

Soc 595a: Introduction to Graduate Study

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Fall 2017

Social Sciences 415, F 2:00-2:50; Office Hours: T, Th. 2-3 pm.

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Course Description:

This pro-seminar is an introduction to graduate study in sociology. It is the first of three 1-unit professionalization seminars you will take with the DGS as you progress toward the PhD (the others are 595b, Research Presentations, and 595c, Job Market Preparation).

Learning Objectives:

The objective of the course is to introduce first year students to the discipline of sociology and to faculty in the UA School of Sociology, and to orient first year students to stages in their graduate training and professionalization more generally. We'll discuss topics such as the discipline of sociology, MA paper, comprehensive exams, dissertation, teaching, doing research, publishing in academic journals, and writing grant proposals. In addition, several sociology faculty members will join us to discuss their research and the graduate courses they teach, providing a way for you to familiarize yourself with the faculty resources here in the department.

There will be short readings for some classes. These will be announced in advance and circulated or available on the web. *For example, for Week 2, you will want to re-read the School of Sociology Graduate Program Handbook and Tips for Arizona Sociology Graduate Students.* For some weeks, there may be additional written tips pertaining to a given substantive topic that will be distributed to you in class.

Schedule:

Aug. 25 What is sociology? Careers in Sociology

Sept. 1 MA paper, research with faculty, teaching, comprehensive exams, dissertation.

NOTE: Before the Sept. 1 class, please review your *School of Sociology Graduate Program Handbook* and *Tips for Arizona Graduate Students*. Also, please read the Shulman and Silver Reading, "The Business of Becoming a Professional Sociologist: Unpacking the Informal Training of Graduate School," *The American Sociologist*. Come to the seminar prepared to ask questions and help orient discussion to those issues that are of most concern to you.

Sept. 8: Faculty: Jeff Sallaz (confirmed)

Sept. 15 Faculty: Jenn Earl (confirmed)

Sept. 22 Research, conference presentations, publications, grants and fellowships.

Sept. 29: Faculty: Joe Galaskiewicz (confirmed)

Oct. 6	Faculty: Jeremy Fiel (confirmed)
Oct. 13	Faculty: Dan Martinez (confirmed)
Oct. 20	Faculty: Christina Diaz (confirmed)
Oct. 27	annual grad evaluations, CV, applying for jobs
Nov. 3	Faculty: Terrence Hill (confirmed)
Nov. 10	No class (Veterans Day)
Nov. 17	Faculty: Ron Breiger (confirmed)
Nov. 24	No class (Thanksgiving)
Dec. 1	End of semester wrap-ups

Grading Policy

Your grade in this class depends on attendance and participation. You may be asked to do some short readings or review particular administrative documents prior to particular classes. These will be announced and provided.

The only other assignment is that you must complete an online training session on working with human subjects (even if you will not be doing research on human subjects in the foreseeable future). This can be done at any time at <http://www.irb.arizona.edu/training>. Please provide me with proof that you have done the training.

Grade will be calculated as follows: (100 points total)

71.5%: Attendance (You get 5.5 percentage points per class for showing up. If you have an *excused* absence, you will also get these attendance points, but you will not get any attendance points if you have an unexcused absence).

18.5%: Participation (If you contribute to class discussion on a given day, you get 1.5 percentage points. If a given class were to provide no opportunity for discussion, you would still get your discussion points for the day.)

10%: Completion of IRB online training (You get 10 percentage points for completion of the training).

You need 90% of the points to receive an A, 80% of the points to receive a B, 70% of the points to receive a C and 60% of the points to receive a D. Less than 60% of the points yields a failing grade.

Attendance Policy

I will *pre*approve absences if there is a credible personal, health, or professional reason.

UA policy concerning Class Attendance and Administrative Drops is available at: <http://catalog.arizona.edu/2014-15/policies/classatten.htm>

UA policy on absences and accommodation of religious holidays is available at: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/policies-and-codes/accommodation-religious-observance-and-practice>.

Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean designee) will be honored. See: http://uhap.web.arizona.edu/chapter_7#7.04.02

Classroom Behavior:

To foster a positive learning environment, students may not text, chat, make phone calls, hunt Pokémon, or surf the web during class. Students observed engaging in disruptive activity will be asked to cease this behavior. Students who continue to disrupt the class will be asked to leave the classroom and may be reported to the Dean of Students.

The Arizona Board of Regents' Student Code of Conduct, ABOR Policy 5-308, prohibits threats of physical harm to any member of the University community, including to one's self. See: <http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/threatening-behavior-students>

Accessibility and Accommodations:

It is the University's goal that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options. You are also welcome to contact Disability Resources (520-621-3268) to establish reasonable accommodations. For additional information on Disability Resources and reasonable accommodations, please visit <http://drc.arizona.edu/>.

If you have reasonable accommodations, please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

Please be aware that the accessible table and chairs in this room should remain available for students who find that standard classroom seating is not usable.

Student Code of Academic Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity as described in the UA General Catalog. See: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity>
<http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/academic-integrity/students/academic-integrity>.

Selling class notes and/or other course materials to other students or to a third party for resale is not permitted without the instructor's express written consent. Violations to this and other course rules are subject to the Code of Academic Integrity and may result in course sanctions. Additionally, students who use D2L or UA email to sell or buy these copyrighted materials are subject to Code of Conduct Violations for misuse of student email addresses. This conduct may also constitute copyright infringement.

Additional Resources for Students:

UA Non-discrimination and Anti-harassment policy:

<http://policy.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/Nondiscrimination.pdf>

UA Academic policies and procedures are available at:

<http://catalog.arizona.edu/2014-15/policies/aaindex.html>

Student Assistance and Advocacy information is available at:

<http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/student-assistance/students/student-assistance>

Confidentiality of Student Records: <http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/ferpa/default.htm>

Subject to Change Statement:

Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.