

SYLLABUS

SOC/3306

Sociology of Poverty
Autumn 2020 (full term)
3 credit hours
Online

COURSE OVERVIEW

Instructor

Instructor: To be determined.

Email address: (preferred contact method)

Phone number:

Office hours:

Course description

Our goal is to use a sociological lens to explore the topic of poverty. The main argument of this course is that poverty is a socially constructed state of material deprivation with significant collective and individual consequences. Understanding what it means to be poor, who is categorized as poor, and what can be done to alleviate poverty requires us to move beyond personal opinions and widespread stereotypes. Our task is to examine empirical research on poverty and interpret the findings with the help of sociological theories. Together we will learn about the history, sources, patterns, consequences, and policies that shape poverty in the U.S. and around the world.

Our time together will focus on the following activities:

1. Read the assigned selections until you understand them.
2. Take online reading quizzes to assess your comprehension.
3. Listen to lectures that strongly emphasize the readings.
4. Participate in class discussions to solidify your understanding.
5. Study for the test by testing yourself beforehand.
6. Take the test to demonstrate what you have learned.
7. Repeat steps 1-6 three more times.

General Education Objectives: Sociology 3306 meets the GE requirement for Diversity - Social Diversity in the United States.

- Goals: Students understand the pluralistic nature of institutions, society, and culture in the US and across the world in order to become educated, productive, and principled citizens.
- Expected Learning Outcomes: (1) Students describe and evaluate the roles of such categories as race, gender and sexuality, disability, class, ethnicity, and religion in the pluralistic institutions and cultures of the US and (2) Students recognize the role of social diversity in shaping their own attitudes and values regarding appreciation, tolerance, and equality of others.

HOW THIS ONLINE COURSE WORKS

Mode of delivery: This course is 100% online. There are no required sessions when you must be logged in to Carmen at a scheduled time.

Pace of online activities: This course is divided into **weekly modules** that are released one week ahead of time. Students are expected to keep pace with weekly deadlines but may schedule their efforts freely within that time frame.

Credit hours and work expectations: This is a **3-credit-hour course**. According to Ohio State policy (go.osu.edu/credithours), students should expect around 3 hours per week of time spent on direct instruction (instructor content and Carmen activities, for example) in addition to 6 hours of homework (reading and assignment preparation, for example) to receive a grade of (C) average.

Attendance and participation requirements: Because this is an online course, your attendance is based on your online activity and participation. The following is a summary of students' expected participation:

- **Participating in online activities for attendance: AT LEAST ONCE PER WEEK**
You are expected to log in to the course in Carmen every week. (During most weeks you will probably log in many times.) If you have a situation that might cause you to miss an entire week of class, discuss it with me *as soon as possible*.
- **Office hours and live sessions: OPTIONAL**
All live, scheduled events for the course, including my office hours, are optional.
Optional Zoom Sessions: Over the course of the semester, I will hold several optional Zoom sessions. These sessions will be used to review class readings and reinforce key concepts. The Zoom sessions will be held on Thursdays during the scheduled class period, 9:35 – 10:55 am. Attendance is encouraged but not mandatory.
- **Participating in discussion forums: 2+ TIMES PER WEEK**
As part of your participation, each week you can expect to post at least twice as part of our substantive class discussion on the week's topics.

COURSE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Textbooks

Required

For this course, you will need to purchase (or otherwise acquire) the two books listed below. If you have problems acquiring these books, please let me know ASAP.

1. Edin Kathryn J. and H. Luke Shaefer. 2015. *\$2.00 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. ISBN-10: 054481195X
2. Banerjee, Abhijit and Esther Duflo. 2012. *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty*. New York, New York: Public Affairs. ISBN-10: 9781610390934
3. Iceland, John. 2013. *Poverty in America: A Handbook* 3rd ed. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN-10: 0520276361
4. Kenworthy, Lane. 2013. *Progress for the Poor*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press. ISBN-10: 0199676925

Course technology

Technology support

For help with your password, university email, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the Ohio State IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at ocio.osu.edu/help/hours, and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** ocio.osu.edu/help
- **Phone:** 614-688-4357(HELP)
- **Email:** servicedesk@osu.edu
- **TDD:** 614-688-8743

Technology skills needed for this course

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen (go.osu.edu/canvasstudent)
- CarmenZoom virtual meetings (go.osu.edu/zoom-meetings)
- Recording a slide presentation with audio narration (go.osu.edu/video-assignment-guide)
- Recording, editing, and uploading video (go.osu.edu/video-assignment-guide)

Required equipment

- Computer: current Mac (MacOs) or PC (Windows 10) with high-speed internet connection
- Webcam: built-in or external webcam, fully installed and tested
- Microphone: built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone
- Other: a mobile device (smartphone or tablet) to use for BuckeyePass authentication

Required software

- Microsoft Office 365: All Ohio State students are now eligible for free Microsoft Office 365. Full instructions for downloading and installation can be found at go.osu.edu/office365help.

Carmen access

You will need to use BuckeyePass (buckeyepass.osu.edu) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the BuckeyePass - Adding a Device help article for step-by-step instructions (go.osu.edu/add-device).
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the Duo Mobile application (go.osu.edu/install-duo) to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357(HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

GRADING AND FACULTY RESPONSE

How your grade is calculated

ASSIGNMENT CATEGORY	POINTS
Tests	2 @ 280 pts=560 pts
Discussions	12 @ 20 pts =240 pts

Quizzes	12 @ 20 pts=240 pts
Total	1000

See course schedule below for due dates.

Descriptions of major course assignments

Tests

Description: Each test consists of fifty objective questions—mainly multiple choice with some true/false—to be completed in about an hour. Test questions focus exclusively on the content found in the lecture slides. You will not need to study previous quizzes to prepare for upcoming tests.

Academic integrity and collaboration: Tests will be administered online through Carmen. Students may NOT access any outside help while taking tests. For example, you may NOT use books or notes or speak to anyone during the tests. Tests will become available 48 hours before they are due. Correct answers will be made available as soon as the test is completed.

To ensure academic integrity while taking tests, students will be required to use the online proctoring tool Proctorio. This tool offers you flexibility to take your exams in the location of your choosing. Students are required to have a webcam (USB or internal) with a microphone and a strong and stable internet connection. During the course of an exam, Proctorio will record the testing environment, therefore students should select private spaces for the exam session where disruptions are unlikely and where recording devices can be enabled. To use Proctorio you must be over 18 years of age and have a valid BuckID available during the exam.

To use Proctorio you must use Google Chrome as your web browser. If you use any other web browser, you will not be able to complete tests using Proctorio. If you fail to set up Proctorio before the first test, you may receive a failing grade for that assignment. I highly recommend that you visit the following website as soon as possible for instructions on using this online tool: <https://resourcecenter.odee.osu.edu/carmencanvas/installing-proctorio>

It is possible that you will encounter a problem when attempting to install or use Proctorio. For example while attempting to access a test, you may be prompted to enter a code which you have not been given. When such issues arise, please remain calm. First check to make sure you are using the Google Chrome browser. Then contact Proctorio support at <https://proctorio.com/support>. Many students have reported receiving helpful solutions when accessing Proctorio support.

Quizzes

Description: Quizzes must be taken by yourself on Carmen, and you MAY use course materials (e.g., books, notes), but you MAY NOT seek help from anyone while taking the quizzes. Each online quiz asks questions about readings listed in the course schedule on the same day as the quiz. Although no makeup quizzes will be given, two of the twelve quizzes will count as extra credit points. Quizzes open online 24 hours before they are due. Correct answers will be made available in class when we go over each quiz.

Each quiz consists of ten objective questions—mainly multiple choice with some true/false—to be completed in about twenty minutes. Quiz questions focus exclusively on the content found in the readings.

