

FONTBONNE UNIVERSITY
Dept. of Behavioral Sciences: SOCIOLOGY 215.01
Introduction to Applied Sociology
Monday/Wednesday 1:00-2:15, Spring 2012, AB 110

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Office hours: Mondays 2:30-3:30, Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-2:30, or by appointment

REQUIRED TEXTS: Steele, F. Stephen & Price, Jammie. 2008. Applied Sociology: Terms, Topics, Tools, and Tasks. Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth Publishing. 2nd Edition. ISBN-13: 978-0-495-00687-9

Lambert, Stephan. 2008. Great Jobs for Sociology Majors. McGraw Hill Companies. 3rd Edition. ISBN-13: 978-0-07-154482-5 (found on Amazon, or other competing companies).

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide an overview of applied sociology. Drawing primarily on class discussions, students will learn how to apply sociological concepts, theories, and research methods to solve real-life questions and problems. The contexts in which these questions and problems will occur include, but are not limited to, inequality, education, business, religion, government, social service agencies, health care, aging and assisted living, criminal justice, and civic groups. We will pay particular attention to issues of social change, but will also cover more specific client-based questions and problems.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand the purpose and use of applied sociology in daily and personal life.
2. Engage students in the field and substance of applied sociology.
3. Train students to apply sociological theories and methods to examine real social life issues.
4. Strengthen students' understanding of how theories, concepts, and sociological research are central to social problem-solving, policymaking, and the skills required in a variety of occupational settings.
5. Help to prepare students for the job market as future applied sociologists.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

The primary method in this sociology course is lecture/discussion, based on the text and supplemental readings. We will also engage in small group discussions and small group problem solving. Please read all materials **before class**, which will enhance your learning process. In addition, you will participate in several in-class individual and group exercises, as well as some out-of-class individual exercises. These exercises are designed to reinforce the assigned readings and discussions. During the exercises, you will learn to apply sociological thought to social issues.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING EVALUATIONS:

The following items relate to the final grade in this course:

Final Grade: There will be a total of 580 points for this class. Your grade will be calculated from the following requirements; ten weekly tasks assignments, five in-class or outside of class activities, five professional development assignments, and one research proposal.

1. Weekly Tasks Assignments	10 @ 20 pts each = 200 pts
2. In-class Activities	5 @ 5pts each = 25pts
3. Professional Development Portfolio	5 @ 20 pts= 100 pts
4. Healing Action Research Proposal	1@ 125pts = 125pts
5. Attendance	<u>5pts daily = 130pts</u>
	Total = 580pts

Final course grades will be based on the following:

A	580– 522 points ($\geq 90\%$ of the 580 possible points)
B	464 – 521 points ($\geq 80\%$ of the 580 possible points)
C	406 – 463 points ($\geq 70\%$ of the 580 possible points)
D	348– 405 points ($\geq 60\%$ of the 580 possible points)

Final Grade Components:

Weekly Tasks Assignments: As you might have noticed, there are no exams for this course. I would argue however this does not necessarily make the course any more difficult, or easy, just different. Instead, each week you will be assigned a “task.” Most of these will come from the “tasks” section at the end of each chapter. These will be assigned on Thursdays and will be **typed, submitted, and discussed** the following Tuesday, thus you will have five days (or more if we decide as a class) to complete the tasks. There will be a total of 10 tasks over the course of the semester, and each task is worth 20pts. I strongly recommend taking these assignments very seriously for overall they account for almost 40% of your final grade. If you are unable to attend class the Tuesday the tasks are due, please submit the assignment via email **BEFORE** 2:00pm on the scheduled due date.

Outside/In-class activities: In addition to weekly tasks assignments, you will also be assigned outside activities or we will be engaging as a group on in-class activities. These might range from conducting interviews, creating questionnaires, reflection assignments from potential guest speakers, observation reflections, and various other activities. There are currently no assigned dates for these activities, for we will do them as we go and can decide as a class on appropriate due dates. There are also currently no points assigned. This we will agree on as a class.

Professional Development Portfolio: One of the objectives for this course is to prepare students for the job market as applied sociologists. Therefore, over the course of the semester we will be discussing professional development and you will be assigned various assignments such as collecting job ads, creating a cover letter, and developing a resume. You will also complete a sociology workbook that will best prepare you for the job market. Many of these assignments will go through a number of revisions, however you will submit them all polished and completed in a portfolio at the end of the semester. The total points for the professional development portfolio project is 100pts.

Research Proposal: The largest endeavor for this course is to complete a research proposal. This should be no longer than 5-7 pages in length and will include the following sections, statement of the problem (introduction), very brief literature review, and methods or project goals/plan section, and a solutions section. A much more detailed handout on this assignment will be provided within the first couple of weeks of class, and portions of this proposal will each have their own due dates. This assignment is worth a total of 125 points (so it is a very, very important assignment). Fifty of these 100 points will be from your final presentation of your proposal to your peers at the end of the semester. This is a **SEMESTER LONG** project that you will work on both individually and as a class.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance will be taken in this course; however there will be no rewards or penalties for attending or not attending class. As a student you are expected to attend every class meeting and if you are unable to attend class you will be responsible for any missed announcements or material.

FONTBONNE EMAIL REQUIREMENT:

There will be numerous times throughout the semester that I will be corresponding with you via email or blackboard (though I am new and just learning this). I am requesting and requiring all students to access and **USE** their Fontbonne email accounts. This is the safest, easiest, and most convenient way for us to communicate. Part of the first exercise will be to communicate with me via Fontbonne email to assure that you have accessed this account.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY/HONESTY:

According to its mission, Fontbonne University is committed to graduating students who are prepared to think critically, to act ethically, and to assume responsibility as citizens and leaders. Fontbonne University expects the highest standards of integrity from its students. Violations of academic integrity have a broad impact on the University and will result in University review and action.

