This semester, you will be exposed to the basic terms and concepts used in sociological inquiry; you will learn how to use this sociological terminology and concepts to understand the social forces shaping your life; you will write about these concepts in order to practice expressing yourself and to develop your analytical skills through writing. In the course of our discussions in class, and the assignments you complete, you will apply your newly developed sociological understanding to our contemporary society and the issues it faces, and you will learn how to consider your own experience and the world around you through a sociological lens. If you do the work, the new perspective you acquire just might open your eyes to a brighter and more fascinating world.
This is a sample syllabus only. (Do not purchase the textbook until you confirm with the instructor.)

Course Goals
In the course of the semester students will learn how to

--Define sociology and employ a sociological perspective when looking at social life. Employing a sociological perspective involves analyzing any social situation in terms of how race, class, gender, history, economics, culture, and power influence people’s behavior and relationships.
--Write objectively about how race, class, gender, history, economics, culture, or power influence social issues, or one’s own life.
--Explain and use key concepts such as race, ethnicity, gender, class, globalization, socialization, culture, bureaucratization, social stratification, ethnocentrism, cultural relativism, alienation, anomie, social agency, modernization, secularization, and stereotypes, among others.
--Recognize the various ways social forces shape contemporary life.
--Demonstrate the ability to summarize and critically analyze readings.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completing this course, students will be able to
1) Demonstrate an understanding of, explain, and discuss the main theories, concepts and methods of sociology as presented in the text and in class.
2) Apply the theories and concepts of sociology to current events and your everyday life as one form of critical analysis.
3) Show improvement of your overall written expression.
4) Demonstrate the ability to summarize and critically analyze readings.

ASSESSMENTS

To assess students' achievement of the first outcome, students will have to present a summary of one of the class readings to the class, write discussion questions about that reading, and moderate a discussion of those questions. If the student can clearly articulate the ideas in the reading, and write and discuss questions about that reading in a way that shows they grasp how social structure shapes human behavior, then they will have achieved a portion of outcome #1.

To assess students' ability to explain and discuss the concepts and methods of sociology, and to assess how students apply the theories and concepts of sociology to current events and their everyday life, (outcomes #1 and #2) students will also have to complete a series of short written assignments in which they describe sociological methods and concepts from the reading, define them, and give examples of how these ideas can be used to understand social life. Over the course of these assignments, students' achievement of outcome #3 will be assessed.

To assess the students' achievement of the outcomes #2 & #4, students will create a visual presentation and write a short paper in which they will use sociological concepts to examine an aspect of everyday life, and summarize and critically analyze readings from the course as part of an overall argument. If they summarize correctly and analyze the reading clearly, then they will have achieved outcome #4.

In addition to these assessments, students will take 3 objective exams that will test their understanding of sociological concepts, and assess how well they are developing that understanding over the course of the semester.
REQUIREMENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exams-30%</th>
<th>Contractual Performance -30%</th>
<th>Progress Portfolio –40%</th>
<th>Final Grade -100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You will take 3 exams some portion of which will be multiple choice or written</td>
<td>This grade includes: -Attendance [e.g. logging on every week at least 2 times] -Posting to the Discussion Board at least 3 times a week -Online behavior and attitude -Class Discussion Leadership -Preparedness (being prepared involves reading 40-65 pages per week from the text and reader and including ideas and quotations from the reading in your discussions each week that indicate what you have read and your ideas about what you've read about)</td>
<td>By semester's end, portfolio will contain: -Visual Sociology Essay -Links to the Visual Sociology Project -Discussion Leadership printed materials -Quizzes -Worksheets -Examples of your best thoughts and writing about the class and what you have learned, excerpted from the blog journal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

++++ Please NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

You will receive a grade of 'F' if your cumulative average is less than 60% -- this means that even if you complete all of the assignments, to pass this course, you will need to earn a passing grade on each of them. A grade of 'F' will also result from any of the following circumstances: you miss or fail more than one exam, OR you hand in fewer than 50% of your assignments, OR your miss class more than 8 times. In other words, missing a large proportion assignments or handing in assignments that do not earn a passing grade will result in an F in the class.

