

**INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY: A Focus on Reproduction
Spring 2021**

Course Number: SOCI 1301 CRN 25280/ WS 2300 CRN 23180

Time: This online course will be asynchronous, meaning that we will not have specific meeting times online, except for presentation days:

In Class Presentations on April 26, 28, 30 from 10:30-11:20am
In Class Presentations on May 3, 5 from 10:30-11:20am

Please reserve these days in your calendar.

Location: Online

You can access this course's Blackboard site through your my.utep.edu portal (use your email address and password to sign in). Blackboard is where there will be a discussion board that students can use to ask questions of each other and answer the week's discussion question and respond to other students' posts. It is also possible to email the instructors and other students in the class through the Blackboard email. **As a requirement of this class, you must regularly check your e-mail and our Blackboard site.** Blackboard is where we will post all lectures, all class announcements, all assignments, and online quizzes. The syllabus and any supplementary course materials will be posted here, along with your grades after each assignment. If you have a question about the course that is not clearly stated in the syllabus, please e-mail your instructors directly.

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Office Hours: Please email for an appointment

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Office Hours: Thursdays 10 AM- 12 PM or by appointment

Required materials

1) *Introduction to Sociology 2e* from OpenStax. ISBN 1938168410, www.openstax.org/details/introduction-sociology-2e. The main textbook for this class is available for free online (web view and PDF). Please download ASAP. If you prefer, you can purchase on iBooks for \$4.99 or get a print version for \$29. You can use whichever format(s) you want. **This is referred to as "Soc 2E" in the course schedule.**

2) *Reproduction and Society: Interdisciplinary Readings*, by Carole Joffe and Jennifer Reich. ISBN: 978-0-415-73103-4. Available at the UTEP bookstore and through online stores. **This is referred to as “R&S” in the course schedule.**

Recommended: A USB drive to store your course documents and/or back up your documents is recommended.

Course Description

This course introduces students to the sociological perspective and thinking critically about society. This will be accomplished through studying sociological concepts based on social theory and research on groups and social processes, social inequalities, and social institutions. We will apply these concepts to understand the world around us. To best apply social theory, we will use a medical sociology lens on the issue of what influences reproduction in the United States. We will also take a hands-on approach to learning sociological research through quantitative research methods.

Sociological Objectives

- Students develop a sociological perspective to examine ourselves, others, groups, and society
- Students understand, compare, and contrast the three major sociological perspectives
- Students understand the sociological concepts and contemporary issues concerning the social construction of race, ethnicity, gender, social status, economic class, and reproduction.
- Students become familiar with multiple types of social institutions (economic systems, health, etc.) and their evolution over time
- Students develop a critical understanding of how large scale social institutions shape our lives and the society in which we live

Content-specific Objectives

- Understand the medicalization of women’s bodies
- Understand the economic, political, and social forces that shape reproductive health decisions

Research-related Objectives

- Demonstrate critical thinking and in writing
- Identify strengths and limitations of qualitative and quantitative social science data
- Learn to enter and recode quantitative data
- Understand how to perform basic quantitative data analysis

Assignments

Each week's assignments and information about assignments will be in a folder, labelled for the week, on Blackboard. You will have the whole week to complete all assignments.

Grading

Assessment

Grade Percent

Online Discussion

10%

Discussion will be one of the only ways we engage in this online course, so please be thoughtful with your posts. These will be posted on Blackboard almost every week.

Response to Other Students' Discussion Posts

5%

Discussion will be one of the only ways we engage in this online course, so please be thoughtful with your posts and engage with other students by responding to at least one other student's post for each Blackboard discussion.

Online Quizzes

15%

Online quizzes will be available on Blackboard every Monday morning and will close at 11:59 pm on Friday. All online quizzes will cover material from *Introduction to Sociology 2e* book only. (Also see class schedule below)

Writing Activities

15%

Spaced throughout the semester, will be posted on Blackboard.

QIPS (details also on Blackboard)

15%

(*Question, Interest, Problem, Summary*)

Homework for this course will be taken in the form of QIPS. To develop your critical thinking skills, and be an active reader, you are required to write a QIPS on each reading from the *R&S* reader. A typed, one (1) page (double spaced) reflection (**per reading**) in the form of a Question, Interest, **or** Problem, **and** Summary (QIPS) (*see class schedule below*).

