Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Shannon Little
Instructor Rank: Associate Professor
Instructor Email: slittle@southwest.tn.edu
Instructor Website: http://faculty.southwest.tn.edu/slittle
Instructor Office: Macon W37
Office Hours: For Spring 2021 I will not be available on campus. I am available to you through PAWS email at anytime. Please communicate with me through PAWS, not SWTTC or personal email so I can keep all your emails together with your course records.

Virtual Hours: M/R 1-3, T-W 6-8 F 10-12

Instructor Phone: During the COVID 19 campus closure, I will not be available at my office number. If you would like to speak by phone, please email me with your number and the best time to call, and I will contact you.
Department Fax: (901) 333-4537
Department Phone: (901) 333-5195

Course Information

Course Description
Introduction to Sociology introduces the student to the field of Sociology - its concepts, methods, theories and theorists. The sociological perspective is used in examining social interaction, social
structures and social change.

**Student Learning Objectives**

Upon completion of this course the student will: recognize, describe, and explain social institutions, structures, processes and the complexities of a global culture and a diverse society think critically about how individuals are influenced by political, geographic, economic, cultural, and family institutions in their own and other diverse cultures and explain how ones own belief system may differ from others. explore the relationship between the individual and society as it affects the personal behavior, social development and quality of life of the individual, the family and the community examine the impact of behavioral and social scientific research on major contemporary issues and their discipline's effects on individuals and society use the most appropriate principles, methods, and technologies, perceptively and objectively gather, analyze, and present social and behavioral science research data, draw logical conclusions, and apply those conclusions to one's life and society take ethical stands based on appropriate research in the social and behavioral sciences analyze and communicate the values and processes that are used to formulate theories regarding social context of individual human behavior for the social and behavioral sciences

**Prerequisites**

Students must successfully complete Reading 0810 and Writing 0810 or equivalent test scores before enrolling in this course

**Corequisites**

None

**Instructional / Learning Methods**

This is an online, reading intensive class in which students will read, take online quizzes, and participate in discussions. Discussions will take place through the class discussion boards and students research topics and will apply current events, class concepts, and their experiences to sociological concepts.

**Specific Course Requirements**

In addition to assigned reading and writing assignments, students are required to keep abreast of current events including local and national politics, and international conflicts. Students are encouraged to listen, watch, read the news, and apply current events when they participate in academic discussion through our discussion forums. Students should draw on material from a broad variety of
publications and sources to provide a more global perspective.

Textbooks, Supplementary Materials, Hardware, and Software Requirements

Required Text


You MUST have this text and edition to successfully complete this course. You will not need an access code so you may buy used.

Additional Text
None

Hardware Requirements
The software listed below is recommended for any student accessing Southwest services through the internet. Your course may have specific software requirements.

- Windows 7, Vista, XP
- Mac OS X (up to 10.6) (OS 10.6 recommended)
- Linux with a Supported Browser
- Internet Explorer 7+
- Firefox 3+
- Opera 9+
- Safari 4+
- Current Anti-Virus protection
- Reliable Internet connection (broadband recommended but not required)
Assignments must be submitted using Microsoft Excel or Microsoft Word. To learn how to obtain discounted software from Microsoft, visit http://southwest.tn.onthehub.com.

If this course requires the use of a computer, these are general recommendations for accessing any of the services that Southwest offers on the Web (e.g. My.Southwest, etc.).

- Intel i7 or equivalent; 4.9GHz or higher
- 15" monitor; Capable of at least 1024 X 768 resolution, 1,000:1 contrast ratio
- DVD-Rom may be required for installation of software
- Built-in or external webcam and microphone required for courses that have exams proctored. Also, some courses may involve students making use of the video conferencing software. For these courses, a headset with a microphone is required.
- at least 2 GB of RAM or higher (recommended)
- (optional) scanner and/or printer

Software Requirements

The software listed below is recommended for any student accessing Southwest services through the internet. Your course may have specific software requirements.

- Windows 7, Vista, XP
- Mac OS X (up to 10.6) (OS 10.6 recommended)
- Linux with a Supported Browser
- Internet Explorer 7+
- Firefox 3+
- Opera 9+
- Safari 4+
- Current Anti-Virus protection
- Reliable Internet connection (broadband recommended but not required)

Assignments must be submitted using Microsoft Excel or Microsoft Word. To learn how to obtain discounted software from Microsoft, visit http://southwest.tn.onthehub.com.
The software listed below is recommended for any student accessing Southwest services through the Internet. Your course may have specific software requirements.

- Windows 10
- Mac OS 10.15 (Catalina)
- Firefox (latest)
- Microsoft Edge (latest)
- Chrome (latest)
- Internet Explorer: DO NOT USE WITH PAWS
- Current Anti-Virus protection
- Reliable Internet connection (broadband recommended)
- Acrobat Reader [Download from Adobe: https://get.adobe.com/reader/ ]

Many instructors may require assignments to be submitted using Microsoft Excel or Microsoft Word. To learn how to obtain discounted software from Microsoft, visit http://southwest.tn.onthehub.com.

