

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
Department of Sociology
SOC 1510: Individuals in Society,
Section 006, LIFE #204 (11:00-12:20)
Section 004, Wooten Hall #322 (12:30-1:50)
Fall, 2011

Dale E. Yeatts, Ph.D.
Professor
Chilton Hall, 390 Suite
Office Hours: T/TR: 10:00-10:50
and (preferably) by appointment

Phone: 940-565-2238
E-mail: yeatts@unt.edu
Fax: 940-369-7035
Web Page:

[Http://courses.unt.edu/yeatts](http://courses.unt.edu/yeatts)

I. Learning Objectives:

- A. To gain an understanding of American society, its characteristics and reasons why it is the way it is;
- B. To gain an understanding of the sociological perspective, including basic sociological concepts and social theories;
- C. To gain an understanding of social research methods used to examine the societies and their components; and
- D. To gain knowledge of a variety of sub-fields of sociology such as marriage and family, culture, inequality, social groups, and social change.

II. Learning components

A. Readings: To help meet the objectives, the following books are required reading:

REQUIRED: Henslin, James M. (2011, ninth edition). Essentials of Sociology: A Down to Earth Approach, 8th Edition. Boston, MA: Pearson (Chapters 1-10, 12, and 15)

Henslin, James M. (2011). Life in Society, 4th Edition Boston, MA: Pearson. (you can use an earlier edition but there may be one or two articles in the 4th edition that won't be in earlier edition)(Chapters 4, 6-12, 16, 21, and 22)

- B. Class time: will be focused on the objectives through lectures, class discussions, movies, small group activities, and guest lecturers.

III. Course Policies

- A. Class Attendance: regular and punctual class attendance is expected. It will be difficult to master all the material if class is missed. While students will not be penalized for missing class *they will be penalized for coming to class late or leaving class early since these disrupt the class*. If you need to come late or leave early, please let Dr. Yeatts know beforehand. Students can gain extra credit points by attending class (see below). Students who miss a lot of class will be given no leeway in grading while students who miss no or only a few classes will be given much leeway in grading.
- B. Academic integrity: as the student guidebook points out, academic integrity is required. Plagiarism and cheating will result in failure and a report to the Dean.
- C. Acceptable Student Behavior: Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior (including continued emailing during class) will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr
- C. Special Needs: UNT's counseling center provides free career and personal counseling to UNT students (up to 8 sessions per year). Appointments can be made by calling 940-565-2741. For our class, appropriate adjustments and auxiliary aid are available for persons with disabilities. See Dr. Yeatts and/or call 817-565-2456 (TDD access 1-800-735-2989).
- D. Cell Phones and Emailing: please turn off phones prior to class beginning. They should not be on during class or exams.

E. Laptops may not be used in class. Unfortunately, past experience shows that some students with laptops use them for purposes other than the class and this, in turn, distracts students around them.

F. Grading: final grades will be based on the following:

1. Four (4) tests will be given. The fourth test will not be cumulative. The format is expected to include multiple choice and true/false questions. Grades will be posted on Dr. Yeatts' web page (yeatts@unt.edu then select 1510) using a unique 5 digit number that you provide to Dr. Yeatts.

You are responsible for using the restroom prior to the beginning of a test so **do not ask to use the restroom** in the middle of a test (unfortunately a few of us would use this as an opportunity to review our notes in the middle of taking the test).

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| <u>September 27</u> , test 1 | 25% |
| <u>October 20</u> , test 2 | 25% |
| <u>November 15</u> , test 3 | 25% |
| <u>Test 4</u> , (not cumulative) | 25% |

(Section .004 normally begins at 12:30, exam time is Tuesday, Dec 13, 10:30-12:30)
(Section .006 normally begins at 11:00, exam time is Thurs, Dec 15, 10:30-12:30)

2. Make-up Tests: may be allowed but, if so, the test score will be reduced by at least one letter grade unless there is documentation verifying an illness or other serious situation.
3. Class Participation: Those who contribute meaningful, thoughtful, and knowledgeable comments/ideas will receive extra points added to their final grade if their final grade is close to the next higher grade. For example, an 88 would be raised to a 90. Similarly, those who attend all classes will receive extra points.

