WELCOME TO OUR SOCIOLOGY CLASS for the Fall 2017 Semester. This document is called your “Class Syllabus” and will outline important information about this class including ways to be successful in this class AND any rules that our class will adhere to during the semester. Please keep a copy of our syllabus handy, because a LOT of questions students ask me can usually be answered with – IT’S ON THE SYLLABUS 😊

What is this class all about?
Introduction to Sociology is an introduction to the scientific study of human society. This course provides a foundation of basic theories and research methods that influence the study of culture, socialization, stratification, deviance, and social institutions.

Who is your professor/instructor/teacher?
Emily B. Fortner, Associate Professor of Sociology
What should you call me? Professor Fortner or Mrs. Fortner
Come visit me @ my office – 1st floor of the Nelms Classroom Building, room 113J
Give me a call – (731) 424-3520 ext. 50202
Send me an email – efortner@jscc.edu

What do we plan on learning in this class?
- Identify the core concepts of sociology (culture, socialization, status & role, groups, social control, social institutions, social stratification, social change, etc.).
- Evaluate how the individual’s behavior is shaped by social and cultural factors.
- Demonstrate an understanding of culturally diverse populations and societies.
- Apply the concepts of the sociological perspectives to understand the benefits of a multi-dimensional approach in the study of social events and issues.
- Identify scientific research methods applied within the discipline of sociology.

Do you need a book for this class?
YES…YES…YES! Did you get that? YES, you need a book!
ISBN # 9780078027109
The JSCC Bookstore provides an alternative “custom” textbook that is identical to this textbook at a reduced price. Another cost saving idea is to use the 10th edition of the same book listed above. Search for the textbook online and compare prices. In the meantime, a copy of our textbook is available in the college library.

Opportunities for Enhanced Academic Experiences
Are you already a member of or at least interested in the JSCC Honors Program? Then read up…
The Jackson State Community College Arts and Sciences Honors Program provides mentored, advanced, scholarly and creative enrichment opportunities for academically talented students. Students must have a 3.25 college GPA or entering freshman with an ACT score of 25 in order to be eligible for this program. JSCC Honors students are able to take Introduction to Sociology as an honors course. If you are interested in taking this course as an honors course, please speak with ME within the first 2 weeks of the semester.
Classroom Rules that Apply to EVERYONE
(Think of these as Formal Social Norms of our class. We will learn what about social norms this semester.)

Attendance - Do I need to actually come to class?
I want you to be successful in this class. One part of being successful is showing up. Research shows that students who regularly attend their classes, are more likely to do better in their classes than students who are frequently absent. With a desire to support student success, regular class attendance is expected and tracked. However, there will be days when you may have to miss class. So here is our class policy on absences:

Students are allowed to miss NO MORE THAN 3 weeks of classes. Missing more than 3 weeks of classes will result in a ONE letter grade drop in your FINAL GRADE.

Missing for a school related function will not count as an absence. There is flexibility in this policy for students faced with a health crisis or uncontrollable circumstances; however, communication with your instructor during your absences is imperative and necessary.

What if I am LATE for class?
Students can enter class late for the first 5 minutes of class. After 5 minutes, the door to the classroom is shut and locked. Students are not allowed to enter class once the door is shut UNLESS they have a LATE PASS. Each student will be given TWO late passes that can be used at any time for entrance into class, no questions asked. If a student needs to leave class early, discuss this situation with the instructor prior to class. Leaving class early could result in an absence depending on the situation, circumstances, and the amount of class time missed.

What happens to CHEATERS?
I take cheating seriously in this class. You are here to learn, to earn a degree that has value. So I expect and require my students to do their own work. So what happens if a student is caught cheating in our class?

Students caught cheating on an assignment will at a minimum receive a ZERO on that assignment. Depending on the situation and the offense, more penalties could be awarded.

