

**GRAYSON COLLEGE**

**SOCI 1301**

**Master Syllabus**

**Course Information: Federal Government**

**(Core Course)**

**Please Note: Due to extenuating circumstances, including public health issues, course and testing delivery methods, instructional schedules, housing contracts, campus procedures and/or operating hours may be altered, interrupted and/or ceased for a limited or extended period of time. Such changes will be posted on the College website.**

**Professor Contact Information**

Name: Dana J. Kermanian, M.Ed.

Office: LA 212C

Email: kermaniand@grayson.edu

Please communicate by Canvas messages or by appointment.

*\* I will be online regularly throughout the week and periodically on the weekend to check on my courses and our progress throughout the semester.*

**Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

*Reading and Writing Intensive*

**Course Description**

Introduction to the concepts and principles used in the study of group life, social institutions and social processes.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Explain the sociological perspective and its three main theoretical foundations (functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism).
2. Identify how the sociological perspective differs from other disciplinary approaches to examining our social world.
3. Distinguish between quantitative and qualitative research methodologies (how sociologists collect, interpret, and evaluate data).
4. Explain the significance of key sociological concepts such as culture, social structures, social institutions, and stratification.
5. Apply key course concepts to current events, social inequality, and personal lives as a demonstration of master of sociological perspective

**Required Textbooks (ISBN # included) and Materials**

Our book is free and can be downloaded at: <https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-sociology-2e>

### **Suggested Course Materials**

**Access to a computer with Microsoft Office, flash drive, small stapler, highlighters, note cards, access to printer, and the Internet. Campus computers are available during specified hours.**

**Semester Timeline: Introduced in the following order:**

Week	Chapters/Learning Activities
1	<b>Chapter 1 An Introduction to Sociology</b>
2	<b>Chapter 2 Sociological Research</b>
3	Team Presentations and Exam
4	<b>Chapter 3 Culture</b>
5	<b>Chapter 4 Society and Social Interaction</b>
6	<b>Chapter 5 Socialization</b>
7	Team Presentations and Exam
8	<b>Chapter 6 Groups and Organization</b>
9	<b>Chapter 7 Deviance, Crime, and Social Control</b>
10	<b>Chapter 8 Media and Technology</b>
11	Team Presentations and Exam
12	<b>Chapter 9 Social Stratification in the United States</b>
13	<b>Chapter 10 Global Inequality</b>

14	Team Presentations and Exam
15	Project Presentations
16	Project Presentations Final Exam

**In case of inclement weather, emergency closings, or other unforeseen disruptions to scheduled classes, student must log onto their Canvas accounts for directions on where or how to continue their coursework.**

**Grades will be determined as follows:**

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = Below 60

### **Grading**

Exams	5 X 50	250
Final Exam		50
Short Answer Essay		100
Participation and Professionalism	16 X 25	400
Quizzes	10 X 10	100
Culmination Project and Presentation		100
Total Points		1000

## Methods of Instruction

In-class and online activities, presentations, team activities, quizzes, exams, writing activities, and discussions.

### Short Answer Essay Exam

1. What is the sociological imagination? (20 points possible)
  - What is the text's definition? o Cite the location in our text where you found the definition
  - Give a definition in your own words with an appropriate example.
  - 150 words
2. What is a social norm and please give an example? (20 points possible)
  - What is the text's definition? Cite the text's definition
  - Give a definition in your own words
  - Give an example of a social norm using "The Body Rituals of the Nacirema"
  - This article can be found on the internet at:  
<https://www.msu.edu/~jdowell/miner.html>
    - Minimum of 150 words
3. Using the "Ring of Gyges" you must: (20 points possible)
  - This story can be found on the internet at:  
[http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/phl201/modules/Philosophers/Plato/plato\\_dialogue\\_the\\_ring\\_of\\_gyges.html](http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/phl201/modules/Philosophers/Plato/plato_dialogue_the_ring_of_gyges.html)
  - Identify a social norm, giving a brief example from the story
  - Identify a law, giving a brief example from the story
  - Is that norm still practiced in modern time? Why or why not?
  - Is that law still practiced in modern times? Why or Why not?
  - Minimum of 150 words
4. After reading the essay by Timothy Knight please give your personal reflection. Think about the sociological impact of the catharsis brought about by watching the movie. Do you think this movie would give you a new insight, or reinforce how you already feel? This reflection must be at least 150 words. (20 points possible) (Reflection is included in the module).
5. Mary wants to write an academic paper on Fetal Alcohol syndrome (FAS). She wants to know if the laws passed have had a positive or negative effect on the number of occurrences of FAS. Address the following points: (20 points possible)
  - What is qualitative sociological research?
  - What is quantitative sociological research?
  - Which method would be best for Mary? Explain why.
  - Minimum of 150 words.