A violation of academic integrity includes, but is not limited to, any act of cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, and dissimulation and any act of aiding and abetting academic dishonesty.

In this course, any student engaging in academic misconduct will receive a zero on the assignment in question. This includes copying other's work, not citing sources, and/or copying information from the internet. In some extreme cases or in cases of multiple violations, academic misbehavior will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures, which may include failing the course or being suspended or expelled from the University.

The Fontbonne University statement on academic integrity may be in the catalog and in Policy Manual VI, Section 6.1.10. Additional information regarding the appeals process in academic affairs may be found in Policy Manual Volume VI, Section 6.1.10.1.

CLASSROOM RESPECT:

Because many of the topics covered in sociology tend to be controversial in nature, a comfortable atmosphere is **VERY** important. Therefore, I ask and advise you that **RESPECT** to everyone is expected. There will be many sensitive issues raised and many different opinions given that all deserve attention. We should honor, celebrate, respect, and learn from diversity in the classroom and on this campus. In addition, to respecting your fellow classmates' opinions, I ask that all students exercise a level of **lecture etiquette**. This means not talking to fellow classmates during lecture/discussion and making sure all cell phones are turned off during lecture/discussion.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: SPRING 2012

Week 1:

January 18th

- Introduction to Course-Meet and Greet
- Syllabus

Week 2:

Jan 23rd

- Discuss reading “A Brief Introduction on Applied Sociology” by Dr. Zuleyka Zevallos (link sent via email)

Jan 25th

- Street, David. “Problems and Prospects of Applied Sociology” The American Sociologist 10,(2), 65-72 (on Blackboard)
- Assign Task #1

Week 3:

Jan 30th

- Chapter 1: How Can I Use Sociology?
- Discuss Task #1
- Prepare for Healing Action Meeting

Feb 1st

- Chapter 2: Model, Measure, and Make Sense
- Assign Task #2
- In-class Activity #2
- Prepare for Healing Action Meeting

Week 4:

Feb 6th

- **Katie Rhodes-Healing Action Network**

Feb 8th

- Chapter 3: Culture and Social Structure
- Discuss Proposal Assignment-Assign due dates
- Assign Task #2

Week 5:

Feb 13th

- Discuss Task #2
- Assign Task #3
- Academic Standards In-Class

Feb 15th

- Chapter 4: Groups and Organization
- Assign Task #4

Week 6:

Feb 20th

- Discuss Task 3
- Chapter 5: Deviance
- In-class activity: Crime Rates
- **INTRODUCTION DUE**

Feb 22nd

- Discuss Task #4: Create Rubric
- Chapter 6: Diversity and Inequality
- Assign Task #5

Week 7:

Feb 27th

- Chapter 7: Work and Occupations
- Discuss Task #5
- Take Mid-term quiz and complete mid-semester learning assessment (what is currently contributing, what is hindering, what would help to improve my learning).
- Assign Task #6

Feb 29th

- Chapter 8: Marriage and Family
- In-Class Activity: Co-habitation
- Assign Task #7

Week 8:

March 5th

- Discuss Task #6
- Assign Task #10: Begin preparation for Applied Meeting

March 7th

- Discuss Task #7
- Chapter 11: Health
- Assign Task #8

Week 9:

March 12th

- Discuss Task #8
- Chapter 12: Power and Politics
- Assign Task #9
- Assign Job Ads
- **LITERATURE REVIEW DUE**

March 14th

- One-one proposal Day

Week 10: March 19-23 NO CLASSES-SPRING BREAK

Week 11:

March 26th

- Discuss Task # 9
- Chapter 15: Building a Career with Sociology
- Discuss Job Ads
- Workbook Assignment: Skill Base

March 28th

- **Applied Sociology Meeting: Task #10**

Week 12:

April 2nd

- CETL/Healing Action Workday
- Applied Meeting Workday
- **METHODS DUE**

April 4th-NO CLASS-PROFESSOR AT CONFERENCE

Week 13:

April 9th

- Discuss Workbook Assignment
- Discuss Lambert Chap 2
- Assign Resume and cover letter

April 11th

- Submit and peer review resumes and cover letters
- Assign Workbook Networking Section and Informal Interviewing Section

Week 14:

April 16th

- Discuss Networking
- Proposal Updates
- CETL/Healing Network Workday

April 18th

- In-Class Activity: Sociology Majors Patterns (material for activity on Blackboard)
- **SOLUTION DUE**

Week 15:

April 23rd

- Discuss informal interviews

April 25th

- In-class activity: Create exit survey

Week 16:

April 30th

- Proposal Day

May 2nd

- Begin Presentations of Proposals.

- Take exit survey

Final Exam Time = Thursday May10th 12:00-1:50-Finish Presentations

Task #'s, Page #'s, Due Dates: SOC 215

Task #1:

Fishbone Diagram
Page 7 Steps 1-6a
DUE Jan 30th

Task #2:

Pg. 23, number 2
DUE Feb 6th

Task #3:

Pg. 32, number 2
DUE Feb 20th

Task #4:

Pg. 36 Basic Tools: Creating Groups Steps 1-5
DUE Feb 22nd

Task #5:

Pg. 54, number 3
DUE Feb 27th

Task #6:

Pg. 62, number 2
DUE March 5th

Task #7:

Page 68, number 1.
DUE March 7th

Task #8:

Pg. 92, number 1
DUE March 12th

Task #9:

Pg. 98, number 1 (your organization is Fontbonne University)
DUE March 26th

Task #10: Applied Sociology Meeting

Date to be determined