

SOCI 210: Sociological Perspectives

Dec. 1

1. Course review
2. Exam notes

Course Review

Course review

Some of the

Substantive topics

- ∴ Race & ethnicity
- ∴ Disability
- ∴ Gender
- ∴ Class
- ∴ Inequality
- ∴ Politics & the state
- ∴ Social movements
- ∴ Institutions
- ∴ Technology

Some of the

Theories and concepts

- ∴ **Structural functionalism**
- ∴ **Conflict theory**
- ∴ **Symbolic interactionism**
- ∴ Social construction
- ∴ Socialization
- ∴ Boundary maintenance
- ∴ Social norms
- ∴ Culture
- ∴ Social change

Any combination of the theories and concepts on the right can be applied to any set of the topics on the left

Course review

Some unifying themes

Everything is social*

(*at least in part)

- ∴ Social forces permeate every aspect of our lives
- ∴ Everything from the material world we inhabit to the way we perceive that world is influenced by our society

History matters

(a.k.a. colonialism!)

- ∴ A society cannot be separated from its historical context
- ∴ Histories of colonialism, domination, exploitation, etc. affect every social institution
- ∴ Social institutions change slowly

Power structures align

(Marx had a point...)

- ∴ Many social systems embed power relations
- ∴ Power and oppression are self-reinforcing
- ∴ The divisions we see in any one institution (e.g. race) are very likely reflected in another institution (e.g. class)

Exam Notes

Exam notes

Essay questions

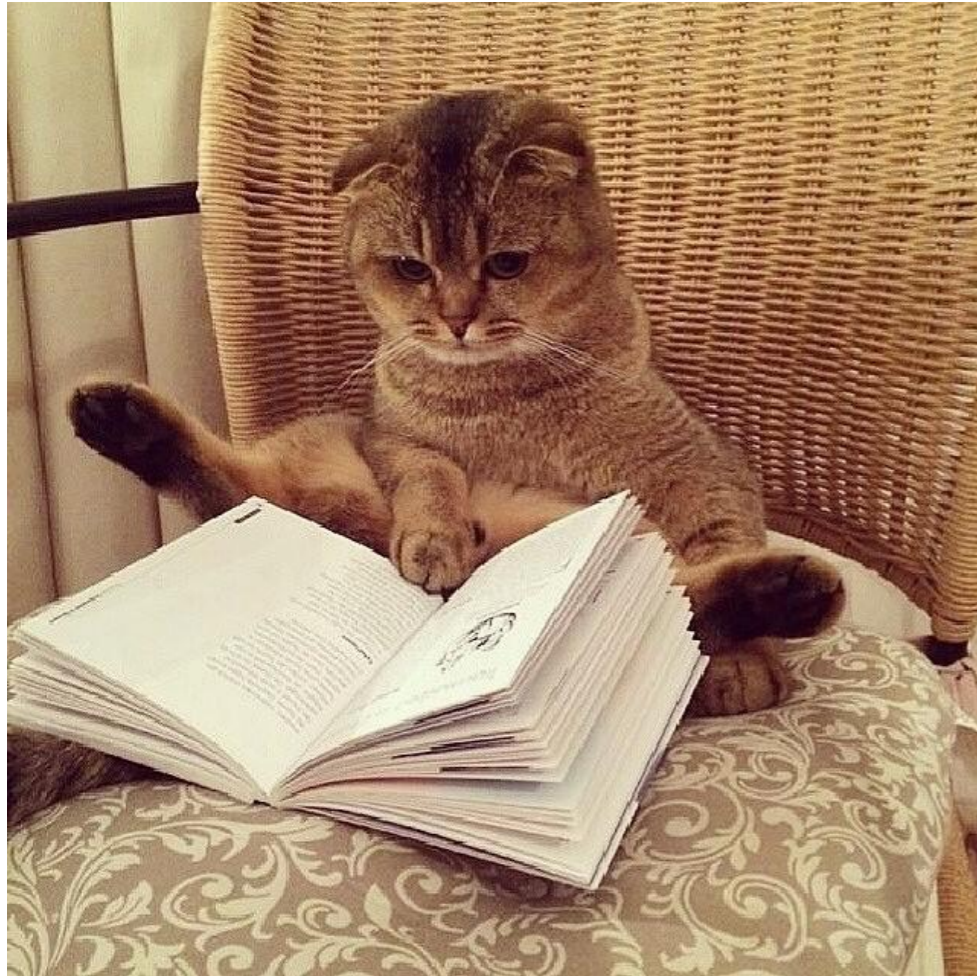
- ∴ Choose 4 of 6 prompts
- ∴ Aim for about 400 words (~1 page) per response; include a word count with each essay
penalty for essays with >800 words
- ∴ Define underlined terms
- ∴ You should cite readings you refer to, but you do not need a reference list at the end
e.g. (Tolentino 2019)
- ∴ Prompts will be similar to group-discussion prompts
- ∴ Open-note and open-book, but responses must be in your own words

Distribution

- ∴ Posted to MyCourses at 8:00pm on December 18
- ∴ Due on MyCourses at 9:00am (*sharp*) on December 22
- ∴ No time limits beyond the due date, but I do not intend the exam to take all three days
5–6 hours should be plenty of time



Tips for studying and taking the exam



Focus on the big concepts

- ∴ Prompts will be oriented toward larger topics and concepts
- ∴ Prioritize understanding over memorization (remember, it's open-book!)

Know the course structure

- ∴ The slides and readings of the course are focussed on the important topics and concepts
- ∴ Try to be able to summarize the major points from each lecture and each reading

Don't overdo it

- ∴ Your responses should be concise and focused on the prompt
- ∴ Resist the urge to include irrelevant knowledge