4. Extra Credit Opportunities: There are two ways to obtain extra credit. Please see the “**Opportunities for Extra Credit**” below for details.

F. How to Study for Tests:

1. Read carefully and give thought to the assigned chapters and readings to be covered on the test.
2. Read the assignments before they are discussed in class so you can contribute to discussions.
3. Learn the major concepts (bolded and italicized concepts) in the chapters and what they mean.
4. Know the answers to the **study guide questions** that are placed on Dr. Yeatts’ web page (yeatts@unt.edu). These questions were developed from the test questions. If you can answer the study guide questions you will know the answers to the test questions.

IV. **Topics to be Covered/Reading Assignments**

(all “Chapter” assignments refer to the Henslin text book; “Henslin Readings” refer to the Henslin Life in Society book)

Week 1 (August 25):

Overview of class, Chapter 1 (Sociological Perspective)

Weeks 2 and 3 (August 30):

Overview of class

Chapter 1 (Sociological Perspective, Theory, Methods; 5 class periods)

Henslin Readings: 1, 2, 3, 5

Possible movie: Why Sociology (MV9404)

W.E.B. DuBois (MV 7620, first 30 minutes)

Hull House (MV4227)

Profit (MV 8102, show first 41 minutes–end when says “difficult to get rid of”; capitalism has won, 3rd world countries pay price)

How to Read and Understand a Research Study
(DVD 10566R; 25 minutes)

Week 4 (September 13):

Chapter 2 (Culture; 2 class periods)

Possible movie: Chinese Business Culture (MV 7265)

YouTube examines health care:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVgOl3cETb4>

Week 5 (September 20):

Chapter 3 (Socialization; 2 class periods)

Possible movie: Socialization (MV 8902)

Who Are You? (MV 2291, V.8, first 21 minutes)

Men, Women, and Sex Difference (MV 4157)

Test 1 on chapters 1-3, Henslin readings 1, 2, 3, 5, and class materials
(September 27, Tuesday)

Week 6 (September 29):

Chapter 4 (Social Structure and Social Interaction; 1 class period)

Henslin Readings 4, 6 - 8

Possible movies: Group Think (MV 2152)

Social Groups (MV 5789, 25 min.)

Week 7 (October 6):

Chapter 5 (Social Groups and Formal Organizations; 2 class periods)

Possible movie: Lyrics lead to violence (MV 8699, 22 min.)

Violence (MV6268, 30 min)

October 11th: Attend presentation in Student Union, Silver Eagle Suite.

Week 8 (October 13):

Chapter 6 (Deviance and Social Control, 2 class periods)

Possible movie: Quite Rage (jailers/prisoners study; MV5305, 40+m)

Test 2 on chapters 4-6, Henslin readings 4, 6-8, and class materials
(October 20, Thursday)

Week 10 (October 25):

Chapter 7 (Global Stratification; 2 class periods)

Henslin Readings 9, 10, 12

Possible movie: Social Stratification (MV6964, 29 min)

Diary of a Terrorist (MV7706, 52 min)

Week 11 (November 1):

Chapter 8 (Social Class in the U.S.; 2 class periods)

Possible movie: Tumaini (AIDES, prostitution, Africa; MV10099, 30)

Untouchable (Caste and Class changes in India;

MV7401 v.18, 25 minutes)

Critical Condition

Week 12 (November 8):

Chapter 9 (Inequalities of Race and Ethnicity; 2 class periods)

Possible movie: Solving Inner-City Poverty (MV 3256, 28 min)

History of NAACP (MV7064)

Race the Power of an Illusion (how racist U.S. has been, importance of supreme court; M9028 v3 52m)

Life of Dubois

Test 3 on chapters 7-9, Henslin readings 9, 10, 12, and class materials
(November 15, Tuesday)

Weeks 13 and 14 (November 17):

Chapter 10 (Inequalities of Gender and Age; 3 class periods)

Henslin Readings 11, 16, 21, 22

Possible movie: Alzheimers (MV 5739A, 34 min)

Women, (MV6480, 34 min)

