

ASSIGNMENTS

USING ANGEL

There is only one assignment that you submit through Angel (your Intense Debate name submission for your TAs). Nonetheless, we will be keeping track of your grades on ANGEL. (<http://angel.psu.edu>)

EXAMS - 90 Points

There will be TWO exams for the course. Each exam will have 45 multiple choice questions and cover the readings, lectures (including guest speakers), and films. The second exam is not cumulative and will only cover the material from the second part of the course. Your exam grades will be sent to you and will show up in ANGEL.

EXAM ONE: **Tuesday, October 11th** (during class time in 100 Thomas)

EXAM ONE READING LIST: Shadowboxing Articles (Parts 1 & 2) and online articles

EXAM TWO: **Sunday, December 11th** **AND** **During the Scheduled Finals Week Day/Time**

EXAM TWO READING LIST: Shadowboxing Articles (Part 3) and online articles

EXAM MAKE-UP POLICY: If you miss an exam for any reason, you must contact Jasmine BEFORE the exam (sociology119@gmail.com). If for some reason you cannot contact XXX, then call (or have someone call) the Assistance and Information Center in the HUB (863-2020) and have them contact me with the reason for your absence on the exam day. If we are not notified before the exam, then there is a very real possibility that you will not be able to take the exam and will receive an "F."

INTENSE DEBATE BLOG RESPONSES - 26 Points

You have THIRTEEN short writing assignments (blog responses) due for this class and they're worth 2 points each. They have a 450 word minimum length. You will submit these on the World in Conversation Project blog. Go to: www.worldinconversation.org and click on Blog in the top right corner.

What you need to do for each one of these is respond to a blog post (either an article or a video) in the "U.S. Race Relations" section of the blog. You can say anything you want – just keep it civil.

These assignments are due on Fridays at midnight beginning the second Friday of the semester. See the course schedule.

HOW TO SET UP YOUR INTENSE DEBATE ACCOUNT

This is a two-step process due Friday, September 2nd at midnight

STEP ONE: Creating your account (it's free)

You need to create an Intense Debate account to be used for the entirety of the semester.

Go to the following website: <http://www.intensedebate.com/>

The name that you use for your account is the name that will show up on the World in Conversation Project blog when you post your responses. For example: "lipstickonacow" or "freakflag8" (3-15 characters)

STEP TWO: Posting your account name on ANGEL

After you have created your account, you need to post your account information on Angel so that your TA's can "follow you" and document your blog submissions. Under the Angel Lessons tab, click on "Intense Debate Registration" and follow the instructions for the entry.

HOW TO MAKE A COMMENT ON THE BLOG

1. Go to: www.worldinconversation.org and click on Blog at the top (next to Contact)
2. Go to the blog posts that are available for SOC 119 by clicking on "U.S. Race Relations (SOC 119)" in the right column
3. Click on "Leave a response" (or "x Responses" -- with x representing the number of responses already posted to a particular entry) below the blog entry to which you want to respond
4. Click on "Login" and then sign in with your **Intense Debate** account name and password
5. Scroll down to the bottom of the page where you will find the text box for commenting

HOW TO KNOW IF YOUR COMMENT ACTUALLY POSTED TO THE BLOG

Simply log into www.intensedebate.com and see if it's there. Every comment that you've made throughout the semester should be in your account.

HOW TO SEE YOUR GRADES

Blog Responses are due Fridays by MIDNIGHT. TAs will begin grading at that time. They will be following your responses using Intense Debate as well. After grading your response, they will enter your grade into the Angel grade book. If you don't have your blog response in on time, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE CREDIT (NOR PARTIAL CREDIT).

**** YOUR TA CANNOT ACCEPT BLOG SUBMISSIONS VIA EMAIL ****

1. It is your responsibility for knowing if your blog submission was posted correctly. To find out, just update the blog and scroll to the very end where you should find it. (Or log in to www.intensedebate.com and see if it's there.)
2. Keep track of your grades and make certain that you are on the same page as your TAs. It is your responsibility to address ALL discrepancies with your TAs. To see if a grade is posted, while in ANGEL go to: Tools → Course Grade Book → your name (to see comments). If you see the grade, then it was received. Your TA's are grading weekly. If grades are not up-to-date, contact Jennifer (sociology119@gmail.com) and she'll harass your TAs

"The most radical revolutionary will become a conservative the day after the revolution." -- Hannah Arendt

ATTENDANCE - 39 Points

LECTURE: You receive 13 points for attending all of the lectures. You can miss three classes without penalty, but after those three, we'll subtract one point for each missed class. THERE ARE NO EXCUSED ABSENCES (THAT MEANS NONE WHATSOEVER!) SO USE YOUR "THREE FREE MISSES" PRUDENTLY.

