

**University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2016**

SYLLABUS for Distance Learning

SOCI 3200: Sociological Theory 3Hrs

Department of		Sociology & Psychology	School of		Liberal Arts & Life Sciences
Instructor Name:		Dr. Steven L. Arxer			
Office Location:		Founder's Hall, Room 321			
Office Phone:		972-338-1592			
Email Address:		Steven.Arxer@untdallas.edu			
Office Hours:	Preferred method of communication: Email Response time back to email is 48 hours. Virtual Office Hours: Tuesdays/Thursdays 8-10am. Face-to-Face Office hours: Wednesdays 8am-12pm and by appointment. <i>Not available on Saturday and Sundays, and weekdays after 10 PM.</i>				
Classroom Location:	Online				
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Online				
Course Catalog Description:	Survey of development of sociological theory; emphasizes nature and types of contemporary theory.				
Prerequisites:	SOCI 1510 or equivalent				
Required Text:	<p>Title: Introduction to Sociological Theory (2010), 1st edition Author: Michele Dillon</p> <p>*2nd edition will also suffice</p> <p>*TB: Textbook Chapters *BB: Blackboard readings</p>				
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-1616 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/library email: library@untdallas.edu UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com				
Course Goals or Overview: The goals of this course are as follows -					
	The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the range classical and contemporary sociological theories and perspectives. Key to this course will be examining the epistemological and ontological assumptions underpinning sociological theories. This goal will be accomplished by emphasizing how sociological theories view the nature of individual, social order, and their interrelationship.				
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to:					
1	Identify assumptions underlying theoretical arguments				
2	Identify limitations of theoretical arguments				
3	Understand alternative viewpoints on social scientific issues				
4	Describe how theory contributes to sociological knowledge				

5	Compare and contrast major theoretical orientations
6	Explain how theories reflect and affect the historical context in which they are developed
7	Explain basic concepts such as culture, roles, norms, social structure, social institution, socialization, and stratification

Online Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Blackboard announcement. Additional readings and activities may be added, these will be noted in the Readings and Activities/Assignments sections.

Topics/Readings/Links	Activities	Due Dates	SLO
Week 1-August 22-28: Introduction to Sociological Theory			
BB: “The Sociological Imagination” by C. W. Mills Links: Defining Sociology and the Sociological Imagination https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2OyXx9vjk What is Sociology? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBLBlm5ruMw TED Talk: The Wisdom of Sociology https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWD6g9CV_sc	1. Bio Introduction 2. Discussion Board 1	1. 8/25 by 11:59pm 2. Original Post 8/25 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 8/28 by 11:59 PM	1, 2
Week 2-August 29-September 4: Understanding Concepts and Historical Background to Sociological Theory			
TB: Michele Dillon, “Introduction” Links: The Importance of Auguste Comte https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CbHw-1eUrv4 Comte’s Law of 3 Stages https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uEtm7u9mRtY	1. Discussion Board 2	1. Original Post 8/31 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 9/4 by 11:59 PM	1, 3, 4, 6
Week 3-September 5-11: Classical Foundations— Conflict Theory, Inequality			
TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 1 : Karl Marx” Links: 8-Bit Philosophy: Karl Marx	1 Discussion Board 3	1. Original Post 9/7 by 11:59 PM and Reply	1, 2, 5, 6, 7

http://youtu.be/Vz3eOb6Y1Is Wealth Inequality in America http://youtu.be/QPKKQnijnsM	2. Review the Writing Assignment Guidelines	Post 9/11 by 11:59 PM	
Week 4-September 12-18: Classical Foundations— Functionalism, Social Facts and Solidarity			
TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 2: Emile Durkheim” BB: “The Elementary Forms of Sports Fandom” Links: Social Facts and Solidarity https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGargZd9KkQ Elementary Forms of Religious Life https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2FeCGh0ek	1. Discussion Board 4 2. Writing Assignment #1	1. Original Post 9/14 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 9/18 by 11:59 PM 2. 9/18 by 11:59 PM	1, 2, 5, 6, 7
EXAM 1: Opens September 19 (12 am)/ Closes September 19 (11:59 pm)			
Week 5-September 19-25: Classical Foundations— Rationality, Bureaucracy, and Religion			
TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 3: Max Weber” BB: “The McDonalidization of Society” Links: Rationalism and Bureaucracy https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TypEb0tbFho https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dP2Sa9raZdY&list=PLdqh3iVhzW1QIrvtG12OS_0h7u8tHpOKh&index=7 Bureaucracy and Film: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fy3rjQGc6lA Protestantism and the Spirit of Capitalism: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CpGupes7NvI&list=PLdqh3iVhzW1QIrvtG12OS_0h7u8tHpOKh&index=8	1. Discussion Board 5 2. Writing Assignment #2	1. Original Post 9/21 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 9/25 by 11:59 PM 2. 9/25 by 11:59PM	1, 2, 5, 6, 7
Week 6-September 26-October 2: Expanding Foundation—			

