HSS Elective Introduction to Sociology Course Syllabus
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INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Jan D. Reinhardt; **EMAIL:** reinhardt@scu.edu.cn, **WECHAT**: jan310172
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment.
LECTURES: Mon 1:50 – 4:25 pm at room 204, Zone 3
TEACHING ASSITANT: Jiayi Nie; **EMAIL:** niejiayi@stu.scu.edu.cn
TEXTBOOK: Richard Münch. Sociological Theory. From the 1850s to the present. 3 volumes. Chicago: Nelson Hall, 1994.
REFERENCE BOOK: Münch, Richard. Sociological Theory I. From the 1850s to the 1920s. Chicago: Nelson Hall, 1994; Münch, Richard. Sociological Theory II. From the 1920s to the 1960s. Chicago: Nelson Hall, 1994, 354 S; Münch, Richard. Sociological Theory III. Development Since the 1960s. Chicago: Nelson Hall, 1994, 352 S.

DESCRIPTION: This course is an introductory course to sociological theory and methods from the 20th century to the present. This includes a sociological perspective on phenomena such as the significant and generalized other, self and personal identity, meaning, consciousness, body, memory, sickness, power, authority, rationality, social roles and role conflicts, technology, deviant behavior, belief, love and marriage, communication and mass media, organizations, and social systems.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The course objective is that students understand the basics of the sociological approach and learn about concepts, theories, and methods that have not only shaped the discipline but are pivotal to our understanding of society and ourselves.

LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE:
1. The students understand the sociological perspective on everyday phenomena.
2. The students understand philosophical concepts underlying sociological theory.
3. The students comprehend basic arguments of different sociological theories.
4. The students learn to approach a topic from the sociological stance and present it to an audience in an innovative way.
5. The students learn to reflect on social systems and themselves.

GRADE: The final grade will be based on the score. The score is a number determined by
Active participation (20%), integrated group presentation (80%)
The final letter grade is determined from the following table.

A: 90 – 100	A−: 85 – 90	B+: 80 – 85	B: 76 – 80	B−: 73 – 76
C+: 70 – 73	C: 66 - 70	C−: 63 - 66	D: 60 – 63	F: < 60

PRESENTATION: Students can select from the list of topics provided by me or suggest their own topic. They will form groups with 2-4 members. In the second half of the class, student teams will present a lecture, debate, or performance related to their chosen topic during class. I will provide additional theoretical background, put the presentation into context, and wrap up. Dates for individual presentations will be negotiated with student groups. Earlier presentations will receive bonus scores due to limited preparation time.

ATTENDANCE: You are expected to attend all classes; however, I will not check attendance. A student who misses a class is responsible for finding out what was covered in the class.

MAKE-UP POLICY: Makeup work or presentations will be allowed in special cases only such as certified sickness.

CODE OF ACADEMIC CONDUCT: All students in attendance at the Sichuan University are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. Academic misconduct includes all acts of dishonesty in any academically related matter and any knowing or intentional help or attempt to help, or conspiracy to help, another student. The Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy will be followed in the event of academic misconduct.

NON-ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: All cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off and out of sight while you are in the classroom. All newspapers and other materials not related to the class are to be put away once class begins. Operating these devices and reading unrelated materials while in class is disrespectful of your instructor and fellow classmates. If you fail to abide by this rule, the instructor has the right to confiscate the device or materials. If you have an emergency and need to have your phone turned on during class, ask your instructor for permission

MATERIAL COVERED: The preliminary sequence of the topics covered in this class is as follows. The schedule may be subject to change based on topics and presentation dates proposed by and negotiated with the students.

Date	Topic
Week 1 September 4	Complexity, meaning, communication, consciousness
Week 2 September 11	The omnipresence of the other I, strangers and strangeness of society
Week 3 September 18	Self and society
Week 4 September 25	National Holiday
Week 5 October 2	Do animals have consciousness and societies?
Week 6 October 9	Gender identity
Week 7 October 16	Social roles
Week 8 October 23	Norms and deviant behavior including crime, bullying etc
Week 9 October 30	Power, authority, rationality, and history

Week 10 November 6	Individuals, families, organizations
Week 11 November 13	Love, marriage, sexuality
Week 12 November 20	Art (music, literature, painting etc.)
Week 13 November 27	Technology
Week 14 December 4	Body, sickness, and medicine
Week 15 December 11	Mass media and new social media
Week 16 December 18	Consciousness and (false) memories
Week 17 December 25	Why social systems/societies fail
Week 18 January 1	The society of the society (Niklas Luhmann's systems theory)