Here is what our JSCC Catalog and Student handbook has to say about cheating, “Academic honesty is central to the educational process. Acts of academic dishonesty are serious offenses at Jackson State and can result in suspension from the college” (p. 24). Please consult the Jackson State College Catalog and Student Handbook, (under the heading-Academic Honesty), for the complete policy including definitions on what specific actions are considered dishonest. Students can find the handbook on the JSCC homepage at www.jscc.edu

Let’s behave like respectful and rational adults.
Students are expected to respect their peers and their professor. Disruptive and disrespectful behavior is not tolerated. Student will be given a verbal warning and then asked to immediately leave class if such behavior becomes a repetitive issue. Please place cell phones on silent during class. Cell phones must be stored out of sight when testing. Cell phone use during class is tolerated in emergency situations only. Please be respectful and quietly excuse yourself from class. Be aware that I will call you out and embarrass you if you are on Snap Chat, taking selfies, or anything of the like.

Students with disabilities - What you need to know.
Students in need of individualized consideration as a result of physical impairment are urged to communicate this with your professor immediately. To request accommodations in and/or outside of class, it the student’s responsibility to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) inside the Career and Counseling Office in the Student Union Building. Students can confidentially disclose information regarding the nature of your disability and provide documentation of the diagnosis. For more information, they can see the website at http://www.jscc.edu/student-services/disabled-student-services.html or contact Annette Deaton at (731) 424-3520, ext. 50315. Accommodation forms must be submitted to your professor before any accommodations can be arranged.
How will YOU be evaluated in this class?

Grades are ONE way to measure learning in the classroom. They aren’t always the best way, but we are required to evaluate and show your progress in this class. While grades are important, learning the information is what is MOST important. I want you to know something about Sociology when you leave this class. Here is information on assignments that will be graded and used to evaluate your progress in our class.

**Exams:** There will be 3 exams which includes the Final Exam. Each exam may consist of multiple choice and discussion questions (short answer and essays). If you know you will be absent on the day of an exam, make arrangements PRIOR to the exam day with your instructor.

**Make-up Exam Policy:** In the case that you miss an exam without making arrangements prior to the exam day a make-up exam will be available; however, **make-up exams will be ALL ESSAY.** No additional study guide will be provided for a make-up exam. Students must schedule their make-up exam with the instructor.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes are a brief overview of the main terms and concepts from a chapter. They are meant to help prepare students for exams and ensure students are keeping up with the material being covered. Quizzes are completed ONLINE in eLearn and you will have 1 week to complete a quiz. **Your TWO lowest quiz grades will be dropped at the end of the semester. NO make-up quizzes will be given.**

**Journal Article Review:** Students will review a scholarly journal article and write a brief summary of the sociological research. This article review gives students a deeper insight into sociological research and experience with academic journals. **Points will be deducted for late assignments.**

**Song Analysis Project:** This project will allow students to analyze the content and discuss the sociological representation in music. The assignment will be graded on content and application of sociological terms on concepts. **Attendance in class is required for this assignment. Students missing class will be required to complete a more comprehensive assignment.**

**Bonus Points:** It seems like students will do anything for bonus points. First, do the work that is listed above and do it well. Then you won’t have to worry about bonus points. Regardless, you will have the opportunity to earn up to 20 bonus points during the semester. These opportunities are built into the semester and students will be notified when they are available.

**What is my grade? I don’t know how I am doing in this class.**

You should NEVER ask this question in my class. Why? Because your grades for every completed assignment will be posted on the GRADES page in eLearn. At any time during the semester you will have access to your individual grades for this course. Be informed and check eLearn. If you are concerned about your grade, come and talk to your professor ASAP. Waiting until the end of the semester is not the appropriate time to start being concerned about your grade in this class.

Grades will be based on cumulative points through the completion of all assigned work.

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<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal Article Review</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>S.A. Project</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL POINTS</strong></td>
<td>300</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<th>TOTAL POINTS</th>
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<td>(90-100)</td>
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<td>209-238</td>
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<td>179-208</td>
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<td>Below 179</td>
<td>(Below 60%)</td>
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