SOC 4323 Community Development
(Simpson, Spring 2021, TR 11a-12:15a in Rm A 225A)

Virtual Contact Hours: M 9-11am & TR 6-10pm   (via Blackboard Collaborate)

Dr. Shirley Simpson
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No on-campus office hours except by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course focuses on asset-based community development. Students will consider applied social research, but the bulk of their time will be spent examining the creative and safe ways service-minded entities, like RamPantry and Meals for the Elderly, continue to operate in meaningful ways, despite the restrictions of a pandemic. PREREQUISITES: None  SEMESTER UNITS: 3

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS
Required Texts provided or available free via link or library database.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS
• Computer: Windows (7 or higher) or MAC (OSX 8.5 or higher) with updated browsers
• High Speed Internet Access with reliable, WIRED connection for time crucial tasks (e.g. tests)
• Access to a Webcam, Digital Camera or other recording device
• Ability to use Office software, PDF Readers, and watch/steam/download videos
• Ability to use Blackboard & features like Respondus Lockdown Browser, Turnitin & forums

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:</td>
<td>best validating outcome achievement:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Gaining factual knowledge</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2 Text, Videos, Articles</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories</td>
<td>3 &amp; 5 Homework and/or Tests</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Learning to apply course material</td>
<td>4 &amp; 6 Cyberlectures/Learning Modules/Discussions</td>
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<td>4. Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing</td>
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<td>5. Learning how to find / use resources to explore CD questions or problems</td>
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<td>6. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view</td>
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DEVELOPMENTAL METHOD
This on-campus course combines online content, face-to-face activities, and interaction with ASU and community-based organizations. About half of the content will be delivered via the Blackboard Learning Management System and the rest in a traditional classroom setting. The course site can be accessed at ASU’s Blackboard Learning Management System

TEACHING STRATEGIES
• For the safety of all: Students MUST wear a face mask or shield covering both the nose & mouth, sit in their assigned seats only, and maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet from others at all times.
• Students are expected to attend class except when quarantining. Excessive absences, even for legitimate reasons, will seriously undermine the pedagogical goals of the course for the student and classmates.
• Students are encouraged to stay current on readings/videos and turn in coursework on time. This will benefit them and others as they seek to participate meaningfully in the course.
• Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and experiences with their peers.
• Students are asked to seek help early if they have problems, questions, or concerns during the semester. Every student has something unique to offer to the discourse. If students don’t come to class or refuse to engage others while in class, that decreases the diversity of the dialog for everyone.

GRADING SYSTEM
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes. The following grading scale is in use for this course:

A  = 300-270 points
B  = 269-240 points
C  = 239-210 points
D  = 209-180 points
F  = 0-179 points (Grades are not rounded up)

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-Class Activities/Discussions</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests or Projects</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL COURSE GRADE</td>
<td>300</td>
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</table>

OTHER-GRADE-RELATED TOPICS
Attendance/Participation is MANDATORY. Keep track of your own absences so you know how many you have. Days missed are calculated from day of enrollment, not first attendance.

If you are sick, stay home. If you have to self-quarantine, let the professor know. Makeup activities for TWO missed interactions will be posted on the schedule during the first week of class. These will usually require you to have a discussion or finish a task with another student (who may have also missed a class meeting, but perhaps not the same one). Such interactive activities are a crucial part of this course.
ASSESSMENT MEASURES/ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

Cyberlectures are designed to give you an opportunity to learn, engage, clarify, and grapple with the basic concepts & principles of sociology.

Supplemental Material like Videos/Articles/Charts/Etc. are presented to help clarify and enrich your understanding of the sociology of cooperation and competition and to provide more examples than one might get in a 50-minute class.

Discussions are designed to make you think critically about how course concepts relate to one another and to you.

Tests/Projects are designed to check your competence in dealing with concepts & principles related to community development AND your ability to apply those concepts & principles to real world situations and questions.

COMMUNICATING WITH THE PROFESSOR

In most cases, Dr. Simpson will respond to your email within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. After 5pm response times might be longer. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Written communication via Blackboard: There is a discussion on the forum to ask very general questions. If you don’t get a response within 24 hours, please email.