## Course & Instructor Policies

- I expect all assignments to be completed within the specified deadlines. Should you have an extraordinary circumstance occur that delays you, please message me immediately.
- Students may contact each other or the professor through Canvas messages.

- Plagiarism will result in the grade of “F” on an assignment. If a circumstance arises of which two students submit work that is the same or very similar, both students will receive a zero and the respective Chair and Dean may be contacted about the student misconduct.

### **Class Attendance**

Academic success is closely associated with regular classroom attendance and course participation. All successful students, whether on campus or online, are expected to be highly self-motivated.

All students are required to participate in courses regularly and are obliged to participate in class activities and complete and submit assignments following their professors’ instructions. Students taking courses during compressed semester timeframes such as mini-semester, summer sessions, and mid-semester should plan to spend significantly more time per week on the course. Responsibility for work missed because of illness or school business is placed upon the student. More than two (2) absences are considered to be excessive. In addition, students’ eligibility to receive financial aid or live in a College dormitory can be affected by withdrawal from courses. When withdrawal occurs, any tuition refund would be made in accordance with state regulations.

### **Student Conduct & Discipline**

- *Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum online inside the virtual classroom, that includes respect for other students and the instructor.*
- *Use of profanity, harassing behavior, and/ or obscene language/gestures is strictly prohibited.*
- *Students are expected to maintain prompt and regular attendance online, as well as a positive attitude conducive to the learning environment.*
- *The professor reserves the right to dismiss any student that is disrupting the learning environment.*

### **Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable.

Plagiarism will result in the grade of “F” on an assignment.

### **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a form of scholastic dishonesty involving the theft of or fraudulent representation of someone else's ideas or words as the student's original work. Plagiarism can be intentional/deliberate or unintentional/accidental. Unintentional/Accidental plagiarism may include *minor* instances where an attempt to acknowledge the source exists but is incorrect or insufficient. Deliberate/Intentional plagiarism violates a student's academic integrity and exists in the following forms:

- Turning in someone else's work as the student's own (such as buying a paper and submitting it, exchanging papers or collaborating on a paper with someone else without permission, or paying someone else to write or translate a paper),
- Recycling in whole or in part previously submitted or published work or concurrently submitting the same written work where the expectation for current original work exists, including agreeing to write or sell one's own work to someone else,
- Quoting or copy/pasting phrases of three words or more from someone else without citation,
- Paraphrasing ideas without citation or paraphrasing incompletely, with or without correct citation, where the material too closely matches the wording or structure of the original,
- Submitting an assignment with a majority of quoted or paraphrased material from other sources, even if correctly cited, when original work from the student is expected,
- Copying images or media and inserting them into a presentation or video without citation,
- Using copyrighted soundtracks or video and inserting them into a presentation or video without citation,
- Giving incorrect or nonexistent source information or inventing source information,
- Performing a copyrighted piece of music in a public setting without permission,
- Composing music based heavily on someone else's musical composition.

Please refer to your course syllabus. Infractions may result in disciplinary options on behalf of the faculty member and/or dean.

### **Student Responsibility**

You have already made the decision to go to college; now the follow-up decisions on whether to commit to doing the work could very well determine whether you end up working at a good paying job in a field you enjoy or working at minimum wage for the rest of your life. Education involves a partnership that requires both students and instructors to do their parts. By entering into this partnership, you have a responsibility to show up for class, do the assignments and reading, be engaged and pay attention in class, follow directions, and put your best effort into it. You will get out of your experience here exactly what you put into it – nothing more and nothing less.

## **TITLE IX**

GC policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status.

Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: sexual violence (sexual assault, rape), sexual harassment and retaliation.

For more information on Title IX, please contact:

- Molly M. Harris, Title IX Coordinator (903)463-8714
- Logan Maxwell, Title IX Deputy Coordinator - South Campus (903) 415-2646
- Mike McBrayer, Title IX Deputy Coordinator - Main Campus (903) 463-8753
- Website: <http://www.grayson.edu/campus-life/campus-police/title-ix-policies.html>
- GC Police Department: (903) 463-8777- Main Campus) (903-415-2501 - South Campus)
- GC Counseling Center: (903) 463-8730
- For Any On-campus Emergencies: 911

\*\*Grayson College is not responsible for illness/injury that occurs during the normal course of classroom/lab/clinical experiences.

\*\*These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.

\*\* Grayson College campus-wide student policies may be found at the following URL on the College website: <https://www.grayson.edu/currentstudents/Academic%20Resources/index.html>