

Sociology 1000 [D2]
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Fall Semester, 2008
Grande Prairie Regional College
Monday & Wednesday: 14:30 - 15:50 hrs.

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The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to the 'sociological perspective' and the sociological/social science enterprise. Central to the sociological perspective is to show the close relationship between how people interact with each other, and how organizations and institutions impact upon or govern their interaction. We will explore this two-way relationship by studying the fundamental principles by which societies and cultures are organized, and by examining the variety and kinds of organizations, institutions and behavior patterns people have created and engage in. The *interdisciplinary* and *empirical* nature of social science research will be stressed in this course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Term Test #1 (20%)..... October 1st
Term Test #2 (20%)..... November 5th
Term Test #3 (20%)..... December 3rd
Assignments (4 @ 10% each)..... TBA; #4 due Dec. 8th

REQUIRED TEXTS

[other materials will be distributed on an as-needed basis]

John Steckley and Guy K. Letts, 2007, Elements of Sociology: A Critical Canadian Introduction. Oxford University Press: Don Mills.

EXAMINATIONS AND SEMESTER WORK

Tests (60%) may consist of multiple choice questions, true-and-false (+ justified!), and/or glossary terms/concepts -- based on all lecture and text materials. Details on the **assignments (40%)** will be discussed early in the semester. **Note that there is no final exam; the last assignment, based on the last few chapters, will be due in class on the last day of classes, December 8th.** The other assignment dates will be announced. Attendance at lectures is strong advised; the same applies to your active participation during class.

PLEASE NOTE:

☛ A missed test unfortunately cannot be accommodated - *unless the situation is an unexpected personal or family emergency. No make-up tests unless it's an emergency.*

⇒ What the course assignment(s) entails (40% of your course grade) will be discussed in detail as classes get underway and as the course progresses. *You will be provided with instructions and relevant information with plenty of lead time. Details and due dates will be announced in class and on Blackboard.*

Plagiarism detection software may be used in this course, and students may be required, individually or collectively, to submit key assignments/components in electronic form.

It is your responsibility to ensure that all your work is at a level appropriate to your year in college/university studies. Always spell- and grammar-check your work; always keep a hard copy or disk copy of your work as back-up. There is writing help on campus, and if in doubt you are always welcome to ask me, your instructor, for clarification. Poor spelling, grammar and organization always interferes with the clear communication of ideas and you *will* lose marks if your over-all communication is ineffective.

Attendance at lectures is strongly encouraged; the same applies to your participation in class discussions. ***Be an active participant in your education!***

Late assignments (or any applicable assignment/course components) will result in an automatic loss of 5 marks (of the value of the work) PER DAY, up to and including the day of a late submission, unless immediate or prior arrangements, based on exceptional circumstances, have been made. Documented personal or family emergencies, of course, will be accommodated.

WEEKLY LECTURE/READING SCHEDULE

Refer to the *detailed* table of contents in the text for more specific chapter content. The chapters and weeks will overlap, giving you the chance to get 'caught up' or to read ahead, as the case may be. *The chapter schedule below is intended to help you set a pace relative to your other courses and commitments.* Also, and this is very important, please note that lecture content will include much material that does *not* appear in the text – so this is a 'heads up' on why it's important to attend class on a regular basis!

Week of:

September 8, 10 -- Introduction to the course, discussion of course requirements;
Steckley & Letts, Chapter 1 – introduction to sociology

September 15, 17 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 2 – research methods

September 22, 24 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 3 – culture and society

September 29, October 1 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 4 – socialization

Test # 1 on October 1st

October 6, 8 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 5 – deviance and crime

October 13, 15 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 6 – the family (**no class on 13th**)

October 20, 22 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 7 – health and medicine

October 27, 29 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 8 – social inequality

November 3, 5 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 9 – race and ethnicity

Test # 2 on November 5th

November 10, 12 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 10 – gender (**no class on 10th**)

November 17, 19 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 11 – globalization

