

Sociology 101.5 Introduction to Macrosociology
Fall 2006 Sloan 112 9:30-10:45 TU-TH

Professor: Patrick D. Nolan, 304 Sloan, Office Hours: 11:00-12:15 PM TU-TH or by appointment, Phone: 777-3123 or 777-7103 (FAX 777-5251), e-mail: pnolan@sc.edu

Required Texts:

Nolan, Patrick and Gerhard Lenski. 2006. *Human Societies: An Introduction to Macrosociology Tenth Edition*. Boulder, CO: Paradigm Publishers. (paperback).
Nolan, Patrick. 2006. *Studying Human Societies: A Primer and Guide*. Boulder, CO: Paradigm Publishers. (paperback).

Course Content:

This course will examine the major types of societies that humans have developed and lived in over the last 20,000 years, and it will attempt to explain the emergence and development of a number of their most important features. Special attention will be paid to the causes and consequences of the increasing size and complexity of societies, and to the relationship between technological development, patterns of social organization, and various forms of social inequality (e.g., economic, political, sexual).

Course Requirements and Course Grade:

The grade for the course will be based on the average of four examinations, a number of unscheduled "pop" quizzes on the assigned readings (see note below), and several short written assignments. The fourth exam will primarily focus on Industrial Societies, but it will also include some questions about how Industrial Societies compare to earlier types, about long-term trends in societal development from the hunting and gathering through the industrial era, and the future prospects of the world system of societies.

Assignment	Weight	Date
First Exam	20%	Thursday, September 21
Second Exam	20%	Thursday, October 12
Third Exam	20%	Thursday, November 12
Fourth Exam	15%	Thursday, December 14 @ 9:00 AM
Written Assignments	25%	8/29,8/31,9/5,11/9,11/30,12/7

Written Assignments

A number of short written assignments are posted on the class webpage. The due dates of these assignments are indicated above and by an asterisk (*) in the topic section of the syllabus below.

Grading Scale:

90% and above=A, 86-89%=B+, 80-85%=B, 76-79%=C+, 70-75%=C, 66-69%=D+, 60-65%=D, 59% and below=F

Important Note on Classroom Etiquette:

To maintain the proper environment for learning and the exchange of ideas, I would ask you to observe a few simple rules of behavior. First, *do not bring food into the classroom at any time*,

bottled water or beverages in closable containers are allowed, but be careful with them! Second, although I strongly encourage you to ask *me* questions about anything covered in class or in the readings, *do not carry on side conversations or running commentaries during class*. If you have a question, want to raise a point, missed something I said, or can't read something I wrote, please raise your hand and ask me during class or wait to ask me (or a classmate) *after* class. Also, to avoid undue class disruption, please, as a courtesy to me and your classmates, do not leave class before it is over, unless you have an emergency, or have told me in advance that you must leave early. Finally, please turn your cell phones *off*. If you must keep your cell phone on because you are expecting an emergency call, be sure to set it on silent ring or vibrate. If/when you receive your emergency call, please leave the classroom to have your conversation.

Web Page Access:

The syllabus, assignments, and grades will also be posted on Blackboard.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

August

Thursday	24	Introduction to the Course
Tuesday	29	Societies: The Aztecs*
Thursday	31	Societies: The !Kung*

September

Tuesday	5	Societies: The Yanomamö*	
Thursday	7	Macrosociology	HS: 1 P&G: 1
Tuesday	12	Human Biology, Culture, and Society	HS: 2 P&G: 2
Thursday	14	The Evolution of Human Societies	HS: 3 P&G: 3
Tuesday	19	Basic Types of Societies	HS: 4 P&G: 4
Thursday	21	First Exam	HS: 1-4 P&G: 1-4
Tuesday	26	Hunting-Gathering Societies	HS: 5 P&G: 5
Thursday	28	Horticultural Societies	HS: 6 P&G: 6

October

Tuesday	3	Horticultural Societies Cont'd	HS: 6 P&G: 6
Thursday	5	Agrarian Societies	HS: 7 P&G: 7
Tuesday	10	Agrarian Societies Cont'd	HS: 7 P&G: 7
Thursday	12	Second Exam	HS: 5-7 P&G 5-7
Tuesday	17	Industrial Revolution	HS: 9 P&G: 9
Thursday	19	Fall Break – Class Does Not Meet	
Tuesday	24	Industrial Technologies and Economies	HS: 10 P&G: 10
Thursday	26	Ideologies and Politics	HS: 11 P&G: 11
Tuesday	31	Ideologies and Politics cont'd	HS: 11 P&G: 11

November

Thursday	2	Social Stratification	HS: 12 P&G: 12
Tuesday	7	Election Day No Class	
Thursday	9	Social Stratification cont'd*	HS: 12 P&G: 12
Tuesday	14	Third Exam	HS: 9-12 P&G 9-12
Thursday	16	Population, Families, Leisure	HS: 13 P&G: 13
Tuesday	21	Population, Families, Leisure cont'd	HS: 13 P&G: 13

Thursday	23	Thanksgiving Recess – No Class	
Tuesday	28	Theories of Development	HS: 14 P&G: 14
Thursday	30	Industrializing Societies*	HS: 14 P&G: 14
December			
Tuesday	5	Major Social Experiments	HS: 15 P&G: 15
Thursday	7	Major Social Experiments Cont'd*	HS: 15 P&G: 15
Thursday	14	Fourth Exam 9:00 AM	HS: 13-15 P&G: 13-15

Key: **HS:** *Human Societies* **P&G:** *Primer & Guide*

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