Assessment and Grading

Method of Evaluation

Students will be evaluated through four discussion topics (200 Points), and 17 chapter quizzes (680 points). This allows students the opportunity to work with Sociological concepts and theories on both objective and subjective levels, as well as apply the curriculum to current topics. Further, discussion is important to compare and contrast others opinions and beliefs with one's own.

It is understood that all students will submit work on time and through the proper channels. No work will be accepted through email. The only acceptable channels for submitting assessments is through the PAWS tabs. Students will not present the work of anyone other than him/herself without proper citation. This includes any research presented in the discussion component. Plagiarism can result in the loss of credit for a discussion, loss of opportunity for bonus work, or failure for the class in general.

Points are not averaged for this class, but are accumulated. At any point you can see the number of points you have accumulated, how many are still available, and assess where you stand.
Grading Scale

A  792-880
B  704-791
C  616-703
D  528-615
F  below 528

Major Assignments

Quizzes

There is a chapter quiz for each chapter. You should complete each quiz after reading the chapter. There are 40 questions for each quiz. Students have one hour and unlimited attempts to complete each quiz within that one hour time frame. The highest grade for each quiz will be automatically posted to the gradebook. Once a quiz is closed, it cannot be retaken and the highest grade will be final.

Discussions

You will be asked to read and respond to the questions under "Join the Blog!" or "What do you think?" for 4 required topics from your text. These discussions will be opened and closed at published times throughout the semester. Dates, topics, chapters, as well as detailed instructions are published under the Discussions tab. You can also confirm dates in the calendar and Chapter Content tabs.

For each topic you are asked to post an initial thread answering each of the questions following the reading. In this initial thread you are expected to use course terms from the text and power points, current events, and research to support your positions. (up to 25 points). Then respond to classmate's posts using the same criteria. You will receive up to 5 points for each response, based on the instructions for posts below (up to 25 points). Although external research is not necessary, if you use material from any source other than our text or power points, you must cite that source within the body of your discussion.

You will not be able to read other student posts until you have completed your initial thread. These discussions are an opportunity for you to demonstrate your understanding of the course topics and as such, are a significant part of your grade. Please apply research, sociological terms, and concepts to support your response. When you respond to posts it is not sufficient to agree, disagree, or repeat an
opinion you have previously posted. Please do not repeat the same information on multiple posts. You will be credited for duplicate information only once. It is highly encouraged to bring in current events to advance the discussion. Think of this as a conversation. You should advance the conversation by contributing information or raising additional questions just as you would in class. You would not raise your hand in class just to say, "I disagree.", so treat this as an academic conversation you would have face to face.

Check the discussion and post often. You may receive credit for up to 2 posts in a 24 hour period, so start early, check in, and post frequently. Remember, your initial thread is also considered a post. Please review the class content on "Netiquette" before you post. Submissions that do not conform to those requirements may be deleted and points forfeited. Each topic is open for approximately two weeks - no late submissions can be accepted.

**Participation / Attendance Policy**

All students are expected to log in on a regular basis to check assignments, email, and participate in discussions. All assignments are clearly posted; no late work will be accepted. All dates for assessments are posted and should be noted at the beginning of the term.

If there is any time throughout the semester that you have a question, please contact me and we can discuss the issue.

**Policy on Student Professional Conduct**

All students are expected to maintain academic professionalism while using this site.

*All communication should reflect proper grammar and usage.

*Students should be fair, accurate and respectful in all communications with fellow students, staff and faculty.

*Students are expected to respond to constructive criticism from faculty in an appropriate manner.

*Students should maintain proper E etiquette (no profanity, no writing in all caps).

**Additional Policies**

Initial attendance is determined by reading all getting started materials, carefully reviewing the syllabus, and sending me an email that you accept these policies and procedures. In addition, you must place an introduction on the Discussion boards. These two activities constitute initial attendance.
Guidelines for Communications

Email Guidelines
Each student has been provided a Southwest email account. Please do not email your classmates unless the topic relates specifically to this course. Emails that contain advertisements, solicitations, personal interests, etc. are strictly forbidden. Below are a few guidelines that you should keep in mind when sending email:

- Always include a subject line.
- Typing in all CAPS is considered SHOUTING in Cyberspace. So please use upper and lower case characters when sending emails.
- Remember, without facial expressions some comments may be taken the wrong way. Be careful in wording your emails and use good Netiquette.
- Use standard fonts.
- Do not send large attachments without permission.
- Respect the privacy of other class members.

Online instructors will respond to all emails within 48 hours.

Discussion Guidelines
There will be four mandatory discussions, each worth 50 points, based on the required reading posted under the Discussions tab. Students are to post a response to each question posed at the end of the reading in the discussion area and respond to at least five other student posts for each question. You must post your response first, thoroughly responding to all questions from the reading and applying class concepts as often as pertinent. (25 points) Second, you will be able to see and respond to others in your class. (5 points) When responding to others, simply agreeing or disagreeing is not sufficient. Please make a post that furthers the conversation, brings in examples from the book, or offers an alternate perspective. It is acceptable to disagree, as long as we remember this is an academic website and we disagree without becoming disagreeable. Posts should be made throughout the period each discussion is open, so credit will be given for only two posts per day, including the initial thread.