Discussion

Description: As our course is a distance learning environment, your participation in the online discussion forums is crucial for academic success. To keep the conversation manageable, you will be placed into a smaller group on Carmen. Please take the time to introduce yourself and reply to at least one other student during the first week of the semester. For each unit, you will be expected to respond to a provided prompt. If you are the first to post, click “Reply” to this prompt. Then write 300-400 words addressing the specific requirements of the prompt. If you are not the first to post, click “Reply” to the LAST post in this thread. Then write 150-200 words addressing the specific requirements of the prompt AND an additional 150-200 words explaining how your topic relates to the previous student’s concept. If, while you are typing, another student responds to the post you were intending to respond to, you must now respond to what has become the “new” last prompt. I intend to treat these discussions as a form of interactive class participation. As long as the quality and quantity of the posts remain high, students will receive full credit for each post. However, if the overall quality and quantity of the posts begin to diminish, points will be deducted.

Discussion Forum Guidelines:

1. Don't repeat a concept has already been addressed in a given thread. Come up with something new.
2. Stay positive when discussing other students' posts. Point out strengths, not weaknesses.
3. Avoid personal stories and political opinions. Instead focus on sociological concepts.
4. Write in complete sentences. Avoid abbreviations, emojis, slang, etc.

Academic integrity and collaboration: You are expected to do your own work. You don’t work on your assignments with others, except where explicitly authorized and permitted. You don’t copy & paste answers into your assignments.

Late assignments

Late submissions will not be accepted. Please refer to Carmen for due dates.

Grading scale

93-100%: A
 90-92%: A-
 87-89%: B+
 83-86%: B
 80-82%: B-
 77-79%: C+
 73-76%: C
 70-72%: C-
 67-69%: D+
 60-66%: D
 Less than 60%: E

Instructor feedback and response time

I am providing the following list to give you an idea of my intended availability throughout the course. (Remember that you can call **614-688-4357(HELP)** at any time if you have a technical problem.)

- **Grading and feedback:** For large weekly assignments, you can generally expect feedback within **7 days**.
- **Email:** I will reply to emails within **24 hours on days when class is in session at the university**.
- **Discussion board:** I will check and reply to messages in the discussion boards every **24 hours on school days**.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Discussion and communication guidelines

The following are my expectations for how we should communicate as a class. Above all, please remember to be respectful and thoughtful.

- **Writing style:** While there is no need to participate in class discussions as if you were writing a research paper, you should remember to write using good grammar, spelling, and punctuation. A more conversational tone is fine for non-academic topics.
- **Tone and civility:** Let's maintain a supportive learning community where everyone feels safe and where people can disagree amicably. Remember that sarcasm doesn't always come across online.
- **Citing your sources:** When we have academic discussions, please cite your sources to back up what you say. For the textbook or other course materials, list at least the title and page numbers. For online sources, include a link.
- **Backing up your work:** Consider composing your academic posts in a word processor, where you can save your work, and then copying into the Carmen discussion.

Academic integrity policy

See **Descriptions of major course assignments**, above, for my specific guidelines about collaboration and academic integrity in the context of this online class.

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors

shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by university rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that you have violated the university's *Code of Student Conduct* (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the university.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

- Committee on Academic Misconduct web page (go.osu.edu/coam)
- Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity (go.osu.edu/ten-suggestions)

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Each online quiz asks questions about readings listed in the course schedule on the same day as the quiz. Although no makeup quizzes will be given, two of the twelve quizzes will count as extra credit points. No quizzes will be dropped. Quizzes open online 48 hours before they are due. Correct answers will be made available during office hours.

Student Services and Advising

University Student Services can be accessed through BuckeyeLink. More information is available here: <https://contactbuckeyelink.osu.edu/>

Advising resources for students are available here: <http://advising.osu.edu>

Copyright for instructional materials

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

Statement on Title IX

All students and employees at Ohio State have the right to work and learn in an environment free from harassment and discrimination based on sex or gender, and the university can arrange interim measures, provide support resources, and explain investigation options, including referral to confidential resources.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or discriminated against based on your sex or gender, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, or sexual exploitation, you may find information about your rights and options at titleix.osu.edu or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleix@osu.edu. Title IX is part of the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) at Ohio State, which responds to all bias-motivated incidents of harassment and discrimination, such as race, religion, national origin and disability. For more information on OIE, visit equity.osu.edu or email equity@osu.edu.

