**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**Virtual Campus**

**School of Behavioral and Social Sciences**

***Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success and service to God and humankind.***

**SOCI 1301- VC 01 - Introduction to Sociology**

**TERM: Spring 2014**

**Instructor**: Beth Durbin

**Contact Information**: Office: 907-377-4398 Cell: 907-460-3226 **Email**: durbinb@wbu.edu

**Office Hours**: 9:00 am to 9:00 pm (Alaska time)

**Class Time and Location:** Virtual Campus

**Catalog Description**: Nature and scope of sociology, its terminology and concepts.

**There is no prerequisite for this course**

**Textbook**: Sociology in our Times: The Essentials. Diana Kendall. 9th edition. Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-1-133-95717-1

**Optional Materials:**  None

**Course outcome competencies**: Upon completion of this course, each student will be able to:

* Define and articulate an understanding of sociology and its concepts
* Identify and understand the major sociological perspectives and how they contribute to the understanding of society and social interactions
* Distinguish between micro-level and macro-level analysis of society
* Analyze the socialization and human development process related to sociology

**Attendance**: Students enrolled at one of the University’s external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings.  All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up.  When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus dean.  Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course.  Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University’s attendance policy.

**Additional attendance policies:** Exceptions will be made for TDY and deployments provided the instructor is notified ahead of the time.

**Service for the Disabled**: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university.  The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 3765.  Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

**Course requirements:  Your grade will be based on your performance on the following:**

**Discussion Board: Regular attendance and participation in online discussions/activities are important and strongly encouraged to facilitate the learning process.  Assigned reading is to be completed prior to online interactive sessions for which the reading was assigned.  At least one discussion question will be assigned per week that will require students to share their ideas and concepts with other students.  Students are encouraged to share constructive information with the instructor and fellow classmates.  Students are required to comment to the teacher’s discussion question by Wednesday at 9:00 pm (CST) and then respond to two other comments by Sunday at 11:59 pm (CST) to receive the full credit weekly.**

**Exercises: You will choose 1 of the exercises to complete. You will have a total of 5 of these throughout the term. The specific exercises will be posted under the course content tab in blackboard. You must answer question completely, format is up to you. Answers need to be at least ¾ to a full page. Please make sure you out your name and number of exercise on your paper.**

**Exams:  The exams will be multiple choice, short answer and essay questions.  The midterm will cover chapters 1-8 and the final exam will cover chapters 9-18. These are not proctored.**

**Method of determining course grade:**

**Grade Weight: (based on 500 points possible)**

**Discussion Board: 50 points**

**Exercise 1 - 5: 50 points each = 250 points**

 **Mid Term Exam: 100 points**

**Final Exam: 100 points**

The University has a standard grade scale:

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control. A grade of “incomplete” is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long (10 to 15 weeks) term, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion.  If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

**Instructor's policy on Academic Dishonesty: Intellectual, integrity and truthfulness are fundamental to scholarship. Scholars, whether they are performing as students or as teachers, are engaged in a search for truth.  Plagiarism is a form of cheating and also a form of theft.  Plagiarism occurs when a student fails to give proper credit when information is either quoted or paraphrased.  Carelessness is no excuse.  As such, it is a breach of scholarly responsibility.  It is also unethical and in some cases, illegal.  Looking at or copying someone else’s test, answer sheet, and/or paper are counted as cheating.  Plagiarism may result in an “F” in the course.**

**Service for the Disabled**: It is University policy that no otherwise qualified disabled person be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the University.  Students should inform the instructor of existing disabilities at the first class meeting.

**Tentative Schedule**:

Week 1 – February 24

 Introduction

 DB 1

 Read Chapters 1 - 2

Week 2 –March 3

 DB 2

 Read Chapters 3-4

 Exercise 1

March 10 – 16 Spring Break

Week 3 – March 17

 DB 3

 Read Chapters 5-6

Week 4 – March 24

 DB 4

 Read Chapters 7-8

 Exercise 2

Week 5 – March 31

 Mid-term

Week 6 – April 7

 DB 5

 Read Chapter 9-10

 Exercise 3

Week 7 – April 14

 DB 6

 Read Chapters 11-12

Week 8 – April 21

 DB 7

 Read Chapters 13-14

 Exercise 4

Week 9 – April 28

 DB 8

 Read Chapters 15

Week 10 – May 5

 DB 9

 Read Chapter 16

 Exercise 5

Week 11 – May 12

 Final Exam