Sometimes I will respond to your post, some not. It is no indication on the quality of any post. Sometimes I simply like to emphasize an important point or expand the direction we are moving.
Finally, remember this is an academic post and we are engaging in a conversation. We are not tweeting, texting, or facebooking. Please use complete sentences, spell correctly and avoid nonverbal signals like all caps.

Below are a few guidelines that should be adhered to when using the Discussion forum. Messages that contain advertisements, solicitations, personal interests, etc. are strictly forbidden.

- Review the discussion threads thoroughly before entering the discussion.
- Please try to maintain threads by using the "Reply" button rather starting a new topic.
- Do not make insulting or inflammatory statements to other members of the class. Be respectful of others' ideas.
- Be patient and read the comments of other group members thoroughly before entering your remarks.
- Be positive and constructive in group discussions.
- Respond in a thoughtful and timely manner.

**Technical Support**

**My.Southwest:** Submit a [Student Technical Support Request](#). Please provide a full detailed explanation of the problem.

**PAWS:** For course related questions, contact your instructor. For technical issues with the PAWS website, contact the College Helpdesk at (901) 333-4357 or Digital Learning at (901) 333-4612.

**Course Topics**

**Tentative Schedule**

I recommend that you complete the chapter activities at a pace of 1-2 chapters each week. Please review the opening and closing dates for discussions, quizzes, and exams and note those dates so you will stay on task.

- Sociological Perspectives
- Sociological Investigation
• Culture
• Society
• Socialization
• Media
• Social Interaction
• Groups and Organizations
• Deviance
• Sexuality
• Social Stratification
• Social Class in the United States
• Global Stratification
• Gender Stratification
• Race and Ethnicity
• Aging and the Elderly
• The Economy
• Politics and Government
• The Family
• Religion
• Education
• Health and Medicine
• Population, Urbanization, and Environment
• Collective Behavior and *Social Movements
• Social Change

Student Services

Embedded Librarian Service

This service may be found inside PAWS courses.

Two Southwest Librarians are assigned to work with you and your instructor throughout the course for the entire semester. The Librarians will suggest library resources and answer questions sent to "Ask A Librarian."
To contact a Librarian by email, go to the Classlist and select "Ask A, Librarian."

**Student Services Links**

- [Academic Support Centers / Tutoring](#)
- [Advising](#)
- [Campuses, Centers, and Site](#)
- [Student Disability Services](#) Southwest Tennessee Community College is committed to serving all students, including students with disabilities, and adheres to the guidelines set forth in Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- Additional Links: [Student Information & Services](#)

**Academic Support**

The Academic Support Center (ASC) provides free services and resources to help Southwest students successfully reach their academic and career goals. These services include tutoring by peer and master tutors, computer labs, success workshops, academic coaching, early alerts from your instructors and areas for individual or group study at numerous locations. The ASC also provides Supplemental Instruction in some of our general education classes and the Center is also responsible for Academic Progress Reporting so that you will be aware of your academic standing during the 5th-6th week of the semester. Online tutoring services are offered through Smarthinking 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Simply login to your PAWS to access this online tutoring resource.

**Additional Information**

---

**Drop/Withdrawal Dates**

See the current official college [academic catalog](#) for the withdrawal policies. Important semester drop and withdrawal dates can be found on the [Cashier's Office Important Dates](#) page.

**Academic Misconduct**

Plagiarism may result in a fail for the assignment or the class. Do not cut and paste from the internet. I will always run a plagiarism software to check and will find your source if you do. Remember that if you quote directly from another source, **including your text**, you must use quotation marks. Simply citing a source without marks is still plagiarism. If you quote, paraphrase, or even express an idea from **any** source including your text, please cite that source. Wikipedia is not an academic source, but may be a cultural touchstone and can be used in that sense. For citing references you can choose MLA,
APA or ASA style, but be consistent with whichever you choose.

Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. A student guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly, through participation or assistance, is immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. The instructor has the authority to assign an "F" grade or a zero for the exercise or examination, or to assign an "F" for the course. College sanctions for academic misconduct may include suspension or dismissal from the College. Please see the section in the current Catalog on Academic Misconduct.

**Classroom Behavior:** Any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct violating the general rules or regulations of the College may be ordered to temporarily leave the classroom. Extended or permanent exclusion from the classroom can be achieved only through appropriate procedures of the College.

**Open Labs**

**Macon Cove Campus**

- Bert Bornblum Library: Available during [library hours](#)
- Farris Building, Room 2131: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Union Avenue Campus**

- Jess Parrish Library - Available during [library hours](#)
- M Building, Room 105, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

**Gill Center**

- Computer Lab, Room 101 (Please note this room is available when classes are not scheduled. Schedule fluctuates each semester.)
- Library - Available during [library hours](#)

**Maxine A. Smith Center**

- Open Lab, Room 101
- Library - Available during [library hours](#)

**Whitehaven Center**

- Open Lab, Building 6, Room 127
- Library - Available during [library hours](#)
Syllabus Updates

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to change at any time. Students will be notified if any changes are made. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus.