Course description
An examination of the complex social arrangements guiding individual behavior and common human concerns in contrasting cultural contexts.

General course goals
The goal of the course is to introduce core sociology concepts to undergraduate students.

Learning objectives
Students who actively participate in all aspects of the course will be able to:

- understand the uniqueness of the sociological imagination and sociological perspectives as compared to other disciplines, junk and pop science, and common sense
- apply the sociological imagination to everyday situations
- apply three of the major sociological paradigms to any given social situation
- define and apply over 200 sociological concepts
- have a beginning understanding of sociological theory and methods, including being able to read, understand, and critique simple sociological studies
- explain social order, identity and the self, intimacy and families, deviance, social organizations and institutions, social class inequalities, race and ethnicity, sex and gender, and social change
- sociologically analyze the relationship between themselves and their society
**Prerequisites**
Placement in ENG 111X or higher or permission from your instructor.

**Required texts**
  ISBN 978-1259702723
  +Supplementary readings on Bb: Mills (pg 1-7), Miner (pg 77-81).

**Blackboard**
Assignments must be submitted in Bb [https://www.uaf.edu/bblearn/prod/](https://www.uaf.edu/bblearn/prod/).
Log-in with your UA username and password.

**Grading**
You can earn up to 100 points in this class. The table below illustrates the point value of each assignment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points value</th>
<th>Due date</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Chat with C. Wright Mills”</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>A+ = 97+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Someone Should Do a Study”</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>A = 93-96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Finding Sociology Everywhere”</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1-9</td>
<td>A- = 90-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Changes Project”</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1-12</td>
<td>B+ = 87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class-activities 9 @ 5 pts/each</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>throughout</td>
<td>B = 83-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pop-quizzes 3 @ 5 pts/each</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>throughout</td>
<td>B- = 80-82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Assignments (out-of-class)**
Instructions and how-to guides for the out-of-class assignments are posted on our class Bb course. Written assignments are due in Bb before the start of class on the day they are due. Late assignments may or may not be accepted for full or partial credit, depending on the reason for lateness and the documentation provided. Please try to submit your assignments on time.

**Activities & Quizzes (in-class)**
Over the course of the semester, we will apply course concepts to in-class activities. You can earn up to 5 points for each of these activities. Come to class fully prepared to participate by completing all reading assignments before class! Bring your texts to class, and bring writing instruments and paper. In-class-activities (ICAs) are completed using in-class discussions and small group work. Attendance is critical. There will be 9 in-class-activities (ICAs) throughout the semester. In addition, there will be 3 quizzes based on class discussions and course readings.

**Universal Writing Rules**
For nearly all writing assignments in this class, the following rules apply:
- use Word or similar word processing program for assignments
- double space everything
- 1” margins all around
- no extra line space between paragraphs
- 12 point Times or Times Roman
- proofread carefully so there are not spelling, grammatical, usage, or other errors
Course policies

Contacting your instructor
The best way to contact me is through email or by chatting before/after class. When you email me, use your UA email address, and use an appropriate subject line that includes the course name or course designator and your name. If chatting before/after class doesn’t work for you, please email me to set an appointment. I try to answer emails within 48 hours, except for weekends. It is difficult to reach me by phone, but you are welcome to leave a message with the Sociology admin (907) 474-5494.

Instructional methods
While I do provide class lectures, my teaching philosophy is that students learn best by applying the course readings to in-class participation and group discussion. You are expected to contribute to class discussions and participate in small group activities while maintaining the integrity of academic freedom (see below).

Academic freedom
Students and faculty alike have academic freedom, and I will vigorously protect our academic freedom in this class. Academic freedom allows us to discuss and to write about the course material using a broad array of terms, concepts, and ideas from the disciplines that shape the course. To be successful in the class, you do NOT have to adopt my ideas, the ideas from the course material, or the ideas of the other students. But you MUST use course material in your work in the class. Additionally, you must remain civil and respectful of others. Everyone may make communication mistakes and small errors of judgment. However, students who repeatedly disrupt class discussion, who flame and/or bait others, who chronically refuse to respect academic freedom, or who insist on using non-applicable arguments will be dropped, will lose points on assignments, and/or have their final grade lowered significantly for failing to participate. Expect me to interrupt you if you stray too far away from course material during class discussion. If you have concerns, please come talk with me privately.

