

IDH 2121 MW 8:00 – 10:50 AM

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IDH 2121: Interdisciplinary Studies in General Education – Honors

Course Description:

An examination of social life and how the world we share functions. Content is supported by the social and behavioral sciences with emphases on sociology and international relations. Special interest is focused on social and political cultures and how they influence individuals, social groups, agencies, and governments.

Honors program permission required. Minimum grade of “C” necessary to satisfy both the Gordon Rule and General Education requirements (this course satisfies two Area III Social and Behavioral Science courses, three credits each, combining two of the following three areas: Historical, Political/Economic, Social/Behavioral Sciences.)

At the conclusion of this course students should be able to:

1. Comprehend and appropriately use texts and other readings from multiple academic disciplines.
2. Apply the principles of sociology and international relations in understanding self, others, and the world.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the concepts of empirical social research and apply them in a variety of academic settings.
4. Recognize valid sources of academic research within a variety of academic fields.
5. Demonstrate college-level writing skills through production of papers, examinations, and in-class compositions.
6. Apply an interdisciplinary approach to problem solving.
7. Employ appropriate interpersonal skills in collaborative projects.

8. Demonstration of the skills appropriate to the development and delivery of a capstone project.
9. Demonstrate leadership skills in an academic setting.
10. Fulfill writing requirements as mandated by SBE 6A-10.30, also known as the Gordon Rule.

In addition to the above, and upon completion of the requirements of this course, the student should be able to:

(International Relations)

1. Identify the central assumptions of the realist paradigm and its critiques;
2. Explain the history of international relations and the paradigms used to study it;
3. Classify the levels of analysis and demonstrate how they are used;
4. Assess the causes and consequences of violence between and within states, ethnic, and religious groups;
5. Recognize and evaluate competing theories for explaining patterns of global trade and development and underdevelopment;
6. Identify and describe the major actors in international relations, including states, intergovernmental organizations, and non-state actors; and,
7. Use the knowledge and theoretical tools developed in the course to explain contemporary global events.

(Sociology)

1. Understand and apply principles of empirical research and critical thinking in the social sciences;
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the contributions of major thinkers to the development and expansion of sociology;
3. Explain seminal sociological concepts such as values, mores, folkways, culture, and so on;
4. Describe the process of socialization and its importance in the development of individual and social behavior;
5. Understand the importance of social concepts such as deviance, sex, gender, and sex-related behavioral expectations;
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the long-standing association between religion and schooling in the United States and how that association has changed in the modern era;
7. Describe the major tenets of secular humanism in American life; and,
8. Demonstrate knowledge of the major social and cultural impacts of religion in the United States and throughout the world.

International Relations Textbooks and Readings

The Globalization of World Politics, John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens
Oxford University Press, Seventh Edition, 2017

The New Middle East, Oxford University Press, 2017

Sociology Textbooks and Readings

The Real World . . . , Ferris and Stein, Fifth Edition, W. W. Norton & Co., New York (e-edition)

The Velveteen Rabbit, Margery Williams, Doubleday, 1958, (softback)

The Saber-Tooth Curriculum, J. Abner Peddiwell, McGraw-Hill, 2004 edition (softback)

Attendance

New financial aid rules dictate strict standards of attendance. Keep in mind that your attendance in any course could impact your financial aid. The rules governing attendance at SCF are available in the current *SCF College Catalog*. In keeping with SCF policy students may be withdrawn after missing four meetings of IDH 2121 unless approval by the instructor has been granted. Attendance is required at all regularly scheduled meetings of this course, and absences may impact a student's continued enrollment in the course as well as the score awarded for "class participation." Please note that there are no excused absences, unless there are extenuating circumstances recognized by SCF's Accommodations or, as mentioned above, the absences are approved by the course instructor.

Exception: If there are problems with attendance due to major illness, death in the family, or family emergency, please contact the course instructor as soon as possible. The automatic withdrawal is imposed at the discretion of the course instructor and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Withdrawal Policy: In accordance with the SCF policy, as stated in the college catalog, students may withdraw from any course, or all courses, without academic penalty, by the withdrawal deadline listed in the SCF academic calendar. The withdrawal date with refund is January 13, 2018; the withdrawal date without academic penalty is March 20, 2018. Students should take responsibility to initiate the withdrawal procedure, but are strongly encouraged to speak with their instructors before taking withdrawal action. In addition, students should note that faculty also may withdraw students for violating policies, procedures or conditions of the class, as outlined in the IDH 2121 syllabus, in the knowledge that such action could affect financial aid eligibility. A student may be withdrawn by the professor for absences, chronic tardiness, incomplete coursework, or inappropriate behaviors.

