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

Instructor:  John Reynolds  Office hrs:  Tuesday 1-3, & by appointment
Email:  john.reynolds@fsu.edu  Office:  526b Bellamy

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 will be distributed as needed via email.

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).

Course Calendar:
1/12/2016  Welcome back, setting goals for the semester; John Reynolds
1/19/2016  Graduate student panel on preparing for, and surviving, prelim exams
1/26/2016  Social movements and time management; Deana Rohlinger
2/2/2016  Peer review process, how to write a helpful article review; John Reynolds
2/9/2016  Blogging and other publishing alternatives; Philip Cohen, Univ of Maryland
2/16/2016  Grant-writing strategies, editorial board insights; John Taylor
2/23/2016  Pepper Institute & seeing the world through an aging lens; Anne Barrett
3/1/2016  Sexuality and how to build a reputation for high quality research; Karin Brewster
3/8/2016  Spring Break
3/15/2016  Panel on advocacy jobs
3/22/2016  Panel on teaching jobs
3/29/2016  Panel on research jobs
4/5/2016  Experimental methods in the social sciences; Holger Kern, FSU Political Science
4/12/2016  Preparing for the Southern Sociological Society meeting in Atlanta; J. Reynolds
4/19/2016  Field trip and semester wrap-up, location TBA.
4/26/2016  Finals week (nothing due; but I’m here to help if you have any questions)
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 and ... [to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University.” (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.