Welcome Letter for Principles of Sociology, Online

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Hello and welcome to Principles of Sociology, Online!

This course provides students with an overview of the field of sociology. Throughout the semester the course will focus on the application of sociology in everyday life. Students will understand the basic concepts of the field of sociology. In particular, they will become familiar with sociological theory, methods, and the primary areas of sociological inquiry: race, class, and gender.

Texts

Kendall, D. (2011). Sociology In Our Times, The Essentials. (8th. Ed.) Wadsworth/Thompson Learning. Belmont, CA. (the 7th edition may also be used)

Grading

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: 1. Lecture Questions (16%) Lecture Questions are worth two points each. There are a maximum of five lecture questions per week. Over the 16 week course you may earn a possible 160 points from lecture questions. Grade breakdown: 2 points * 5 questions per week * 16 weeks = 160 points 2. Discussion Questions (30%) Discussion Questions are worth 20 points each week. You are responsible for Discussion Questions during Weeks 2-16. Grade breakdown: 20 points * 15 weeks = 300 points (there is no discussion question due the first week) 3. Participation (32%) Participation is worth 20 points each week. Students will participate in online discussions posted on the Blackboard Discussion Board, answering at least two posts per week. 10 points will be given for one response per week; 20 points will be given for two or more responses per week. To receive full credit (320 points for the 16 weeks) for Participation, you should make at least two responses per week to the comments of the other students in the class. Participation points will only be given if responses are made to all Lecture Questions and Discussion Questions for a particular week. Grade breakdown: 20 points * 16 weeks = 320 points 4. Research Paper (22%) The Research paper is worth a total of 220 points: Choosing a topic:

10 points; Bibliography: 10 points; Outline: 10 points; First paragraph: 20 points; Final paper: 170 points

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How to Access Blackboard:
To log on to Bb point your web browser to http://bb.wpunj.edu and click the Login button in the upper left. Then enter your username and password in the spaces provided and click login again -- you'll find your course Bb sites listed on the right.

Some things to be aware of as you work with Blackboard:

1. You probably won't find all your courses listed; the only ones that will appear are those that have been activated by the professor teaching the course. Professors who don't use Blackboard will not activate their courses.
2. Your username is comprised of your lastname and firstinitial, usually appended with a numeral. If you don't know your WPUNJ system username password you can use the Username lookup link at http://bb.wpunj.edu , or go to it directly at: http://www.wpunj.edu/username
3. If you are already logged in to the WPUNJ system through WPConnect you won't have to re-enter your username and password -- just click the first login button.
4. Blackboard documentation can be found in two places: at Bb Home, http://bb.wpunj.edu, before one logs in, and in the Blackboard Support tab after one has logged on.
5. You can always obtain Bb help by using the Problem Report form at http://bb.wpunj.edu , or by going to it directly at: https://liberty.wpunj.edu/bb/support-center/ .

WPUNJ Student Email:
To access WPUNJ Student Email point your web browser to http://wpconnect.wpunj.edu, enter your username and password, then select the **Mail** tab. If you are logging on for the first time you'll be asked to set your time zone and language.

Blackboard courses will use student email; third-party email addresses will not work on Bb

Good luck and have fun in the course! Dr. Samuel R. Brown