INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
SOC 2010

INSTRUCTOR: Mary Barr
EMAIL: mbarr@clemson.edu
OFFICE HOURS: Brackett Hall, Room 130A
Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30-3:30 or by appointment
TEACHING ASSISTANT: Jing (Amy) Liu
SECTION TIMES & LOCATIONS:

004 CT2	9:05-9:55	Brackett 220
005	11:15-12:05	Brackett 220
006	12:20-1:10	Brackett 113
002	1:25-2:15	Brackett 100

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to introduce you to a particular way of seeing and thinking about the world. During the semester, we will examine the ways in which society and social processes shape our lives. To do this we must develop a "sociological imagination" or the ability to understand human lives as they are shaped by historically-conditioned social forces. A sociological imagination requires you to think honestly and critically. You will need to examine your own experiences and observations, and you will need to be receptive to sociological data and analyses that challenge your assumptions. Sociology involves rethinking "common sense."

CLEMSON THINKS 2

This course is part of Clemson University's Clemson Thinks2 seminar series. It is designed to actively engage you in thinking critically about the issues discussed in class. To assess your growth in critical thinking skills you will take the California Achievement Test (CAT) at the beginning and again at the end of the semester. Your score will not be a component of your final grade. Classroom activities and writing assignments will focus on developing your critical thinking skills. Assignments or "artifacts" are designed to ensure that you are using critical thinking skills.

Course Objectives:

- Be able to articulate the basic structure and dynamics of society.
- Be conversant with the basics of the sociological method.
- Develop greater awareness of the influence of society on individual lives (ie. a sociological imagination).
- Improve your critical thinking skills. Understand that there are different viewpoints and not necessarily a "right" answer. Learn to articulate your ideas using a sociological perspective rather than using a religious or moral perspective.

ASSIGNED READINGS

Required texts for the course are available on campus at Barnes & Noble.

The Real World: An Introduction to Sociology, By Kerry Ferris and Jill Stein
3rd Edition, ISBN: 978-0-393-91217-3
If you purchase from another source, make sure to buy the 3rd edition.

Friends Disappear: The Battle for Racial Equality in Evanston, By Mary Barr.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Statement of Academic Integrity

"As members of the Clemson University community, we have inherited Thomas Green Clemson's vision of this institution as a "high seminary of learning." Fundamental to this vision is a mutual commitment to truthfulness, honor, and responsibility, without which we cannot earn the trust and respect of others. Furthermore, we recognize that academic dishonesty detracts from the value of a Clemson degree. Therefore, we shall not tolerate lying, cheating, or stealing in any form."

Students with Disabilities

"Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should make an appointment with Dr. Arlene Stewart (656-6848) Director of Disability Services, to discuss specific needs within the first month of classes. Students should present a Faculty Accommodation Letter from Student Disability Services when they meet with instructors. Accommodations are not retroactive and new Faculty Accommodation Letters must be presented each semester."

Title IX Sexual Harassment Statement

Clemson University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, veteran's status, genetic information or protected activity (e.g., opposition to prohibited discrimination or participation in any complaint process, etc.) in employment, educational programs and activities, admissions and financial aid. This includes a prohibition against sexual harassment and sexual violence as mandated by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

Inclement Weather Statement (fire alarms & power outages)
Any exam that was scheduled at the time of a class cancellation due to inclement weather will be given at the next class meeting unless contacted by the instructor. Any assignments due at the time of a class cancellation due to inclement weather will be due at the next class meeting unless contacted by the instructor.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Attendance and Participation
Your attendance and participation in class are expected, as is the timely completion of ALL assigned readings. We will discuss readings in class as a group and, thus, not having read the material will put you at a significant disadvantage in the classroom. It is also important to *engage* with the reading, particularly by examining the world around you and testing the concepts by applying them to your own life. I will ask you to do this regularly in class so as to make these sociological concepts as relevant to you as possible.

Per Clemson University policy, class attendance is critical to the educational process; therefore, students should attend scheduled courses regularly if they are to attain their academic goals. A student with an excessive number of absences may be withdrawn at the discretion of the course instructor.

At the discretion of the instructor, and according to the first class attendance policy, students who miss the first class of the semester may be dropped from the course.

Policy Regarding Absence
When absent, sick or otherwise not able to attend, it is your responsibility to find out what happened in class. While I always be happy to talk to you about class, course content, assignments or related themes, providing an individualized recap (particularly via email) for each class you missed is not going to happen. I will not be handing out lecture notes, power points or posting them online. It is your responsibility to get notes from a classmate (I encourage you to get email from several people in class) and watch any videos from while you were gone).

Exams
Three will be three exams and each will consist of multiple choice, true-false, and matching items. Questions may be drawn from the readings, lectures, class discussions, and films. Everything we cover in class is fair game.

There will be no review sessions. Attending class, taking responsibility for understanding the material, taking copious notes, and studying them thoroughly will be important for earning a high score on the exams.

There will be no early or late exams. Travel plans are not grounds for rescheduling the exam. Please check on any such conflicts immediately and drop the class if necessary.
NO MAKE-UP EXAMS
**** The 3 exams worth 70% (25%, 25% & 20% each).**

Assignments (2 will be designated as CT2 Artifacts)
Five assignments designed to help you better understand sociological concepts, reflect on your life as it has been shaped by society, and encourage critical thinking.
NO MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS
****Assignments will constitute 25% of your grade.**

Group Presentations
Choose one character in the book *Friends Disappear* and apply the idea of the sociological imagination to him/her, work in groups of 5/10. Produce a 15-minute presentation using powerpoint that explains how social forces affected or over-determined this person's life chances and opportunities.
****Presentations will constitute 5% of your grade.**

Extra Credit
Throughout the semester there will be *some* opportunities to receive extra credit. For example, I like to encourage attendance at campus events!