Your QIPS need to address **one** of these points:

- **Question:** A substantive question from the readings.
- **Interest:** What caught your attention?

- **Problem:** At least one critique about the reading. For instance, is there a problem with the theory, methods, or claims that the author is making? Does the author contradict him/herself/themselves or do they contradict other author(s) findings?

Your QIPS will need to include a summary **every time**:

- **Summary:** In 1-2 paragraphs describe what the main points of the reading were **AND** how the reading relates to the sociology topics from that week's Sociology 2E chapter(s).

Final Paper (details on blackboard)

Final Paper Draft (Due)	10%
Final Paper (Due)	10%
In-class (online) Presentation of Final Paper Topic	10%
Reviews of classmates' presentations	10%

The course will be graded on a standard scale: 90+ =A, 80-89 =B, 70-79 =C, 60-69 =D, 59 and below is an F. "Satisfactory" is a 70% or above.

***Please note that all assignments will be turned in electronically. We aim to provide feedback within a week. You are responsible for checking your email and Blackboard course site regularly. ***

Online Etiquette: Unprofessional behavior or cyber-harassment will not be tolerated. This includes cyberbullying, cyberstalking, and flaming. Please see the Netiquette guide on Blackboard for more specifics.

Drop Policy: We will NOT drop students from the course. If a student chooses to drop the course, it is the student's responsibility to do so. Failure to do so will result in a grade of "F" for the course.

Making up work: Without written documentation about missing work, you may submit work late but you lose 5% off the grade every day that it is late.

Academic Integrity

This course is based on the principle of academic integrity. Students are responsible for their own academic behavior, and for making themselves fully aware of UTEP's policies. Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student and possessing unauthorized materials during a test. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person's as ones' own. And, collusion involves collaborating with

another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students' Office for disciplinary action. In addition to receiving a failing grade in the class, the student may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. Further information can be gained from the UTEP Dean of Students' web page. Go to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/>, then click the Student Conduct tab on the top.

Disability

Any student with a disability that may prevent her/him/them from fully demonstrating her/his/their abilities should contact the instructors as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate educational opportunity. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass. This should be done within the first 2 weeks of classes.

Title IX Statement

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities operated by recipients of Federal financial assistance. Sexual harassment of students, which includes acts of sexual violence, is a form of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX. Sexual violence refers to physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's use of drugs or alcohol. An individual also may be unable to give consent due to an intellectual or other disability.

A number of different acts fall into the category of sexual violence, including rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual coercion, stalking, and relationship violence. All such acts of sexual violence are forms of sexual harassment covered under Title IX.

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, UTEP does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the operation of its educational programs and activities. This commitment to non-discrimination applies to both employment in and admission to such programs and activities. [Link to full text at <http://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=68750>]

A Note on Co-teaching

Co-teaching is a model in which two professionals share responsibility for instructing, grading, and mentoring. Two teachers mean different expertise for you to benefit from. We will capitalize on each of our strengths to support your intellectual and professional development and we believe our collaboration will best serve the diverse course learning objectives.

Tips for Success

- If you are having a problem with the class, let the instructors know *as soon as possible*. It is difficult to fix a problem from week 4 when you let us know in week 14.
- Do all assignments. Even if you think it's not your best work, a 5 out of 10 is still better than a 0 out of 10. Those little points add up and give you a better grade than if you do nothing. You will also get more from the class and understand more as a whole if you engage with the materials.
- Utilise the University Writing Center. Points are not deducted for poor writing on QIPS (but they are on the final paper), but if we cannot understand what you're saying, we cannot give you a good grade. Even if you think you're a good writer, it's worth checking out as there is always more to learn.
- Take advantage of Extra Credit opportunities where possible. Those little points here and there make a big difference!

SEMESTER CALENDAR (Subject to Change)

Week	Dates	Readings Due	Assignments
Week 1	Jan 19-22	Syllabus SOC 2e, Ch. 1 & Ch. 2	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapters 1,2
Week 2: Culture	Jan 25-29	SOC 2e, Ch. 3 R&S, Ch. 1 The Folklore of Birth Control R&S, Ch. 19 Motherhood Lost: Cultural Dimension of Miscarriage and Stillbirths in America R&S, Ch. 11 Selling Genes, Selling Gender	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 3 QIPS: R&S Chapters 1, 19, 11
Week 3: Groups & Organizations	Feb 1-5	SOC 2e, Ch. 6 R&S, Ch. 29 Globalization of the Culture War R&S, Ch. 21 The Liability Threat in Obstetrics Video: The Business of Being Born	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 6 QIPS: R&S Chapters 29, 21

Week 4: Social Stratification	Feb 8-12	SOC 2e, Ch. 9 R&S, Ch. 12 India's Reproductive Assembly Line R&S, Ch. 26 Motherhood as Class Privilege in America	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 9 QIPS: R&S Chapters 12, 26
Week 5: Race & Ethnicity	Feb 15-19	SOC 2e, Ch. 11 R&S, Ch. 8 Race, Reproductive Politics and Reproductive Health Care in the Contemporary U.S R&S, Ch. 2 The Pill-Genocide or Liberation R&S, Ch. 3 The Fertility of Women of Mexican Origin	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 11 QIPS: R&S Chapters 2, 3,8
Week 6: Gender, Sex, and Sexuality	Feb 22-26	SOC 2e, Ch. 12 R&S, Ch. 9 Not Ready to Fill His Father's Shoes R&S, Ch. 30 Female Feticide and Infanticide	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 12 QIPS: R&S Chapters 9, 30

Week 7: Deviance	Mar 1-5	SOC 2e, Ch. 7 R&S, Ch. 25 Disabled Women and Reproductive Right R&S, Ch. 6 Practice Constraints and the Institutionalized Buck-Passing of Abortion Care R&S, Ch. 7 Rethinking the Mantra that Abortion should be “Safe, Legal, and Rare”	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 7 QIPS: R&S Chapters 25, 6, 7
Week 8: Health & Medicine	Mar 8-12	SOC 2e, Ch. 19 R&S, Ch. 5 A Selection from Doctors of Conscience R&S, Ch. 20 The Risks to Reproductive Health and Fertility R&S, Ch. 24 Prescriptions: Dr. Carolyn Sufrin, Prison Ob/Gyn	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 19 QIPS: R&S Chapters 5, 20, 24
Week 9	Mar 15-19	*Quant research week*	
Week 10: Gov’t and Politics	Mar 22-25 (no class Mar 26- Cesar Chavez Day)	SOC 2e, Ch. 17 R&S, Ch. 29 The Globalization of the Culture Wars	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 17 QIPS: R&S Chapter 29 Paper Draft Due

Week 11: Marriage & Family	Mar 29-Apr 1 (no class April 2- “Spring Study Day” AKA Good Friday)	SOC 2e, Ch.14 R&S, Ch. 14 The Belly Mommy and the Fetus Sitter R&S, Ch. 13 Debates over Lesbian Reproduction within Lesbian/Gay and Feminist Communities R&S, Ch. 23 Roe v. Wade and the New Jane Crow	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 14 QIPS: R&S Chapters 14,13, 23
Week 12: Education	Apr 5-9	SOC 2e, Ch. 16 R&S, Ch. 27 Reproductive Justice R&S, Ch. 17 Choosing Your Health Care Provider and Birth Setting R&S, Ch. 18 Contested Conception and Misconception	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 16 QIPS: R&S Chapters 27, 17,18
Week 13: Work & Economy	Apr 12-16	SOC 2e, Ch. 18 R&S, Ch. 4 The Economic Impact of the Pill R&S, Ch. 22 The Invisible Immigrants	Quiz: Soc 2E Chapter 18 QIPS: R&S Chapters 4, 22

Week 14	Apr 19-23	R&S, Ch. 20 The Risks to Reproductive Health and Fertility R&S, Ch. 24 Prescriptions: Dr. Carolyn Sufrin, Prison Ob/Gyn	QIPS R&S Chapters 20, 24
Week 15	Apr 26-30		*In Class Presentations on April 26, 28, 30 from 10:30-11:20am*
Week 16	May 3-6 (May 7 Dead Day)		*In Class Presentations on May 3, 5 from 10:30-11:20am*
Finals			Final Paper Due