



Department of Sociology & Social Work
SOC 260-1 Sociological Analysis
3 Units

Fall 2017

Meeting days: Tuesday & Thursday	Instructor title and name: Daniel Davis
Meeting times: 11:00 – 12:15 pm	Phone: 707-362-0186 (voicemail only)
Meeting location: Rohr Hall 112	E-mail: danieldavis@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: 12/14/17 10:30 – 1:00 pm	Office location and hours: Rohr Hall #110, after class or by apt.

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Department Mission

As followers of Christ, our mission is to nurture servant scholars who critically evaluate social and cultural patterns, and constructively engage as agents of hope.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Sociology 260 is designed as a bridge course, preparing students who have taken SOC 101 to be ready to take a sociological theory course and a social research methods course. Core sociological theories and methods will be introduced, as well as encouraging students to reflect on the application of sociological ideas to real world situations. A proposal will be developed that they can carry into a methods course or for a senior thesis. A component of professionalization is also included in the course, including information about preparing for graduate school and internships.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Confidently apply sociological theory to daily situations
- Understand and articulate the differences between sociology and other social science disciplines
- Comfortably read and comprehend sociological journal articles
- Possess the tools to write a proposal for a research project and capably present the design
- Begin serious planning for how to leverage the sociology major in post-graduate life, such as getting into graduate school or preparing to apply for particular careers

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

DATE PRESENTED	CLASS CONTENT OR ASSIGNMENT	ASSIGNMENT DUE DATE
8/31/17	Course Overview & Establishing Groups	Syllabus
9/5/17	Sociology Type Assessment (www.sociologystyle.com)	Sociology Style (\$3) & SB Introduction
9/7/17	Professional Associations: ASA, PSA, NASW, NCJA, etc.	SB 1-4
9/12/17	Peer Reviewed Journal Articles & Google Scholar	SB 5-8
9/14/17	Journal Activity 1: Bring 1 Article	SB 9-12; 1 Article
9/19/17	Journal Activity 2: Bring 3 More Articles	SB 13-16; 3 Articles
9/21/17	Career Focus: Graduate School & OSV	SB 17-20
9/26/17	Career Focus: LinkedIn, Resumes, & CV	SB 21-24; LinkedIn & Resume
9/28/17	Career Focus: Interviews, Shadowing, Interning	SB 25-28
10/3/17	Career Focus: Tests & Test Prep	SB 29-32; 1 Interview Notes
10/5/17	ASA Style and References	SB 33-36
10/10/17	Annotated Bibliography (10+ journal articles)	SB 37-40; Ann. Bibliography
10/19/17	Methods: Types of Research and Basic Research Binaries	SB 41-44
10/24/17	Methods: Data Sources	SB 45-48
10/26/17	Methods: Operationalization	SB 49-52
10/31/17	Methods: Research Software	SB 53-56
11/2/17	Methods: Aligning Research Questions with Appropriate Methods	SB 57-60; Proposed Methods
11/7/17	Career Focus: Early Career Planning	SB 61-64
11/9/17	Career Philosophy & Plan Workshop	SB 65-68; Career Philosophy & Plan
11/14/17	Methods: Literature Reviews	SB 69-72
11/16/17	Methods: Timeline, Budget, Access → Your PLNU Research Agenda	SB 73-76
11/21/17	Methods: Literature Review Workshop	SB 77-80; Literature Review
11/23/17	Thanksgiving Break – No Class	
11/28/17	Methods: Giving Presentations	SB 81-84
11/30/17	Future of Sociology: Big Data & Computational Social Science	SB 85-88
12/5/17	Presentations	Presentation
12/7/17	Presentations	Presentation
12/14/17	Presentations	Research Proposal

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

- Atkinson, Sam (Editor). *The Sociology Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained*. 2015. New York, NY: DK Penguin Random House. ISBN-13: 978-1465436504

All other articles or videos will be assigned in-class and posted on Canvas.

BRIEF ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS (More information will be given in class)

Discussion Leading (4 x 5pts): Summarize key ideas and lead group discussion on readings. Template on Canvas.

Sociology Style (5pts): Take the assessment at sociologystyle.com. Costs \$3. Bring results page; paper or digital.

1 Article (5pts): Find, print, and bring one key peer-reviewed journal article relevant to your final paper topic.

3 Articles (5pts): Similar to before, except bring pdfs of three new articles plus the printed first pages.

LinkedIn & Resume (5pts): Complete and bring a printed resume and digital access to a LinkedIn profile.

Informational Interview (5pts): Bring 1pg of typed or handwritten notes from your informational interview.

Annotated Bibliography (5pts): Bring an annotated bibliography with at least 10 journal articles in ASA style.

Proposed Methods (5pts): Bring a 2-3 page double-spaced proposed methods section.

Career Philosophy & Plan (5pts): Bring a 1-2 page outline of what you think you want to do, and why.

Literature Review (10pts): Turn your annotated bibliography into a full-fledged literature review.

Presentation (10pts): Give a 5min presentation with slides on your research proposal.

Research Proposal (10pts): Turn in a polished version of your proposal (i.e. literature review + methods).

Participation (10pts): Lose a point each day absent, late, distracted, or disruptive. Be present, punctual, prepared.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

• Discussion Leading	20%		
• Sociology Style	5%		
• Article 1	5%	A=93-100	C=73-76
• Article 3	5%	A-=92-90	C-=70-72
• LinkedIn & Resume	5%	B+=87-89	D+=67-69
• Informational Interview	5%	B=83-86	D=63-66
• Annotated Bibliography	5%	B-=80-82	D-=60-62
• Proposed Methods	5%	C+=77-79	F=0-59
• Career Philosophy & Plan	5%		
• Literature Review	10%		
• Presentation	10%		
• Research Proposal	10%		
• Participation	10%		

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.
