

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS  
Department of Sociology.  
SO CI 1510: Introduction to Sociology,  
HONORS CLASS  
Section 004, Env 190 (9:30-10:50)  
Fall, 2014

Dale E. Yeatts, Ph.D.  
Professor  
Chilton Hall, 390 Suite  
Office Hours: T/TR: 4:00-5:30  
and (preferably) by appointment

Phone: 940-565-2238  
E-mail: yeatts@unt.edu  
Fax: 940-369-7035  
Yeatts' Web Page:  
[Http://www.yeatts.us](http://www.yeatts.us)

**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 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. Honors Objectives:**

- A. To develop analytical and evaluative skills through a class social survey
- B. To develop hands-on research skills
- C. To produce a research paper that demonstrates independent thinking

**II. Learning components**

- A. Readings: To help meet the objectives, the following books are required reading:  
REQUIRED: Henslin, James M. (2011 or 2013, ninth or tenth edition). Essentials of Sociology: A Down to Earth Approach. Boston, MA: Pearson.

Henslin, James M. (2011). Life in Society, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition Boston, MA: Pearson. (you can use an earlier edition but you may need to get copies of some of the readings in the most recent edition if the assigned readings are not in an older edition)

- 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 continual 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](http://www.unt.edu/csrr)
- D. 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).

- E. Cell Phones and Emailing: you should know that many professors and instructors find it insulting when a student is constantly texting or otherwise using their phones during class. Consequently, if the time comes that the student could use some "leeway" in her/his grade, and the student has constantly used his/her phone during class, no leeway will be given and points could be removed.
- F. Laptops may not be used in class unless the student sits in the front row. 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.
- G. Grading: final grades will be based on the following:
  - 1. Four (4) tests will be given worth 20% each of your final grade. 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. (go to [www.yeatts.us](http://www.yeatts.us), click on 1510, click on grades).

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).
- 2. Two short papers are required. The first will report on results from the class social survey. This paper is described in detail below. The second paper will analyze several tables that report findings on a topic. A description of how to complete this second paper is also provided below. Each paper is worth 10% of your final grade.

<u>September 25</u> , test 1	20%
<u>October 21</u> , test 2	20%
<u>October 28</u> , Table Analysis Paper (see description below)	10%
<u>November 13</u> , test 3	20%
<u>November 27</u> , Class Survey Paper (see description below)	10%
<u>Test 4</u> , (during exam week, not cumulative)	20%
Section .004 exam time is Tuesday, Dec 9, 10:30-12:30	
Section .003 exam time is Thurs, Dec 11, 8:00-10:00)	

3. Make-up Tests: may be allowed within one week from the original exam day. The test score will be reduced by one letter grade unless there is documentation verifying an illness or other serious situation.
  4. 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.
  5. 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 (ideally keep up weekly).
  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 ([www.yeatts.us](http://www.yeatts.us)). These questions were developed from the test questions. If you can answer the study guide questions you will increase your chances of knowing the answers to the test questions.

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

(all Chapter assignments refer to the Henslin text book (10<sup>th</sup> edition); Henslin Readings refer to the Henslin Life in Society book

##### Week 1 (August 26):

Overview of class, Chapter 1 (10<sup>th</sup> edition, Sociological Perspective)

Youtube—what is sociology?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TFdUtCAXAUM&feature=related>

China Fullbright

##### Weeks 1 and 2 (August 28 and Sept 2):

Chapter 1: Origins of sociology (social theory)

Henslin Readings: 1, 2, 3, 5

Possible movie: Why Sociology (MV9404)

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

Hull House (MV4227)

##### Weeks 2 and 3 (September 4 and 9):

Chapter 1: Social Research Methods

**\*\*Select a research topic, develop questions**

Possible movie: How to Read and Understand a Research Study

(DVD 10566R; 25 minutes)

##### Weeks 3 and 4 (September 11 and 16):

Chapter 2: Culture

**\*\*Pre-test questionnaire for class survey**

Possible movie: Chinese Business Culture (MV 7265)

YouTube examines health care:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVgOI3cETb4>

##### Week 4 and 5 (September 18 and 23):

Chapter 3: Socialization

(see next page)

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 25, Thursday)

Week 6 (September 30 and October 2):

Chapter 4: Social Structure and Social Interaction

Henslin Readings 4, 6 - 8

**\*\*Begin Collecting data for Class survey**

Possible movies: Group Think (MV 2152)

Social Groups (MV 5789, 25 min.)