General Education Competencies: Your final presentation will used to demonstrate that you have mastered the university's general education Social Sciences competency. The assignment, if executed well should provide evidence that you have fulfilled this competency, which states that students will "demonstrate an understanding of social science methodologies in order to explain the consequences of human actions"

Grading Inquires: All grade disputes will be handled during my office hours or at another mutually agreeable time. Under no circumstance will grades be discussed immediately before, during, or after class. Any grade disputes must be submitted in writing within one week of the return of an assignment.

Grading Scale:
(90-100%) A
(80-89%) B
(70-79%) C
(60-69%) D
Below 60% F

Office Hours: While I have a limited number of set office hours per week, I encourage you to make an appointment outside of office hours. Office visits are a great time to check in about the class and ask questions. I am happy to discuss class, college more generally, the sociology major, or graduate school.

Feedback: I value your input on my teaching and how the class is going and I might even be willing to make changes to the class according to your preferences. Please share with me any comments, suggestions, and ideas you may have.

Laptops/Cell Phones: Laptops are not allowed in class. Cell phones must be turned off and put away before class begins. If I see you on your cell phone I will give you a warning. If you are on your cell phone again at any time during the semester, I will ask you to leave class.

Food/Drink: You may bring a drink, but no food is allowed in the classroom.

Flexibility: This syllabus only provides an approximate schedule for the course. I will discuss changes to the syllabus in class. It is your responsibility to keep up-to-date on class events and requirements.

COURSE CALENDER

Week One
READ: Real World, Chapter 1
1/7 Course Introduction
1/9 **Sections 02, 05, & 06 NO CLASS**
Section 04, CT2 CALIFORNIA ACHIEVEMENT PRE-TEST
PLEASE BRING COMPUTERS TO CLASS!

Week Two
READ: Real World, Chapter 1
1/12 What is Sociology?
Assignment #1 DUE IN CLASS. C. Wright Mills identifies the central task of sociology to be grasping the relationship between history and biography. To do this, identify one phenomenon that occurred sometime in your childhood or early adulthood that you think has shaped your biography and who you are: a historical event, a cultural trend, a feature of the economy, a political event or issue, or a social issue. 1 typed page, reflect on how this has shaped you personally. Be prepared to share.
1/14 Founding Fathers
1/16 **NO CLASS**

Week Three
READ: Real World, Chapter 2
1/19 **NO CLASS**, MLK DAY
1/20 **EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY**, 5:45 pm TILMAN HALL,
DR. JOHNSON, PRESIDENT OF TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY
1/21 WEB DuBois: The First American Sociologist
1/23 Methods & Ethics

1/24 **EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY**, bus departs @ 8:00 am
GORDON PARKS EXHIBIT, HIGH MUSEUM, ATLANTA **CT2 artifact**

Week Four
READ: Friends Disappear, Introduction & Chapter 1
1/26 Argument, Methods, & Historical Context
1/28 **EXAM 1**
1/30 *The Danger of a Single Story*, GROUP MEETINGS

Week Five
READ: Real World Chapter 3 & Chapter 4 (pages 106-112)
2/2 What is Culture?
2/4 *North vs. South* **Instagram Assignment #2 Due in Class**
2/6 Socialization

Week Six
READ: Real World Chapter 5
2/9 Screening, *The Wild Child*
2/11 Theories of Deviance
2/13 **Watch John Oliver. Assignment #3 Due in Class (CT2 Artifact)**
Crime & Punishment

Week Seven
READ: Friends Disappear Chapter 2
2/16 School Desegregation & Social Change
2/18 Screening: *The Eye of the Storm*
2/20 The White Curriculum

Week Eight
READ: Real World Chapter 6
2/23 Social Class
2/25 Privilege Demonstration & Invisible Backpack
2/27 Screening: Zip Code Movie or Episode 3 *Race the Power of an Illusion*

Week Nine
READ: Friends Disappear Chapters 4 & 5
3/2 Neighborhoods & Fair Housing
3/4 **Exam 2**
3/6 The Social Construction of Race

Week Ten
READ: The Real World Chapter 7
3/9 Racism
3/11 Post-Race?
3/15 **YIK YAK ASSIGNMENT #4 Due in Class**

Week Eleven
3/16-3/20 SPRING BREAK

Week Twelve
READ: Real World Chapter 10 (pages 301-311) &
Friends Disappear Chapter 6
3/23 Educational Inequalities
3/25 Screen *Corridor of Shame*
3/27 Academic Tracking

Week Thirteen
READ: Friends Disappear, Chapter 7
3/30 Equal Opportunity & Work
4/1 Screen *Paycheck to Paycheck: The Life and Times of Katrina Gilbert*
4/3 The Share Economy

Week Fourteen
READ: The Real World Chapter 8
4/6 Gender Inequalities
4/8 Human Sexuality is Complicated
4/10 **Domestic Violence Assignment #5 DUE IN CLASS**
Watch the Sociology of Gossip

Week Fifteen
READ: Friends Disappear Conclusion
4/13 Group Presentations
4/15 Group Presentations
4/17 Group Presentations

Week Sixteen
4/20 Group Presentations
4/22 Group Presentations
4/24 **Sections 02, 05, & 06 NO CLASS**
Section 04 CT2, CALIFORNIA ACHIEVEMENT TEST,
PLEASE BRING COMPUTERS!

Finals Week
EXAM 3 TBA