

**University of North Texas at Dallas**  
**Fall 2013**  
**SYLLABUS**

<b>Course Abbreviation/Number/Title/Semester Hrs</b>			
<b>SOCI 3200D 090: Sociological Theory                      3Hrs</b>			
<b>Department of</b>	<b>Liberal and Fine Arts</b>	<b>Division of</b>	<b>Sociology and Psychology</b>
<b>Instructor Name:</b>	<i>Dr. Aaron Bartula</i>		
<b>Office Location:</b>	<i>DAL 2 #320</i>		
<b>Office Phone:</b>	<i>972-780-3629</i>		
<b>Email Address:</b>	<i>Aaron.Bartula@unt.edu</i>		
<b>Office Hours:</b>	<b>MT 1-5pm; W 10am-1pm / 4pm-6pm; TH 10am-12:30pm or by appointment</b>		
<b>Virtual Office Hours:</b>	<i>Anytime via email, usually will respond within 24 hours</i>		
<b>Classroom Location:</b>	<i>DAL 1 #348</i>		
<b>Class Meeting Days &amp; Times:</b>	<b>W 1pm – 3:50pm</b>		
<b>Course Catalog Description:</b>	An introductory course into the classical principles and theories of Sociology. Specifically, the course explores those sociological theories that form the foundation for modern sociological policies and research. Emphasis is placed on framework, research, application, and policy.		
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	<b>SOCI 1510 Introduction to Sociology</b>		
<b>Co-requisites:</b>	<b>None</b>		
<b>Required Text:</b>	<b>Dillon, Michelle. (2010). Introduction to Sociological Theory: Theorists, Concepts, and their Applicability to the Twenty-First Century. West Sussex: Wiley-Blackwell.</b>		
<b>Recommended Text and References:</b>	<b>APA Handbook, additional readings will be given each week.</b>		
<b>Access to Learning Resources:</b>	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: <a href="http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm">http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm</a> UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: <a href="mailto:1012mgr@fhqg.follett.com">1012mgr@fhqg.follett.com</a>		
<b>Course Goals or Overview:</b>			
	The goal of this course is to introduce and define major sociological principles and theories. Also, critically analyze the strengths and weaknesses of each theory, and their respective impacts on policies and practices.		
<b>Learning Objectives/Outcomes:</b> At the end of this course, the student will			
1	Be able to delineate sociological theories from one another.		
2	Define major sociological principles and theoretical frameworks.		
3	Identify strengths and weaknesses of all major theories.		
4	Identify the impact of sociological theory through the examination and application of policies and programs.		
5	Identify which theories have been most often empirically tested and those that lack testing.		
6	Demonstrate the ability to critical analyze the major crime theories.		
7	Introduce APA writing style and enhance student's overall writing capability.		

## Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by the instructor either in class or via email.

TOPICS	TIMELINE
Introduction; Syllabus Overview	8/28/2013
Karl Marx	9/4/2013
Emile Durkheim	9/11/2013
Max Weber	9/18/2013
Structural Functionalism; ETS	9/25/2013
The Frankfurt School	10/2/2013
<b>Exam 1</b>	10/9/2013
Conflict, Power, and Dependency	10/16/2013
Exchange and Rational Choice	10/23/2013
Symbolic Interactionism	10/30/2013
Phenomenology and Ethnomethodology	11/6/2013
Feminist Theory	11/13/2013
<b>Library Tour</b>	11/20/2013
<i>NO CLASS!! Thanksgiving</i>	11/27/2013
Race and Racism; <b>Writing Assignment is Due</b>	12/4/2013
<b>Exam 2; Journal is Due</b>	12/11/2013

## Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

**Article Summaries** – weekly written summarizations of articles that supplement the week’s material.

**Exams** – *written tests designed to measure knowledge and application of presented course material.*

**Writing Assignment** – *written essay designed to reinforce course material and test the student’s ability to critically analyze said material.*

**Journal** – *a journal for students to maintain that will serve as a constant summary of the course material.*

**Class Discussions** – *daily attendance and participation in class discussions.*

### Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points)	Total
Writing Assignment	100 points	100
Journal	120 points	120
Exams	2 exams at 100 points each	200
Article Summaries	11 articles at 10 points each	110
Class Discussions	11 discussions at 10 points each	110
<b>Total:</b>		<b>640</b>

### Grade Determination:

A = 640 – 576 pts; i.e. 90% or better

B = 575 – 512 pts; i.e. 80 – 89 %

C = 511 – 448 pts; i.e. 70 – 79 %

D = 447 – 384 pts; i.e. 60 – 69 %

F = 383 pts or below; i.e. less than 60%

**No discussion about grades/points will be done through the internet or with anyone other than the student (FERPA law). Please make an appointment and I will happily discuss them or other concerns.**

## University Policies and Procedures

### Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

### Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

### Assignment Policy:

**Journal** - Students are required to keep and maintain a journal that includes a brief summary form (form will be passed out on first day of class) of each theory, a scholarly article that tests the week's theory (each of these articles will be disseminated by me) and a corresponding news article for each theory (student must find and provide).