Breaking the Glass Ceiling (MV8082 v1; 23 minutes)

The Double Shift (MV 7504)

Possible Speakers: Director of Women's Studies

Week 15 (December 1):

Chapter 12 (Marriage and Family; 2 class periods)

Possible movie: Family Violence (MV7341, 29 min)

Family Matters (MV3737)

Behind Closed Doors (MV7341, 29 min)

Possible Speakers: Friends of Family

Week 16 (December 6):

Chapter 15: Social Change: Technology, Social Movements, and the Environment (2 class periods)

Possible movie: Collective Behavior and Social Movements (MV4528)

Culture Change (MV 9871)

The Black Soil (MV10084, locating near poor)

A Bientot (MV9384, interviews workers in France in 70s about working conditions, unionization, strikes)

Critical Condition (follows 4 families without insurance)

Test 4 on chapters 10, 12, 15, Henslin readings 11, 16, 21, 22, and class materials

(Section .004 normally begins at 12:30, exam time is Tuesday, Dec 13, 10:30-12:30)

(Section .006 normally begins at 11:00, exam time is Thurs, Dec 15, 10:30-12:30)

Opportunities for Extra Credit

1. Five Page Library Research Paper

Collect cartoons and comic strips that draw on a sociological topic, such as changing perspectives on marriage, family life, prison life, life in other countries, how human social life is similar/comparable to some other thing, etc. At the same time, do a library search on the topic to identify scholarly, peer-reviewed research articles on the topic (you can use popular magazines such as Time but these should be no more than 10% of your citations/references). Write a 5 page paper, double spaced, that reviews the topic. You will receive up to 3 extra points added to your final grade. Your paper may ask and answer questions such as: What do sociological journal articles report about the topic (provide reference list of journal articles at end of paper). What are some common observations cartoonists make on the topic and how

do they compare to sociological studies reported in journal articles? What are the different perspectives that are portrayed? How might you relate this to what we are learning in our sociology course?

For the paper do the following: (1) present copies of the cartoons and strips in color where possible (these do not count as part of the 5 typed, double-spaced pages), (2) discuss your findings from a sociological perspective (answer the questions noted above and any others that come to mind), and (3) for a **fourth extra-credit point** you can present your project to the class, if approved by the professor. This will require turning the paper in at least one week prior to the end of the semester. If you present your paper, use powerpoint or some other way of displaying some of the most interesting cartoons/comic strips. If you wait until the last few days before deciding to do this, it will show in what you turn in. The deadline is the last day of the regular semester unless you want to present your paper in which case the deadline is one week prior.

2. In-Class Assignments

Students will be given the opportunity to obtain extra credit points during class. For example, students may be asked to work in groups during class to solve one or more problems and then each student will turn in their own answer(s) before the end of class and one or more extra points will be added to the student's next test grade. Students who are absent, or come to class late, or leave class early will not be eligible for these extra points (with the exception of student athletes or other sanctioned absence from campus). A student who attends all classes and do all assignments will typically accumulate 5 - 6 points to be added to her/his next test grade.

3. Opinion Paper On October 6th, 11:00a.m., a presentation will be given by Fort Worth City Councilman, Joel Burns. His primary focus will be on "bullying". Councilman Burns has been featured on CNN, the Today Show, the Ellen Show, and participated in the White House Conference on Bullying Prevention. The presentation begins at 11:00 in the Student Union, Silver Eagle Suite (3rd floor). It will be followed by a free lunch in the library mall area. All students in soci 1510.006 (11:00-12:20) are required to attend. Students in 1510.004 (12:30-1:50) are required to attend if they do not have an 11:00 class on that day. For extra credit, write a **one-page, single spaced, size 12 font, using comic sans font**. Provide a review of the presentation, due by class time October 13. Describe what

you liked most and what you liked least about the presentation. Was it relevant? Was it valuable to you? Up to five points will be added to your next test score depending on the quality of the one-page paper (For Section 004 students, i.e., those attending class from 12:30-1:50: If you are unable to attend due to having a class at 11:00 or due to some other reasons, you may not be able to attend and so will need to obtain extra credit by using either 1 or 2 described above).