Critical Theories			
<p>TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 5: Critical Theory, Technology, Culture and Politics”</p> <p>Links: Theodore Adorno and Consumer Culture https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YGnPgtWhsw</p> <p>Consumerism and Politics Today: No Logo film https://vod.library.unt.edu/cat_vodentry.php?film=545</p>	<p>1. Discussion Board 6</p>	<p>1. Original Post 9/28 by 11:59 PM and reply Post 10/2 by 11:59 PM</p>	<p>1, 2, 5, 6, 7</p>
Week 7- October 3-9: Expanding Foundation— Power and Dependency			
<p>TB: Michele Dillon, Chapter 6 Conflict, Power and Dependency in Macro-Societal Processes BB: “The Power Elite”</p> <p>Links: C. W. Mills—The Power Elite https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Urxrv1fNKw</p> <p>Interlocking Directorates https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ogf8OlgoW64</p> <p>http://www2.ucsc.edu/whorulesamerica/power/class_domination.html</p> <p>Income Inequality--PBS http://www.pbs.org/now/shows/332/video.html</p>	<p>1. Discussion Board 7</p> <p>2. Writing Assignment #3</p>	<p>1. Original Post 10/5 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 10/9 by 11:59 PM</p> <p>2. 10/9 by 11:59 PM</p>	<p>1, 2, 5, 6, 7</p>
Week 8- October 10-16: Structural Functionalism			
<p>TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 4 Talcott Parsons and Robert Merton: Functionalism and Modernization”</p> <p>BB: “Some Principles of Stratification: A Critical Analysis”</p> <p>Links: Structural Functionalism and Talcott Parsons https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HhPH3piqLVQ</p> <p>Robert Merton’s Strain Theory https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3yQyA-hfys</p>	<p>1. Discussion Board 8</p>	<p>1. Original Post 10/12 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 10/16 by 11:59 PM</p>	<p>1, 2, 5, 6, 7</p>

EXAM 2: Opens October 17 (12 am)/ Closes October 17 (11:59 pm)			
Week 9- October 17-23: Symbolic Interactionism— Mind, Self and Society			
<p>TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 8: Symbolic Interactionism” BB: “Barbie Dolls and Sea Monsters”</p> <p>Links: What is Symbolic Interactionism? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFQIIM8IRZU</p> <p>Erving Goffman and Social Scripts https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Qe5TIDU</p> <p>Erving Goffman and Stigma: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jz7yo7L3Z0</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion Board 9 2. Writing Assignment # 4 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Original Post 10/19 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 10/23 by 11:59 PM 2. 10/23 by 11:59 PM 	<p>1, 2, 5, 6, 7</p>
Week 10-October 24-30: The Social Construction of Reality			
<p>TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 9: Phenomenology and Ethnomethodology”</p> <p>Links: History and Key Concepts of Phenomenology https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PjknxljepKA</p> <p>What is the Social Construction of Reality? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gVCkJ7jLnz0</p> <p>Race as a Social Construct?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion Board 10 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Original Post 10/26 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 10/30 by 11:59 PM 	<p>1, 2, 5, 6, 7</p>

http://www.msnbc.com/nerding-out/watch/rachel-dolezal-and-race-as-a-social-construct-466170947925			
Week 11-October 31-November 6: Contemporary Theories of Power and Oppression— Feminist Theories			
<p>TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 10: Feminist Theories” BB: “Hybrid Hegemonic Power”</p> <p>Links: Gender Performativity, Judith Bulter http://youtu.be/Bo7o2LYATDc</p> <p>Emotion Work and Emotion Labor https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOj-0fm79AA</p> <p>Gender Inequality—TED Talks https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7n9IOH0NvyY</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion Board 11 2. Writing Assignment #5 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Original Post 11/2 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 11/6 by 11:59 PM 2. 11/6 by 11:59 PM 	<p>1, 2, 5, 6, 7</p>
EXAM 3: Opens November 7 (12 am)/ Closes November 7 (11:59 pm)			
Week 12-November 7-13: Contemporary Theories: The Body and Control			
<p>TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 11 Michel Foucault: Theorizing Sexuality, the Body and Power”</p> <p>Links: Discipline and Punish—Michel Foucault https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ci61KBsZVbI</p> <p>State of Surveillance https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6VkKeM-OK6g</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion Board 12 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Original Post 11/9 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 11/13 by 11:59 PM 	<p>1, 2, 5, 6, 7</p>
Week 13-November 14-20: Contemporary Theories of Power and Oppression— Theories of Race and Racism			
<p>TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 12: Race, Racism and the Construction of Racial Otherness” BB: “How Jews Became White Folk”</p> <p>Links: Race as a Myth?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion Board 13 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Original Post 11/16 by 11:59 PM and 	<p>1, 2, 5, 6, 7</p>

