SOC 4161 Integrative Seminar in Sociology
(Online)

Dr. Shirley Simpson
Office: Academic Building, A 104A
Phone: (325) 486-6727
Fax: (325) 942-2236
Email: shirley.simpson@angelo.edu

Campus Office Hours: MWF 12-1 MW 2-3p
Virtual Office Hours (BB): T 9-2p & By Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION (1 semester unit)
Senior capstone course for sociology majors that facilitates a synthesis of the sociology curriculum. This course focuses on the application of sociology across a variety of settings. An exit examination is required.
Prerequisites: Senior Standing

RECOMMENDED STUDY MATERIAL*

*These are just suggestions. Required materials are included in the course & links to free resources provided.

OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS
- Computer with MAC or Windows Operating System
- High Speed Internet Access
- Access to a Webcam, Digital Camera or other recording device

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) best validating outcome achievement:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:</td>
<td>1-3 Test Prep Study Materials, Practice Tests, Exit Exam 3&amp;4 Exit Interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Gain factual knowledge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Review/Learn fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Learn to apply course material</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TEACHING STRATEGIES
- Students must meet with professor at least once on campus, face-to-face (Exit Interview).
- Students must take the exam on campus at either the testing center or the professor’s office. Exam will not be administered Online under any circumstances. Date is always in the week before dead week.
- Even though the professor provides practice tests & other study material, students are responsible for finding or creating test-prep material that works for them. The exit exam will only cover basic concepts in sociology so guides and textbooks used for Introductory Sociology courses or exams (i.e., CLEP) should suffice.
- Students will be expected to work independently and arrive on time to schedule meetings and exam(s).
- Students are asked to seek help early if they have problems, questions, or concerns during the semester.
- Each student is ultimately responsible for meeting his or her graduation deadlines and requirements. That means allowing plenty of time to sit for the exit exam (including the second-chance exam if necessary)

GRADING SYSTEM
Course grades will be dependent upon successful completion the exit exam (300), practice test scores (160), completion of a survey (20 points) & attendance at the exit interview (20 points). The following grading scale is in use for this course:

Did you get at least 210 points on the 300-point exit exam? (or 80% on the second-chance test?):
- No: F = Failure of the course
- Yes:
  - A = 500-450 points
  - B = 400-449 points
  - C = 350-399 points
  - D = 300-349 points
  - F = 0-299

- If both the 100-question and 50-question exams are taken, the scores will be averaged to determine your course grade.

EVALUATION AND GRADES
Graded assignments, activities and percent of the overall course grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting 1: Survey &amp; Meeting</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice Tests</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exit Exam</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Must get 70% on first attempt or 80% on second-chance test)

TOTAL COURSE GRADE 500

ASSIGNMENT/ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

**Face-to-Face Meetings** provide an opportunity for students to fill out a survey and discuss their experience at ASU in general and in the Sociology program specifically. The professor will email each student a survey before the semester begins. Please follow the instructions on that survey. This survey will be useful for the first meeting. Students will be asked what they liked about their courses, what they think could be improved, what they would like to see added or subtracted to the program in the future, and where they want to do after graduation. This is an opportunity for seniors to provide valuable feedback to the department.

**Practice Tests & Exit Exam** assures that each student who graduates from the program has mastered the basics of the field and is prepared for more advanced study in Sociology or can apply those basic concepts and principles to other endeavors.
COMMUNICATING WITH THE PROFESSOR
In most cases, Dr. Simpso will respond to your email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Written communication via Blackboard: Feel free to ask questions on blackboard in the forum. The first topics has been set up for that purpose.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. Please start your subject line with “SOC Seminar” so your message does not get buried. I can search by that term instead of sifting through 300-400 emails.

Virtual communication: Office hours will be via Blackboard’s Connect! for now.

Face-to-Face communication: Please come and see me if you would prefer to chat in person.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY & ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions which reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate. Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week on average.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION

In this class, you will only have one “homework” assignment to submit to the professor, the program survey. You should submit this via email (shirley.simpson@angelo.edu). Please follow the instructions. You may also bring it to the first meeting.

LATE WORK POLICY

The course only has a few tasks that you must complete to pass/graduate. You can complete them early, but you cannot complete them late. Unlike other classes, there is only one deadline in this course. You must take the exit exam by the deadline or you will have to re-take the course. No exceptions.

GENERAL POLICIES RELATED TO THIS COURSE
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in the following documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook located on the ASU website http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/
- ASU Undergraduate Catalog located on the ASU website https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/16795-201213-undergraduate-catalog

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty is expected on all work. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their online experiences. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The Psychology, Sociology & Social Work Department adheres to the academic honesty statement as set forth in the Angelo State University Student Handbook (2011-2012) http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/code-of-student-conduct/misconduct.php. The University "faculty expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experience both in and out of the classroom setting and may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but
not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials."

**PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism at ASU is a serious topic. The Angelo State University’s Honor Code gives specific details on plagiarism and what it encompasses. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word for word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. We use the *APA Style Manual of the American Psychological Association* as a guide for all writing assignments. Quotes should be used sparingly. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Bb Safe Assignment or Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center http://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

1. “Angelo State University is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAAA), and subsequent legislation.”

2. The Office of Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Office of Student Affairs, University Center, Room 112 at (325) 942-2047 or (325) 942-2211(TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at studentservices@angelo.edu to begin the process. The Office of Student Affairs will establish the particular documentation requirements necessary for the various types of disabilities.

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students determined to be disabled or who have documented disabilities.

**INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY** (OP 10.11 Grading Procedures)

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required.

**STUDENT ABSENCE FOR OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS**

“A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.” Please see ASU Operating Policy 10.19.

**COPYRIGHT POLICY**

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

**SYLLABUS CHANGES**

The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student’s responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.