November 24, 26 -- Cont'd; Steckley & Letts, Chapter 12 – social change

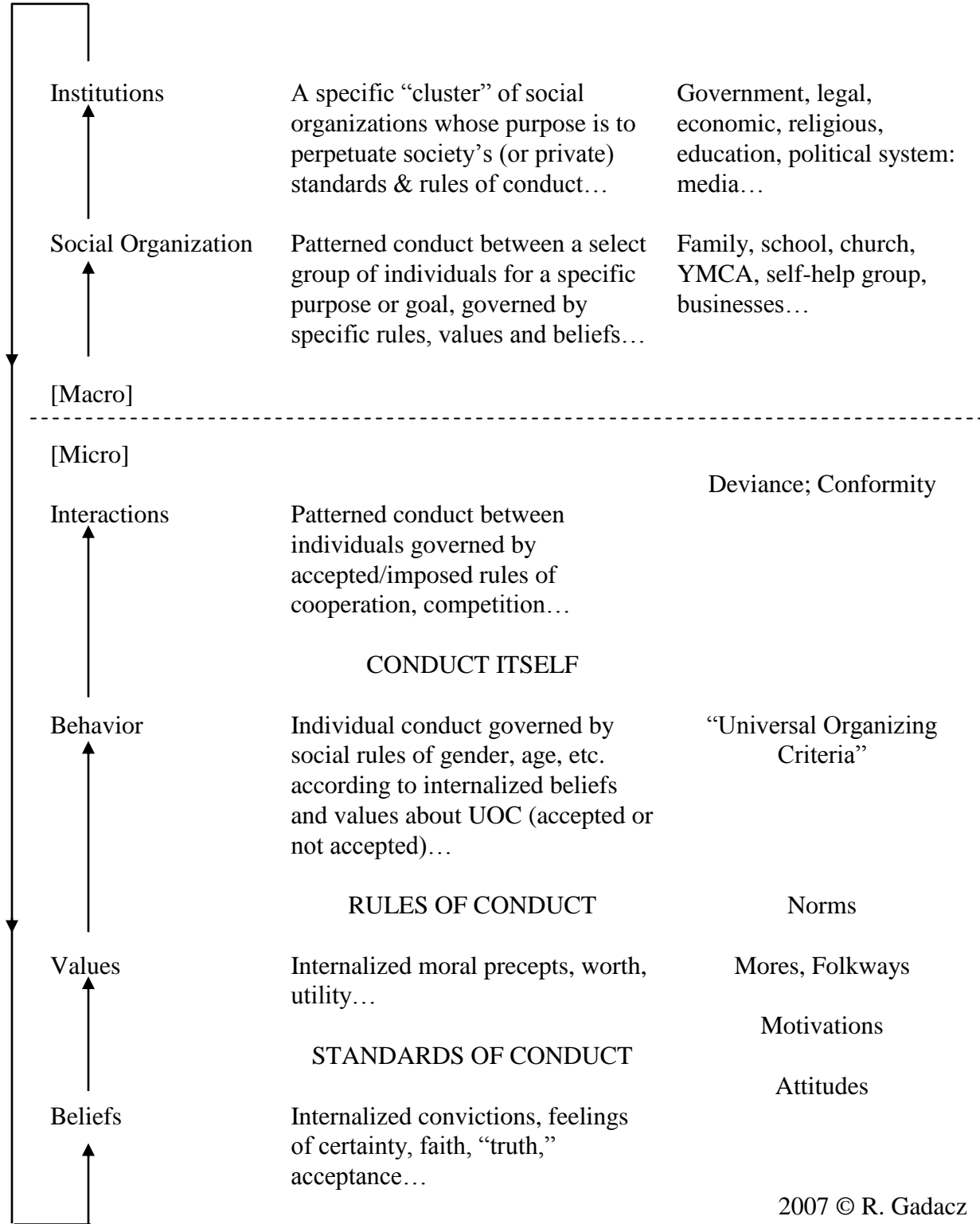
December 1, 3 -- Cont'd; **Test # 3 on December 3rd**

December 8 – Cont'd; **Assignment #4 due**

[Classes end December 8, 2008]

GENERAL SCHEME OF SOCIETY

“The Social System”



GRADING SYSTEM

Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage Range	Description
A+	4.0	95 - 100	<i>Outstanding</i>
A	4.0	85 - 94	<i>Excellent</i>
A-	3.7	80 - 84	
B+	3.3	76 - 79	
B	3.0	73 - 75	<i>Good</i>
B-	2.7	70 - 72	
C+	2.3	67 - 69	
C	2.0	64 - 66	<i>Satisfactory</i>
C-	1.7	60 - 63	
D+	1.3	55 - 59	
D	1.0	50 - 54	<i>Minimal Pass</i>
F	0.0	0 - 49	<i>Fail</i>

Six Ways To Make This Course More Valuable:

- 1. Participate, to engage your learning**
- 2. Question, to enhance your learning**
- 3. Read, to expand your learning**
- 4. Reflect, to measure your learning**
- 5. Apply, to transfer your learning**
- 6. Innovate, to adapt your learning**