<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnfKgffCZ7U</p> <p>Race and Inequality https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4WliConeatM</p> <p>Bonilla-Silva (2010) Racisms without Racists http://www.cnn.com/2014/11/26/us/ferguson-racism-or-racial-bias/</p>	<p>2. Writing Assignment #6</p>	<p>Reply Post 11/20 by 11:59 PM</p> <p>2. 11/20 by 11:59 PM</p>	
Week 14-November 21-23 Contemporary Grand Theories			
<p>TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 13 The Social Reproduction of Inequality: Pierre Bourdieu’s Theory of Class and Culture”</p> <p>Links: Cultural Capital https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DBEYiBkqp8</p> <p>Social Capital and Success https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nqwTR19cdn4</p>	<p>1. Discussion Board 14</p>	<p>1. Original Post 11/23 by 11:59 PM and Reply Post 11/28 by 11:59PM</p>	<p>1, 2, 5, 6, 7</p>
Week 15-November 28-December 4 Globalization			
<p>TB: Michele Dillon, “Chapter 14 Economic and Political Globalization” BB: “The Globalization of Crime”</p> <p>Links: Globalization and Sports http://thesocietypages.org/sociologylens/2014/02/21/the-spectacle-and-politics-of-globalized-sports/</p> <p>Durkheim and Merton on Globalization http://thesocietypages.org/sociologylens/2012/11/20/neoliberalism-anomie-and-interpersonal-violence-normlessness-leads-to-criminality/</p>	<p>1. Discussion Board 15</p> <p>2. Writing Assignment #7</p>	<p>1. Original Post 11/30 by 11:59PM and Reply Post 12/4 by 11:59 PM</p> <p>2. 12/4 by 11:59 PM</p>	<p>1, 2, 5, 6, 7</p>
Week 16-December 5-9 Exam 4 Preparation			
EXAM 4: Opens December 9 (12 am)/ Closes December 9 (11:59 pm)			

Course Evaluation Methods

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

Biographical Introduction—10 points

Discussion Posts—150 points (10 points each)

We will have 15 online, asynchronous graded discussions over the course of the semester worth 10 points each. Discussions will draw from the posted links that include vides and short readings. Your original posting should be about 1-2 paragraphs long or about 250-300 words and include the creative and relevant use of *sociological concepts* from course materials. Be sure to provide specific examples. Your post should also use appropriate spelling and grammar. In addition to the original post, each you must make a reasoned reply or reaction to at least two of your classmates’ postings during each class discussion, each reply post should be around 50-75 words. Links to each discussion board are posted on the course Blackboard site. The link is located in your course Modules as well as in the Discussion link on the main menu. Your initial post will on a particular day and should address the initial question posted. Your second post will be within two days after your initial post and should include at least two responses to two different classmates’ original posts.

Writing Assignments –140 points (20 points each)

You will be required to complete 7 writing assignments based on readings posted on Blackboard. Directions and the Turnitin submission link for each assignment are posted on the course Blackboard site under “Writing Assignments” on the main Blackboard navigation panel. These writing assignments are intended to measure your ability to apply a range of course concepts to the assigned videos through responding cogently to the prompts. Assignments should be between 2-3 pages in length, 1-inch margins, New Times Roman, 12 point font.

Exams –200 points (50 points each)

There are 4 exams in this course. Exams will consist of 40 multiple choice questions. It will draw from the assigned course textbook chapters. Exams can be found in the menu link titled “Exams”. Scheduled times for each exam are listed in the course schedule. There will be a time limit and the exams will not allow for multiple attempts. Students will have 80 minutes to complete each exam

Grading Matrix:

Activities/Assignments	Value (percentages)
Biographical Introduction (1)	10 points
Discussion Posts (15)	150 points (10 pts each)
Writing Assignments (7)	140 points (20 pts each)
Exams (4)	200 points (50 pts each)
Total:	500 points

Grade Determination

- A = 90% or better (450-500 points)**
- B = 80 – 89 % (400-449 points)**
- C = 70 – 79 % (350-399 points)**
- D = 60 – 69 % (300-349 points)**
- F = less than 60%(299- fewer points)**

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDdisability@untDallas.edu or at Building 2, room 204.

Blackboard Learn Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. Blackboard Learn course management system's accessibility statement is also provided: <http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx>

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluation Policy:

Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. 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 students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy: (According to the instructor's discretion while working in concert with the division/program's guidelines).

Exam Policy: (Online exams and the ability to retake is solely at the instructor's discretion). **NOTE:** Online exams may be proctored on campus per instructor's discretion.

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.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Classroom Policies

Online Attendance and Participation:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Blackboard classroom 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 the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. .

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Blackboard, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to <http://www.untDallas.edu/registrar> for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course

Inclement Weather and Online Classes: Online classes may or may not be effected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Online "Netiquette:

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights Responsibilities and Conduct at <http://www.untDallas.edu/osa/policies>. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. 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 Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

Technology Requirements: In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements.

Blackboard Learn 9.1 is the platform software for this course. Blackboard Learn supports major web browsers such as Windows Internet Explorer, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox, and Google Chrome. However, since the latter two are updated continually, some recent versions may not be compatible. If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Internet Explorer. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- <http://www.untDallas.edu/dlit/ecampus/requirements>
- <https://blackboard.secure.force.com/publickbarticleview?id=kAB700000008Oom>
- https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check_full.html