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>63-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60-62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 and below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION (including some helpful hints):

Reading
You will be required to read
1 chapter from the Charon text per week
1-2 articles from the Adler reader each week
1-2 articles online periodically
This is a sample syllabus only. (Do not purchase the textbook until you confirm with the instructor.)

This is a total of 40-65 pages of reading each week. Doing the reading is the most important requirement for this class. To get the most out of class, you will need to complete your reading by the date specified on the syllabus. Take notes on the reading, and be prepared to use your notes for participating in class. I can give you information on access to information about strategies for getting the most out of your reading during the first few weeks of the semester if you feel the need for it.

Writing Your Progress Portfolio
Each of you will need to store all the work you do for the semester in a file that will be saved and not run the risk of being deleted or lost before the end of the semester. Keep a file on your computer AND on a backup disk of ALL of your work as you create it during the semester. Do NOT rely on the Blackboard site as a place to store your work. Backup copies are imperative, I will not accept that you completed the work but then the file didn't get saved, or accidentally deleted as an excuse for missing or late work. This work will make up the contents of your Progress Portfolio due at semester's end. This file or folder will help you see the developing level of your performance during the course of the semester, and will help both of us to track your progress during the course of the semester. We will explore the possibility of presenting your Progress Portfolio work at the end the semester in the form of a wiki or web page.

Computer Access for Discussion and Staying informed
1. Regular use of the internet and blackboard software is an integral part of this course, so easy access to a computer is a must. Every student must use her/his BMCC/CUNY email address. Only your official BMCC email address will be accepted. Get your email address, user name, and passwords as soon as possible by following the instructions on the BMCC website, or going to room S165, the Help Desk, for assistance. You will need your USERNAME and password access Blackboard, our class website. Please note that your EMAIL and USERNAME are not the same thing.
2. Blackboard will be used in this class to access assignments, the syllabus, as well as for communication. A brief overview of Blackboard is available at www.bmcc.cuny.edu/it/blackboard/gettingstarted.html.

Attendance Policy

At BMCC, the maximum number of absences is limited to one more hour than the number of hours a class meets in one week. For example, you may be enrolled in a four-hour class that meets four times per week. You are allowed 5 hours of absence (not 5 days). In the case of excessive absences, the instructor has the option to lower the grade or assign an F or WU grade. Since we do not meet in person, what constitutes an absence? If you do not post to the Discussion Board for the class at the times postings are due, that will count as an absence. What does this mean? Missing one to two deadlines for posting will not affect your grade (unless of course you miss a quiz or test that week or you miss an important discussion that becomes the subject of an exam). If you are miss 3 or more posting deadlines in the course, your attendance grade will be lowered in the following manner: for that third miss, you will lose 5 points off your Contractual Performance grade; for each additional missed post, you will lose 5 more points, and so on. It is your responsibility to make sure you turn in any assignments you miss, even if they are turned in late.

I reserve the right to withdraw any student whose absences become excessive (e.g. who does not post for 4 weeks or more in a row).

Please note: When you attend is also important: If you do not post to the discussion board at least once in the first 3 weeks of the course and once in the 4th or 5th weeks, the Office of the Registrar is required to assign a grade of WU which, if your attendance does not improve, will turn into an F and adversely affect your Grade Point Average.
This is a sample syllabus only. (Do not purchase the textbook until you confirm with the instructor.)

Academic Adjustments for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments for this course must contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. BMCC is committed to providing equal access to all programs and curricula to all students.

BMCC Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Statement

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's ideas, words or artistic, scientific, or technical work as one’s own creation. Using the idea or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations, require citations to the original source. Plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Lack of dishonest intent does not necessarily absolve a student of responsibility for plagiarism.

Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The library has guides designed to help students to appropriately identify a cited work. The full policy can be found on BMCC's web site, www.bmcc.cuny.edu