

# INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

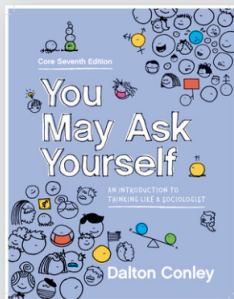
## Course Summary

In this class, you will learn about the basic principles and theories of sociology. You will explore how society functions, including the various social structures and institutions that shape our lives. You will also examine how individuals and groups interact within society, and how social factors influence our behaviors, beliefs, and identities. This class will help you develop a sociological imagination, which is the ability to see the connections between personal experiences and the broader social and historical context. Throughout the course, you will explore a wide range of social issues and topics that are relevant to understanding society. These include class inequality, racial and ethnic relations, deviance and social control, sexuality and gender, religion and spirituality, education and socialization, health and healthcare systems, media and technology, and environmental concerns. By studying these topics, you will gain a deeper understanding of the social forces that shape our lives and the world we live in.

Overall, this class offers a valuable opportunity to explore the fundamental principles of sociology and gain a deeper understanding of society and the individual. It will provide you with knowledge and tools that can be applied to various aspects of your life, empowering you to navigate the social world more effectively.

## Required Text

*You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking like a Sociologist* by Dalton Conley **CORE**  
7th Edition (Norton)



# You May Ask Yourself

## CORE SEVENTH EDITION

Dalton Conley

## Course Description

This is an asynchronous course that will require you to check blackboard a few times a week. You **MUST** read! This class will consist of writing assignments, check-ins, and online discussions. Announcements will be posted to update you with deadlines and opportunities weekly. Every Monday you will receive an email with updates and reminders for the week. All assignments are due Saturday before midnight. Late submissions will not be accepted unless

there is an emergency and documentation is provided. If you need to contact me please email me to [olochoa2@utep.edu](mailto:olochoa2@utep.edu) and I will get back to you before the end of the day.

### **Course Requirements**

#### **1. Check-Ins (50 points= 350 points)**

All check-ins include multiple choice questions. They will be timed and must be completed once started. Check-ins will be on the chapter or chapters reviewed during that week.

#### **2. Discussions (25 each= 200)**

Every week you will be required to participate on a discussion board. In order to receive full credit you will be required to answer questions in your own words in an acceptable level of quality and reply to two responses from your classmates. You will have to create a new thread and answer the questions before being able to view other classmate responses. There will be a total of 8 discussions. The following is a rubric of how your discussions will be graded:

<b>Discussion Points</b>	<b>Expectation</b>
8 points	Answering the discussion question
7 points	Including Text-Evidence from textbook or outside sources. ( Include reference if using other sources)
10 points	Quality responses to two people
25 points	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### **3. Chapter Assignments (100 points = 200)**

In this course, there will be two unit assignments which serve as opportunities for you to apply the knowledge you have acquired. These assignments will require you to demonstrate your understanding and comprehension of the topics covered throughout the unit. It is important to note that these assignments must adhere to the guidelines APA format.

When it comes to the formatting requirements, ensure that the font size is set to 12, specifically using Times New Roman font. Furthermore, your document should be double-spaced, providing appropriate spacing between lines.

APA citations are a crucial component of academic writing. In order to receive full credit for your unit assignments, it is essential to include in-text citations to support and acknowledge any information, ideas, or quotes that you have obtained from external sources. Neglecting to provide proper in-text citations may result in a deduction of 30 points automatically, so it is important to be diligent and accurate in your referencing.

- **Utilizing Secondary Research:** Many students struggle with secondary research because it may seem like the most “boring” research method. However, secondary research is used a lot in sociology and even journalism. A good example would be Emile Durkheim’s early work on suicide using secondary data. Students will look at secondary data and write their responses. Further instructions on the assignment post.
- **Gender in the Toy Aisle:** You will visit the aisle of a toy store and write a 2 page paper, double spaced, times new roman, 12 size font telling me your observations on how they market toys for specific genders. Use the chapter on gender from your work to make connections to the text for FULL credit. Include ONE picture of the toy aisle you visited.

Chapter Assignments Points	Expectation
30	Answers the question/s for the assignment
40	Text-Evidence: Student provides text-evidence to support writing. Use APA Format, include a reference page at the end.
30	Organizational Structure : Student demonstrates organization in their writing: Introduction, body, and conclusion. APA format of 12 size font, title page, reference page, 1-inch margins.
100 points	<b>TOTAL</b>

### **Academic Integrity**

To excel in this class and achieve a high grade, it is important to dedicate time and effort to your studies. Keeping up with the assigned readings and materials is crucial for success. It will enhance your understanding of the subject matter and allow you to actively participate in class discussions and assignments. Plagiarism, or using someone else's work without proper acknowledgment, will not be tolerated. It is important to respect your own work and the work of others by properly referencing any sources used.

Additionally, following all guidelines for writing assignments and other tasks is crucial. Not meeting the required length for papers or failing to adhere to the specified formatting and citation style may result in a lower grade. Therefore, pay close attention to the instructions provided for each assignment and ensure that you fulfill all requirements. Respecting your peers is essential in creating a positive and conducive learning environment.

Grades in this class are based on a point system, meaning that the more points you accumulate, the higher your grade will be. By adhering to these guidelines and committing to your studies, you can expect to succeed in this class and achieve a high grade.

### **Late work**

NO LATE WORK ACCEPTABLE in this course. Meeting deadlines for assignments is a strict requirement for this course. While there may be exceptional circumstances that could warrant an extension, they will be infrequent and granted only in rare cases in which you must provide documentation.

### **Technical Problems**

I recommend NOT using Internet explorer or Safari when using blackboard for better internet connection use Google chrome or Firefox. Call the HELP DESK if you have any technical problems.

### **Drop Rule**

If you make the decision to drop the course, it is your responsibility to do so. I will not drop the course for you. Failure to do so may result in a grade of “F” on the student’s academic record. Students are limited to a six course drop during their academic career. There are a few exceptions that may allow a student to drop a course without having it counted toward the six-drop limit. For more information on that check the UTEP’s academic website.

**Note: 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](mailto: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](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass). CASS’ Staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.**

### **Grades**

All grades will be posted on blackboard. The following will be used to determine grades:

<b>Course Grade</b>	<b>Total Points</b>	<b>Percentages</b>
A	750-668	100-89 %
B	667-592	88-79%
C	591-517	78-69%
D	516-443	68-59%
F	442-below	58- 0%

### **ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF SUBMITTING WORK IN CASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES**

I strongly suggest that you submit your work with plenty of time to spare in the event that you have a technical issue with the course website, network, and/or your computer. I also suggest you save all your work (answers to discussion points, quizzes, exams, and essays) in a separate Word document as a back-up. This way, you will have evidence that you completed the work and will not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through the course

website, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can email me your back-up document as a last resort before the due date!

### **Guidance on Artificial Intelligence**

#### **AI prohibited**

Use of AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as [ChatGPT](#) or [DALL-E](#), is *not allowed* for assignments in this class. Each student is expected to use critical and creative thinking skills to complete tasks and not rely on computer-generated ideas. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

#### **AI allowed with proper acknowledgement**

Use of AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as [ChatGPT](#) or [DALL-E](#), is *only allowed with proper attribution given for its use*.

Students must properly cite and give full credit to the program used upon submission of every relevant assignment. For example, text generated using ChatGPT must be cited:

Chat-GPT(version). Date of query (year/month/day). “Text of your query.”  
Generated using OpenAI. <https://chat.openai.com/>

#### **Using AI for brainstorming**

Some AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as [ChatGPT](#) or [DALL-E](#), can be beneficial during the early brainstorming stages of an activity, and you are welcome to explore them for that purpose. However, keep in mind that AI-generated ideas are not your own and may hinder your ability to think critically and creatively about a problem. It is also important to remember that these technologies often “hallucinate” or produce materials and information that are inaccurate or incomplete—even providing false citations for use.

That said, you are not allowed to submit any AI-generated work in this course as your own. If you use any information or materials created by AI technology, you are required to cite it like you would any other source. Consider how this will affect your credibility as a writer and scholar before doing so. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

## COURSE CALENDAR

<b>WEEK 1</b>	<b>Introduction to Sociology Syllabus</b> <b>Chapter 1: The Sociological Imagination</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discussion #1: Introductions</li> <li>● Syllabus Check-In</li> <li>● Discussion #2</li> </ul>	January 20, 2024 By midnight
<b>WEEK 2</b>	<b>Chapter 2: Methods</b> <b>Chapter 3: Culture and Media</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discussion #3</li> <li>● Check-In #2</li> <li>● Utilizing Research Writing Assignment</li> </ul>	January 27, 2024 By midnight
<b>WEEK 3</b>	<b>Chapter 4: Socialization and Construction of Reality</b> <b>Chapter 5: Groups and Networks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discussion 4</li> <li>● Check-In #3</li> </ul>	February 3, 2024 By midnight
<b>WEEK 4</b>	<b>Chapter 6: Social Control and Deviance</b> <b>Chapter 7: Stratification</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discussion #5</li> <li>● Check-in #4</li> </ul>	February 10, 2024 By midnight
<b>WEEK 5</b>	<b>Chapter 8: Gender</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discussion #6</li> <li>● Check-In #5</li> <li>● Gender in the Toy Aisle</li> </ul>	February 17, 2024 By midnight
<b>WEEK 6</b>	<b>Chapter 9: Race</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discussion #7</li> <li>● Check-In #6</li> </ul>	February 24, 2024 By midnight
<b>WEEK 7</b>	<b>Chapter 10: Family</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discussion #8</li> <li>● Check-in #7</li> </ul>	March 2, 2024 By midnight