check Yorselfs in the lessons in which they appear to gain access to the Self Assessments.
3. You must complete the Pre-Assessment to gain access to the Attendance Verification.
4. You must complete the Attendance Verification to gain access to the first three graded tasks.
5. You must complete the Post-Assessment to gain access to the Final Exam.