DISCUSSION GROUP: You receive two points for each discussion group you attend for a total of 26 points. There is ONE excused absence for missing a group. JUST ONE! Use it wisely. After that miss, you lose points regardless of the reason. Period. No exceptions. (You can't apply your "freebies" from lecture to group or vice versa.)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity free from fraud and deception, and is an educational objective of this institution. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarizing, or facilitating acts of dishonesty of others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person.

PROJECT - 20 Points

HAITI SERVICE LEARNING (GROUP) PROJECT (20 points)

* *DUE: Friday, December 9th, midnight*

This semester you will learn about international racism and socioeconomic development—and how the two are uncomfortably linked. We will focus on Haiti as a case study for this purpose. And you will probably feel both pulled to act and cautioned not to act in response to the material. But this is real life—your life and the lives of the people in Haiti with whom you are already interconnected, even if you don't realize it. And in real life there are no easy answers! So this will be a project that will deepen your understanding of the very real issues we will be discussing and that you will be facing.

What is the project?

We want your group to make a decision to act, to **do** something. You will be introduced to a group of entrepreneurs and other social agents in Haiti via video footage and text that is available on the World in Conversation web site. You will see who they are and what they are doing and come to understand some of their stated needs. And your project will begin with your group deciding the person or project with whom you would like to partner, and then deciding how to form some kind of working relationship (i.e., how to DO something that supports the work of this entrepreneur or the unfolding of some particular development project). It could be anything—and we emphasize anything.

What are the goals?

MAIN GOAL: To establish a partnership with an entrepreneur or project in Haiti that supports and extends their work or socioeconomic development.

* To engage the issues directly as a method of enhancing your learning and critical thinking.

* To harness the knowledge you are gaining in the class and apply it to the real world.

* To develop respect for the delicate nature of foreign aid/development and international race relations.

* To learn by doing.

What do you need to produce?

Each group will have a "board" on the SOC 119 Spaaaze page. You will receive an email to sign into that board, but before you do you will have to make an account with www.spaaaze.com. It's FREE. Spaaaze is like a giant cork board that allows you to post and embed videos, text, photos, and web links. It offers a way for your entire group to contribute to your section's board over the course of the semester. And by the end of the semester, we want to see the "story" of what your group did – all on your Spaaaze board. That is to say, post to your board:

1. Whatever information we need to understand how your group made the decision to "do something."
2. What you actually did.
3. How you think it went.

How will you be evaluated?

We will look at your Spaaaze site and assign a grade based on what you DID. Again, we want you to not just talk about these issues; we want to take some action as a group. What that action is will be decided by you and your fellow group members over the course of the semester.

Fifteen of the twenty points (15/20) for this assignment will be evaluated on both its technical and analytical merits by Professor Richards. Technical merits include whether the Spaaaze board is finished on time and has elements that make sense (e.g., it's organized, has videos, photos, text that are well put-together). The analytical merit of the project will largely center on how coherent and understandable is your group's answer to the question: **What should be done to support socioeconomic development in Haiti?** Keep in mind that we intend to be as flexible with the grading as we can possibly be -- so that you can maximize your creative energies without worrying about a grade. There is a grading rubric on the web site.

Five of your twenty points (5/20) will be distributed by your other group members and will be reflective of how much they think you have participated in the overall project. Each group member will give you a grade from 0-5 and we'll divide the total by the number of people in your group.

CLICKERS - 10 Points

You need to use your iClicker at least 2/3 of the time that I put up questions in class. This means that you need to bring it to class for 2/3 of the lectures. As you don't use it, we start deducting points.

You are required to purchase an iClicker remote for in-class participation. iClicker is a response system that allows you to respond to questions I pose during class, and you will be graded on your in-class participation and use of the iClicker (not on how you respond to questions). In order to receive this credit, you will need to register your iClicker remote online. After you have purchased your clicker, go to <http://www.iclicker.com/registration>. Complete the fields with your first name, last name, student ID, and remote ID. Your student ID should be your Access Account ID (e.g., abc1234). DO NOT enter in your 9-digit student number. The remote ID is the series of numbers and sometimes letters found on the bottom of the back of your iClicker remote. iClicker will be used every day in class, and you are responsible for bringing your remote daily.

ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS - 6 Points

You have a critical thinking assignment that will supplement the Haiti project for which you will be asked to think through two particular problems based on international development scenarios.

For this project, you will be asked to complete an online questionnaire – the link will be mailed to you in early or mid September. Then after a class lecture, you'll complete a very similar questionnaire. All in all, together both surveys will consume about 45 minutes of your life.

DISCUSSION GROUPS

One component of this class is the weekly discussion group. During this time, you will engage in conversation with a small number of your classmates in an informal setting. Because of the nature of the material (and the large size of the class), the group will provide an open forum for you to express yourself as well as to listen carefully to others. Two undergraduate teaching assistants will facilitate each group. These TAs are trained to foster open dialogue about the issues of race and ethnic relations. As the semester unfolds and trust develops in the group, we hope that you will be able to ask the difficult questions, share your hidden views and, through listening to others do the same, open yourself to seeing the value and validity of multiple perspectives. If you take the risk to be honest with yourself and others, you will undoubtedly leave the group having *learned* something. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the group, talk to one of your facilitators. If they cannot help you, contact Jennifer.

