

Sociology 4341 (Section 002)
SOCIAL CHANGE
Fall Semester, 2004
M W 3:10 - 4:30
116 Stubbs Hall

Mark Schafer, PhD
Office: 131 Agricultural Administrative Building
Office Phone: 388-5357
Office Hours: Monday, 2:00 - 3:00
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome to Sociology 4341, Social Change. The subject is broad, and we will generally follow the text, *Exploring Social Change: America and The World*, in our quest to develop some understanding of societal and individual change.

The text has four parts, but I organize the course into three sections: (1) Social Change in the United States, (2) Theories and Processes, (3) and Global Change. I may supplement text chapters with additional readings, usually posted on the Semester Book.

I invite and encourage students participate in classroom discussions.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Harper, Charles and Kevin Leicht. *Exploring Social Change: America and the World, Fourth Edition*.

Ngugi Wa Thiong'o. *The River Between*.

GRADING POLICY

Grades will be based on three exams:

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|----|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | First Exam | 30% |
| 2. | Second Exam | 30% |
| 3. | Final Exam | 40% (30% new, 10% comprehensive) |

Exam format may vary. Typically, I use essay format or a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions.

NOTES

Attendance, etc: Please attend all classes, come on time, turn off cell phones, and stay to the end of each class. Thank you.

Open Door Policy: I have scheduled office hours for Monday, from 2:00pm to 3:00pm. However, all students are welcome to email, call my office, or stop by my office any time during the semester.

Semester Book: We will use Semester Book. I use it to post grades and reading materials, give details and reminders about exams, and send/receive e-mails.

Syllabus changes: I try to keep the original syllabus throughout the semester. However, I reserve the right to change the syllabus if it is necessary. If a change is necessary, I will make an announcement in class and post a revised syllabus on Semester Book.

Academic Dishonesty: The vast majority of students have the highest standards of academic integrity. Only very few engage in academically dishonest activities. To be fair to all students, I will uphold my responsibility to report to the Dean of Students any form of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on exams).

Missed Exams: I prefer NOT to give make-up exams. Please try to make all scheduled exams. If you miss an exam, you must (1) have a valid excuse, (2) inform me in advance or as soon as possible afterward, and (3) make up the exam at the first opportunity.

COURSE OUTLINE

-----Part 1-----

- Week 1 Readings: *Chapter 1: Introduction, start *The River Between**
 Aug 23 Introduction
 Aug 25 Introduction
- Week 2 Readings: *The River Between, Chapter 2: Structural Trends*
 Aug 30 The River Between
 Sep 1 Structural Trends
- Week 3 Readings: *Chapter 2: American Social Trends*
 Sep 6 Labor Day
 Sep 8 Cultural Themes
- Week 4 Readings: *Chapter 3: Population, Family, and Work*
 Sep 13 Demographic Change: US and Louisiana
 Sep 15 Change in Family and Work
- Week 5 Readings: *Chapter 4: Economics, Politics, and the American Prospect*
 Sep 20 Changing Economy
 Sep 22 Change in Political System & American Prospect
- Week 6 Readings: *None: Prepare for First Exam*
 Sep 27 First Exam Review
 Sep 29 **First Exam**

-----Part 2-----

- Week 7 Readings: *Chapter 5: Causes and Patterns of Change*
 Oct 4 Economic Development
 Oct 6 Global Politics and Third World Poverty
- Week 8 Readings: *Chapter 6: Social Theory and Social Change*
 Oct 11 Functionalism Versus Conflict Theories
 Oct 13 Agency-Structure Debate
- Week 9 Readings: *Chapter 7: Social Movements*
 Oct 18 Discussion on Social Movements
 Oct 20 Video: Freedom on my Mind
- Week 10 Readings: *Chapter 8: Reform Movements*
 Oct 25 Discuss video
 Oct 27 American reform movements
- Week 11 Readings: *None, Review for Second Exam*
 Nov 1 Review for Second Exam
 Nov 3 Second Exam

-----Part 3-----

Week 12	Readings:	<i>Chapter 12: Emerging Global System</i>
	Nov 8	Development
	Nov 10	Globalization
Week 13	Readings:	<i>Chapter 10: Technology, Innovation, and Change</i>
	Nov 15	Discussion
	Nov 17	Guest Speaker: ICT diffusion worldwide
Week 14	Readings:	<i>Chapters 13 & 14: Ecology and Change & World Futures</i>
	Nov 22	Ecology and Change
	Nov 24	World Futures
Week 15	Readings:	<i>Chapter 11: Creating Change</i>
	Nov 29	Creating Change Discussion
	Dec 1	Review for Third Exam
Final Exam:	Dec 9	(5:30 - 7:30pm)