**Article Summary** - Students will also be required to write a 2-3 page article summary each week. The articles will be given to the class by the instructor the week prior to discussion. Each article must be read and summarized prior to the scheduled week's class. The article summary will be turned in during class and serve as material for class discussions. Articles should be double spaced, 1 inch margins, and 12 point Times New Roman font. **There are 11 article summaries, however, it should be noted that the number of article summaries due will be dependent on the flow of the class during the semester.** The summaries should identify the author(s) key points and findings and provide critical consideration of how the work compares to the rest of the scheduled readings (agreements, contradictions, etc.). Additionally, it is required at the end of each summary that the articles proper citation be listed in APA format (see APA handbook for help). Finally, each student will provide one class discussion question about the article following the APA citation.

**Exams** - Two exams will be given over the course of the semester. Each exam will consist of a combination of multiple choice questions, short answers, and essays.

**Writing Assignment** - There is a writing assignment required in this course. The assignment requires the student to identify one of the theories/frameworks discussed during the semester and write a minimum 5 page paper (see specifics below). As part of the paper, each student is required to locate a peer-reviewed journal article on the chosen topic. The assignment must be TYPED with **12 point Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins, and Double Spaced.** The paper must include the following information:

- 1) A copy of the article
- 2) Your name
- 3) Proper APA citation!!! (If you do not know APA come and talk to me during office hours)
- 4) Summarize the theory/framework
- 5) Identify the strengths and weaknesses of the theory/framework
- 6) In a section discussing application of the theory/framework:
  - \*Summarize the peer-reviewed article
  - \*Discuss how it ties into the chosen theory/framework

**Class Discussions** - In class discussions will make up part of the final grade. In order to receive the full credit, each student is required to come to class PREPARED (having read the required assignments- text and article) and ACTIVELY participate in the discussion using the assigned reading material. If the student is prepared and participates in the discussion they will receive full credit, if they are not prepared and participate they will receive partial credit, and if they are absent or do not participate they will receive no credit.

All class announcements will be given during class lecture, posted on Blackboard, and/or sent via email. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard and your e-mail early and often. Ignorance to any posted announcement will not be an excuse.

#### **Exam Policy:**

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). It is your responsibility to contact me during the first two weeks of class if there's anything about which I should know concerning special accommodation for any of the assignments. I will try to work out a suitable arrangement, but I must know about it during the first two weeks of class. It is also your responsibility to bring me the required documentation(s) or have the responsible parties contact me in a timely manner for any kind of special accommodation for any of the assignments.

#### **Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at [http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic\\_Integrity.pdf](http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf) for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:

**On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.**

#### **Bad Weather Policy:**

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website [www.unt.edu/dallas](http://www.unt.edu/dallas). Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

#### **Attendance and Participation Policy:**

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. Further, in order to receive credit for class discussion the student must be present in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

#### **Diversity/Tolerance Policy:**

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses, will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate. This course is designed to be a safe open forum so that we may critically analyze and discuss sociological theories. Thus, please adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Code of Student Conduct

#### **Optional Policies:**

- Use of WebCT/Blackboard: All material will be primarily distributed in class. However, the use of the Blackboard site associated with this course may be utilized if necessary.

- *Use of Cell Phones, Laptops, & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom:* Please turn all cell phones off/on silent before each class starts. If you need to take an emergency call please excuse yourself from the classroom. Students may use laptops to take notes during class. If students begin to exploit the use of computers I will not allow them. **If a student wants to use a recording device you must get my approval prior to use.**
- *Food & Drink in the Classroom:* Food and drinks are allowed during class, but if they become disruptive to the lecture/discussions, they will be disallowed.
- *Grade of Incomplete, "I":* Though not encouraged, incomplete grades will be granted on a case by case basis. Each student seeking such grade must come speak to me as soon as it is being considered.