You will be evaluated on the basis of the quantity and quality of your contributions to your discussion group, as well as on the basis of how engaged you are as a listener. This is worth up to 5 points toward your final grade. In addition, the attendance at each group session is worth TWO points as noted above. If you're more than 5 minutes late, you will receive half credit or one point for that day. Remember: there is only one excused absence for missing a group.

WEEK ONE:

Assignments: **Intense Debate Registration on ANGEL** (due Friday, September 2nd at midnight)
Announcements: **Discussion sections do not meet during the first two weeks of classes**

T Aug 23 – Intro to the Course

R Aug 25 – Lecture

WEEK TWO:

Assignments: **Intense Debate Registration on ANGEL DUE:** Friday, September 2nd at midnight
BLOG RESPONSE #1 DUE: Friday, September 2nd at midnight
Announcements: **No discussion groups this week!**

T Aug 30 – Lecture

R Sep 1 – Lecture

WEEK THREE:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #2 DUE:** Friday, September 9th at midnight
Announcements: **Discussion groups begin meeting this week.**

T Sep 6 – Lecture

R Sep 8 – Lecture

WEEK FOUR:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #3 DUE:** Friday, September 16th at midnight
Family-Home (Individual) Project Due: Friday, September 16th at midnight
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

T Sep 13 – Lecture

R Sep 15 – Lecture

WEEK FIVE:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #4 DUE:** Friday, September 23rd at midnight
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

T Sep 20 – Lecture

R Sep 22 – Lecture

WEEK SIX:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #5 DUE:** Friday, September 30th at midnight
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

T Sep 27 – Lecture

R Sep 29 – Lecture

WEEK SEVEN:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #6 DUE:** Friday, October 7th at midnight
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

T Oct 4 – Lecture

R Oct 6 – Lecture

WEEK EIGHT:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #7 DUE:** Friday, October 14th at midnight
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

T Oct 11 – **FIRST EXAM**

EXAM ONE READING LIST: Shadowboxing (Pts. 1 & 2), online readings

R Oct 13 – Lecture

WEEK NINE:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #8 DUE:** Friday, October 21st at midnight
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

T Oct 18 – Lecture

R Oct 20 – Lecture

WEEK TEN:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #9 DUE:** Friday, October 28th at midnight
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

T Oct 25 – Lecture

R Oct 27 – Lecture

WEEK ELEVEN:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #10 DUE:** Friday, November 4th at midnight
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

T Nov 1 – Race Relations

R Nov 3 – Race Relations

WEEK TWELVE:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #11 DUE:** Friday, November 11th at midnight
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

T Nov 8 – Lecture

R Nov 10 – Lecture

WEEK THIRTEEN:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE # 12 DUE:** Friday, November 25th at midnight
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

While you have until Friday, November 25th to submit your blog, I'd recommend doing it before you skip town. Or not.

T Nov 15 – Lecture

R Nov 17 – Lecture

Thanksgiving Break!

WEEK FOURTEEN:

Assignments: **BLOG RESPONSE #13 DUE:** Friday, December 2nd at midnight (Final Blog)
Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

T Nov 29 – Lecture

R Dec 1 – Lecture

WEEK FIFTEEN:

Assignments: Haiti Service Learning Project completed on Spaaze board, Friday, Dec. 9th, midnight

Announcements: Discussion groups meet this week.

SECOND EXAM will occur during the officially scheduled Finals Week day/time AND on Sunday, Dec 11th during the afternoon in 100 Thomas. You can take the exam on either day. It will be the same exam and you don't have to decide until the last minute. That is, we don't need to know which exam you're taking.

T Dec 6 – Lecture

R Dec 8 – Final Class

GRADING MATRIX

EXAMS

Exam #1 45 points
Exam #2 45 points

PROJECTS

Haiti Entrepreneur Group Project 20 points

BLOGS

Weekly Blog Responses 26 points

ATTENDANCE

Discussion Group 26 points
Lecture 13 points

MISCELLANEOUS

iClicker Participation 10 points
Root Cause Analysis 6 points
Intense Debate and Spaaze Registration 4 points
Discussion Group Participation 5 points

TOTAL: 200 POINTS

200-187 = A 186 - 182 = A- 181-178 = B+ 177-165 = B 164-162 = B-
161-157 = C+ 156-142 = C 141-122 = D

NOTES ON GRADING: The above scale is correct – 181 points is, in fact, a B+. It is your responsibility to keep track of your grades. **So throughout the semester review your scores on ANGEL and discuss any discrepancies with your TAs. I DON'T DISCUSS GRADES OVER EMAIL.** If you have a discrepancy at the end of the semester, please send an email to Jennifer: sociology119@gmail.com. If we make a mistake with your grade, we WILL make things right.