SYA5625 “Prosem”  
Tuesday, 11am-noon; Bellamy 519

Instructor: John Reynolds  
Office hrs: Tuesday 1-3, & by appointment
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Description: This course is the continuation of prosem, an introduction to the profession of sociology through class discussion, occasional class exercises or readings, and guest speakers.

Course Objectives:
After successfully completing this course, students will be able to…
1. Articulate concrete professional preparation goals for their first year of graduate study.
2. Summarize career options for sociologists and the grad school opportunities that lead to them.
3. Link sociology faculty to their areas of concentration and affiliations with institutes/centers.
4. Identify major trends in higher education that shape graduate education and academic careers.
5. Recognize the importance of non-academic factors for academic success.

Readings and other course materials are available at https://sites.google.com/site/fsuprosem/.

Course Requirements:
1. Attend class every week.
2. Read assigned materials before the class that features them.
3. Participate in class discussions, being respectful of differences in opinion.
4. Be attentive to the guest speakers, and ask them questions about sociological careers.

Course grades:
Grading is S/U and based primarily on attendance, which is required. Missing class without a valid excuse is a problem and more than one unexcused absence can result in an unsatisfactory grade (U). A “valid” excuse is defined by the university’s attendance policy (see next page).

Tentative Course Calendar (very likely to be revised):
1/10/2016 Welcome back, setting goals for the semester
1/17/2016 Time management and various approaches to writing
1/24/2016 Studying the world from an aging perspective, and engaging in public sociology
1/31/2016 Peer review process, how to write a critical & helpful review
2/7/2016 Preparing for, and surviving, prelim exams
2/14/2016 How to write a prospectus and a dissertation
2/21/2016 Going on the academic job market
2/28/2016 Building a reputation for high quality research
3/7/2016 FSU Library resources—meet in the lobby of the library
3/14/2016 Spring Break
3/21/2016 Jobs at teaching-oriented colleges and universities
3/28/2016 Preparing for the Southern Sociological Society meeting in Greenville, SC
4/4/2016 Presenting your work at other academic conferences; award opportunities
4/11/2016 Non-academic employment: Government jobs
4/18/2016 Non-academic employment: Advocacy jobs
4/25/2016 Semester wrap-up and picnic on Landis Green (weather permitting)
University Attendance Policy:
Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

Academic Honor Policy:
The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University’s expectations for the integrity of students’ academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to “...be honest and truthful...” (Policy online at http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy.)

Americans with Disabilities Act:
Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:
(1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and
(2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center
874 Traditions Way
108 Student Services Building
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167
(850) 644-9566 (voice)
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)
sdrc@admin.fsu.edu
http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/

Syllabus Change Policy:
Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.