Standards of Conduct: Students are expected to abide by the guidelines stated in the SCF student handbook. Students must turn off and put away cell phones before the

beginning of classes unless accessing IDH 2121 online content. Texting during class is unacceptable.

Disabilities: SCF has a Disability Resource Center (DRC) to provide assistance to students. To request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact the DRC at 941-408-1448 on the Venice campus or 941-752-5295 on the Bradenton campus. You also may contact the DRC via email at DRC@scf.edu. Should you decide to contact the DRC concerning accommodations in this course, please contact your IDH 2121 instructor.

Intellectual Theft/Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use of ideas, facts, opinions, illustrative material, data, direct or indirect wording of another scholar or writer – professional or student – with appropriate attribution. Expulsion, suspension, or any lesser penalty may be imposed for plagiarism. Any form of intellectual theft, plagiarism, or cheating will result in formal notification to SCF.

Gordon Rule: This course meets the Florida State Board of Education Rule Number 6A-10.30. In accordance with this rule, students will complete written assignments totaling 6,000 words or more. A grade of “C” or better is required for credit in Gordon Rule classes.

GRADING:

(Sociology)

Examinations covering class presentations and assigned readings: Three tests using variable formats (essay, short-answer, multiple choice, matching, and so on) will be given during the semester as a measure of student understanding of material presented by the instructor as well as that contained in the assigned readings. Students will learn material specified in all unit objectives, but only a portion will be designated by random selection for inclusion on unit examinations.

Class-related assignments: These are in-class writings addressing topics under discussion. Normally these will take the form of formative evaluation, such as, “Today we discussed ‘symbolic interactionism.’ In a paragraph tell me what ‘symbolic interactionism’ means.” Each writing may earn five points and is available ONLY to students in attendance. In-class writings cannot be made up later. In some cases outside work may be assigned in this category and occasionally writings may earn more than five points at the discretion of the instructor.

Assigned Papers: A formal paper will be written on a topic provided by the instructor and will be due on a specified date. Student responses should be approximately two, double-spaced pages in length or roughly 600 words per paper. (Papers must not exceed three pages in length.) Students must use class presentations, the textbook, AND at least one other reputable source in support of the arguments contained in the paper. Should someone read a student’s response, would he feel it had been written by a college-level student with knowledge of sociology? Or, alternatively, might he think it had been written by someone with an opinion, but little or no sociological training? To do well, students must demonstrate the former option. Students may use either MLA or

APA format in citing references. [If unfamiliar with these formats consult the following link where formatting in either style is available. Go to <http://citationmachine.net> and select either MLA or APA. On the following screen choose the type of source being used from the list in the left margin. Fill in the form provided and, then, copy and paste the citation to the paper.] To earn all credit for assigned papers students must:

1. Adequately address the assigned topic;
2. Include at least three (3) sources including class presentations, assigned readings, and external, credible sources; and
3. Submit all papers by the assignment deadlines.

Evaluation Rubric for Assigned Papers:

Three areas of writing serve as the criteria for evaluation of assigned papers required in sociological component of this course. Each 100-point paper is subdivided for evaluation as follows:

Content/Argumentation – 50 points

This criterion focuses on how thoroughly and accurately the assigned topic is addressed. Consideration also is given to the accuracy and completeness of treatment.

Organization – 25 points

How logically and compellingly the paper is organized is evaluated here. Each paper should feature the required cover page, an introduction to the topic, a body of information about the topic (including at least three (3) supportive references), a logical conclusion, and a reference page.

Mechanics – 25 points

The rules of writing, grammar, and spelling are considered here. Conformity to instructions also is reflected in this criterion, e.g. length of paper, format, and so on.

NOTE: In recognition of the limited time students have, it will not be required that they go to the Writing Center for assistance with the formal paper. Experience demonstrates, though, that consultation with the Writing Center may significantly improve scores on this assignment.

Capstone Examination: A comprehensive examination selected from all sociological material presented during the semester. It will serve as the final examination.