Reading
Study the readings so you can participate in all discussions and in-class-activities. Commit sufficient time to do the reading in a comprehensive manner. Students who consistently fail to read the assigned materials will be dropped from the class and/or their final grade lowered significantly for failing to participate. Students who use non-course related arguments in their course work, including class discussions or assignments, can expect the instructor to interrupt them and/or to award a failing grade for the assignment. Avoid being embarrassed in this way by consistently and thoroughly completing all reading and other assignments so that your contributions in class will be valued.

Assignments
Assignments are due in Bb or in class as assigned. Note that group based in-class-activities (ICAs) cannot be rescheduled or made up. All written assignments must be submitted through Bb (emailed assignments will not be accepted unless you have obtained prior permission from the instructor).

Attendance
Attendance is mandatory. You may miss up to three hours of class without providing documentation about your absence. After you have missed three hours, you must provide official documentation about why you missed class. If your documentation is insufficient, up to five points will be deducted from your final course grade for each hour beyond three that you miss. Arriving late, or leaving early, will count as a full absence from class. Sleeping in class, unauthorized texting or surfing, refusing to participate, or doing work for a different class will count as an absence.
In class behavior
Please do not bring smelly or noisy food to class. Please do not do craftwork in class or work on an assignment from another class. Please be an active participant by coming to class prepared to engage fully with the course material, with the instructor, and with your student colleagues. See electronic use policy below.

Electronics in class
Some students prefer to buy the electronic version of the textbook. Therefore, you are welcome to bring your laptops, iPads, and smartphones to class as we may find these to be useful during class discussion and ICA completion. Please do not, however, use your electronics during class in ways that are disruptive or do not include others in class (e.g. no texting during class).

Extra credit
Individual extra credit assignments are not available.

Incompletes
I will give an Incomplete grade (I) only in extremely rare circumstances, and then only if the student supplies documentation of need. If after reviewing your documentation I determine that you deserve an Incomplete, your extension will be for only 30 days. UAF policy dictates that unresolved Incompletes become permanent Fs.

Instructor-initiated withdrawal
I may do an instructor-initiated withdrawal for students who exhibit prohibited behaviors, including: chronic lateness; chronic absence; repeatedly leaving class early; failure to read assignments; refusal to participate in class activities, including discussions; sleep in class; use electronic toys inappropriately in class; are hostile or disruptive; engage in private conversations (whispering, texting, etc.) are caught in an act of academic dishonesty; refuse to respect the academic freedom of others; insist on using non-sociological concepts from this class during class discussions or in assignments; come to class while under the influence of substances that are prohibited from UAF campus.

Academic Honesty
Expect an F and possibly instructor-initiated withdrawal from the course if you are caught in an act of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism, or falsification. You can read the university’s student code of conduct here: http://www.uaf.edu/catalog/current/academics/regs3.html

Disability
UAF’s Disability Services Office offers assistance, including academic accommodations, to students who have a documented disability. I will work with the Disabilities Services Office to make accommodations for students who have documented disabilities. Please contact DSO for more information: website: http://www.uaf.edu/disability/; phone: 907-474-5655; email: uaf-disabilityservices@alaska.edu

Special Note: Wintermester
Due to the nature of Wintermester courses, it is essential that students read/understand the syllabus and course expectations ahead of time. To be successful in this course, you’ll need to complete readings and assignments PRIOR to class. This is also true of the first day of class (January 3); you’ll need to arrive for the first class HAVING ALREADY READ THE FOLLOWING:

- Course syllabus
- Witt Chapter 1
- Mills (pg 1-7) on Bb
## Course schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic(s)</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment (complete BEFORE class)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Course syllabus&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 1&lt;br&gt;Mills (pg 1-7) on Bb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The sociological imagination</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sociological research</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>Witt Chapter 2&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 3&lt;br&gt;Miner (pg 77-81) on Bb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Culture</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Socialization</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>“Chat with C. Wright Mills” due&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 4&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social structure and interaction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deviance</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>“Someone Should Do a Study” due&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 6&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Families</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education and religion</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1-8</td>
<td>Witt Chapter 8&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government and economy</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Social class</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1-9</td>
<td>“Finding Sociology Everywhere” due&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global inequality</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1-10</td>
<td>Witt Chapter 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender and sexuality</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1-11</td>
<td>Witt Chapter 12&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Race and ethnicity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population, health, and environment</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social change</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>1-12</td>
<td>“Changes Project” due&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 14&lt;br&gt;Witt Chapter 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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