COURSE NUMBER SOC 4301-020
Sociological Theory
Spring Semester 2021

Instructor: Kurt Chunn, PhD
Email: kchunn@angelo.edu
Phone: (254) 722-0051 cell
Office: Academic Building
Office Hours: call to arrange meeting

Course Description
An analysis of the main traditions of sociological thought.

Course Credits - 3 hours

Prerequisite Course – Sociology 1301

Prerequisite Skills
Accessing Internet websites, including the electronic textbook, and proficiency with Microsoft Word are expectations of the Sociological Theory course.

Course Delivery
This is an internet course with learning resources and supplemental materials posted in Blackboard.

Required Texts and Materials
Title: The Discovery of Society. 8th Edition
Author: Collins, R., & Makowsky, M.
Edition: 8th
Publisher: McGraw-Hill Inc.
ISBN: 9780073404196
Copyright Year: 2010
Here’s a link to our book at the ASU Bookstore: Click Here
Technology Requirements
In addition to the textbook, the following resources are also needed:

- Reliable internet access, *(Firefox as your internet browser)* for Blackboard, ASU email, and other relevant websites
- Word processing software and *Adobe Acrobat*

Communication
Faculty will respond to 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 email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes.

Angelo State University Core Curriculum Objectives for Social and Behavioral Science Courses and Related Course Assessments:
Students in this course (Sociological Theory) will practice, utilize, and demonstrate proficiency with the following core curriculum learning objectives: This course meets 4 of the six Core Objectives established by Texas:

- Critical Thinking Skills (CT) – Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis; evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills (COM) – effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS) – The manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Social Responsibility (SR) – Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
Student Learning Outcomes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To understand the historical and social contexts of the foundational theorists in Sociology (CT, COM, EQS, SR)</td>
<td>Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions. Assessed by objective exams &amp; written assignments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify major sociological theories (CT, COM, EQS, SR)</td>
<td>Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions Assessed by objective exams &amp; written assignments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand how the major theories in Sociology interact with one another, and explain contemporary issues (CT, COM, EQS, SR)</td>
<td>Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions Assessed by objective exams &amp; written assignments.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

**GRADING:**

400 – 4 tests @ 100 points each                                             900 – 1000 = A
200 - 2 Theoretical papers @ 100 points each                               800 - 899 = B
100 – Final Exam @ 100 points                                               700 – 799 = C
150 - 15 Study Sheets @ 10 points each                                      600 – 699 = D
150 – 5 short papers @ 30 points each                                       599 or below = F
1000 points possible

Teaching Strategies

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.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

Chapter Reviews:

For each chapter that we cover, you will find a chapter review sheet on "Blackboard" under "Assignments" to fill out and turn in on the dates listed on the calendar. Each chapter review will consist of fill-in-the-blank sentences that come straight from your textbook. The last day to turn
them in for credit is the date on the calendar. **The reviews are due before or on the date on the calendar, and no late chapter reviews will be accepted.**

**Papers:**

**2 Theoretical Papers** are required for this course:

a. Using the conflict, functionalist, and symbolic interactionist viewpoints, write a 6 - 7 page paper explaining some social phenomenon, for example, a sporting event, a union strike, a political campaign, a wedding ceremony, etc.

b. Write a 6 page paper on the life and theory of one of the sociological theorists we study. Include in your paper the person’s background, theory, and how his or her background impacted his or her viewpoint. Use 5 resources minimum.

**Style:** Use the APA style to write your papers. Here’s a link to the APA writing style site: http://www.apastyle.org/learn/tutorials/basics-tutorial.aspx

See information on Blackboard for more information about these papers.

**Short Papers:**

There will be **5 short papers** due over topics in your textbook. The subjects of those papers are on Blackboard. Use the format on Blackboard for typing up your papers.

**Exams:**

We will have 4 exams this semester plus a Final Exam.

**Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:**

1. **Is there any extra credit?** No, but the chapter reviews in a way function as extra credit.
2. **May I make up missed work?** No. So, it would be wise to work ahead and stay ahead just in case: your frog croaks, your dog chokes, your computer smokes, etc.
3. **May I make up a missed exam?** Absolutely! But, **whatever** the reason, you will lose 20 points for having the extra study time and taking it late.
4. **May I turn in my work early?** Absolutely! Any of these assignments may be turned in early!! No problem!! These assignments just cannot be turned in late!!
General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)

COVID-19

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.

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](#).

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

**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.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy 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.

**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.

**Absence Policy:**

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**
Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students. Students will be counted absent from class meetings missed, beginning with the first official day of classes. Students, whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades.

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.

**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.

**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](http://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, 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).*

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

**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.

---

1 [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/](http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/)
2 [https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/](http://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/)
3 [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php](http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php)
4 [https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/](http://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/)
5 [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)
7 [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php](http://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)
8 [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)