**October 2<sup>nd</sup>: Attend presentation, see below for details**  
**(described under "opinion paper").**

Week 7 (October 7 and 9):

Chapter 5: Social Groups and Formal Organizations

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

Violence (MV6268, 30 min)

**Discuss how to write the "table analysis" paper**

Week 8 (October 14 and 16):

Chapter 6: Deviance and Social Control

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

Diary of a Terrorist (MV7706, 52 min)

**Test 2 on chapters 4-6, Henslin readings 4, 6-8, and class materials**  
(October 21, Tuesday)

Week 9 and 10 (October 23 and 28):

Chapter 7: Global Stratification

October 28, Table Analysis Paper is due

Henslin Readings 9, 10, 12 (see next page)

Possible movie: Social Stratification (MV6964, 29 min)

Diary of a Terrorist (MV7706, 52 min)

**\*\*Using SPSS, analyze data in-class, results will be available**  
**for student papers**

Week 10 and 11 (October 30 and November 4):

Chapter 8: Social Class in the U.S.

\*\*October 30 each student turns in four completed questionnaires

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

Untouchable (Caste and Class changes in India;

MV7401 v.18, 25 minutes)

Critical Condition

Week 11 and 12 (November 6 and 11):

Chapter 9: Race and Ethnicity

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 13, Thursday)

Weeks 13 (November 18 and 20):

Chapter 10: Gender and Age

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 14 (November 25 and December 2):

Chapter 12: Marriage and Family

Possible movie: Family Violence (MV7341, 29 min)

Family Matters (MV3737)

Behind Closed Doors (MV7341, 29 min)

Possible Speakers: Friends of Family

Week 15 (December 4):

Chapter 15: Social Change and the environment

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 exam time is Tuesday, Dec 9, 10:30-12:30

Section .003 exam time is Thurs, Dec 11, 8:00-10:00)

### **Table Analysis Paper**

All students who take Introduction to Sociology must write a table analysis paper. The paper should be 2 - 5 pages long and provide an analysis of several tables that will be provided to you. You will be provided a three page handout that gives detailed instructions on how to write the paper. Further, October 7<sup>th</sup>, in class, we will spend time talking about how to write the paper.

### **Class Survey Research Paper**

### **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 or "internet" sources 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.

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 the topic using peer reviewed journal articles and citing them in the paper and providing the full citation at the end of the paper, 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. 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. Students will receive one point added to their next test grade. If there are multiple classes that offer an in-class assignment before the next test, and the student does all the in-class assignments, then the student will have multiple points added to her/his next test grade. For example, there may be four classes prior to a test where this opportunity occurs. If you did these in-class assignments, you would have four points added to your test grade. This encourages students to come to class so they can get these extra points. 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 does all assignments will typically accumulate 4 - 5 points to be added to her/his next test grade.

3. Opinion Paper On Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, in the UNT Super Pit/Coliseum beginning at 11:00am a presentation will be given by Dr. Scott Geller from Virginia Tech. He will describe a group he created called *Actively Caring for People*, a movement he and his students started after the Virginia Tech shootings. The presentation may be followed by a free lunch. All students in soci 1510.003

(11:00-12:20) are required to attend. Students in 1510.004 (9:30-10:50) are encouraged to attend if they do not have an 11:00 class or other official business on that day. For extra credit, write a **one-page paper, single spaced, size 12 font, using comic sans font** (you must follow these instructions to get full credit). Provide a review of the presentation, due no later than one week after the presentation. 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 9:30-11:00: If you are unable to attend due to having a class at 11:00 or due to some other reasons, you will need to obtain extra credit by using one of the other options.