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

Be polite: “I think there has been a mistake…” is a good approach. The following is NOT: “Why didn’t you give me a grade for…”, “Explain to me how it is that I got a D when I…”, and “I know I did/uploaded that work so why didn’t you give me credit for it…?

Virtual communication: Contact hours will be via email (or Blackboard’s Connect, or Zoom, if needed).

SUBMITTING WORK

In this class, all work students are required to turn in, even when done during class, will be submitted through the Blackboard course website. Since technology issues do arise from time to time, be prepared. Keep copies of forum entries and attempt quizzes early, rather than waiting until the last minute on the day of the deadline. Double check to be sure the work you just uploaded actually there. Check the gradebook often. If a technology issue does occur, email me ASAP at ssimpson7@angelo.edu explaining the problem and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit if appropriate. Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue.

Remember though, it is your responsibility to be sure your work has been upload on time. If it is not on Blackboard, you will get a zero. Deadlines will NOT be extended nor will quizzes be reopened unless there has been a verifiable, university-wide problem.
LATE & MISSING WORK POLICY (Tests and discussions)

The course is divided into modules that build on one another. For the purpose of clarity, a week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday unless otherwise noted. Due dates for all assessment measures are shown on the calendar/schedule and/or posted within Blackboard.

Be advised that quizzes (& discussions) are only available for the times/dates indicated and will disappear after the deadline, just as such items would in an on-campus class after time expires. Be sure you give yourself sufficient time to complete a quiz or forum post before the deadline. If an item is marked late you risk getting a zero or, if accepted, a reduction of up to 50% of the total value of the assessment.

It is your responsibility to do your work, follow directions, and double/triple check that your quiz, paper, post, or project has been uploaded correctly. If your work is not there, it can’t earn any points.

Note: Keep in mind that missing deadlines will impact your grade. There is no busy work or point padding in this course. Failing to do this or that assessment can mean the difference between one grade and a lower one at the end of the semester. It happens a LOT. Don’t ask to do extra credit to make up for required work you did not complete. Don’t tell me you won’t graduate if I don’t pass you. Don’t get some well-meaning advisor, coach, or other individual to contact me to “help you” out. Do not wait until the end of the session to scour the grade book for missing or incorrect grades. You should check grades as you go along. If you get a zero for work you did or get a score you think is incorrect, you only have FIVE days to point it out. After that, the grade becomes permanent whether it was in error or not. This policy is to prevent point “fishing” at the end of the semester when some students realize how close they were to a higher grade and are desperate to find points.

PROBLEM WITH A BLACKBOARD GRADE?

Check your grades regularly. If you do not have a score within a few days of submission or get a score you think is in error, do NOT wait until the end of the session to point it out. Send an email so I can check it for you.

COURSE SCHEDULE

A schedule for this course will be given to students during the first week of class. Note that all assessment measures listed are due at 11:59 pm on the due date (i.e., on the day a module concludes unless otherwise indicated).

SYLLABUS CHANGES

A syllabus is not a contract. It is a plan, like a speech, that one prepares in good faith about how a given class should flow. In the real world, however, plans need to be flexible and adapt to unexpected situations or problems. To that end, Dr. Simpson reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, she 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.
On-Campus: Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class at ASU

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct. See video: https://youtu.be/4uecCBgaCGQ

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:
- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

Student Responsibility and Attendance

Online: This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time. There are readings which you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities i.e. discussion boards, course projects, reflective logs, etc. 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.

Incomplete Grade Policy

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. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU 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 of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112
Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form
Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator.

SHOULD YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE IN CONFIDENCE ABOUT AN ISSUE, WITHOUT THEM SHARING THAT INFORMATION WITH OTHERS ON CAMPUS, YOU MAY CONTACT THE UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER (325-942-2371), THE 24-HOUR CRISIS HELPLINE (325-486-6345), OR THE UNIVERSITY HEALTH CLINIC (325-942-2171). You may also choose to contact the San Angelo Police Department or Police Department in the jurisdiction where the incident occurred.

For more info about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Academic Integrity

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

The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.iii

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policyvi in the Student Handbook. 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. 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. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.vii

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.
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. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course
Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences. Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.