Commitment to a diverse and inclusive learning environment

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge the land that The Ohio State University occupies is the ancestral and contemporary territory of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe and Cherokee peoples. Specifically, the university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greenville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. I/We want to honor the resiliency of these tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that has and continues to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land.

More information on OSU's land acknowledgement can be found here:

<https://mcc.osu.edu/about-us/land-acknowledgement>

Your mental health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learn, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. No matter where you are engaged in distance learning, The Ohio State University's Student Life Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) is here to support you. If you find yourself feeling isolated, anxious or overwhelmed, on-demand resources are available

at go.osu.edu/ccsondemand. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614- 292- 5766, and 24-hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Prevention Hotline at 1- 800-273-TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org. The Ohio State Wellness app is also a great resource available at go.osu.edu/wellnessapp.

ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Requesting accommodations

The university strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions, please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. **SLDS contact information:** slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Accessibility of course technology

This online course requires use of CarmenCanvas (Ohio State's learning management system) and other online communication and multimedia tools. If you need additional services to use these technologies, please request accommodations with your instructor.

- Canvas accessibility (go.osu.edu/canvas-accessibility)
- Streaming audio and video
- CarmenZoom accessibility (go.osu.edu/zoom-accessibility)
- Collaborative course tools

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
Week 1 8/24-8/29	Syllabus and Intro		Listen to syllabus audio lecture on Carmen Discussion “Introduce Yourself” and Reply due on Carmen
Week 2 8/30-9/5	Measurement	Iceland p. 1-60	Complete Quiz 1 and on Carmen Discussion 1 due on Carmen
Week 3 9/6-9/12	Causation pt. 1	Iceland p. 61-113	Quiz 2 due on Carmen Discussion 2 due on Carmen
Week 4 9/13-9/19	Causation pt. 2	Iceland p. 114-129; Kenworthy 1-4, 19-32; Banerjee and Duflo vii-16	Quiz 3 on Carmen Discussion 3 due on Carmen
Week 5 9/20-9/26	Work/Welfare	Edin and Shaefer xi-63	Complete Quiz 4 on Carmen Discussion 4 due on Carmen
Week 6 9/27-10/3	Shadow Economy	Edin and Shaefer 65-91; Banerjee and Duflo 183-204	Quiz 5 due on Carmen Discussion 5 due on Carmen
Week 7 10/4-10/10	Risk	Banerjee and Duflo 133-155, 205-234	Quiz 6 due on Carmen Discussion 6 due on Carmen
Week 8 10/11-10/17	Mid-semester work		Complete Test 1
Week 9 10/18-10/24	Housing	Edin and Shaefer 65-91; Banerjee and Duflo 183-204	Quiz 7 due on Carmen Discussion 7 due on Carmen

Week 10 10/25-10/31	Health	Banerjee and Duflo 19-70, 103-129	Complete Quiz 8 on Carmen Discussion 8 due on Carmen
Week 11 11/1-11/7	Education/Finance	Banerjee and Duflo 71-101, 157-181; Kenworthy 63-69	Complete Quiz 9 on Carmen Discussion 9 due on Carmen
Week 12 11/8-11/14	Policy pt. 1	Ritzer 440-485; Kivisto 350-370	Discussion 10 due on Carmen
Week 13 11/15-11/21	Policy pt. 2	Kenworthy 89-109; Iceland 130-163	Complete Quiz 11 on Carmen Discussion 11 due on Carmen
Week 14 11/22-11/28	No class, Thanksgiving Break		
Week 15 11/29-12/5	Wrap Up		Complete Quiz 12 due on Carmen Discussion 12 due on Carmen

Final exam TBD