Class Participation: The class participation score will be determined by attendance and participation in class activities throughout the semester with both criteria being evaluated at every meeting of the class. Students who cause disruptions, leave early or arrive late may be considered absent unless prior instructor approval has been secured. (When students know they will be absent they should inform the instructor by email as a courtesy. When computing current grade standings during the semester, students should assume they have 85 points in this category. The actual score will not be

awarded until after the Capstone examination and will reflect the student's behavior and class involvement over the entire semester.)

Students are required to be in attendance for all examinations. Make-up tests will not be given in the absence of prior approval by the instructor or when a doctor-certified illness is cannot be confirmed. Until an examination is made up, a grade of zero will be recorded for that exercise. All examinations in this course are written in Blue Books. Students should purchase five standard Blue Books to avoid not having one when tests are scheduled.

Optional Extra Credit: Limited opportunities for extra credit may be assigned as circumstances permit or as they may appear on examinations. Such opportunities are academic exercises and will be tied to class content and student performance on examinations and other assigned work.

(International Relations)

Tests/Examinations/Other Requirements

Examinations will include objective and essay questions. The questions for essay examinations will be given to you in advance of the due date. You will respond to all examinations at home (or wherever you wish to do so). There will be no in class exams.

Objective examinations will attempt to measure your factual knowledge.

Essay examinations will ask you to:

- describe and explain the topics under consideration;
- compare and contrast opposing approaches to international relations;
- evaluate, interpret, and analyze which approach or approaches best explains the data
- measure your ability to develop the capacity for accurate use of language and clear thinking;
- formulate valid conclusions; and
- discern assumptions behind various international relations theory and practice.

The sources needed to respond to the essay questions will be based upon:

1. the lectures and discussions held in class;
2. the assigned textbook readings;
3. the videos that will be shown in class; and,
4. other reading material that will be assigned.

It will not be necessary to consult or refer to other materials for your responses to the essay questions other than the ones noted directly above. Please note that you need not cite references found on line, in journals, in books, or any other source. The assigned materials will provide ample materials upon which you may draw for your responses.

It is imperative that you take careful and extensive in class lecture notes.

Students will be appropriately rewarded on the basis of their meaningful participation and involvement in class discussions.

GRADING SCALE:

The final grade in IDH 2121 will be based on each student's overall performance in both disciplines and reflective of the following scale:

A = 90 – 100%

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = below 60%

Additional grading rubrics will be provided at the appropriate times.

NOTICE: In keeping with college policy final course grades will not be posted on campus or provided over the telephone. Grades will be available to candidates through CANVAS. For additional information regarding grading policies, please refer to the current SCF College Catalog.

Course requirements are subject to change by the instructors as deemed appropriate to meet the needs of a dynamic academic program and the variable needs of students. It is the responsibility of each student to read and understand the syllabus and related guidelines.

ACADEMIC UNITS OF STUDY

Unit One:

Sociology

1. Introduction to the course, instructors, and expectations
2. Introduction to Sociology
3. Presentation of "the question," a semester-long contemplation.
4. Empirical Research and the Culture of What is True.
5. Leading Figures in Sociology
6. The Power of Culture

International Relations

1. Theories, Paradigms, and Approaches to IR
2. Realism
3. Liberalism
4. Feminism

5. Constructivism
6. Neo-Marxism
7. A History of World Politics

Unit Two:

International Relations

1. Individual Level of Analysis
2. State Level of Analysis
3. International Level of Analysis
4. Global Level of Analysis

Sociology

1. Human Development and Socialization
2. Deviance
3. Culture-based Maleness and Femaleness
4. Gender-based Behavioral Expectations

Unit Three

Sociology

1. General Development of Education in Human Groups
2. Associations between Religion and Schooling in the American experience
3. Influences of Social Class, Race/Ethnicity, and Gender in Education
4. Secular Humanism
5. Central Questions of Most Major Religions

International Relations

- 1 Concept of power
- 2 War Typologies
- 3 Weapons of Mass Destruction
- 4 Clash of Civilizations

Unit Four

International Relations

1. International Trade: Mercantilism and Free Trade
2. Globalization
3. Interdependence
4. Poverty in the Lesser Developed Countries
5. Current and Ongoing Events and Issues: The Middle East and Russia

Sociology

1. Reflections on Learning
2. Capstone Experience

