

Sanders  
SOC 101  
Fall 2007

## Projects

Here is your list of choices for completion of the project points necessary for this class. You are to select 2 projects. It is due at the beginning of class on the date listed below, I will not accept anything after class starts; it will be a zero regardless of the reason. You are always welcome to turn in an assignment early! Remember Parkinson's rule!! (Look it up!) Each completed project is worth 50 points apiece

This is a college-level paper, and the following are expected: normal font and 1 inch margins, STAPLED (no paper clips, no plastic covers with the plastic binders), a thesis statement, double-spaced, spell checked, and works cited inside of the paper and a work(s) cited page (if applicable). Please type your work. Papers that do not include all of the above will be returned with a zero.

There are many elements that contribute to a paper earning an "A". To be an exceptional paper, the paper must include the following:

- a well supported central theme
- great organization
- interesting and relevant details, words and phrases
- logical thinking and arguments
- original thought
- answer all questions posed in the assignment
- no grammar or spelling errors

and last, but certainly not least, it *\*must\** contain relevant sociological content. If you have a good four-page paper, and only four sentences containing sociology, you will not earn a good grade. You can assume about half or more of each paper should revolve around how your topic fits into sociology. If it helps, think to yourself when you are writing, " what reasons, other than sleep and social deprivation, does Ms. Sanders want me to do this for?". (Trust me, there is always an answer to this.)

Due dates:

September 4th

First Project due

October 2<sup>nd</sup>

Second Project due

## Projects

Preparation: Chapter 20 OR Chapter 3

1. Using the selected 2005/2006 Convocation Reading, River Town: Two Years on the Yangtze by Peter Hessler, write a paper that utilizes sociological ideas or concepts identified by Peter during his 2 year Peace Corp stay in China. Select either chapter 3 OR chapter 20 **from your text book** (Using both would create a 20 page paper!). If you select textbook chapter 20, discuss social change, social movements and collective behavior. If you select textbook chapter 3, discuss culture shock, social norms and folkways and whether or not China's shares the U.S.'s #1 core value of individualism. (3-4 pages)

Preparation: Chapter 13

2. Construct a sociological family tree of your relatives for at least three generations (your grandparents, parents, aunts and uncles, and your own generation). Write down names, dates, and information as you gather knowledge about your family. You may need to interview several family members to get the correct information. Examine your genealogy for some of the following norms of marriage:

1. Did everyone marry?
2. How did your relatives meet their future spouses?
3. Age when married
4. Did they marry "up" or "down" (social class)?
5. Number of children in marriage
6. Number of divorces, if any
7. Religion
8. Education level

You are looking to find if the norms of homogamy operated in your family. Do you see any patterns and themes for your family? There might be different patterns/themes for each side of you family. For the marriages, how does the average age at marriage for each generation reflect national statistics? Include your reaction to your research on your family. (3-4 pages)

Preparation: Chapter 4 and 11

3. Watch "Killing Us Softly Three" (available for viewing in Room 350 of the Addlestone Library, the film is about 30 minutes in length). Collect 10 ads from popular magazines that illustrate some of the ideas that Jean Kilbourne discusses in the film. In your paper, explain the connection between the ads you selected and issues/points addressed in the film. (3pages)

Preparation: Chapter 3 and 4

4. Prepare a list of your ten most admired people. Next to their names, list each individual's occupation, sex, appx. age, and what it is you admire about them.

Examine the ten as a group. Are there any emerging patterns or themes? You may see themes for sub-groups as well. (3-4pages)

Preparation: Chapter 1 (Critical Thinking), Chapter 2

5. Look at [www.malepregnancy.com](http://www.malepregnancy.com) and [www.martinlutherking.org](http://www.martinlutherking.org). After you have viewed both sites, go to the cofc home page ([www.cofc.edu](http://www.cofc.edu)) and click on "Library", under "research help" click on "web searching". At the top, click on "evaluation" and select "evaluating websites: criteria and tools". Under "Evaluation Criteria, click on EITHER "Evaluating web page" OR "Evaluating information. Using the information that you find here, evaluate both of the websites to determine if they are valid and reliable. In your paper, identify specifically which tool you used and the answers to the questions the tool asks of you. What thoughts did you have when you first looked at the webpage versus after using one of the tools? (3-4page)

Preparation: Chapter 4

6. Create a "Soundtrack of your Socialization" by selecting 8-10 songs that touch on at least five different themes of your own socialization. List the name and artist for each song. Include portions of the lyrics that you feel explain or describe your socialization. Discuss from what part of your life the socialization theme came from and be sure to discuss the role of each of the agents of socialization. This is not an assignment about your favorite songs or songs that inspire you. (Although these types of songs could certainly coincide with songs that represent your socialization.) (3-4 pages)

Preparation: Chapter 10

7. View the movie "Hotel Rwanda" based on a true story. (Available for viewing in Room 350 of the Addlestone Library, the film is about 2 hours in length. It is also available at your local video store). Using examples from the film, answer the following questions. What is genocide? What are a majority and a minority group? Who were the majority group and the minority group during the genocide? What is scapegoating and how was it used to inflame passions during the genocide? What did the United Nations do to address the genocide while it was happening? What is currently happening in Darfur? Had you seen the video before this assignment or was this your first viewing? If it was your first viewing, give a brief reaction to the film. If it was not your first viewing, what did you notice this time watching the film that you had not noticed the first time around. (3-4 pages)

Preparation: Chapters 1- 20

8. A sociological project of your own creation; ranging from conducting a survey to "proving" an urban legend to be true. Please see me **BEFORE** beginning project.

